

INDIAN HILL EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES
Special Meeting of February 4, 2006

A special meeting of the Indian Hill Exempted Village School District was held on Saturday, February 4, 2006, at 8:30 a.m. in the Indian Hill Administrative Offices Conference Room, 6855 Drake Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45243 in accordance with notices sent to each member. Roll call showed the following members as present:

Mrs. Barber
Mrs. Johnston

Mrs. Hopewell
Mr. Sharp

Mr. Jaroszewicz

Also present were Dr. Knudson, Mrs. Toth, Mark Ault, Bruce Petrie, and Lee Geiger.

The Board conducted a work session with legal counsel to discuss several topics related to personnel and negotiations.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (020601) Mrs. Hopewell moved, seconded by Mr. Jaroszewicz, to move into Executive Session at 8:30 a.m. to discuss legal matters. Roll call vote was as follows:

Mrs. Barber, aye
Mrs. Johnston, aye

Mrs. Hopewell, aye
Mr. Sharp, aye

Mr. Jaroszewicz, aye

The Board reconvened its special session at 11:10 a.m.

KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMMING UPDATE – Dr. Knudson reported on conversations she had following the January 24 special board meeting concerning an implementation plan for an Extended Kindergarten Program. The Primary School, under the direction of Sandy Harte, chaired a committee of teachers and parents the past several months that has studied the question of kindergarten programming to determine the kind of program that would be most effective and developmentally appropriate for our students. After careful review of the literature and current research on the topic, contact with other districts and school personnel, and parent surveys, the committee determined that a longer kindergarten day would be advantageous for multiple reasons. Children need more time in kindergarten than the current half day program provides to increase the depth of thinking and exploration of learning experiences; to increase social/peer engagement and build cooperative skills; to increase opportunities for self-directed learning which in turn develops independent learners; to allow more time for developmentally appropriate imaginative, creative thinking, and expression; and to reduce student stress caused by the intense pace of instruction of the current half day.

A program that stretches the kindergarten day but is less than a full Primary School day was believed to be the most child-centered option and the committee concluded their study with a recommendation for an extended kindergarten day program that would run from 8:35 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

After careful analysis of projected costs, the development of a plan to accommodate fluctuating enrollments, and review of the impact this program change would have on other District programs, the recommendation to proceed with an extended day kindergarten program, effective with the 2006-2007 school year, was recommended.

APPROVAL OF EXTENDED KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM (020602) Mrs. Johnston moved, seconded by Mr. Jaroszewicz, to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for a Kindergarten Program with an extended day, as described above, which would be implemented beginning with the 2006-07 school year without a charge for tuition. Roll call vote was as follows:

Mrs. Barber, aye
Mrs. Johnston, aye

Mrs. Hopewell, aye
Mr. Sharp, aye

Mr. Jaroszewicz, aye

ADJOURNMENT (020603) Mr. Sharp moved, seconded by Mr. Jaroszewicz, to adjourn the February 4, 2006 special meeting of the Indian Hill Board of Education at 11:45 a.m. Roll call vote was as follows:

Mrs. Barber, aye
Mrs. Johnston, aye

Mrs. Hopewell, aye
Mr. Sharp, aye

Mr. Jaroszewicz, aye

Board President

Treasurer