February 20, 2024

The Tecumseh Local Board of Education met in regular session on February 20, 2024 with Board President Sue Anne Martin presiding. Ms. Martin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. 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 Mrs. Clark to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2024 Budget and Organizational Meeting, January 9, 2024 Regular Meeting, January 17, 2024 Work Session, January 29, 2024 Special Joint Meeting, and February 13, 2024 Special Meeting, as presented.

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

Communications

Communications – None at this time.

Reports -

Kevin Harmon, President Tecumseh Education Foundation: Thank you. I used to do this back when Dr. Gay was the superintendent, and the transition and everything, and then the COVID hit, so we kind of got away from it. And I just told Paula that I'd like to get back to it. I just love this community and dealing with everybody. So we just awarded ten teacher grants for this school year. Money provided by the Rotary. Rotary donated \$5,571. And we did the ten teacher grants. So hopefully, I know you guys do building tours coming up or whenever. Hopefully you'll see some of these teachers and some of these programs in place. I love what we do. It's a great program that the rotary does for us. I just love what they do for us. One of my favorite was Ms. McCorkle. Right. First couple of years when I did it, she did these handheld GPS units, and my son was fifth grade, and I was like, yeah, that'd be a cool thing. She goes out behind the middle school and she gives them longitude and latitude, and they have to find the things and just teaches them that. So this year we had Christina Askren with Pandemic Resources from the high school. We had Megan Bockelman providing multi sensory tools to students with disabilities at New Carlisle. Greta Eber, updating the classics and that was at Donnelsville. Beth Elliott at the middle school, Drug education and prevention. And that one, since my wife's the guidance counselor secretary at the middle school, I got a picture of the thing, and it's really cool. So if you get to the middle school, definitely check that one out. Deb Jones mobile magnetic dry erase board at New Carlisle. Jennifer Metz-Fischer supporting newcomer and ELL students in the library at the high school. A double one here, Kathy Oster and Melinda Scaggs at the middle school did a career cafe.

Melinda Scaggs had another one for unity through hope, and she's at the middle school, Sarah Wells fundations organization and letter card easel at New Carlisle Elementary and Laura Wright at the high school did teaching reading and saving lives. Again, I love that program. 2023. This past year, TEF gave out \$14,000 in individual scholarships that were from like the Brosey family have the agricultural scholarship, the Sherry Street Memorial Scholarship, one that's dear to my heart, sorry. TEF estate planned scholarships. We gave out \$27,500. Those scholarships were, in 2005 Mr. Briggs passed away and he left us \$2.4 million. We took that money and we invested it with the Springfield Foundation. In 2019 we gave away the \$1 million mark of money to Tecumseh seniors and we still have \$1.8 million at the foot. It's just a great program. I mean, the kids that keep their GPAs up, their freshman year they get \$1,250, sophomore year they get \$1,500, junior year they get \$1,750 and their senior year they get \$2,000 and it's a great thing. And then we have another the John Sipe music Scholarship. That one goes to somebody pursuing music, which doesn't happen that often. We were able to award two this past year out of that. And it's hard to talk. I talked at the senior citizens luncheon and it's hard to talk to a room of 200 old people and ask them to put us in their estate planning. I've always talked to them about it and always tell them, no donations too small, no donations too big. I met with Springfield Foundation last week and just talked with them some ideas that I got, some other ideas I got and they said I should word it as estate planning scholarships to try to get the word out and make it sound better. So this is my first try at that. So happy news here. I mean, it's all happy news. But for the past few years with COVID and Sugar Isle, they didn't let us do the golf scramble. We moved it to Locust Hills. While our profits were still good because we had tremendous support from the community on hole sponsorships, our numbers, golfing numbers went down. So I talked to Sugar Isle last year and we are going to do a golf scramble this year, bringing it back to Sugar Isle Saturday, June 22 at 2:00 p.m. So I'm really excited about that. And last the Hall of Honor is Saturday, April 13 at 2:00 p.m. Really like doing that. I just love sitting and listening to these graduates of Tecumseh and what they've done in their lives and it just amazes me some of the stuff. That's all I apprreciate your time. Thank you for letting me speak. Sue Anne Martin -Thank you, Mr. Harmon. I would also like to express, I am the board liaison to TEF and Kevin's passion for what the organization is doing and how we do it. And the giving back is really a wonderful thing to follow. So I'm always happy that he gets to share that message and we'll raise his hand to go share it wherever you ask him to. He will find a way to be there to do that. I also, without a couple of the board members knowing, am going to commit to the board sponsoring a hole again this year for the golf outing. We've done that in the past, so we will take care of that again. Kevin Harmon - Thank you.

Public Comments Pertaining to the Agenda – *None at this time.*

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR - PERSONNEL

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

Resignation - Certified

Melissa Willardson, Music Teacher at New Carlisle Elementary and Park Layne Elementary School. Effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. Reason - to accept another position within the district.

Joel Drake, Social Studies Teacher at Tecumseh High School. Effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. Reason - to accept another position within the district.

Melinda McKibben, Kindergarten Teacher at Park Layne Elementary School. Effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. Reason - to accept another position within the district.

Resignations - Classified

Tiffany Shingler, Evening Custodian at Park Layne Elementary School. Effective January 29, 2024. Reason - to accept another position within the district.

Derek Swangim, Evening Custodian at New Carlisle Elementary School. Effective January 26, 2024. Reason - Personal.

Mark Thompson, Evening Custodian at Donnelsville Elementary School. Effective January 26, 2024. Reason - Personal.

Rhonda Crist, Paraprofessional at Donnelsville Elementary School. Effective May 29, 2024. Reason - Retirement.

Jessica Blumenschein, Technology Aide at New Carlisle Elementary School. Effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. Reason - to accept another position within the district.

Employment – Certified

to approve the employment of the following individuals for the 2023-2024 school year, as presented.

CMSgt. Dennis Orcutt, Aerospace Instructor at Tecumseh High School. Effective February 5, 2024.

Mklaine Eggleston-Righter, Physical Education Teacher at New Carlisle Elementary School and Park Layne Elementary School. Effective February 20, 2024. Step 0, Class I. \$38,315.

Employment – Certified

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

Melissa Willardson, Music Teacher at Donnelsville Elementary School and Park Layne Elementary School. Effective August 14, 2024. Same salary schedule.

Joel Drake, Industrial Technology Teacher at Tecumseh High School. Effective August 1, 2024. Same salary schedule.

Melinda McKibben, Title I Teacher at Park Layne Elementary School. Effective August 14, 2024. Same salary schedule.

Employment – Classified

to approve the employment of the following individuals for the 2023-2024 / 2024-2025 school year, as presented.

Melissa Rice, Evening Custodian at New Carlisle Elementary School. Effective February 6, 2024. Step 2, \$17.75.

Shana Burchfield, Evening Custodian at Park Layne Elementary School. Effective February 12, 2024. Step 4, \$19.86.

Jessica Blumenschein, Paraprofessional at Donnelsville Elementary School. Effective August 15, 2024. Step 2, \$15.09.

Employment - Substitute - Certified/Classified 2023-2024

to approve the individuals listed below to be employed as a substitute on an as-needed basis for the 2023-2024 school year, as presented.

Mary Albano	Kim Berg	Alissa Bole
Wayne Carson	Nicole Cremeens	Jessica Flick
Anna Hivner	Chase Kelly	John Lemin
McKinsey McPherson	Chrissy Moore	Seth Mullins
Eric Munson	Riley Owens	Mataya Reinhard
Helen Ritchie	Joshua Steiner	Tracey Wiant

Employment – Supplemental - Athletic

This is the complete list of Spring Sports:

Baseball

Varsity Baseball (Head Coach) - [Rob Cassell, hired in December]

Assistant Baseball (Varsity Assistant) - Brenton Whalen / Cade Rybolt

Assistant Baseball (JV Coach) - Micahel Luttrell-pending completion of requirements

Volunteer - Codee Arthur, Payton Shannon

Softball

Varsity Softball (Head Coach) - Christi Leggett

Assistant Softball (Varsity Assistant) - Bill Gruber

Assistant Softball (JV Coach) - Courtney Scott-pending completion of requirements

High School Track

Varsity Track (Head Coach) - Michael Hoffman

Assistant Varsity Track - Nick Riley

Assistant Varsity Track - Erich Bledsoe-pending completion of requirements

Assistant Varsity Track - Carter Hume

Tennis

Tennis (Boys Head Coach) - Mike Crago

Volunteer - Jessica Liska-Freeman

Middle School Track

Middle School Track - Tammy Dybvig

Middle School Track - Leslie Budding-pending completion of requirements

Middle School Track - yet to be filled

Employment - Home Instruction 2023-2024

to employ the following individuals for the purpose of home instruction, as needed, for specific students at the rate of \$29.77 per hour. Home instruction services will not exceed 5 hours per week for any one student unless required by law.

Michelle Finnell

Employment - Certified - Summer Learning Program

to approve the following individuals for the Summer Learning program during the summer of 2024.

Principal

Dawn Cooper (K-5)

Christi Leggett (6-8)

Unpaid Leave

to approve the following individuals for unpaid leave/dock days:

None for the 1/19/24 and 2/5/24 pay dates.

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

Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR - ADMINISTRATIVE

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

Summer Learning Program 2024

to authorize Tecumseh Local Schools to operate a six-week Summer Learning program for grades K-12.

Graduation List

to approve the 2024 graduation list prepared by the Tecumseh High School guidance department and reviewed by Mr. Oakes and submitted for the board's approval as required by law. Should students not meet the requirements for graduation as required by law, their name(s) will be removed from the list.

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

Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR - FINANCIAL

Motion by Mrs. Clark and second by Ms. Martin:

Financial Reports

to review and approve the financial reports for January 2024.

Fund Advances

to approve the following as presented:

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

001-0000	\$503,641.70
505-9024	(\$719.00)
507-9322	(\$357,777.20)
516-9024	(\$54,691.30)
536-9024	(\$7,822.48)
551-9024	(\$5,420.14)
572-9024	(\$57,214.92)
572-9824	(\$3,531.87)
584-9024	(\$3,606.45)
590-9024	(\$12,858.34)

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.

Tax Rates from Clark County Auditor

to adopt a resolution Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by the Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying them to the County Auditor:

WHEREAS, this Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of the law has previously adopted a Tax Budget for the next succeeding fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Budget Commission of Clark County, Ohio, has certified its action thereon to this Board together with an estimate by the County Auditor of the rate of each tax

necessary to be levied by this Board, and what part thereof is without, and part within, the ten mill tax limitation, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Tecumseh Local School District, Clark County, Ohio, that the amounts and rates, as determined by the Budget Commission in its certification, be and the same are hereby accepted; and be it further

RESOLVED, that there be and is hereby levied on the tax duplicate of said School District the rate of each tax necessary to be levied within and without the ten mill limitation; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk/Treasurer of this Board be and is hereby directed to certify a copy of this Resolution to the County Auditor of said County. Additional Contract Days

to approve payment of three additional work days (July 29, 30, and 31st, 2024) in the 23/24 contract year and for one additional work day (July 31st, 2025) in the 24/25 contract year for the following administrators: Paula Crew, Denise Robinson, Susan Wile, Brian Dixon, Beth Moore, and Aaron Oakes. The three additional days would be paid on the first pay of August in 2024 and the one additional day would be paid on the first pay of August in 2025.

<u>Change Student Managed Activity Fund (200) to a District Managed Activity Fund (300)</u> to approve changing the Academic Competition Team from a Student Managed Activity Fund (200 9204) to a District Managed Activity Fund (300 9204). This request is being made by the current sponsor, Brian Haley.

Donations

to accept the following donation made to Tecumseh Local Schools.

Donor	Purpose	Amount
Anonymous	THS Basketball Cheer	\$ 100.00
Springfield Rotary Foundation	Rotary Grant - Annika Lehman	\$ 426.00
Campus Box Media	THS Basketball Cheer	\$ 287.50
New Carlisle Rotary Club	THS - Attendance Rewards	\$ 500.00
Stacy Reynolds	Aunt Pat Fund	\$ 100.00
New Carlisle Rotary Club	Business Club	\$ 645.00
Springfield Rotary Foundation	Rotary Grant - Laura Wright	\$ 400.00

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

Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR - INSTRUCTIONAL

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

High School Academic Planning Guide

to approve the 2024-2025 Academic Planning Guide for Tecumseh High School, as presented.

Overnight Field Trip

to approve the following overnight field trip for the Tecumseh Business Professionals of America as presented.

Tecumseh High School BPA to travel to Columbus Convention Center by bus on March 7, 2024 and return on March 8, 2024.

Roll Call:

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

Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

POLICY

None.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR - ATHLETIC

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

Ohio High School Athletic Association Membership

to approve membership in the OHSAA for the 2024-2025 school year as presented

Arrow Sports Camp

to approve summer sports camps, as presented. This is at no cost to the Board of Education.

Baseball Camp:

Grades 1-8

March 10th from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Cost \$25, \$10 for each additional family member

Roll Call:

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

Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

Planning and Discussion

Paula Crew - Okay, thank you. So one of the things that we talked about in one of our board meetings recently was the levy options and the needs that we have financially. I think that we concluded, but just wanted to have that discussion in an open session and make sure that we take our two emergency levies that we currently have that are five-year renewals and shift those to a combined substitute levy and put that on in November of 2024. And then if that's what the board wants to do, you'll need to decide on that. I have in my notes that we'd like to go for a continuing. And that's what Ms. Princehorn, your attorney, had talked about again, going for that in 2024, and then utilizing the interim of the time between now and 2024 to get those passed. But in addition, make that communication clear and come up with our communication tool with our levy president, that we do need additional money. We're heading toward a cliff and we need to find additional money. So in November of 2025, then what we had discussed is putting new money on the levy, additional funding on. I don't think that we have determined or you as a board have finalized whether or not that'll be an income tax, whether that's earned or traditional, or a property tax. So that's what I wanted open up to discussion with you this evening, just to chat about both of those. And we don't need to decide our path for 2025 yet. I don't know if you want to discuss that or if you want to just stick with a substitute replacing the two emergency levies that we currently have. Sue Anne Martin -Good. Let's open it up to conversation. I know that we don't need to make a decision tonight. We need to do it next time in March so that Mrs. Robinson can go ahead and get the process

started. It goes back and forth between us and the county and us and the attorney and us in the county. Denise Robinson - And the Board of Elections. Sue Anne Martin - Yes, several times. Paula Crew - Just to clarify. But that's just for the 2024. Sue Anne Martin - correct. Paula Crew - Not for the 2025? Sue Anne Martin - Correct. Matt Mills - So my two cents are to definitely proceed with the substitution combination. That's a no-brainer. We've got to do that regardless. I almost wonder if we have a little bit more time to determine what type of new money levy that we need. We're going to have different financial information next year and it might be a better decision to further develop that down the road. Maybe revisit next year. That's my two cents. Paula Crew - That's good. And then also just keeping in mind whether you want that to be the five, the ten, or the continuing, which it can be either of those three. Sue Anne Martin - When did both of those originally come on? I don't remember. Paula Crew - I have that information. I think the first one was 2005. That would be right. Right? Sue Anne Martin - They've been here a while, if I remember correctly. Paula Crew -It was the 90s, was one. Sue Anne Martin - Okay, so they've continued with renewals every five- ish years or so. Paula Crew - We have had really good luck. If you'll recall. According to our levy presentation that we shared last year, those have all passed and they've all passed quite significantly. I mean, they're very healthy passages of those renewals. So we're hoping that again, by communicating effectively, we can say this is the same, this is the same amount of money that you're paying right now for these renewals, but we would like to never bring it back to you and then also realize we're able to capture a little bit of growth from new housing and property valuations and things like that. Sue Anne Martin - And that's ongoing with the continuing as, for instance, homes in New Carlisle are built out and sold. Paula Crew - Yes. Sue Anne Martin - So be it five years or ten years or whatever. Any other conversation. What else are you thinking or not thinking or conversation about that? Brenda Clark - I think after we met with her and she explained which way did we want to go. This, to me is like you said, it's a no brainer. It's money we know pretty well that we will get and then we got to push for the big money. But I think we have to be upfront now about the big money that it's coming. Paula Crew - And if you saw the Connecting Link, we did put that in there that the board is currently considering what avenue to go when we do ask for in the near future additional funding that we will need that. Again, just to put this in the public perspective again, and here, Covid was not a fun time, but the one thing it did allow us to do is to stretch our bottom line by using that funding to offset salary, current salary. Sue Anne Martin - That's the worst part of it. Covid was horrible, horrible. And yet we have this one nugget that kind of saved us a little bit. And it was not small. That was a big chunk of change for us. Jon Stafford - Is it a fair statement to say to the voting body there's no new taxes, but we are kind of wanting to get the new taxes on the new houses, it looks like. How does that... Paula Crew - It won't affect those currently paying. We'd say something like that. Denise Robinson - It captures the ones who currently aren't paying. Paula Crew - No additional money for those of you who have been paying the renewals all these years. Yeah. So it'll be a communication tool that we'll get with bullet points for that. Sue Anne Martin - Our levy committee will be able to knock that out of the park. All right. Anything else on levy? We will need to come back. If I can come back to, I'm hearing us say that we are in favor of the combining two, putting them on together as a substitute and continuing. Paula Crew - That's a question. Sue Anne Martin - Right. Okay. So I will ask that we have that on our next agenda so that we can vote on that and get it started. Thank you.

Reports:

Brian Dixon - I've been working recently on domestic water, so talking about that nugget of money that we were able to get, we're kind of nearing the end of that money expiring, and we've been working to replace equipment with some of that stuff. As you recall, we've done things like boilers and chillers. Well, not chillers. We've considered thinking about that in the future. But one of the things we're looking at right now is domestic water boilers. Now, those are different than the heat boilers that we currently have. So we've had those domestic water boilers fail at the high school and middle school, where we've had to replace those. We have not had any currently fail at elementaries. So trying to be proactive with what we're replacing. I've went out and got quotes currently from three individual vendors that have brought those back. So we're kind of moving in that direction with that. That'll kind of spend down, I think, most of that equipment money that was in the ESSER funding. So, again, it's something we're thankful for, and we're trying to spend that money so that it is a wise investment in the future with those kind of things. Other things, and I'm pretty limited tonight. We're working with Roof Connect again, trying to get some quotes on the roof over top of ROTC so that we can kind of make some decisions on is this something we want to replace. Once we look at that, it's kind of been a challenge to do that because not everybody wants to go in there and replace that roof because of the HVAC units that are on top of there. It's not a large square footage, but it's not an easy, it's labor intensive with that. So I'm hopeful in the next few weeks we'll maybe see some of those come in. But we have had three vendors come out. So when you look at things, we've made those attempts to get some quotes and if people don't want to do them, that's one thing. But we're just kind of preparing for summer and we'll be looking at all things summer here in the next couple of months. Roger Diller - Are we looking at stripping that roof off? Brian Dixon - That's what I've asked them to quote it out, is take it all the way down. There's currently two roofs on there. There's the original one and then there was a recoat of some type on there. It's a metal decking roof. Most companies that have come out and done that have corded to see exactly what's on there so that they know what they're quoting out with that kind of stuff. So like I said, it's labor intensive and kind of how that was designed originally with putting all that HVAC equipment on there. I don't want to question people that did the design on it, but certainly didn't make it easy when it comes time to replace that. Roger Diller - Plus we built all around it. Brian Dixon - We've built all the way around. That used to be the end of the building, which as you boom materials up there, that's another challenge. Jon Stafford - I'm assuming there'll be a little bit of a premium from the roofers because it's essentially a roof in a bathtub. Paula Crew - It is. [inaudible, multiple people talking at once.] Sue Anne Martin - Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Dixon just reminded me of a question. Just confirm. I know we have been very fiscally responsible in using the ESSER dollars. We have to use them, what is left of them, we have slated to use by is it September of this year? Denise Robinson - Yes. Sue Anne Martin - Okay. And we are good to go on getting there and using every penny? Denise Robinson - we keep meeting every few weeks to insure that we are, Sue Anne Martin - Okay, Brian Dixon - So, these quotes that I've received so far. Haven't received everything, but some of them have come in a little bit lower than what we were thinking. So we'll be meeting again to see. It's a little bit of a challenge because some of this stuff, there's a timetable that takes to get this stuff in house to replace this stuff. So we got to work with that carefully, too, to make sure that we don't wait till the last minute to try to spend things. Denise Robinson - Because we have to cut the check and do all the reporting by September. So if you have to order anything, it has to be able to be in and paid for. Paula Crew - And as a reminder, there were... Roger Diller - This would probably be a summer replacement. Brian Dixon - This would probably be a summer replacement

based on the location, kids entering the building. **Denise Robinson** - It would be PI funds. Paula Crew - Yeah, we would say PI for that one. Denise Robinson - We can't use the building maintenance fund because it's not part of the new building. Paula Crew - And keep in mind also just, that ESSER funding, we were given specific categories in which we were allowed to use ESSER funding. And so when Brian said those quotes are coming in lower, what he's telling you is there's probably going to be some leftover, then we have to scurry around because we don't want to give any of their money back, but we need to find in the different categories where we're going to use that. And one of the areas that has really been positively impacted is our academic, our curriculum area, because 20% of the ESSER funding had to be utilized in the area of learning loss. And I know that Beth has talked about some things that have been done with that in the past. So if need be, then we'll be able to shift. **Denise Robinson** - Part of that timetable is if we decide, oh, we want to spend it on domestic boilers. If that's not where the money is sitting, you have to apply to ODE to move the money from where it's at and what it was going to be used for to now this and what it's going to be used for. So there's weeks that it could take before that is actually approved. So then once it's approved, then we have to get quotes. You can't do any of that before they approve what you want to spend the money on. So that timetable is huge. Paula Crew - Which is why we have DeAnna Gehret as our Federal Grants Coordinator. She's phenomenal, and she makes that time whip around as quickly, that turnaround time is as quick as it possibly can be because she's so good at sitting down and meeting with us. Well, we have to shift. And she says, well, give me a rationale for that. And yes, she has to go in and upload a complete request to shift that money from the domestic boilers to learning loss, and then she'll get that back. And so I just wanted to give my kudos to her. She went from four or five grants to about fifteen or sixteen grants in her time as Federal Grants Coordinator. So she's really jumping through a lot of hoops, especially during ESSER. Denise Robinson - Yeah, the ESSER reporting is nothing like I have ever dealt with before. It is incredibly time consuming. I just received another email today. **Brian Dixon** - Everything with ESSER has to be prevailing wage. Denise Robinson - Right. Paula Crew - If it's over the \$50,000. Matt Mills - Mr. Dixon, if you already said this already, I didn't catch it, I apologize. How many domestic hot water heaters are we replacing? Brian Dixon - So, it would be three. One in each one of the elementary buildings. Matt Mills - Okay. And are those natural gas fired or those electric? Brian Dixon - Those are natural gas. Matt Mills - Natural gas. Is that including storage as well, too, or just **Brian Dixon** - some of those storage tanks have been replaced recently, so there's not that need for that. And again, trying to fit that within the money side of things, too. The reason we're trying to keep that. Matt Mills - Yeah, it's just a smaller. It's just a tank with insulation on all. I get it. I was just curious. Paula Crew - Mr. Dixon, just a reminder, remind us to walk into those rooms and show us on Friday at the elementaries during our tours. Just quickly, which ones? You can point those out to us. Brian Dixon - So just going back, it's New Carlisle, Donnelsville, and Park Layne. Roger Diller - We're not doing anything with Medway? Brian Dixon - We've kind of chosen to not do a bunch with Medway right now because it's not being used. You have to try to figure out what the future is going to be, but also think about what's going on right now with it. So if we would need to open up Medway down the road, that's going to be part of that major investment, that building. So boilers and domestics and roofing, things that we would maybe have with that building. Sue Anne Martin - But Medway is not falling apart. It is being maintained. We are not doing the investment part of it. Brian Dixon - And keep in mind everything that we take from these buildings. So, like, when we replace, we keep parts off of them. Sometimes these parts are

hard to come by because of the age of the equipment. So we're going to have three RBIs that basically we could take down there and use as part of materials in the event that something came up. So trying to be fiscally responsible with that kind of stuff, too. Roger Diller - So we've got two new holding tanks in the district, Donnelsville and New Carlisle. Matt Mills -One more follow up question. I know since ESSER money is running out, are we going to have an opportunity to do the chillers or anything along those lines. **Brian Dixon** - Chillers are just not going to fit in any of those categories. Kind of ballpark figures for a chiller right now, and again, this could change within months and things like that. About \$300,000 for the high school or middle school units, each unit. At the elementaries, they're about \$250,000 apiece. Now, elementaries each have one of those. Paula Crew - And middle and high school have two. Just two each. Brian Dixon - So \$600,000 middle school, \$600,000 high school, \$250,000 at each one of the elementary buildings. Matt Mills - I'm sure you know this too, Mr. Dixon, but the lead times for chillers are astronomical right now. So just something to think about. Brian Dixon - Again, nobody wants to hear this. Nobody wants to think about this. But you can operate these buildings without chillers but not without heat. Again, I don't want to be in that situation. But trying to spend that money where it's the best spent, that's kind of the things we look at. So, teachers, we're not trying to take away your air conditioning. But we're trying to be responsible.

Deputy Dillon - So I've been working on, one of my goals was to bring an assembly to the students here at Tecumseh, just to bring up their spirits. I know bullying is a big problem in schools and stuff and other life challenges. So I was able to talk to one of my good friends of mine was able to bring Relevant Speakers Network, where I got in touch with the gentleman Eric, who was able to schedule assembly. We have it set up for March 5. His name is Terrence Telly. He's a great guy, great speaker. PJ down at South Charleston gave me a lot of feedback from him. He said he's one of out of all the speakers, he thinks he's one of the best. So I was able to plan and have Terrence come to our school to speak. The reason why I like him because I watched a lot of the videos with him. He likes interacting with the students. So I know some of our students can be challenging to participate. So it's one of the reasons why I picked him, because he's most involvement with the kids, including the staff and the teachers. He likes to get involved as well. So that's what I'm working on. Paula Crew - And thank you for your time on that. I know you've been working. So we're working out of that with student wellness and success funding, which was also some funding that came prior to Covid. And we have a little bit of that left that has to be utilized to promote student wellness. This isn't coming from building budgets or anything. **Deputy Dillon** - And I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to look into that. Sue Anne Martin - Is that for all students or is it middle school, high school targeted? How does that work? **Deputy Dillon** - It's for high school students. But I just got a text. If it was fittable, we could do two sessions. Let me know. So we'll talk with Mr. Oakes.

Beth Moore - We were able to send ten teachers and the tech team to the Ohio Educational Technology Conference, thanks to DeAnna Gehret and finding grants to support that. So she really does do an excellent job with that. The conference had all kinds of incredible topics. They are organized fairly well with sessions for instructors, sessions for leaders, sessions for people who deal with IT, like our technology department. And I just highlighted some of the sections because, of course, we had teachers from kindergarten through twelveth grade go, and so they definitely were able to hit that age range. They were also able to hit, like,

mathematics, EL, ELA. And a lot of it focused in on a lot of STEM, a lot of engagement that you can use through technology. Almost every session had to do with AI. So that's a big topic right now as well, and social media, too. So we're excited to hear from our teachers. They went last week, and so maybe we can hear from them and what they've learned from that. Additionally, as you know, we are implementing Fundations, and there has been some growing pains with that for all of us. So, DeAnna found a grant, and I am going through the facilitator certification for that to work with a literacy specialist that only works in that Wilson arena. Our first session was today, and the first grade teachers and I were like a little leery, like, what is this going to be like? It was delightful. And she took all the pressure off of me and the teachers, and she said, I'm coming in. What do you want me to teach? And she taught it and then just said, what questions do you have? And so they had some confirmation on what they were doing was correct, confirmation on just small, little bitty bites of things. The teachers were pretty open about that, and it was just a very pleasant day. So that was our first session. She'll be back three more times this year, and it will get to the point where we're lesson planning together, where I can go in and we can work together and do some team things together, or I can just take over or whatever the need is. So it'll be nice for the teachers to have that support, and hopefully DeAnna will find more grants and so that we can do it on additional levels as well. So that was exciting. A little nervous about it, but really it was a great day. And then finally, we have our District Leadership Team meeting tomorrow. We're really excited about that. We've been doing a lot of work with the state support team in our multi tiered system of support for academics and for behavior. Essentially, what do all kids get? And then you have that other population where they need a little bit more academically and behavior, and then an even smaller population, hopefully, that needs even more support. So that really kind of explains it. For me, that's the easiest way to explain that. So they're actually coming because they've met with the admin team. Now we want it to get to the teachers. So our first step is to take it to the District Leadership Team, which has teachers on it, and then it will go to the Building Leadership Teams from there, and that way it just spreads all the way through. And that's the format we use, and we'll continue to use, is the DLT, BLT, then the TBT. So we're excited about that. I've got some mid year data to share with the teachers and principals, and then we'll go over some attendance and PBIS data as well. The buildings have established some focuses that they want to really hone in on. Only two to three, because you start making a laundry list, nothing gets done. And so we're going to see how that's coming along, maybe reflect on that data to say is what we're doing actually working? Do some tweaking, and then they'll have some time to actually come up with some protocols that help keep them focused and time to work with just their buildings to establish those protocols. So that's it in a nutshell. If you want to add to that, Susan. Susan Wile -You've mentioned the attendance and the behavior, and I'm working, Paula and I are working more on that end of the data. We will have attendance data tomorrow, PBIS data. The principals have all purchased the PBIS rewards program. That gives them some pretty good data, so they're bringing that data in. Three of the buildings did select after our state support team did come in and do fidelity inventory with our staff looking at our reading program and at our PBIS. So they just kind of with a questionnaire and say, okay, if you were doing this perfection with exactly the way PBIS was researched, it would look like this. And they asked the building teams to say, rate yourself on how you're doing these things. And there were some strengths and weaknesses that came out from that. And a couple of the buildings did select to focus on some areas. Providing more of the positive reinforcement in the common areas was one. Working on more interventions in the tiers was a focus area buildings came up

with. And the state support team is coming back in June to provide some support to those building teams where they've done some training based on that fidelity inventory. They're not going to go all over everything about PBIS. They're not going to review things our building teams already know. They're just coming in to say, okay, these were the areas you said were your weaknesses. How can you get better? Here's the support. And then the teams are going to be able to work on that. And because we do have this professional development grant that we got from the state to do this work, there's going to be able to be some stipends and stuff. We're still just working on a plan for that, but that way teachers can come in and work. They asked to not be out of their classrooms to do that work with the team. So we're looking at a day in June to do that. And Special Education, we're just continuing to grow and be busy. We've got a lot of kiddos, 701 kids that are either on a 504 plan or an IEP in the district. That's a lot. Our numbers have slowly crept up over the years. I looked at where are we compared to this time last year? It's really interesting to me. Our population of students with autism has grown. We have eleven more students this year than what we had this time last year. And I will say what I see is we have a number more students who are on that, like level three, students who need intensive support. So our resource rooms are really full and we're seeing a lot of kids who just need that more individualized program to make progress. And they're struggling with things like their language. And our resource room teachers are doing a lot of hard work to help those kids and learn how to do those strategies to help those kiddos develop their language and handle their behaviors and manage their needs. Sue Anne Martin - It's close to 30% of our population. Susan Wile - It's a lot. Sue Anne Martin - How does that now that compare to other districts? Susan Wile - Now that's including our 504 and that's including our preschool. Sue Anne Martin - Fine. It's about 30% of the kids that we serve in some way. Paula Crew - Actually, about the state. Denise Robinson - Countywide, that's high for the county. Paula Crew - But not state. Denise Robinson - But not state. Paula Crew - We are right there. Denise Robinson - For similar districts, five or ten ODE similar districts. I pulled data the other day and it's very similar. I was shocked. Sue Anne Martin - Okay. Paula Crew - And if I may, many districts. If not, I don't want to say all, but most districts are seeing an elevation in the students who are identified as autistic. That continues to elevate every year. Students who are in it, students who are identified for whatever reasons, and there are many. Brenda Clark - Yeah, well, and I think people are more apt to have their child tested to get their child help, to see them succeed than back when we were kids. Paula Crew - And there's a lot of environmental factors that have come into play with food preservatives and different things. I'm not an expert, nor do I propose that I am, but obviously there's something going on to have that elevation.

Paula Crew - I have just a very brief report. We do have that District Leadership Team meeting as Beth and Susan are talking about tomorrow, and we take a look at our areas. Sue Anne Martin - Can I pause you? I'm sorry. I need to go back to Susan's comments.. Remind me the number when we have to hire another intervention specialist, depending on those numbers. Susan Wile - Soon. You don't want to know. Sue Anne Martin - No, but I do, because that's a thing that we have to take into account. Susan Wile - Well, there's different caseloads depending upon the type of class, depending on the level of need of the student. The rule of thumb in general, cross categorical kiddos at the elementary, they can have up to 16 on their caseload, up to twelve at a time. In the middle school, they can have up to 16 on their caseload. At the high school, they can have up to 24. We have never had 24 on a caseload at the high school. That's a general ed caseload, honestly. Sue Anne Martin - Okay. Susan Wile

- But we're approaching, I would say most of our intervention specialists at our middle school have that number right now. And many of our elementary providers also have that number. We've added two intervention specialists at the elementary level in the last couple of years. Sue Anne Martin - I remember that. And we did it because we were hitting a number. Okay. Susan Wile - And those kiddos, those populations are going up to the middle school that are already very full and will eventually go to the high school. Sue Anne Martin - Thank you. Okay, done with the special education numbers, for right now. Go ahead, Paula, sorry. Paula <u>Crew</u> - No, you're fine. So we do have that District Leadership Team meeting tomorrow, and we talk about our strategic pillars, that academic growth and wellness during the DLT meeting. So I've passed out some things that we are working on at the building levels is chronic absenteeism. And I have four graphs included for you. The first graph is from the state. This is the chronic absenteeism indicator, the short and long term goals of the reduction of chronic absenteeism that they want to see between now and 2030-20231. So you'll see the highlighted. They wanted it to be at 20.2% or below of that chronic absenteeism. And then if you will go all the way over to the right, you'll see the intermittent increases that they want that to be reduced to, rather. And then in 2030-2031, the state indicates that we should only have 5% of our students involved in chronic absenteeism. Sue Anne Martin - And this was from who at the state, please? Paula Crew - So it's our legislation in the state. Sue Anne Martin - It's not from the Ohio Department of Education. It's from the legislatures that we put into office. Paula Crew - And then that travels through ODE, Ohio Department of Education and Workforce. And travels through to districts. And then I share that because that chronic absenteeism rate is now listed on our report card. And that's one of the things that they're grading districts on. So I wanted you as board members to be aware of that. The next picture, there is a chronic absenteeism rate. And what we need to do if our baseline chronic absenteeism is 36.7 or higher than the improvement standard, what they're saying, we have to increase that by 1.1 percentage points. Or if it's lower than 36.7, it's three percentage points. If you turn the next page, then you will see Tecumseh. So this is Tecumseh's student. This is not staff, this is student attendance and chronic absentee at some rate. And you'll see the 2019 through 2023. And so what you'll notice, unfortunately, is an upward and downward trend in the two areas that we want to be opposite. So our chronic absenteeism has went from 2019, it was 15.2%. And then it did drop in 2020 because of COVID because we weren't here. And remember how loose the absenteeism was at the time. It's risen to 25.6, 27.2. And our most recent data piece is that 27.5% of chronic absenteeism. And then the attendance, as you can see, correlates. What's our percentage of attendance? So if you go back. So if you look in 23, our chronic absenteeism rate is 27.5. So turn back to the first page and take a look at where the state is projecting us to be in 2023. And that's at 18.3%. So we're well over our target, where we're supposed to be, because we're well over that. They do tell us, you can make intermittent improvements. And that is the graph that's on the first page at the bottom, the chronic absenteeism. So we need to make a 3% because we're lower than the 36.7 each year. And that sounds dismal and that's really difficult to do. But I want to give kudos to the District Leadership Team, our Building Leadership Teams, which, again, are comprised of our district and building principals and the teachers that are on those teams. I have just copied and pasted the rest of my report, and this is from our awesome principals who have shared the work of the awesome teachers and people on the BLTs and the TBTs who are doing this work. So I've just listed for you. I'm not going to go over it, but we have put all kinds of strategies currently that we've had and added quite a bit of strategies to each building to try to improve attendance. Some are controversial, I hear in the news, and some aren't. Not for Tecumseh, but I've heard

things about students receiving bonuses and different kind of things for coming to school, which shake my head kind of thing. But if you think about it, people in the workforce sometimes receive bonuses for coming to work and for their attendance. So we might not be too far off for doing that. We're grasping at anything we can to try to get the students to be here and to try to just come up with incentives in different situations that will make them be here. One of the things with the grading scale and the weighted classes, and if you read that in the responses that Mr. Oakes helped me make to you on that one, is that they can right now fly through 1st, 2nd, 3rd quarter. They know it attendance wise, grade wise, and I'll just pick it up at the end. So maybe that, combined with some attendance strategies and incentives, will improve at least the attendance portion. So that's all I had on attendance. We're going to talk about it tomorrow. Mrs. Clark, are you coming to the DLT? Are you the board member coming? Okay. Wonderful. I also wanted to let you know that our Community Engagement meeting, and please write this down and I'll keep texting you and reminding you, is February 27th. It's in this room. It's a pretty important meeting. It's the one that we did last May, but we're doing it now. If you'll recall, the strategic plan, we have those four pillars, and we have a facilitator for each goal, and we try to meet with those goals with the people who signed up for our committee. What we're finding is very few are showing up. So, for example, Mrs. Robinson will have a meeting, and there's one person in her fiscal responsibility. I'm sorry. And so. And Beth will be like, three people, there'll be three teachers and the same two community members. Our goal, really, is to share what we're doing, and that's not helping us disseminate the information. So we want to morph that into a community engagement meeting in which we talk about briefly but in depth enough to give them an idea, each of our goal areas. For those of you who were involved in 2018, in our strategic planning meeting. Board members, who was there, you were there as a staff member, right? We just got up and we presented out on academics and wellness, fiscal responsibility, and community engagement. So we're just going to change that and do that at least one to two times a year. And that went out in the Connecting Link, and the Connecting Link went to every household in the district. So it went out to the community, and I'll be pushing that out the rest of the week on Facebook and inviting the whole community. We'll start in here. If we have to move to the auditorium, we certainly can. But if you could be here, that would be great, 5:00. Sue Anne Martin - I have asked Mrs. Crew to maybe think about a later time. Paula Crew - Maybe a 5:30 start. Sue Anne Martin - Maybe a 5:30 or 6:00. Thank you. Paula Crew - That's all I have. Do you have questions for me? Matt Mills - Just a question about the chronic absenteeism, for my own knowledge. And maybe this is old fashioned and maybe it's not done this way anymore. That's why I'm asking the question. Are any of these cases considered to the truancy officers? Can they be prosecuted? Paula Crew - And then these very good questions. No, those are questions. So we do still have legislation that requires us to, once we meet certain thresholds that we do have to do certain things with the students like hold mediation meetings, and then, yes, we can shift then and turn them over to the court system. What we were finding is we were having minimum support from the court system. So very recently, Judge Lancaster has started a program, a mediation program in conjunction with the Clark County Educational Service Center, in which we are able to now take our students and mediate with the judge or the judge's personnel and ourselves and the parents. And that can be on attendance or it can be on behavior as well. So, to answer your question, yes, we still do those type of things. But gone are the days when we can take a parent in and just submit them for truancy and that get picked up by the court system and anything punitive happen to the parents. Would that be fair, deputy? Deputy Dillon - Yes. Paula Crew - So we were excited about this mediation for a

attendance procedures. So that's why kind of like having a lot of expulsion hearings for marijuana. We no longer are allowed to charge them with that, although it's a drug in the school setting. So it's fallen on the hands of the school system to act as disciplinarian at the court level, if you will. Does that help? Matt Mills - It does, yes. Thank you. Paula Crew -Anything else? Aaron Oakes - Can I just add something to that. We have been using the mediation, obviously, here more recently, and we have seen some very positive results from that students that we have referred to mediation. The attendance at those mediation meetings has been good because that's half the battle. But the students then returning to school following those mediation meetings, the brief number that we've had, because it just started, we have seen some very positive results, and I think it's translating into some of our building level attendance meetings. Mr. Foster had attendance meetings scheduled today, and all but two showed up, which I can tell you is unbelievable. Normally, it would be zero. So for all of them but two to show up means that there's some kind of message getting out. Sue Anne Martin - Thank you for sharing that. Paula Crew - And the only final thing I have, we have board tours this Friday for the elementary. If you can be at the board office at eight, we'll go over to the bus garage. **Brian Dixon** - You guys will be taking a drive in the van.

Information Items:

Feb. 23	Board Tours -Transportation, Donnelsville, New Carlisle, and Park Layne
Feb. 24	NHS Winter Formal -Tecumseh High School 8:00 p.m 10:00 p.m.
Feb. 27	Community Engagement Meeting -Arrow Conference Room 5:00 p.m.
Feb. 27	Senior Pictures -Shannon Gym 5:30 p.m 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 29	Spring Pictures -Donnelsville Elementary School
Mar. 5	LPDC Meeting -Special Education Conference Room 4:00 p.m.
Mar. 6	Professional Development Day -NO SCHOOL
Mar. 8	Board Tours -Tecumseh Middle School and Tecumseh High School
Mar. 8	End of 3rd Quarter
Mar. 9	ROTC Drill Meet -Tecumseh High School and Middle School
Mar. 11	Kindergarten Registration for the 2024-2025 school year begins
Mar. 11	Spring Pictures -New Carlisle Elementary School
Mar. 11	Tecumseh Elementary PTO Meeting -Park Layne Elementary Cafeteria 6:30 p.m.
Mar. 12	Spring Pictures -Park Layne Elementary School
Mar. 15	Spring Musical: James and the Giant Peach -Pflaumer Auditorium 7:00 p.m.
Mar. 16	Spring Musical: James and the Giant Peach -Pflaumer Auditorium 7:00 p.m.
Mar. 17	Spring Musical: James and the Giant Peach -Pflaumer Auditorium 2:00 p.m.
Mar. 19	Board of Education Meeting -Arrow Conference Room 6:00 p.m.

Comments and Questions from Board Members

• Matt Mills – Thinking of the musical. I'm looking forward to be able to attend that this year. I did stop into the auditorium on the way here, and they are hard at work. So kudos to them, whoever built the peach. Paula Crew - Did you see the peach? Sue Anne Martin - Is it great? Paula Crew - Awesome. Matt Mills - Oh, it's awesome. Regarding the, and Mrs. Crew, thank you very much for the response, as well as Mrs. Robinson on the new high school planning guide. I think it's really awesome that we're adding seven courses and not adding any additional expenditures to the district. What I even like about them more is that they're technical and STEM related, which

is fantastic that we can offer additional courses like that. I mean, I know that this might sound... It's not a negative comment, but not everybody's going to go to college. Not everyone wants to go to college. And there's good money to be made by our students in the workforce directly after. So the fact that we're offering courses like that, in addition to, is fantastic. I really like to see that. Just real quick on CTC. I'm not going to bore everybody. Real quick. There is a levy on March 19th. It's for brand new schools, minimal cost to the county residents. It's a 1.4 mil levy, which means if you have a home that's appraised by the county at \$100,000, you'll pay a little under \$4 a month. It is continuing, and good news is, if they don't pass it in March. they have one last time in November. But if they don't pass it, then the state will take the money away. And it's not known when they will get the chance to vote on them again. Paula Crew - Mr. Mills, a question. What, again, is the percentage that they're receiving from the state to build the buildings? Matt Mills - It's a little over 50%, so it's a good chunk of change. It'll also increase the number of students that can attend. We went over those numbers last time. They turn away more students than they can accept right now. Other than that, really looking forward to board tours this Friday, can't wait.

- Brenda Clark We were offered, being the newbies, to go to an OSBA conference for, they said the title was "So Now You're on the School Board. Now What? 101." So, Roger and I both went. It was a two day conference in Columbus. So informative, I can't even tell you. I had no clue. So many things I learned, so many screwed up districts. Ours is not. I have to say kudos to you guys. I'm so glad that you make it public that you inform us that we are in the know of what is going on. Because it was not that way. We were floored. Like, we rode together both up and back both days, and we were just like, oh, my God, I don't want to be there. I don't want to be on. It was unreal. Some of the things that some of these school districts. It was sad. It was very sad. Like, they have no idea. They have no idea how in one district I'm going on, but they had one district that had four new people, four new board members, and they were hiring a superintendent. They didn't have a clue. And they were so scared. They were excited to be there, but they were so scared. They're like, what if we make a mistake? We don't know this. Well, OSBA, I'm telling you, will help you with everything. All you have to do is ask. We are members of that and we get emails all the time now. I've signed up for their emails and fun facts and facts in a flash. It's just really informative. Absolutely. Yeah. Thank you for letting us go to that. Appreciate that very much.
- Roger Diller The only thing I have is Mr. Dixon brought up about down the line, we're going to have to replace a roof. And it would be the one over the ROTC. If I was seeing this right, and recollected, doesn't that roof take in ROTC? It takes in this roof and all the way out to the auditorium or the gymnasium. Brian Dixon Part of that hallway. Roger Diller So that gives you perspective how large of an area that we would be looking at. And it is part of the old building. Brian Dixon When we do board tours at the high school, if anybody wants to go up, I'll be glad to do that so we can take a look.
- Jon Stafford Yeah, nothing real exciting. I just apologize. I'm not going to be able to

do board tours with these hips. <u>Sue Anne Martin</u> - We will miss you. <u>Jon Stafford</u> - Thank you.

• Sue Anne Martin - I have nothing. So we're good to go.

Public Comments

None at this time.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Mills to adjourn the meeting.

Second by Mr. Stafford

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

Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

President

A Rhinan

Treasurer