BOT Meeting Thursday November 20, 2025 Minutes

Board Members in Attendance: Jim Sander, Sean Blackwell, Thomas Gorrell, Ted Francavilla, Lucas Doe, Robert Ansbro

Administrators in attendance: Norma Hurwitz, Eddie Kubina

Not in Attendance: Christopher Brignola
Meeting Called to Order by Jim Sander 6:39 pm

I. Approval of Minutes

Ted motioned to approve the minutes, Lucas seconds, all in favor

II. Six Week Assessments

Scores for the first period in Social Studies and Science were good for all grade levels. ELA and Math scores came in mixed. However, it is common for the grades to be lower in the first period. We have begun to develop short quizzes for ELA and Math by strand and will use these as a tool to track student progress. I am confident that these quizzes will help improve test scores as we move forward. We are working with the newer staff members to make sure they are on point. Teachers received a lot of training with the standards so they can create higher level questions. We will have to work on it a little more to help teachers get more familiarized with the content. It is good to use the assessments as a diagnostic tool. They will need more training to then individualize questions for the students. The questions require more analytical skills.

Time will be spent during the advisory period to help the ninth grade students develop their math skills.

Teachers have used a variety of methods to improve the way fractions are being taught, using manipulatives, videos, and cutting up pieces of paper to compare fractions.

III. Fall Parent Teacher Conference

We had a very good turnout. Many teachers had above 90% of the parents attend. Meetings were made with parents who did not attend on the conference night last Thursday. Almost all parents have attended in person at this point. We decided to give students a reward for parent turnout and it made the teachers view it as a competition and they put a higher effort into making sure the parents came in person rather than do the conference remotely.

IV. Science PD Initiative

We have analyzed the previous year state science exam, teachers have given an analysis of the exam and what issues students may be presented with. There are a lot of graphs, charts, and tables that need to be interpreted and it is not just a reading comprehension test. We are now setting forth to improve the content we are teaching students so that they have more exposure to these types of content. I have decided that we would start giving the experiment at the beginning of the unit and then teach the content and allow students to reference back to the experiments.

V. Committee Reports

Building: No updates. We are still working on getting the plaques up. We are enjoying being in our new building and are very thankful to have it.

Finance: There is nothing new to report on finance. The numbers were looked at. We get about $18,000 per student and that is what is budgeted. We have about an additional 30 students over budget. Paul said that everything looks good. We are looking to allow students to take more trips that leave the city. This is giving them more experiences. We had the younger students go to the aquarium and they were so excited. The whole school went apple picking. Older grades will go ice skating. We allow our students to go to Barnes and Noble and pick out their own books.

Education: Nothing to report.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:37 pm.