

January 14, 2015

The Board of Education of the Northridge Local School District met in a Special/Work Session on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 at 7:00 PM, in the Northridge High School Media Center in Johnstown, Ohio with the following individuals present: Mrs. Jayma Bammerlin, Mr. Rick Burkholder, Mr. Doug Hart, Mr. Chris Pokorny, Mr. Jeffrey Schrock, Board Members; Dr. Chris Briggs, Local Superintendent; Mr. Britt Lewis, Treasurer; Building Administrators and other interested citizens and employees.

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 PM by Mr. Doug Hart, Board President followed by roll call for attendance and the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call: Mrs. Bammerlin, present; Mr. Burkholder, present; Mr. Pokorny, present; Mr. Schrock, present; Mr. Hart, present.

**Vision, Mission, and Viking Values Statements**

Vision Statement: *Our Vision is to ensure that every student reaches their fullest potential.*

Mission Statement: *Our Mission is to empower all students with the knowledge and skills necessary to be college and career ready.*

Viking Values: *Trust, Communication, Leadership, Collaboration, Respect, Integrity, Accountability*

**Plan for Progress Work Session:**

1. Academic Committee – Sabrina Woodruff

**Learning Center**  
Academic Achievement Committee

- Grades PreK-5/6
- One level building (grade levels in wings, clustered in pods)
- Auditorium
- Gymnasium
- Media Center
- STEM &/or Art Lab
- Meeting Space(s)
- Classroom Size
- Cafeteria with Atrium (atrium provides natural light)

**Items to Consider**

- Current utilization of HS, MS, and IS/Central Office space
- Parking
- Teacher Collaboration/Intervention space built in between/among classrooms

**Impact on Programming**

- Wellness and community could use the gym
- Music Department, teachers, and community could use the auditorium
- Art and content areas could use the art lab for project-based learning
- Science and math could use a STEM lab
- All content areas could take advantage of a Media Center
- Meeting spaces could be utilized by the school and community

2. Facilities Committee – Brian Koker

**Modern Facilities Committee**

*Do our current facilities meet students' needs and best prepare them for 21<sup>st</sup> century learning?*

**UPCOMING CHALLENGES**

- One of our biggest challenges as a district and community remains providing students with the best possible learning environment to be successful.
- We need to invest in technology and modern classrooms for our students so that they are successful in the 21st Century.

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- Our school buildings have a long history and many of our residents may recall some of their fondest memories taking place in those halls, gyms and classrooms. However, there comes a time when we’ve done all that we can, exhausted all means to maintain and that it just doesn’t make sense to continue to keep pouring more and more taxpayer dollars into inefficient buildings.
- Our Alexandria building is in dire disrepair. In fact, according to the state facilities experts at OFCC, it was ranked #1 on the Exceptional Needs Program – a building replacement program that provides school districts with the ability to protect the health and safety of their students with a new facility.

**School building needs include:**

- K-5 Building
- Middle School renovation
- Close Alexandria

**Next Steps** – Engage with general public about the need and their thoughts on it.

3. Finance Committee – Tim Phillips

**Maintaining Lean and Efficient Operations Committee**

*What can the district do to improve and maintain school district operating efficiencies and effectiveness, including our facilities?*

**Goal: Maintaining the leanest budget for taxpayers, while protecting programs and services our community values:**

**Proven results:**

- \$4 million in reductions over the last two years.
- In June of 2013, Northridge Local Schools was removed from Fiscal Caution by the Ohio Department of Education – a direct result of our schools’ dedication to cost control.
- The majority of our budget goes where it is needed the most: teachers in the classroom. Northridge has maintained programs and staff while **STILL** reducing \$900,000 from the budget for salaries and benefits.
- Our school buildings work on a needs based budget. That means every function within a school building is analyzed for its needs and costs. Budgets are then built around what is needed for the upcoming year, regardless of what the budget was from the previous year.
- We restructured our bus routes to be more efficient saving taxpayers \$2.1 million in transportation expenses.

**Continuous Improvement**

- Seek out efficiencies wherever possible to maintain a lean budget (i.e. consortiums, shared services, best practices, etc.).

**Reaffirm Time and Place of Next Board of Education Meeting(s):**

Regular Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 Time: 6:30 PM Location: High School Media Center

**Reaffirm Time and Place of Next Treasurer/CFO Meetings:**

Finance Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 Time: 6:00PM Location: District Office

**Adjourn Meeting**

**15-008** Mr. Pokorny’s motion to adjourn the meeting passed by unanimous voice vote. The president declared the meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM.

\_\_\_\_\_ Board President

\_\_\_\_\_ Treasurer

In addition to the minutes an auditory recording is recorded during each Board meeting. The recording is available to the public during regular working hours of the Northridge Local Schools District Office.