November 19, 2024

CALENDAR HEARING

Mrs. Crew proposed the calendar draft for the 2025-2026 school year.

The Tecumseh Local Board of Education met in regular session on November 19, 2024, with Board President Sue Anne Martin presiding. Ms. Martin called the meeting to order immediately following the Calendar Hearing. The meeting was held in the Tecumseh High School Arrow Conference Room 9830 W. National Rd., New Carlisle, Ohio 45344.

Roll Call: Present — Members Martin, Stafford, Clark, Diller, and Mills. Absent — None.

Ms. Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Martin recognized guests in the audience.

Minutes of Previous Meetings

Motion by Mr. Mills and second by Mr. Stafford to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2024 meeting, as presented.

Roll Call: Ayes, Members Mills, Stafford, Diller, Clark, and Martin. Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

Communications

Communications – Sue Anne Martin

Reports – *None at this time*.

Public Comments Pertaining to the Agenda –

Jeremy Griffitts - pro LifeWise comments
Jaque Mann - pro LifeWise comments
Steve Mann - pro LifeWise comments
Harey Hushall - pro LifeWise comments
Linda Ares - pro LifeWise comments
Ashley Lewis - pro LifeWise comments

Motion by Mr. Mills to extend the time for public comments, seconded by Mr. Stafford.

Roll Call: Ayes, Members Mills, Stafford, Diller, Clark, and Martin. Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Comments Pertaining to the Agenda (continued) –

Carol Strayer - opponent of LifeWise Rita Lane - opponent of LifeWise

Courtney Wilson - pro LifeWise comments

Leisha Ward - pro LifeWise comments

Sam George - pro arming staff comments

John McFarland - pro LifeWise comments

Robin Morris - comments about arming staff

Kerry Cassell - concerns with arming staff, opponent of LifeWise, request policy be rescinded

Megan Bettelon - opponent of LifeWise, opponent of arming staff

Katie Christy - concerns with LifeWise

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR - PERSONNEL

Motion by Mrs. Clark and second by Mr. Diller:

Resignation - Certified

Jerome Crisostomo, Intervention Specialist at Tecumseh Middle School, Effective December 20, 2024. Reason - Personal.

Resignations – Classified

Janet Knotts, EMIS Coordinator at Tecumseh Local Schools. Effective October 30, 2024. Reason - Retirement.

Cheyenne Williford, Title I Aide at New Carlisle Elementary School. Effective November 8, 2024. Reason - Personal.

Brandy Stewart, Title I Aide at Park Layne Elementary School. Effective January 10, 2025. Reason - Personal.

Dawn McConnaughey, Special Education Paraprofessional at New Carlisle Elementary School. Effective December 2, 2024. Reason - To accept another position within the district.

Employment – Certified

to approve the employment of the following individuals for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented.

None at this time.

Employment – Classified

to approve the employment of the following individual for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented.

Dawn McConnaughey, Title I Aide at New Carlisle Elementary School. Effective December 3, 2024. Same salary schedule.

Employment - Substitute - Certified/Classified 2024-2025

to approve the individuals listed below to be employed as a substitute on an as-needed basis for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented.

Amanda Adkins	Morgan Allen	Allyson Brummitt
Kylie Casebier	Samantha Chadrick	Tiffany Craig
Carol Driscoll	Danielle Duvall	Amy Enloe
Diane Jennings	Misty Jones	Elias Joyce
Taylor Karjala	Erica Kay	Melissa Kennedy
Shari Landrum	Mary Ludwick	Edward Michek
Jessica Proctor	Isabella Reilley	Emmalee Ryles
Jessica Trick		

Employment - Supplemental - Athletic

For the 2024-2025 school year, salary as per Negotiated Agreement.

High School

Boys Basketball

Freshman Boys Basketball - Jimmy Berner

Wrestling

Assistant Varsity Wrestling - Jesse Rodriguez Lipps Assistant Varsity Wrestling - Brady Wilson

Swimming

Assistant to the Head Varsity Coach Swimming - Morgan Mumma

Bowling

Head Varsity Girls Bowling - Angie Davenport Head Varsity Boys Bowling - Noah Burns

Middle School

Girls Basketball

Middle School Girls Basketball 8th Grade - Karl Proctor Middle School Girls Basketball 7th Grade - Marci Smith

Boys Basketball

Middle School Boys Basketball 8th Grade - Rylan Magsaysay

Cheerleading

Middle School Basketball 8th grade - Teyha Ward Middle School Basketball 7th grade - Teyha Ward

Employment - Supplemental - Miscellaneous

For the 2024-2025 school year, salary as per Negotiated Agreement.

Musical Melissa Willardson

Musical Assistant Justin Hoke & Carter Hume (split stipend)

Pit Orchestra Musical Assistant Bryan Martin

Roll Call: Ayes, Members Clark, Diller, Mills, Stafford, and Martin.

Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Motion by Mrs. Martin to postpone the following resolution until the January 7, 2025, Board of Education Meeting. Second by Mrs. Clark.

TECUMSEH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 9760 W NATIONAL RD., NEW CARLISLE, OH 45344

RESOLUTION TO ALLOW ARMED STAFF IN SCHOOL SAFETY ZONE

WHEREAS the Tecumseh Local School District Board of Education believes that the safety of their students and staff is paramount; and

WHEREAS the Tecumseh Local School District Board of Education believes that approved administrators, teachers, and school support staff with appropriate training are capable to defend and protect students and that such protection is essential in creating and preserving a proper learning environment;

WHEREAS, the Ohio legislature has authorized a board of education to grant written authorization to such individuals provided the Tecumseh Local School District Board of Education notifies the public by whatever means the affected school regularly communicates with the public and;

WHEREAS, the Ohio legislature has authorized a board of education to grant written authorization to such individuals provided the Tecumseh Local School District Board of Education Board pays all fees associated with the training received and submits a current list of authorized personnel to the Ohio School Safety Center; and

WHEREAS, the Board has the authority and obligation to support staff while engaged in certain governmental actions, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 2744.07.

THEREFORE, for the welfare and safety of students and staff, be it resolved that the Tecumseh Local School District Board of Education, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 2923.122(D)(1)(d) and TLSD board policy number 3217, grants written authorization to approved personnel who meet the requirements of Ohio Revised Code Section 5502.703 to convey deadly weapons

or dangerous ordnance into a school safety zone, or to possess a deadly weapon or dangerous ordnance in a school safety zone of the Tecumseh Local School District.

Through this resolution, the Board further notifies the public that the Board has authorized one or more persons to go armed within a school operated by the Board

The Board directs the Superintendent to create procedures for qualified individuals to be trained, for which costs will be paid by the Board, and to be approved by the Safety Committee.

The Board also directs the Superintendent to submit a current list of authorized personnel to the Ohio School Safety and Crisis Center, which shall not be disclosed and shall not be considered a public record.

Roll Call:

Ayes, Members Martin, Clark, Mills, Diller, and Stafford.

Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR - FINANCIAL

Treasurer Denise Robinson presented the Five-Year Forecast.

Motion by Mr. Mills and second by Mr. Stafford:

Five Year Forecast

to approve the November 2024 Five-Year Forecast, as presented.

Financial Reports

to review and approve the financial reports for October 2024.

Fund Advances

to approve the following as presented:

Negative fund balances covered by unencumbered general fund balance October 31, 2024.

001-0000	\$138,839.86
505-9025	(\$7,371.65)
516-9025	(\$59,160.53)
551-9025	(\$1,274.45)
572-9025	(\$57,856.73)
584-9025	(\$1,915.88)
590-9025	(\$11,260.62)

This information is to notify the Board of Education and show there are sufficient funds in the general funds to cover the negative grant funds.

Amend Estimated Resources and Appropriations

to amend estimated resources and appropriations, as presented.

SAA Fund/Budget for Fiscal Year 2025

to approve the following SAA Fund/Budget for Fiscal Year 2025, as on file in the Treasurer's office.

300 9941 Girls Bowling - Tecumseh High School

The district currently has a 300 9937 Bowling Fund (girls and boys), however Mr. Hollbrook would like this to be split into two separate funds; 9937 for boys and 9941 for girls.

Donations

to accept the following donation made to Tecumseh Local Schools. See Exhibit O.

Donor	Purpose	Amount
Anonymous	THS Volleyball	\$ 139.00
Heritage of Flight	THS Show Choir	\$ 100.00
New Carlisle Rotary Club	Disaster Relief -B.Williams	\$ 250.00
New Carlisle Rotary Members	Disaster Relief -B.Williams	\$ 163.00
Community Members	Disaster Relief -B.Williams	\$1,100.00
Ohio FFA Foundation	THS FFA	\$ 500.00
New Carlisle Rotary Club	Senior Citizen Luncheon	\$ 250.00
TMS Students	Pink Ribbon Good Fundraiser	\$1,203.00
Park Layne Sunoco	Bus Surveillance Cameras	\$4,000.00
Donnelsville Elementary	Pink Ribbon Good Fundraiser	\$1,064.00
Mrs. Wright's Class	Pink Ribbon Good Fundraiser	\$ 750.00

Unpaid Leave

to approve the following unpaid leave requests for the pay period of 11/5/24:

Devon Hutchens 2 days

Navigate 360 Tecumseh High School

to approve a payment to Navigate 360 for \$3,412.50 for an invoice that was received before a purchase order was generated. The contract period with Navigate 360 is for 3 years (October 2023 - September 2026), however, a purchase order needs to be generated each fiscal year.

The

purchase order that was generated this fiscal year was completed in November, but the invoice date is October.

Resolution Declaring the Impracticality of Transportation

Pursuant to section 3314.091 of the Revised Code, it has been determined that it is impractical to transport a pupil who is eligible for transportation to and from a school under section 3327.01 of the Revised Code because the service unavoidably disrupts current Tecumseh Local Schools transportation schedules. Therefore, payment in lieu of transportation is being offered to the parents/guardians of the following students.

Student	School	Amount
Grace & Michael Berner	Troy Christian	\$583.86
Kenton Coop	Roads to Recovery	\$583.86
Angely Fondon-Zamora	St. Peter School	\$583.86

Roll Call:

Ayes, Members Mills, Stafford, Diller, Clark, and Martin.

Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

INSTRUCTIONAL

None at this time.

<u>ATHLETIC</u>

None at this time.

POLICY

Policy Review

The board reviewed the following policy, as presented.

po5223 Released Time for Religious Instruction

A motion was made by Ms. Martin to suspend Policy 5223 Released Time for Religious Instruction at the December board meeting and place it on the January agenda for further review. Mr. Mills seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ayes, Members Martin, Mills, Diller, Clark, and Stafford.

Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

Planning and Discussion

Reports:

<u>Susan Wile</u> - When we talk about the grant monies that come into the district, I will say this about the Special Ed grants. The Special Ed grants that we get in our district pay for about one-third, a little less than one-third of the personnel that it takes to run our Special Ed program and operate our specialty programs. Like, that looks like a lot of money. And people say we can only spend that on the Special Ed program. That's true, that's all you can spend that money on. But that funding that we get for Special Ed pays about a third of that cost and then two-thirds of that cost comes out of our general fund. So, those funds, they look big like Denise said, and they add to our bottom line but Special Ed also costs that general fund as well.

<u>Deputy Dillon</u> - I'm one of the advisors for Fellowship of Christian Athletes. I came up with the idea because Vandalia-Butler had their Fields of Faith. So I'm planning a Fields of Faith on May 4th for our FCA kids to have a big worship on the football field. So we're asking for donations, if possible. But, I'm super excited because that gives them the chance other than our bible studies and etc before school or after school to have their opportunity to share their testimonies to the public. But we're just asking and hoping for some donations to help us out with that. <u>Matt Mills</u> - Do you have a goal of how much you are trying to raise? <u>Deputy Dillon</u> - This is just an estimate, but close to six to seven thousand. <u>Paula Crew</u> - I know you've been working on that program after hours, so thank you.

Paula Crew - I have a brief report. I too want to start a little bit with the social media and the levy and it's very truthful and accurate to say everyone worked very diligently on that and that's greatly appreciated. And so I really want to say in public that the personal attacks against Mr. Matt Mills were uncalled for and unnecessary. I was appalled to be part of a community that permitted that on social media and wasn't taken down. I'm sorry that happened to you, Mr. Mills. You stepped forward, and that's appreciated. Just to remind everyone, the law has changed a little bit, legislation has come out superintendents have been sued for having too much direct involvement in trying to encourage people to pass levies utilizing district funds and apparently I work 24/7 according to the state I'm never off so I can't do the role that Matt stepped up to do so I appreciate that. I feel like what I usually would have gotten you got the brunt of and I'm sorry for that, and I just think they need to be ashamed of themselves. I wanted to let you know too, we have a couple of things coming up on our district calendar. On December 6th we have our senior citizen luncheon. We've had quite a few people rsvp for it, and that's for individuals 60 and older. Board members, you're welcome to come to lunch. Mrs. Lombard is working hard to prepare the students for singing in the choir. We have our ROTC who post colors and just all kinds of things. We're looking for door prizes for that day. I also want to give a plug to the following day our marching band is still sponsoring the craft show that's one of their big fundraisers and that's 10 to 4 at Tecumseh Middle School. Melissa Willardson - All the spaces are sold out. Paula Crew - So it should be a really good day. If anyone needs Christmas shopping done that's a good time to come out and do that. I personally want to give a shout-out to everyone involved with our Veterans Day programs. They're phenomenal. I'm so proud of our district for all that they do to recognize and celebrate and honor our veterans, those who are still with us, and those who aren't. So, thank you staff, students, and all the people who helped our students get ready with the songs that they sang which is very, very impactful. Then finally I do want to talk about our renewal which is factual. I'm still going to talk about that. So, in light of the time this evening and where we're at right now on the board I'm just going to ask that you take a look at this I want to briefly tell you what's in here so what's in here are your options on what we can do as a district since the substitute levy which is combined the two renewals failed on November 5th. So we can pull those apart and put those back on as renewals. We can put them on at the same time, you can put them on separately, but you'll see there when we can put those on. You'll see the timeline. Again, I'm not going to go over all of this information, there's a whole packet of information on what we can do. The timelines, it's a fact that we need to do something, per Mrs. Robinson's five-year forecast and where we're at with our bottom line and our cash carryover and our deficit spending. I wanted to propose that we have a work session to talk about this because if we do go with a renewal you'll look on the first page here of the timeline, if we are going to go on May 6, 2025, we have to file with the board of elections by February 5th that means all of our ducks have to be in a row in January. This is for the 2.1 million dollar renewal. We only have

May and November so we've got to get it on by May so we at least have two chances because frankly, I'm not sure of the turnout given the 60-40 defeat of the substitute. So I wanted to ask if Thursday, December 5th would work.

Sue Anne Martin - I have a question. It says February 5th is the board of elections filing there's back and forth in there right? **Denise Robinson** - So, we first pass a resolution that the attorney draws up based on what you vote to do. Then I have to take that resolution and take it to the county auditor's office. They have to come up with all the additional data that's required for you to do the second resolution and then after you pass the second resolution, then all of that goes to the board of elections. So, that will all have to happen in January. I mean, I guess you could pass something at the December meeting if it goes that quickly but you'd have to have the attorney already have drawn that up, so I don't think you'll be able to vote on it at the December meeting. I think it's going to have to wait until the... Sue Anne Martin - January 7th, and we talked about having a work session as well in January. Denise Robinson - There wasn't a turnaround time of the auditor's office that's what you just... I mean they're very good at turning it around. It's just I don't know about vacations or people in and out, I don't know anything about that, but normally we get it back within a week or two weeks. Sue Anne Martin - We could throw in a special meeting if needed towards the end of December and January. Denise Robinson - Yes. Paula Crew - But we could meet prior. [there was a discussion about everyone's availability to meet for the work session.] Sue Anne Martin - Okay, so that's December 5th at 5:30. Thank you, all right so we're good with that so if you'll just look through that information that would be great.

<u>Denise Robinson</u> - I did want to mention yes that the five-year forecast will be on our website probably by the end of the week for anybody who wants to go out and look at everything that was presented. Everything that you received will be out there, the assumptions, the five-year, the actual packet.

Information Items:

November 19-22	8th Grade Washington DC Trip
November 20	Picture Retake Day - New Carlisle Elementary School
December 3	TMS Choir Concert: 6th Grade 6:30 p.m. 7th & 8th Grade 7:30 p.m.
December 4	Donnelsville Concert: 2nd Grade 6:30 p.m. 3rd Grade 7:30 p.m.
December 5	Board of Education Work Session 5:30 p.m.
December 5	New Carlisle Concert: 2nd Grade 6:30 p.m. 3rd Grade 7:30 p.m.
December 6	Senior Citizens Luncheon 1:00 p.m Shannon Gym
December 7	Tecumseh Band Boosters Craft Show 10:00 a.m 4:00 p.mTMS
December 9	New Carlisle Concert: 4th Grade 6:30 p.m. 5th Grade 7:30 p.m.
December 10	Board of Education Meeting - 6:00 p.m. Arrow Conference Room
December 12	Donnelsville Concert: 4th Grade 6:30 p.m. 5th Grade 7:30 p.m.
December 16	Tecumseh High School Choir Concert 7:00 p.m.
December 17	Tecumseh Middle School Band Concert 7:00 p.m.
December 18	Tecumseh High School Band Concert 7:00 p.m.
December 20	Two-Hour Early Release / Quarter End
December 23	Winter Break Begins
December 24-25	Board Office Closed for Christmas Break
January 1	Board Office Closed for New Year's Day
January 6	Classes Resume

January 7	Board of Education Meeting
January 17	Teacher In-Service Day – No School
January 18	Athletic Hall of Fame 12:00 p.m.
January 20	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No School, Board Office Closed

Comments and Questions from Board Members

- Mrs. Clark Mr. Dixon is not here because he is on the TMS Washington DC trip. They left this morning. It looked like a bunch of fun and just as in the past they have a ball. They have an absolute ball, even if they think they're going to be homesick they don't have time for that they are so busy from morning to night. They hit the ground running as soon as they got there. Of course, I've been talking with people, and they're having a ball. I went to every Veterans Day program and I was so excited. Of course with my job prior, I was always involved in the TMS one and it's a different program. And, the littles, the littles are just precious. I was never able to do that and I loved actually the high school program. They talked about folding the flag and what each fold means. And, I am an Air Force brat from my dad of 36 years and never knew what the folds meant so that was really meaningful for me. So, I enjoyed that a lot. Wonderful job for everybody that was involved from the readings to the music to the turnout of people and you just see how many, I just am so proud that we have a district that teaches children about celebrating their country.
- Mr. Diller The middle school librarian, Mrs. Oaster received the Librarian of the Month Award. I thought that was pretty fantastic.
- Mr. Stafford I saw the buses this morning, they left this morning for the trip, right? I went by the district about 6:00 a.m. this morning and saw that. I was thinking back, like it's the first time you let your child... it's like a little separation anxiety, that you actually let them go without you for the first time. So, I'm thankful for the staff and admin that go as chaperones and for Mrs. Leggett for putting that together. She does a wonderful job, a thankless job, on that. The basketball season starts next week. I'll be keeping everybody posted on that. We're very excited. It was a rough football season so we're hoping for more wins than losses with the basketball program. Lastly, I'm going to choose my words very carefully on this. When I got on the board several years ago, the relationship... So, I watched the negotiations drag on for a year or so to get the contract in place. There was obviously from a newcomer, a fractured relationship, a little bit, with the teachers or the TEA, the administration, and the current board - me included. So, I figured we had better try to start building a bridge to the TEA to be more transparent, which I think we are, and have that trust established back in the district with the TEA. And this past contract we concluded in record time and I think it saved the district thousands of dollars in attorney fees and was able to get people raises and get people moving faster into their payroll benefit. I hope we can find a way to communicate the Item I Arm Staff in School Safety Zone, without sacrificing our school safety policies and still find a way to maintain that trust because I do appreciate the concern and we take all these decisions very, very, very seriously and I hope in the coming months we can figure out a way to take the temperature in the room down on that issue and I'm probably more than I should say and that's all I probably will say. That's my statement.

- Mr. Mills I have a lot of things to say tonight. I would like the second Jon's comments. I'll piggyback off of them but I agree with them. First off, I really appreciate the administration's support. I have thick skin though. That's one thing I had to learn relatively quickly, to have thick skin, you have to. With that comment, the board is going to be working very fast to figure out what we are going to do. I am ready to hit the ground running as soon as possible. The levy committee is going to start meeting again. Any of you people out in the community who want to get involved who care about these schools, I challenge you to come out and get involved. We need the help. So more to come on that. I really enjoyed, I saw Mrs. Willardson at the New Carlisle Elementary School a couple weeks ago she had about... how many did you have, 40? Melissa Willardson - I had, between both schools, 68 kids. Matt Mills - 68 kids tried out for the high school musical at the elementary school level. So, that was really fun to see. I'm happy to report my daughter got a part. I will be present at all three musicals giving a standing ovation to everyone. I'm looking forward to going out to watch the Christmas plays and the Christmas programs coming up. I always enjoy that. I did go to Veterans Day at New Carlisle Elementary School. The kids did a great job. That was my first time I got to witness something like that and I don't know how many other districts do that for their community. But, that's just one another way where the district goes above and beyond and tries to connect with the community.
- Ms. Martin I would just like to pause again and express my appreciation for the thoughtful comments earlier this evening regarding a couple items on our agenda. We usually don't have folks up front, but I was ready. I appreciate the time and the thoughtfulness that went into all of that, so thank you. I also wanted to call our attention to, I keep talking about our state legislature, on the Dayton Daily News front page vesterday was an article that there's a bill they're looking at to increase base teacher salaries to \$50,000 a year. Our base in our district is \$39,081. It's a whole tiered system, happy to explain it to you, but just know that that's over a \$10,000 of an increase to the base if that passes through the state Legislature. And we just had our five year forecast so you're all with me. I wanted to call your attention to that. Also, board members there's a great article about board governance and the OSBA magazine if you haven't read it I would encourage you to do so. That was a good one about how we do our jobs, the five of us sitting here, working together and working with the community. I want to pause and also take the time to thank the gentleman from Sunoco, Dave, for that donation. What a thoughtful gift to the safety of our students just because he saw something and wanted to make a difference. So I want to be able to make sure I call that out. Finally, I just want to wish everybody a happy holiday season coming up. Thanksgiving next week. If you like turkey I hope you have a good one. Then all of the December stuff that we have coming up. I just read an article today that there are twenty-one different holidays recognized holidays between Thanksgiving and January 1st. So, as you go out into the world if we don't see you again I would like to wish you all a happy whatever you celebrate and I hope that you enjoy it and it fills your soul in many many ways. I also want to call out Mrs. Fugate. I know that it was on our Facebook page as well. I want to call out Mrs. Fugate for her continued support for many years of our veterans and our Veterans Day programs at all of our schools. It is the kind gift of your time and energy and thoughtfulness that you support our veterans through our schools and I am thankful for you.

Public Comments

- Paula Fugate Veterans Day, Christmas cards to Veterans, Levy
- **April Zimmerman** Pro LifeWise comments, substitute pay rate, combine sports and arts pay to participate fee, income tax instead of property tax
- **Jessica Freeman** Opposed to LifeWise, concerns about arming staff and the cost involved
- Kristie Talley Levy concerns
- Jaque Mann offer to answer questions about LifeWise
- Kerry Cassell Levy committee needs community involvement

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mr. Mills at 9:08 p.m. to recess into Executive Session to consider the discipline of a public employee or official, the compensation of a public employee or official, matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or regulations or state statutes, and to discuss details relative to the security arrangements and emergency response protocols for the board of education Second by Mr. Diller.

Roll Call: Ayes, Members Mills, Diller, Clark, Stafford, and Martin.. Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

The meeting reconvened at 10:15 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion by Mrs. Clark to adjourn the meeting.

Second by Mr. Mills.

Roll Call: Ayes, Members Clark, Mills, Diller, Stafford, and Martin.

Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Sulfre Martin President Quise & Robinson