

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of	St. Marys City School District	Meeting
Held	May 19, 2014	4:00 P.M.

SPECIAL SESSION

The St. Marys City Board of Education met in special session in the auditorium at the St. Marys Memorial High School with the following Board Members present: Brian Little, Ronda Shelby, Karl Dammeyer, Travis Kuenning and Bob Valentine.

At 4:05 PM, the meeting was called to order by Brian Little, Board President.

ROLL CALL: Little, present; Shelby, present; Kuenning, yes; Dammeyer, yes; Valentine, yes

Mr. Little opened the meeting to discuss finances. Back in the Summer of 2013, State estimates had the District receiving @ \$10.4 million in FY 2014, which we are on target to receive. These same estimates had the District receiving @ \$11 million in FY 2015. Earlier this month, the State Department of Education released a FY 2015 simulation, and when considering the decrease in student enrollment, the simulation estimates the District to receive @ \$10.3 million, which is significantly less than estimated last Summer. Enrollment does impact this situation as we anticipate a drop of 40 students from FY 14 to FY 15, due to the graduating class of 175 and an incoming Kindergarten class of @ 135.

The discussion then turned to what programs, if any the District would consider reinstating. Up first was the discussion concerning foreign language, specifically French and Latin, which had both been cut in the previous fiscal year due to budget constraints. Included in the discussion were High School Principal, Bill Ruane and High School Guidance Counselor, Bill Cheslock. With the existing staff, we would be able to add back two periods of each foreign language, without adding additional staffing

After the discussion, and on a motion by Dammeyer, seconded by Little, the Board decided to reinstate both French and Latin back into the curriculum.

VOTE: Dammeyer, yes; Little, yes; Shelby, yes; Kuenning, yes; Valentine, yes 65-14

Discussion then ensued about the projected enrollment numbers and the number of students who may show an interest in these foreign language courses. Mr. Ruane and Mr. Cheslock indicated that they would monitor the situation, and if the interest is too low, they would curtail the offering.

Mr. Little then brought up the Vo-Ag program which was also cut last year, when the long-time teacher of the program retired. The importance of the program to our community was also discussed, as we do have a large agricultural base.

After the discussion, and on a motion by Valentine, seconded by Kuenning, the Board decided to reinstate the Vo-Ag program back into the curriculum.

VOTE: Valentine, yes; Kuenning, yes; Dammeyer, yes; Shelby, yes; Little, yes 66-14

Mr. Valentine then inquired as to how much we can bring back, and at what cost to the District? He also asked about other cost saving ideas, including asking administrators to pay the addition retirement percentage that was instituted by STRS. Currently, the Board "picks up" the employee share for all administrators. Ha also asked about the impact of having all employees pay a higher share of the medical insurance premiums. Currently all employees pay a 15% share of medical insurance premiums.

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Another items which was cut from the budget at the end of FY 2013, was the elimination of library techs. The Libraries are currently being handled by volunteers and teachers. After a discussion, and on a motion by Dammeyer, seconded by Kuenning, the Board approved reinstating 3 part-time library tech positions for the District. One part-time Library Tech will be hired for each building, Primary, Intermediated and High School/Middle School. The part-time position will be less than 30 hours per week.

VOTE: Dammeyer, yes; Kuenning, yes; Valentine, yes; Shelby, yes; Little, yes 67-14

Another position discussed was that of an Assistant Band Director. Mr. French, the Band Director was in attendance and was asked questions about the band and choir of St. Marys City Schools. Since the choir director is resigning her position at the end of FY 2014, the ideal was floated to hire one person to handle the choir and assistant band positions. Upon further discussion, the thought was that by having an individual splitting their time between choir and band would end up being counter-productive and would ultimately end up short changing one program or the other. After the discussion, on a motion by Mr. Little and seconded by Mr. Dammeyer, the Board approved bringing back the position of full-time assistant band director.

VOTE: Little, yes; Dammeyer, yes; Kuenning, yes; Valentine, yes; Shelby, yes 68-14

Mr. Valentine then made a statement, that while he approves the reinstatement of all of these programs, and feels they are all very important programs for the students of St. Marys City Schools, he wanted to make it clear to the public that this would mean that the District will need to come back to the voting public sooner, rather than later, for new funding.

One final item brought up for discussion was that of the gifted program. There are those that feel that the gifted population of students is severely underserved. It was pointed out that, as a District, we are only required to identify gifted students. After discussion it was decide to some additional investigation to determine the exact number of students which would be served by the gifted program.

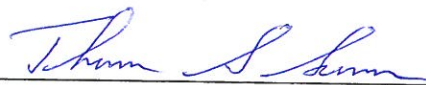
A determination would also be made concerning the number of education aides which may be needed in the buildings, along with the determination as to whether or not an additional intervention specialist is necessary in the High School setting.

ADJOURNMENT - At 5:17 PM, on a motion by Dammeyer, seconded by Shelby, there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

VOTE: Dammeyer, yes; Shelby, yes; Valentine, yes; Kuenning, yes; Little, yes 69-14



 President



 Treasurer