

Dr. Joshua J. Isaacson
Superintendent

De Soto School District #73



Superintendent's Office

Ensuring learning, growth, and success for all.

Dr. Clint Freeman
Assistant Superintendent

Mrs. Doréan Dow
Assistant Superintendent

To: De Soto School District Staff
From: Josh Isaacson
Date: October 21, 2016
Re: Summation of October 20, 2016 Board of Education Meeting

Please accept this communication as an abbreviated highlight of actions from the regular and executive sessions on October 20, 2016. The official board minutes will be posted on the home page of the district website. The official minutes from each meeting are posted in the arrears by one month due to the approval of the minutes at the following board meeting.

District Report:

- Dr. Isaacson reported on September enrollment numbers for each grade-level and the total count of 173 students at ECC, 603 students at Athena, 819 students at Vineland, 448 students at DJHS, and 987 students at DHS, for a total of 3,030 students district-wide. The DESE September membership count decreased by 3 from the previous September and is down 91 from the second preceding September. A yearly comparison of AESOP absences, fill rates, and unfilled absences for both certified and classified staff was shared as follow-up from the recommendations implemented from the district substitute committee. Additionally, Dr. Isaacson shared a financial analysis of the current bond project revenue and expenditures.
- Mr. EA Boyer reported on progress on the junior high school, indicating that during the week of December 27-December 30, EA Boyer contracting, De Soto School District maintenance, custodial staff, and Chartwells Food Service will be working to transition equipment to the new cafeteria. The mid-December completion will allow for student use of the new cafeteria on January 3, 2017, when students return after the New Year. Mr. Boyer also reported that several of the roof issues are being taken care of by Huffman roofing at no charge to the district. Mr. Boyer stated that the road behind the junior high and high school would be finished and asphalted once the auditorium project is near completion.
- Mr. Patrick Lawlor reported that the Vineland gymnasium floor installation is complete and the lines would be completed by October 28. Mr. Lawlor indicated that the installation of the bleachers is being finalized with the intention of student use for the first week of November. Work on the library space would commence once the gym classes begin using the new gym. Mr. Lawlor explained that the retention pond, seeding, and punch list items are being finalized in preparation for the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Vineland Elementary addition on November 17, 2016 at 5 p.m. Mr. Lawlor also reported on the progress of the auditorium, which is expected to be completed in late April or early May. Mr. Lawlor stated that the project was a little behind schedule partly due to the original steel contractor going out of business. Mr. Lawlor also reported that two-thirds of the foundation walls are completed and that the tall wall pours would be completed by October 28.

- Dr. Freeman reported that Mr. Lawlor donated the dedication plaque for the Vineland School Project and shared information on the Career Expo in Cape Girardeau on October 13, 2016.
- Mrs. Dow reported that initial MAP data indicated significant movement from Below Basic levels to Basic levels in 3-8 grade MAP as well as gains in Proficient levels. Mrs. Dow indicated that the movement resulted in an increase in APR points, which would be shared during the November Board of Education meeting. Mrs. Dow also provided updates from the PDC, DCAT, and Technology committees. Mrs. Dow reported on the active shooter training conducted on the October 14 professional development day.
- Mr. Ferrell reported on MSBA updates including support from MSBA on Amendment 3 for the November 8th ballot.

Personnel:

Resignations:

- The board approved the resignation of James Coleman, as Bus Driver, effective October 27, 2016.

Employment:

- The board approved the employment of Christine Hubbard, as Bus Driver, effective November 1, 2016.
- The board approved the employment of Lonnie Reando, as Part-time Maintenance, effective October 24, 2016.
- The board approved the employment of Blair Starwalt, from Part-Time Teacher to Full-Time Teacher, effective October 24, 2016.
- The board approved Chris Woelich as Volunteer Sr. High Girls' Basketball Coach for 2016-2017.

New Business:

- The Board approved the Food Services Report.
- The Board approved the revised MCE Policies 2180-Pledge of Allegiance, 2526-Constitution and American Civics Tests, 2655-Bullying, 2755-Cardiovascular/Heimlich Training, 412-Notice of Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program, 6271-Instruction for Gifted and Talented Students and Regulation 0342-Nepotism, Conflict of Interest and Financial Disclosures.
- The Board considered approval of the revised Policy and Regulation 1405-School/Community Relations (1st reading).
- The Board approved the Family Involvement Program Proposal.
- The Board approved the Dry-Tex System upgrade for Vineland Elementary Bond Project.
- The Board approved the WAF bids #14, #15, #16, #17, #18, #19, and #20 for De Soto Junior High Bond Project.
- The Board approved the list of obsolete/surplus technology items.
- The Board approved the Distinguished Friends of De Soto Candidates for 2016.
- The Board approved the agreement with De Soto Little League.

- The Board approved the agreement with De Soto American Legion Baseball.
- The Board approved the agreement with AAU Wrestling Club.
- The Board approved the agreement with De Soto Express.
- The Board approved the Wrestling Team to stay overnight during the Fort Zumwalt East Tournament.
- The Board approved the Student Council to attend Missouri State Student Council Convention in St. Louis, Missouri.
- The Board approved the Student Council to attend National Student Council Convention in Liberty, Missouri.
- The Board approved the Dance Team to attend Lee's Summit North Dance Competition in Lee's Summit, Missouri.
- The Board approved the JH Choir trip to Kansas City for the Festival of Music Competition in April.

Closing:

De Soto Staff,

The end of the first quarter marks an important milestone in our school calendar and in our students' progression of learning. The professionalism demonstrated by each of you over the last few months is a testament to our great school district. A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held at the Vineland Elementary campus on November 17 at 5 p.m. and we would love for you to join in the celebration and dedication of the new addition. Thank you for your continued commitment to our students and community and know that my door is always open if you need anything as we continue the school year. Enjoy the long weekend and Go Dragons!

With Dragon Pride,

J. Isaacson