Record of the Board of Education of the Columbia School District

Special Session, 23rd day of January, 2014

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The Board of Education of the School District of Columbia, Boone County, Missouri, met in special session at the Administration Building, 1818 West Worley Street, at the hour of 7:30 a.m., Central Standard Time, Thursday, the 23rd day of January, 2014. Those in attendance were as follows:

President Christine King
Vice President James Whitt
Member Jan Mees
Member Darin Preis
Member Dr. Tom Rose
Member Jonathan Sessions
Superintendent Dr. Chris Belcher
Executive Director of Human Resources and Employment Law and Secretary Andrea Follett
Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer Linda Quinley

Absent: Member Helen Wade

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President King at 7:34 a.m.

Consideration of Agenda

The first matter of business was consideration of approval of the agenda for the January 23, 2014, meeting of the Board of Education. It was moved by Ms. Mees that the agenda be approved, but that item 3 on the agenda, "Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Commission Discussion," be moved to item 2, and that item 2 on the agenda, "Continuous Improvement Discussion," be moved to be item 7 (the last item for discussion) on the agenda, with other agenda items being renumbered accordingly. The second was by Mr. Whitt. The vote was 6 yes—0 no—1 absent.

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Commission Discussion

Mike Matthes, Columbia City Manager, presented an overview of a tax increment financing (TIF) proposal and responded to questions from Board members. Ms. Mees and President King are the Board's representatives on Columbia's TIF Commission.

(At 7:42 a.m., Ms. Wade arrived.)

Consideration of Mill Creek Elementary School Boundary Adjustment

Dr. Peter Stiepleman, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education, presented a change in the attendance area boundary for Mill Creek Elementary School that would include in that school's attendance area approximately 53 additional students on Bethany and Bellview drives effective with the 2014-15 school year. After discussion and a public comment by Michael Head, it was moved by Mr. Sessions that Dr. Stiepleman's recommendation be approved. The second was by Mr. Whitt. The vote was 7 yes—0 no.

Battle Tower Discussion

Dr. Nick Boren, Deputy Superintendent, and Dr. Sally Beth Lyon, Chief Academic Officer, led a discussion on a plan to provide no-cost Internet access to families qualifying for free and reduced-price meals who are located within a five-mile radius of a communications tower to be built near Battle High School.

Consideration of Notice of Election and Sample Ballot for April 8, 2014, School Board Election

Ms. Follett presented the notice of election and sample ballot for the April 8, 2014, school board election, and asked that the Board approve them. After discussion, it was moved by Ms. Wade that the notice of election and sample ballot be approved. The second was by Mr. Whitt. The vote was 7 yes—0 no. (A copy of the notice of election and sample ballot is attached and made a part of the minutes.)

Superintendent Search Discussion

President King advised the Board that the position of Superintendent has been posted and will remain so until February 14, 2014. Bob Watkins of the Missouri School Boards Association has been hired by the Board to be the search consultant. The Board will meet in executive session on February 26, 2014, to discuss the hiring process and applicants. The goal is to conclude candidate interviews by mid-March.

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Continuous Improvement Discussion

Dr. Lyon and Leslie Trogdon, Director of School Improvement, presented information on the district's strategic planning and continuous improvement process, with an emphasis on the areas of customer focus, strategic planning, and leadership.

Adjournment

There was no further business to come before the Board, and the meeting was declared adjourned at 9:26 a.m.