

HEBRON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Thursday, January 8, 2018

**SPECIAL MEETING**

Gilead Hill School – **Music Room**

6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call Chairperson Erica Bromley called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.
- Board Members Present: Erica Bromley, Heather Petit, Christopher Aker (6:30), Geoffrey Davis, Maryanne Leichter
- Board Members Absent: Kevin Williams, Kathy Williams
- Administrators & Staff Members Present: Timothy Van Tassel, Donald Briere, Katie Uriano, Eric Brody, Stephanie Levin, David McKenney
- III. Public Comments  
No public comments at this time.
- IV. Board Member Comments  
No board member comments at this time.
- V. Discussion & Possible Action on the FY'19 Budget Proposal
- Gilead Hill School & Hebron Elementary School
  - Educational Services (including Special Education, Curriculum & Technology)
  - Facilities
  - If time provides: Fiscal Services, Cafeteria, Transportation

Mr. Van Tassel introduced the administrative staff. Principals Uriano and Brody shared the work that is being done in curriculum development, professional development, and continued development of STEAM programming. The new STEAM teacher at GHS and the STEAM teacher at HES are providing students increased opportunities to experience 21<sup>st</sup> century learner skills in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics for all grades at Hebron Public Schools for this school year. The administrators then went on to discuss the proposed budgeting for next year at the school level talking about the instructional supplies and materials along with textbooks that would be purchased. Dr. Briere also discussed plans for curriculum development in math, social studies and health. David McKenney, Technology Coordinator, then discussed the needs and replacements in technology for next year. It was noted that the budget proposal does not include applying for a lease for purchasing Chromebooks but purchasing them outright.

Dr. Briere then discussed the pupil services department identifying the programming for gifted and talented at both schools saying there is a great benefit having Mrs. Waldron and Mr. Parks working together. He then discussed the training that is being done along with the programming for preschool and extended school year. Dr. Briere then shared the reductions in staffing along with reductions in occupational and physical therapy contracted hours for this year along with transportation needs for special education students. Mrs. Uriano and Mr. Brody then reviewed the projected enrollment and class sizes for next year reducing the regular elementary classrooms by one. A review of the Magnet school enrollment was also shared.

Mr. Van Tassel then reviewed the questions that had been asked by board members and gave documentation providing the answers.

The superintendent and the board then reviewed the budget by object code beginning with the 8000's.

#### 8000 Dues and Fees

This year the Board rejoined CABE. For the 2017-2018 year there was a reduction in the cost of membership. The cost for the 2018-2019 year is \$7,400. Mr. Van Tasel recommended continuing membership. Mrs. Bromley said there was a benefit and supported it. There was discussion on the number of organizations that dues are paid to. Mr. Van Tasel will bring the list of organizations and fees to the next BOE meeting. Mr. Van Tasel also spoke about a hardship fund to support costs totaling \$2,000 as an addition to the budget which was requested by Mrs. Petit. Mrs. Leichter and Mr. Aker expressed concern of putting in a budget line with little or no money in it as the need has been supported by the student activity accounts and the PTA in the past. Mr. Davis asked that we leave it out of the budget and keep a watch on the need. It was requested that a list of expenses from this year was created for dues and fees. This will be created for the January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### 7000 Property and Equipment

No discussion as there is no money in this section.

#### 6000 Supplies and Materials

Mrs. Petit requested clarification about the increase in the computer supplies line. Mr. McKenney stated there are repairs which are supported in our budget because the equipment is out of warranty.

#### 5000 Other Purchased Services

Magnet schools tuition was increased along with an increase in special education tuition due to an outplacement.

#### 4000 Purchased Property Services

The biggest reduction in the computer equipment lease line which reflects the decision not to apply for a lease for the coming year. The Board will further discuss the option of purchasing or leasing the Chromebooks.

The board decided to continue the budget discussion at the next BOE meeting, Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

#### VII. Public Comment

Amanda Veneziano, 26 Wood Acres Road, felt if there was a family who had financial hardship, the PTA should not be used as a purse to assist students as the PTA cannot guarantee funds. Having a line in the budget and even going into the negative would show support. Mrs. Petit agreed with Ms. Veneziano but trusts the superintendent to make sure kids are taken care of.

#### VIII. Board Member Comments

No board member comments at this time.

#### IX. Adjournment

**Motion** by Maryanne Leichter to adjourn at 8:02 p.m. Seconded by Chris Aker. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Conderino

Board Clerk