

Miami-Yoder School District
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
Minutes
Wednesday November 8, 2023
Conference Room
7:00 PM

1.00 The regular meeting was called to order by Board President, Mr. Leupp at 7:03 PM. On roll call vote the following members were present: Mr. Nelson Leupp, Mr. Eric Bringhurst, Mr. Daniel Carneal, Mr. Timmothy Davis, and Mr. Martin Howard. Also present were: Mr. Dwight Barnes Superintendent/Principal, Mrs. Sheila Hartley Elementary Principal, and Ms. Robyn Klunder, Business Manager.

2.00 The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

3.00 Motion to approve the additions to Agenda by, Mr. Howard second by, Mr. Bringhurst

140 day employees

~~Correspondence from Board President~~

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mr. Davis, Mr. Howard, Mr. Leupp

4.00 Motion to approve the Agenda by, Mr. Howard second by, Mr. Bringhurst

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mr. Davis, Mr. Howard, Mr. Leupp

5.00 Recognition - none

6.00 Correspondence/Reports - none

6.02 Student Reports - none

6.03 Elementary Principal, Sheila Hartley

- We are having the Elementary fall concert for first, second and third graders are on the stage tonight. Mrs. Taylor is doing the concert around the book "Always room for one more". She does the music to go along with the story.
- We had our annual visit from the Fire Department and the Smoke trailer. Kindergarten through third graders participated. Fourth and Fifth grade had a field trip on that day. The fire fighters visited the Pre-schoolers. Pre-k is intimidated by the smoke trailer.
- We had the Boo mobile come out. That is where the Book mobile is decorated by the Kindergarten through second graders and then they read stories.

- We are almost done with our COGAT testing. We are required by law to test the second through sixth graders. It gives a nice report for teachers to see how students learn. It also helps to identify students who are gifted.
- Our pumpkin patch was a great success. The white ones were popular, but they were too big for the kids to carry. The boys wanted to carry them and the girls would roll them.
- First and Second graders went on a field trip to Wishing Star Farms.
- The Fall Carnival was a big success. The booths collected over 1300 dollars for their classrooms.
- November 11 is the MYCO dinner and auction.
- Spirit squad starts next week.
- The 16th is the Buffalo showcase which is our parent night. We have to do two parents' nights a year as we are a Title I school. The students are ready to show off what they have learned. We will start off with Dinner and Bingo.

6.04 Secondary Principal, Dwight Barnes

- Six students went to the National FFA Convention. They just got back. National FFA is approaching 60,000 students who show up.
- Destination Imagination is starting up right now. They have two teams right now.
- Our fall concert will be after the Thanksgiving break.
- My new English teacher will start next week. We are moving up one of the Paraprofessionals up from elementary. I thanked Sheila for training my teachers. Mrs. Hartley; she is going to be great.
- Matchwits is going on. On December 4 is our home Matchwits. Come in and check out Matchwits and we will put you to work.
- Mr. Carneal; I have a question for the principals. Is the SRO helping out? Mrs. Hartley, he has helped out the elementary. He helped out with the after school pick up. He came up with a plan, sent it out to the parents and was outside after school for a few days to make sure it runs well. We no longer have cars parked up Rush Rd. He also has helped out with a few kids who have a problem with authority. He has visited all the classrooms on my end to meet the students. He has breakfast with them weekly. I love having him working here.
- Mr. Barnes; he is doing the same on my end. He is working on a emergency response manual. Working with the fire department and the Maintenance department. He is working on getting students on the right track and building relationships with kids.

6.05 Athletic Director

- We had our banquet last night. There were 100 to 120 people there. Football and Volleyball both High School and Middle School had their presentations.
- We have had a good start for Basketball.
- Mr. Howard, do we have an ETA for awards for football. Mr. Barnes, I hope we can get them at the next BFL meeting. BFL does not think about 6 man football.

7.00 Audience to Visitor

- Lauren Johnson; Hi, I know most of you, but not everyone. I am just raising some concerns. The folks in the community have given some information to me that bully is still ongoing issue at the school. We have had to withdraw my daughter from the school do to bullying and now our son will be coming here and I am scared to death about what is going to happen. I am here tonight to find out what the board is doing about the bullying?

Don Anthony; if I could add to that. Little bit about my background, 20 years in law enforcement, 25 years in gymkhana program. Bully is out of control at this school. The board can bury their heads in the sand and not listen to me. I am not here to stir a big seen. But the bully at the school, at activities and on the buses, it is not confined to verbal, it includes physical, it includes parents, employees that are here, it includes administration, it includes board member kids. It has to stop. The other day a second grader was bullied by a fifth grader. They went to employees, teachers were told and the kids were told to handle it. How does a second grader stand up to a fifth grader? I can understand kids not being disciplined by staff when their parents are employed by this school. The last time the bullying policy was reviewed was 2011, even at that it is a generic policy. But it is not even being enforced. That is the problem, the bullying is not being handled and enforced. How many kids is this district going to lose because of bullying? We have parents driving their kids to school because there scared to put them on the bus. How many kids is this district going lose because of bullying. I have a question, how much does this board get for each student in this school? \$13,300.00 and when that student transfers to another school, you lose that money. Mr. Barnes depends on when they leave. October 1 is the magic date. That is a lot of money this district will lose because of bullying. It is happening at school, during activities and on the buses. The buses have cameras, right? Why are the camera's not being used? I am not here to create a big seen. But something has to be address. We have a lot of parents right on the edge of pulling their kids out of this school. Let me add on to that Lauren Johnson. I have called every school zone and alterative high school. Everyone is full or they will not get funding for him as it is past October 1. That is what I was told. So, I have no options as we both work for a living. I just drive all over creation. I know social media is social media. The road I live on there are 4 families with kids who have all withdrawn from Miami Yoder. They are home schooling or going to Edison, or Calhan. They all have told me they pulled their students for Bullying from Staff and kids at Miami Yoder.

Don Anthony, I don't have a dog in this fight, I don't have kids at this school. But as a Tax payor paying into this school and my back ground, I have a major problem with the lack of concern that this administration has. It is not being handled. When kids go to their teachers or other employees and they basically get laughed at, which is happened. Again, how does a second grader handle a fifth grader? The policy which has not been reviewed it is generic, but it does lay out what needs to be done and it is not being done. A kid gets chocked on the bus and the discipline is sending the parents a letter of apology? Are you serious? That is physical assault!

Mrs. Hartley; Mr. Anthony, we do not share with parents what the consequences are for kids who did the offence. Mr. Anthony, I understand that. Mrs. Hartley, things

are addressed at this school. I don't allow bullying in this school. There are incidents and occasions when children are cruel and mean and there are always consequences for their actions. I don't expect a second grader to take care of a fifth grader, that is my job. I am going to say I don't have any unresolved incidents in my office right no. I have a stack of referrals on my desk that are being handled. The parents and kids are a where of them. The problem that was on social media for the last few weeks, we reached out to that parent who thought they had a problem. They said, "we did not come to you and tell you." How are we supposed to deal with things if the parents don't come to me? Ms. Johnson & Mr. Anthony I agree the parents need to come forward.

Mrs. Hartley, the second a parent address an issue with me, it is dealt with. But these are also children and our job it to guide those children. There are some fifth grade children who are having a rough time out there. You are right they are not going to be allowed to touch a second grader. They are also going to be guided on how to be a good person. We are not going to put them in thumb screws and hang them in the play ground with stones being thrown at them.

Mr. Anthony, There are other issues. Mrs. Hartley, There are always issues. This is a school with a lot of dynamics. Mr. Anthony, Kids who want to play sports but they want to quit because they are being hazed and teased. Why are the adults turning their back to it? Mr. Nelson, I can speak to that. There are parents on this board who involved in Athletics and that is unexpectable. Mrs. Hartley, If that is happening, it is happening when adults are not around. Mr. Nelson, there is no hazing. Mr. Anthony, there is hazing going on. Mrs. Hartley, not where it is getting the attention of the adults. They are there to support the children. Mr. Davis, The coaches are with the kids. I am there when we start practice, when we go to other schools. I am with them the entire time. Mr. Anthony, I do know one family that was in Volleyball, whose child came home in tears and said I am not going back. Mrs. Hartley, I know of one incident on youth volleyball where a parent was over stepping the boundary of coaching. I know the coach went to that parent and told them they were not there to coach or criticize the kids on how they play. I know this as my daughter is a coach. I will say when it happens and is within hearing of our coaching staff, these are people who are passionate about sports and kids, it is addressed. I am not going to say that kids are not going to be cruel sometimes. I am not going to say that kids are not going to be mean at times and do things that we are not aware of. But if we hear them or see it, we are going to be talking to them. We are going to guide them and support them. But if we are unaware of it, there is very little we can do.

Mr. Davis, I was the one who responded to your post on the Rush Community page. I am glad you came to this meeting. I did look at our bullying policy. We get our policy's from CASB. There are 6 additions to that policy. I encourage you to read them. It does say that we should create a group of people that would mitigate and mange to include the SRO, Admin, Teachers and parents which I think are key. As far so I know in the last two years, you are the first folks to come and address this issue. I have never gotten an email about it. I super appreciate it. There is nothing being brushed under the board if we do not know about it.

Ms. Johnson, Is there a way to speak at the board meeting if you can not make it?

Mr. Nelson, you can always write a letter. Mr. Davis, there is electronic media, so if

we know you need to, we could put it on speaker phone. Mrs. Hartley, you can also email. You can email to Robyn and she will forward to the board. Ms. Klunder gave Ms. Johnson her email address.

Mr. Anthony, So you are talking about a citizen advisory committee? Mr. Davis, it says SRO, Staff and parents. If you leave me your email, I will send you the policy that I pulled down from CASB. Mr. Anthony, I am not here to throw out problems, I am looking for solutions and I would be interested. Mrs. Hartley, We are constantly looking for solutions. It is an ongoing problem for everyone. Mr. Anthony, I think with my background I could help. Mr. Barnes, with our SRO he is coming up with new ideas that are pretty innovated. Mr. Anthony, is that Mark? Mr. Barnes, no. He came out of La Junta. Mr. Anthony, is he commissioned? Mr. Barnes, no, he is post certified.

Ms. Johnson, when families decide to leave the school, do you do exit interviews? I know I never had an exit interview. That might be something knowledgeable for you. Everyone I have talked to that have pulled their kids out of Miami Yoder, it has been because of bullying. Mrs. Hartley, be at the school, get involved. Ms. Johnson, they can't. Mrs. Hartley, then they are getting half of the story. Mr. Barnes, I generally talk to my parents before they go. But it does not always work.

Mr. Bringhurst, We need to teach kids to self-advocate. Every individual perception of bully is different. How can we have one policy that fits everyone? You have to be involved.

8.00 Board Members

- BOCES – Mr. Bringhurst - none
- DAC – Mr. Leupp - none
- Legislative – CASB Mr. Davis
- we are behind in our bullying policy. It is in the first reading. I advise everyone to read it.

8.01 Superintendent

- Budget, we are working with the State on our budget. The governor is still saying he wants to reduce the negative factor to zero. That would be a good thing for us. The additional kids should add in \$600,000 or 700,000 that will be added back to reserve.
- We are working on getting a new activity bus. The price will be about 200,000. We are looking to order in February and we hope to have the bus the following March.
- On going phone issues. We are hoping to have someone in next week to talk to Todd to find out what the issues are to integrate a new system. My guess by Christmas break it will be up and going.
- Last weekend we had someone break into the east building and steal some tools. Also damage one bus. They cut into the fill in lines. Good news, we got some tools back.
- Mr. Carneal, is there any possible connections to previous thefts? Mr. Barnes, not yet but we think they are all part of one group. This one identification is not difficult as we got great pictures.

- We are 6 more days and then a break. Then four weeks until Christmas break. Everyone is ready for a break.
- Mr. Carneal, At meet the candidate night there was one other issue that was brought up. On the kid end on Vaping. Are there any updates on it? Mr. Barnes, we have searches, I can't tell you when they are. Our policy reads like tobacco, if a student has it, it is confiscated. We then call the parents. If they are using, then that is a suspension offence. We have had one this year and it was THC offence. The SRO is on top of it. Some of the things we see, you would not know that they were Vape. They have sensors that can be put in locker rooms or bathrooms. Mr. Davis, Jule makes one that are free because of the lawsuit they lost.
- Mr. Davis, we need to ask the website designer if they could create a button that will download all the policy's at once. Do we have an ETA on this? Did we decide to invoice the schools who were to come to the football camp that we bought food for? Mr. Barnes, we did invoice one school and were paid. But I can't guarantee that the other schools said they were coming. So, we did not invoice them.

9.00 Consent Items

Motion to approve the Consent Items by, Mr. Carneal second by, Mr. Bringhurst

Mr. Davis, we have a lot of consent items and one could create a conflict were one board member would have to abstain and not be able to vote on other items. I was wondering if we could break them out by 9.01, 9.02 etc. going forward?

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mr. Davis, Mr. Howard, Mr. Leupp

9.01 Financial Reports

- General Fund
- Bond Fund
- Lunch Fund
- Activity Fund
- Class Fund

9.03 Employment

Approve the hiring of Mia Stagg as a Para Sub

Approve the hiring of Mikenna Leupp as a Sped Para

Approve the hiring of Tanya Lester as a Sped Para

Approve the Resignation of Amy Rogers as a Sped Para and becoming a Para Sub

9.04 Policy's

First Reading

AAD-E Safe Schools

ADD Safe Schools

CA Requirements

DAC Federal Fiscal Compliance
DIA Schools and Online Programs
DJB Federal Procurement
DJB-R Federal Procurement
EHC Safeguarding Personal Identifying Information
GBI Criminal History Record Information
IHBD Equivalence of Services
KDBA Parent Notification of Employee Criminal Charges

Second Reading

none

10.00 Action Items

- 10.01** Motion to approve the Minutes, October 11, 2023 Board Meeting by, Mr. Davis
second by, Mr. Carneal

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mr. Davis, Mr. Howard, Mr. Leupp

- 10.02** Motion to approve the Minutes, October 11, 2023 Work Session by, Mr. Howard
second by, Mr. Bringhurst

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mr. Davis, Mr. Howard, Mr. Leupp

- 10.03** Motion to approve the Cost of Living for employees except for 16, 33, 43 & 44 by,
Mr. Davis second by, Mr. Bringhurst

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mr. Davis, Mr. Howard, Mr. Leupp

- 10.03** Motion to approve the Cost of Living for employee # 16 by, Mr. Howard
second by, Mr. Bringhurst

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Davis, Mr. Howard, Mr. Leupp Mr. Carneal Abstain

- 10.03** Motion to approve the Cost of Living for employee # 33 by, Mr. Carneal
second by, Mr. Davis

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mr. Davis, Mr. Leupp Mr. Howard Abstain

- 10.03** Motion to approve the Cost of Living for employees #43 & 44 by, Mr. Howard

second by, Mr. Bringhurst

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mr. Davis, Mr. Howard, Mr. Leupp Abstain

10.04 Motion to approve the BOCES Educational Services Contract by, Mr. Davis

second by, Mr. Bringhurst

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mr. Davis, Mr. Howard, Mr. Leupp

10.05 Motion to approve the 140 day retired employees by, Mr. Carneal second by,

Mr. Howard

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mr. Davis, Mr. Howard, Mr. Leupp

11.00 Executive Session - none

12.00 Items Introduced by Board Members -none

13.00 Discussion Items - none

14.00 Motion to adjourn at 8:02 PM by, Mr. Howard second by, Mr. Davis

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mr. Davis, Mr. Howard, Mr. Leupp

Respectively Submitted

Dan R. Leupp

Daniel R. Carneal

~~Mr. Nelson Leupp~~, President

Sharron Darby

~~Mr. Martin Howard~~, Secretary/Treasurer

Sharron Darby