

Minutes of the January 27, 2020 Special Meeting of the Tecumseh Local Board of Education

January 27, 2020

The Tecumseh Local Board of Education met in special session on January 27, 2020 with board president Corinne Scott presiding. Mrs. Scott called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. The meeting began at the New Carlisle Public Library, 111 E. Lake Ave., New Carlisle, Ohio 45344 and moved to Smith Park Shelter House, New Carlisle, Ohio 45344.

Roll Call: Present — Members Scott, Slagell, Brents, Martin, and Priest.
Absent — None.

Executive Session

Motion by Mrs. Slagell at 5:02 p.m. to recess into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters – Appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, compensation, and/or investigation of charges or complaints of a public employee or officials.

Second by Ms. Martin.

Roll Call: Ayes, Members Slagell, Martin, Brents, Priest, and Scott.
Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

The meeting reconvened at 6:41 p.m. and the board traveled to Smith Park Shelter House, New Carlisle to continue the Joint Meeting.

Roll Call: Present — Members Scott, Slagell, Brents, Martin, and Priest.
Absent — None.

Mrs. Scott led the Pledge of Allegiance.

New Business

INSTRUCTIONAL

Tecumseh High School Principal Aaron Oakes presented the 2020-2021 Academic Planning Guide, highlighting changes.

High School Academic Planning Guide

Motion by Ms. Martin to approve the 2020-2021 Academic Planning Guide for Tecumseh High School, as presented.

Second by Mr. Priest.

Roll Call: Ayes, Members Martin, Priest, Brents, Slagell, and Scott.
Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

Minutes of the January 27, 2020 Special Meeting of the Tecumseh Local Board of Education

Planning and Discussion

The Board of Education, New Carlisle City Officials, Bethel Township trustees, representatives of Clark County, and state representatives conducted a joint meeting to discuss the following topics.

Tecumseh Local School District

- A federal grant hearing will be held at 5:30 p.m. prior to the regular Board of Education meeting on February 25, 2020.
- A calendar hearing will be held at 5:45 p.m. prior to the regular Board of Education meeting on February 25, 2020.
- Girl Scout Troop 30071 - Bronze Service Award, Free Little Pantry. The troop plans to provide free non-perishable food items, and would like to locate the pantry at the old Westlake School site. Plan to finish construction to be ready for summer. The troop will use cookie and nut sales money as well as donations.
- Tecumseh High School Principal Aaron Oakes - Tecumseh High School Career and Job Fair Spring 2020 for high school students and CTC students, with a goal to have approximately 60 employers participate.
- Building reconfiguration – Donnelsville Elementary and New Carlisle Elementary will become grade 2-5 buildings for 2020-2021. A survey was sent out as part of the Strategic Plan process and many responses were to bring back community schools. The principals will stay at their current buildings. There will be no increase in staff or buses.
- Strategic Plan – There are four strategic goals: academic growth, wellness, fiscal responsibility, and community engagement. Action teams are comprised of community and staff.
- Academic Growth – Tecumseh had Report Card raised by one grade.
- Student Wellness – Governor DeWine allocated Wellness dollars to schools that are guaranteed for two years, and now possibly two additional years. Tecumseh has hired two guidance counselors; there are now eight total counselors throughout the district. Tecumseh is partnering with Clark County Mental Health Department and there are now three full-time mental health therapists housed at the district; billing back to Medicaid recovers the salaries for the therapists. Having mental health therapists housed in the district helps to break the barrier of not having local access to them. A new initiative, Hope Squad, is now at the high school and middle school. Hope Squad is a suicide prevention program that teaches student peers about risk factors and communicating with adults who can reach out to help students. Instances of drivers not stopping at buses with flashing lights on are increasing. New buses have reflective tape and will have additional lights on them. The building door lock systems will be upgraded with funds from a grant from the Ohio Attorney General's office; the current system is aging and experiencing bugs. The Sheriff's Department paid \$4,000 of \$6,000 to provide almost 60 medical boxes, including tourniquets, to use for trauma events. About 30 staff members are trained to use the tourniquets. Bus drivers have inquired about simulation of a bus crash.
- Fiscal Responsibility: The five year forecast approved in November 2019 was shared and explained. Renewals, an emergency levy and a capital improvement levy, were passed in November. An operating levy for new money has not passed since 1976. Three emergency levies have passed which combined are about \$3,000,000. The district's budget is

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\$31,000,000. A five-year permanent improvement levy was passed, which will need to be renewed every five years. There is the bond issue that was for building the new buildings. The district does not receive additional money from property tax increases.

- Community Engagement: Working on a communication plan to facilitate transparency.

City of New Carlisle

- The new city building downtown was purchased and they are working toward renovation.
- Expect to end this year with a \$1.1 million reserve in general fund. Working on 2020 operating budget and will begin holding work sessions.
- A fifth deputy will be added.
- Working to improve communication. Holding events in community.
- State fire division has partnered with Red Cross on a smoke detector program. If contacted, the fire department will install a free detector in homes. The smoke detectors have a 10-year battery life. In early spring will work with Red Cross on a community event to target one section of the city and flood the area with smoke detectors. Working with high school to use students who need community service hours.
- Looking forward to taking possession of the new medic in April/May.

Bethel Township

- In the process of renewing contract with fire department to cover part of the township.
- Recently got a grant to buy iPads for fire inspectors to do pre-plans in businesses.
- Got a new medic.
- Added a dump truck.
- Getting ready to order a new fire engine.

Village of Donnelsville

- No report.

Clark County

- Title office in New Carlisle is going well with two full-time staff. They are now accepting passports there by appointment only. Walk-ins will be accepted if business is slow. Saturday hours are available in the Southern Village office, and they have a drive-thru. Notarizations are available costing \$1.00.
- Just passed the county budget. A lot of it is federal and state money.
- Sales tax is up by 8%.
- Finally starting to receive money from internet sales.
- Going forward on 911 Center.
- AB Graham building still in process.

Clark County Sheriff's Department

- No Report.

State Representative(s)

Kyle Koehler:

- Working hard on state funds and budget.

Minutes of the January 27, 2020 Special Meeting of the
Tecumseh Local Board of Education

- Thanked the school district for spending money wisely to make families better.
- Congratulated Deputy Loney for the work he is doing with the district.
- The state is trying to spend money wisely.
- EdChoice – Working on fixing issues. Hoping to make it income based instead of performance based.

Public Comments

- A question was asked about casino money received; facts were not readily available. Details are available online.

Next meeting was set for Monday, March 30, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. Bethel Township will host.

Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Martin to adjourn the meeting.

Second by Mrs. Brents.

Roll Call: Ayes, Members Martin, Brents, Priest, Slagell, and Scott.

Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



President



Treasurer