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**CIXIII**  
**TRANSITIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD**

**OFFICIAL REPORT**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**ST. LOUIS, MO**  
**OCTOBER 29, 2015**

**M I N U T E S**

The Special Administrative Board of the Transitional School District of the City of St. Louis met on the date noted in Room 108 of the Administrative Building, 801 N. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, St. Louis, MO 63101.

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 6:08PM on the following roll call.

**AYE:** Mr. Richard Gaines, Mr. Rick Sullivan

**ABSENT:** <sup>1</sup>Dr. Melanie Adams

A quorum was present.

The Board and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITIONS**

Students Jawwaad Spann and Brandon Sipe of Central Visual and Performing Arts High School were recognized. Jawwaad and Brandon are part of the North County Big Band (Band). The North County Big Band consists of the most talented and dedicated students from several St. Louis area high schools. On October 3, 2015 the Band opened the *Friends of the Sheldon* benefit at the Sheldon Concert Hall featuring the Jazz at the Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis. The Band also performed at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the St. Louis Arch celebration. Being part of the North County Big Band exposes students to opportunities in continued education and career attainment. The North County Big Band was founded by Band Director Harvey Lockhart of the Riverview Gardens High School.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Teacher Evelyn Hines conveyed emphatic comments she believed was a deliberate personal attack against her by District administration because of her vocal support at previous SAB meetings where teachers rallied in protest about the lack of a salary increase since 2008 and ongoing curriculum changes. Ms. Hines cited instances she felt backed-up her position. She stated she wasn't appreciative of what was being done to her and would go to the EEOC (Equal Education Opportunity Center) and the American with Disabilities to speak with anyone that would speak to her because this is not what the law is supposed to be about.

Teachers Sally Topping and Jan Ward related personal testaments in being a teacher and paralleled those testaments with not having a salary increase for such an extended period. Teacher Nadine Hutson referenced the presentation given by the guest speaker at the District's opening school year professional development in her comments.

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<sup>1</sup> While Dr. Melanie Adams participated in the closed session meeting of October 29, 2015, she was not able to participate in the open session.

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Teacher Wendy Huddleston read a prepared statement on behalf of her assistant about how teachers have been more than a “team player” over the years.

Mr. William “Bill” Monroe read a personal statement. That statement is attached to these minutes (Pages 6 and 7).

President Mary Armstrong of Local 420 concluded public comments. Local 420 and the District have been in talks for more than three months about making salaries competitive in all employee categories – teachers, paraprofessionals and secretarial clerical. Teachers are migrating to other area districts for more suitable financial earnings regardless of the monetary penalty for not fulfilling the contractual obligation(s). Teachers are sacrificing personal income for classroom items that the District should be providing its students as a poverty stricken district. Teachers should not have to work under double standards – one for administrators and one for teachers. District policies should apply to all District employees equally and equitably. If the District wants to keep highly qualified employees the District needs to pay them; the District needs to make resources available for teachers; the District needs to make sure students are getting the best education possible so to compete with surrounding districts. President Armstrong implored the Board and Superintendent to reassess its position for it is those staff persons who are on the front line that made the points for AYP (Annual Yearly Progress) possible.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion by Mr. Gaines, and seconded by Mr. Sullivan on the following roll call vote, the Board voted to approve the September 24, 2015 open session minutes.

**AYE:** Mr. Gaines, Mr. Sullivan

**ABSENT:** Dr. M. Adams

**NAY:** None

The motion passed.

### **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

#### **INFORMATIONAL ITEM(S)**

Superintendent Dr. Kelvin Adams gave the Annual Performance Report (APR). On October 19<sup>th</sup> the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) provided data that suggested the District received enough points on the Annual Performance Report (ARP), Missouri School Improvement Plan (MSIP)-Cycle 5 to qualify as a fully accredited school district. The total APR points received were 106.5. The required number of APR points is 98 per DESE guidelines.

The number of points received in each MSIP 5 Standards were 33 in Academic Achievement (total possible points 56); Subgroup Achievement 9.5 (total possible points 14); College and Career Ready 24 (total possible points 30); Attendance at 10, the total possible points and Graduation Rate 30, also the number of total possible points to attain. The District increased its APR points total by at least 75% for two consecutive years. The District’s 106.5 points is an increase of 76.1% from last year’s 60.5 points. Last year’s points total of 60.5 was a 75% increase above the 34.5 points earned in 2012-2013.

While DESE does not accredit individual schools, the District adopted a model based on a recommendation by DESE that measures the progress of its schools. As of this report, 12 schools were classified as *Fully Accredited with Distinction*, 22 schools were classified as *Fully Accredited*, 20 schools were classified as *Provisionally Accredited* and 15 schools were classified as *Unaccredited*.

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Although the District did well in terms of growth and progress, Superintendent Adams apprised the Board the District will face new challenges over the next 2 to 4 years because State assessments will change as a result of some legislative actions.

Members entertained questions/comments at the conclusion of the report. This report can be viewed in its entirety on the District's website.

**BUSINESS ITEM(S):** CONSENT AGENDA

The Board **withdrew** Resolution Number 10-29-15-06 from the Consent Agenda. This item was replaced with Resolution Number 10-29-15-15 of these minutes.

**(WITHDRAWN: 10-29-15-06)** To approve the amendment of Board Resolution Number 06-25-15-15, a contract renewal with EducationPlus, in conjunction with Enterprise Fleet Management, Inc., to increase the contract by \$72,164 to secure newer and more fuel efficient vehicles that will replace 38 District owned vehicles that are over 10 years old in the Operations and Food Services Departments combined. The increased lease cost will be off-set by a reduction in contracted maintenance. The period of this contract renewal will remain the same, July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. If this request is granted, the total dollar amount for these services will now be \$223,955.80.

Mr. Sullivan called for a motion and a second to approve Resolution Numbers 10-29-15-01 through 10-29-15-14 with the exception of 10-29-15-06 which was withdrawn from the Consent Agenda.

On a motion by Mr. Gaines, and seconded by Mr. Sullivan on the following roll call vote, the Board voted to approve Resolution Numbers 10-29-15-01 through 10-29-15-14 with the exception of 10-29-15-06 that was withdrawn from the Consent Agenda.

**AYE:** Mr. Gaines, Mr. Sullivan

**ABSENT:** Dr. M. Adams

**NAY:** None

The motion passed.

- (10-29-15-01)** To ratify and approve an emergency purchase request to replace the boilers at Laclede Elementary School. The work was performed by Mechanical Solutions, Inc. starting September 3, 2015. It is anticipated the works will go through October 31, 2015 at a cost not to exceed \$134,706 that includes a 10% contingency of \$12,246. This emergency purchase request is in response to RFP #003-1516.
- (10-29-15-02)** To ratify and approve the purchase of athletic uniforms and equipment (including helmets) for the high school and middle school sports programs from BSN Sports and Riddell All-American at a total combined cost not to exceed \$197,750.
- (10-29-15-03)** To ratify and approve the renewal of an Agency Partnership Agreement with St. Louis University to provide a part-time Wellness Coordinator for the purpose of fulfilling the grant requirements for the Missouri Foundation for Health - Healthy Schools/Healthy Communities grant for the period October 1, 2015 through July 31, 2016 at a cost not to exceed \$48,000. This is the second year of a five year grant.
- (10-29-15-04)** To ratify and approve the renewal of a sole source contract with Tiffany Dill to serve as Part-Time Fitness Assessment Coordinator to conduct the required fitness/health assessments for the Missouri Foundation for Health - Healthy Schools/Healthy Communities grant for the period October 1, 2015 through July 31, 2016 at a cost not to exceed \$24,000. This is the second year of a five year grant.

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- (10-29-15-05)** To approve the amendment of Board Resolution Number 05-21-15-43, a contract renewal for licensing services with Education Logistics, Inc., to increase the contract by \$71,675 to install and license the EduTracker system on the District's transportation fleet. The period of this contract renewal will remain the same, July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. If this request is granted, the total dollar amount for these services will now be \$81,675.
- (10-29-15-07)** To approve the amendment of Board Resolution Number 07-28-15-01, an adoption of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Local Plan for Compliance with State Regulations for the implementation of state regulations for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Following the July 28, 2015 meeting, DESE implemented a revised Local Compliance Plan that went into effect July 31, 2015.
- (10-29-15-08)** To approve a contract with CHARACTERplus to provide the CHARACTERplus way process that's focused on bullying prevention, improving school culture, and building character at Humboldt and Mason Elementary Schools for the period October 30, 2015 through June 30, 2016 at a cost not to exceed \$13,800.
- (10-29-15-09)** To approve a contract renewal with Dr. Mascheal Schappe to provide professional development coordination services relative to the "K-6 Mathematics and Science Partnership" grant for the period October 30, 2015 through September 30, 2016 at a cost not to exceed \$35,000. This is the third year of a three year grant.
- (10-29-15-10)** To approve a contract renewal with the University of Missouri-St. Louis, through its Partnership for Evaluation, Assessment, and Research, to conduct evaluation services relative to the "K-6 Mathematics and Science Partnership" grant for the period October 30, 2015 through September 30, 2016 at a cost not to exceed \$28,000. This is the third year of a three year grant.
- (10-29-15-11)** To approve a contract renewal with Maryville University for professional development services relative to the "K-6 Mathematics and Science Partnership" grant for the period October 30, 2015 through September 30, 2016 at a cost not to exceed \$130,132. This is the third year of a three year grant.
- (10-29-15-12)** To approve the renewal of a Memorandum of Understanding with St. Louis Community College to provide the COMPASS tests and technical training to designated District staff and administrators in order to give the COMPASS test to all seniors for the period January 1, 2016 through June 30, 2016, at a cost not to exceed \$10,800, pending funding availability.
- (10-29-15-13)** To approve a policy change to *ARTICLE 5: STUDENTS (SERIES 5000)*, Board Policy **P**5142, Student Allergy Intervention and Response Policy, for the purpose of further defining roles and clarifying instructions regarding allergy intervention and trigger prevention in St. Louis Public Schools buildings.
- (10-29-15-14)** To approve a policy change to *ARTICLE 5: STUDENTS (SERIES 5000)*, Board Policy **R**5142, Student Allergy Intervention and Response Procedure, for the purpose of developing explicit guidelines for the various roles involved in the execution of the procedure, which will create a safe environment for the students and staff at risk for allergic reactions.

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Mr. Sullivan called for a motion and a second to approve Resolution Numbers 10-29-15-15.

On a motion by Mr. Gaines, and seconded by Mr. Sullivan on the following roll call vote, the Board voted to approve Resolution Numbers 10-29-15-15.

**AYE:** Mr. Gaines, Mr. Sullivan  
**NAY:** None

**ABSENT:** Dr. M. Adams

The motion passed.

- (10-29-15-15)** To approve the amendment of Board Resolution Number 06-25-15-15, a contract renewal with EducationPlus, in conjunction with Enterprise Fleet Management, Inc., to increase the contract by \$6,320 to secure 2 new vehicles. Under this request, the 2 additional vehicles will be added for the Food Services Department to replace District owned vehicles that either no longer function safely or require extensive maintenance. The period of this contract renewal will remain the same, July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. If this request is granted, the total dollar amount for these services will now be \$158,111.80.

**BOARD MEMBER UPDATE(S)**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board, on a motion by Mr. Gaines and seconded by Mr. Sullivan on the following roll call vote, the Board voted to adjourn at 7:41PM.

**AYE:** Mr. Gaines, Mr. Sullivan  
**NAY:** None

**ABSENT:** Dr. M. Adams

The motion passed.



*Mr. William "Bill" Monroe  
Member  
Board of Education*

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**Public Comments of Bill Monroe, Elected Board Member  
Special Administrative Board Meeting  
October 29, 2015**

Goodevening, Special Administrative Board, Superintendent Adams

My comments tonight are my personal comments, and in no form or fashion reflect sentiments of the Elected Board of Education.

First, let me begin by saying; I would be remised if I neglected to mention the fact, the SLPS has aligned itself to be fully accredited and this is suppose to be a good thing, for our parents and especially the students. I congratulate Dr. Adams and his entire staff on their commitment and tireless efforts on behalf of the children of the SLPS. However, I must remain cautious until all the data is examined fully, not just here in the SLPS, but with the many other struggling school districts throughout the State of Missouri. It appears DESE still remains an issue as it continues its process of implementing a accreditation system which changes every three to four years and which seem incompatible to the MAP testing system.

Secondly, as to teacher's compensation, I strongly believe in good comparable teacher compensation. It saddens me to hear the many disheartening stories told by teachers of the SLPS, regarding their personal sacrifices while totally committing to educating our children, whom haven't seen an adequate pay increase for several years. Maybe the SAB should have considered sitting down with members of the Elected Board and try as one of my fellow board members has stated before; ten minds together is better than three or even seven. One such idea which has been discussed for several years was to present a proposal to the Board of Trustees of the Teachers Pension Fund to consider a short term loan, paid back with interest, in conjunction with the SLPS Foundation. That fund has been financially sound for years and makes profits every year. This loan would only be an investment back into the fund. Based upon future revenue of the district and its financial stability, this could be a vehicle to ensure a COLA could be made to the Teachers Pension Fund in the near future.

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This is exactly why I stand before you the SAB tonight to once again say, when, where and what time can the Elected Board of Education meet to discuss the many difficult issues facing our district on a weekly and monthly basis. Dr. Adams has presented a very concerning picture, not only regarding academics, but one of financial and operational distress. The SAB or the Transitional School District is scheduled to dissolve on June 30, 2016, less than nine months away and the SAB has not met or scheduled any meeting with the Elected Board of Education to discuss planning of a transitional period. You, as well as I know, we cannot leave this in the hands of DESE, it must be us who shall move this process forward. I implore you whole-heartily to consider when, where and a time for these two Boards to meet and strategize on a Transitional Plan for this District, especially you Mr. Rick Sullivan as the CEO of the District and would strongly recommend to you, that you not try and force upon the Elected Board who should amongst its members, participate in a Transitional meeting and plan.

Thank you and good evening.