

**YELLOW SPRINGS BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Organizational/Regular Meeting      January 11, 2018 – 6:30 p.m.**

**Our Vision:**  
**Becoming a school district of creativity and innovation**

**Our Mission:**  
**Helping all of our students become successful learners and responsible citizens**

**We welcome you to this meeting of the Yellow Springs Board of Education. The purpose of this meeting is to conduct business before the Board. We are very interested in hearing from you and have set time aside for community comment. So that we may do our work productively and effectively, public comments, statements and concerns are welcomed in the Community Comments portion of the agenda.**

**Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by President Steve Conn at 6:30 p.m.  
(Steve Conn was named President Pro-Tem at the December meeting.)

**Roll Call**

**Present:** Aida Merhemic, Sean Creighton, Sylvia Ellison, Steve Conn, Steve McQueen

**Absent:** None

**Oath of Office**

The Treasurer administered the Oath of Office to:

Steve Conn  
Steve McQueen  
Aida Merhemic

**Persons Present** – Mario Basora, Dawn Bennett, Tim Krier, Matt Housh, Donna First, Eli Hurwitz, Malcom Keith, Daniel Pelzl, Susan Jennings, Brian Housh, Matt Huelsman, Jacob Steberl, Carol Simmons

**ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS:**

**0118.01 Election of President**

Sylvia Ellison nominated Aida Merhemic as President of the Board.

Seconded by Sean Creighton to close the nominations and that the treasurer be instructed to cast a ballot for Aida Merhemic for the position of President of the Board.

Vote: Yes – Sean, Sylvia, Steve C., Steve M., Aida

No – None

Motion Carried: (5-0)

The Treasurer administered the Oath of Office to the President.

**0118.02 Election of Vice-President**

Sylvia Ellison nominated Sean Creighton as Vice-President of the Board.

Seconded by Steve Conn to close the nominations and that the treasurer be instructed to cast a ballot for Sean Creighton for the position of Vice-President of the Board.

Vote: Yes – Sylvia, Steve C., Steve M., Aida, Sean

No – None

Motion Carried: (5-0)

The Treasurer administered the Oath of Office to the President.

**0118.03 ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR - ADMINISTRATIVE**

Motion by Aida Merhemic to approve the following administrative items with one vote:

**Appointments of Personnel**

To appoint Sean Creighton as the 2018 Treasurer Pro-Tem

To appoint Steve McQueen as the 2018 Student Achievement Liaison

To appoint Sean Creighton as the 2018 Legislative Liaison

To appoint Sean Creighton as the 2018 YS Village Council Liaison

**Appointment of Board Members to Committees**

1. The following committee appointments are required by Board Policy, Negotiated Agreement, or by external organizations:

- a. Aida Merhemic Student Review Board
- b. Sylvia Ellison YSEE
- c. Sean Creighton Insurance
- d. Sylvia Ellison Wellness Committee
- e. Steve Conn YSPSF Committee
- f. Steve McQueen Faculty Advisory Committee
- g. Aida Merhemic Crisis Plan (every 3 years)

2. The following committee appointments are not required:

- a. Aida Merhemic & Sean Creighton Policy Committee
- b. Aida Merhemic & Steve Conn Open Enrollment

**Appointment of District Records Officer**

Dawn Bennett was appointed the Board of Education District Records Officer for 2018 and 2019 and will attend public records training approved by the Attorney General’s Office every 2 years.

**Time and Place of Meetings**

Day/date of month – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday

Time – 7:00 p.m.

Place – E. John Graham Conference Room

**Board Compensation**

\$125.00 per meeting for each Board Member for each Board meeting of 2018.

Limitation of 24 paid Board meetings annually.

**Mileage Rate**

\$0.545 cents (IRS Rate \$0.545 cents) per mile for school district business.

**Board Affiliations**

- a. South West Ohio School Boards Association

**Civil Rights Compliance Officer** (as per Board Policy 2260) – Matt Housh & Donna First

**Standing Authorizations for Superintendent**

- a. To employ temporary personnel and accept resignations.
- b. To appoint negotiating personnel.
- c. To enter into contractual agreements for services as needed in emergency situations.
- d. To approve applications for professional meetings which conform to established Board policies and are within the appropriations for such activities.

**Reading of the Minutes**

To authorize the Board President to waive the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, providing that they have been submitted in advance.

**Banks of Depository**

- a. US Bank
- b. Fifth/Third Bank

**Position Bonds**

To set the bonds for the Superintendent, Treasurer and Board President at \$20,000 and purchased by the District.

**Federal, State, Private Fund Reports & Applications**

- a. To authorize the Superintendent and Treasurer to sign and file reports on behalf of the District for Federal, State and private funds.
- b. To authorize the Superintendent and Treasurer to sign and file applications on behalf of the District for all other Federal, State and private funds and authorize the Treasurer to appropriate funds for the grants awarded, subsequent to Board approval, if required.

**3.14 That the Treasurer and Superintendent be authorized to employ the services of the following attorneys as needed.**

- a. Bricker & Eckler LLP
- b. Dinsmore & Shohl LLP
- c. Dinkler & Pregon LLC
- d. John A Podgurski

**Board Leadership Operating Protocols**

That the members of the Board publicly commit collectively and individually to the board leadership operating protocols.

**Board Bylaws and Policies**

To adopt existing Bylaws and Policies for its own operation and the operation of the school system.

**Designate official newspaper of the District**

- a. Yellow Springs News

**Board Service Fund**

The Board shall establish a Board Service Fund (per policy 6231) which shall not exceed the greater of two dollars (\$2.00) per enrolled student or \$20,000. Appropriations from this fund shall not exceed the sum specified by R.C. 3315.15.

**Standing Authorizations for Treasurer**

- a. To request advances of Tax Settlements
- b. To authorize to sign district checks and the use of signature plates.
- c. To invest inactive funds.
- d. To pay all bills, provided that funds are available and report such payments monthly to the Board.
- e. Modify appropriations throughout the year without increasing total fund appropriations.
- f. To advance cash from fund to fund to alleviate cash flow difficulties
- g. To issue blanket purchase orders not to exceed \$500,000.

Seconded by Steve Conn.

Vote: Yes – Sylvia, Steve C., Steve M., Aida, Sean

No – None

Motion Carried: (5-0)

**Budget Hearing Presentation**

**0118.04 Adoption of Budget**

Motion by Aida Merhemic to approve the Tax Budget for Fiscal Year 2019, as presented, be approved and be submitted to the County auditor as per ORC5705.

Seconded by Sean Creighton.

Vote: Yes – Steve C., Steve M., Aida, Sean, Sylvia

No – None

Motion Carried: (5-0)

The Board took a 5 minute recess before starting the Regular Meeting.

**PRELIMINARY MATTERS - continued**

**0118.05 Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Sylvia Ellison to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2017 Regular Meeting, as presented.

Seconded by Steve Conn.

Vote: Yes – Aida, Sean, Sylvia, Steve C.

No – None

Abstain – Steve M.

Motion Carried: (4-0-1)

**COMMUNICATIONS PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS:**

**Communications**

None

**Community Comments**

*Eli Hurwitz* – Proud of Exhibition Nights and how our teachers are teaching.

*Brian Housh* – Update on the debate team.

**Schools In Action**

*Susan Jennings from Community Solutions* – Information about bike path

**Administrative Reports**

Elementary Principal

YSHS/McKinney Principal

Student Services Director

**TREASURER’S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**Financial Report – December 31, 2017**

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**Superintendent Updates:**

*Board Member Recognition Month* – Superintendent Basora presented certificates

*Facilities Update and Recommendation* – The resolution of Necessity was approved last month. The Resolution to Proceed is the last approval needed to get the levy on the ballot on May 8, 2018.

**0118.05 Resolution Determining to Proceed with Bond Issue and Income Tax Levy**

Motion by Steve Conn:

WHEREAS, this Board of Education by a resolution duly adopted on December 14, 2017 determined the necessity of (i) levying a tax on the taxable income of individuals and estates as defined in division (E)(1)(a) and (2) of Section 5748.01 of the Ohio Revised Code annually for the purpose of permanent improvements, and (ii) issuing bonds in the amount of \$12,668,963, for the purpose of implementing a comprehensive plan through renovation and partial replacement of existing 7-12 facilities, including demolition, site improvements, furniture, utilities and equipment, and all necessary appurtenances thereto, and the necessity of levying an

annual direct tax on all the taxable property in this School District, outside of the ten-mill limitation to pay the interest on and to retire said bonds;

WHEREAS, the Treasurer of this Board of Education has certified that the maximum maturity of said bonds is thirty-seven (37) years;

WHEREAS, the County Auditor has certified that the estimated average annual levy throughout the life of said bonds which will be required to pay the interest on and retire said bonds assuming a rate of interest now estimated at four and three-quarters percent (4.75%) per annum, is four and seven-tenths mills, for each one dollar (\$1.00) of valuation which amounts to forty-seven cents (\$0.47) for each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of valuation; and

WHEREAS, this Board of Education by resolution duly adopted, determined the necessity of raising an additional \$381,375 per year with a School District income tax for permanent improvements, and further provided that application be made to the Tax Commissioner of the Ohio Department of Taxation to estimate the property tax rate that would have to be imposed by the School District in the current year to produce said additional annual amount and to estimate the income tax rate that would have had to have been in effect for the current year as a School District income tax to produce said additional annual amount; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Commissioner of the Ohio Department of Taxation has certified to this Board of Education that the estimated property tax rate that would have to be imposed by the School District in the current year to produce said additional annual amount is 2.90 mills and that the estimated income tax rate that would have had to have been in effect for the current year as a School District income tax on income of individuals and estates to produce said additional annual amount is 0.25%.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Yellow Springs Exempted Village School District, Counties of Greene and Clark, Ohio, two-thirds of all members elected thereto concurring:

SECTION 1. That the amount of taxes that can be raised within the ten-mill limitation will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the present and future requirements of the School District

SECTION 2. That it is hereby determined to proceed with the issuance of bonds of this Board of Education in the amount of \$12,668,963, for the purpose stated in the Preambles hereof, and to levy an annual direct tax on all the taxable property in said School District outside of the limitation imposed by Section 2 of Article XII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to pay the annual debt charge on the bonds and to pay debt charges on any notes issued in anticipation of those bonds.

SECTION 3. That it is hereby determined to proceed with the submission to the electors of the School District the question of levying for thirty (30) years an income tax of one-quarter percent (0.25%) per annum on the taxable income of individuals and estates as defined in division (E)(1)(a) and (2) of Section 5748.01 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 4. That the question of an annual levy of taxes on the taxable income of individuals and estates as defined in division (E)(1)(a) and (2) of Section 5748.01 of the Ohio Revised Code, apart from the tax needed to pay debt service on any bonds, for thirty (30) years (commencing January 1, 2019) to benefit the School District, the proceeds of which shall be used to provide funds for permanent improvements (including the financing thereof), at a rate of one-quarter percent (0.25%) and issuing said bonds and levying a direct tax to pay the annual debt charges thereon, shall be submitted to the electors of the School District at the election to be held on May 8, 2018, as a single ballot question pursuant to Section 5748.08 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 5. That the Treasurer of this Board of Education be and is hereby directed to certify to the Greene County Board of Elections a true and correct copy this resolution and of the resolution of this Board of Education determining the necessity of said bonds, said direct tax and said election, together with the certification of the amount of the average tax levy for the bonds, expressed in dollars and cents for each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of valuation as well as in mills for each one dollar (\$1.00) of valuation, estimated by the County Auditor, and a true and correct copy of the Ohio Department of Taxation Income Tax Certification, and to notify said Board of Elections to cause notice of such election to be given as required by law. This resolution should also be certified by the Treasurer to the Greene County Auditor prior to certification with the Greene County Board of Elections.

SECTION 6. That the form of ballot to be used at said election shall be substantially as follows:

PROPOSED BOND ISSUE AND TAX LEVY

Majority Affirmative Vote is  
Necessary for Passage

Shall the Board of Education of the Yellow Springs Exempted Village School District, Counties of Greene and Clark, Ohio, be authorized to do both of the following:

(1) Impose an annual income tax of one-quarter percent (0.25%) on the School District income of individuals and estates, for thirty (30) years beginning January 1, 2019 for the purpose of **PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS AND FINANCING THEREOF?**

and

(2) Issue bonds for the purpose of **IMPLEMENTING A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN THROUGH RENOVATION AND PARTIAL REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING 7-12 FACILITIES, INCLUDING DEMOLITION, SITE IMPROVEMENTS, FURNITURE, UTILITIES AND EQUIPMENT, TOGETHER WITH ALL NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO**, in the principal amount of Twelve Million Six Hundred Sixty-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty-Three Dollars (\$12,668,963) to be repaid annually over a

maximum period of thirty-seven (37) years, and levy a property tax outside of the ten-mill limitation estimated by the County Auditor to average over the bond repayment period four and seven-tenths mills, for each one dollar (\$1.00) of tax valuation which amounts to forty-seven cents (\$0.47) for each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of tax valuation, to pay the annual debt charges on the bonds, and to pay debt charges on any notes issued in anticipation of those bonds?

	FOR THE INCOME TAX AND BOND ISSUE
	AGAINST THE INCOME TAX AND BOND ISSUE

SECTION 7. That the treasurer of this Board of Education be and is hereby directed to certify to the Department of Taxation and the Superintendent of Public Instruction a copy of this resolution, together with copies of the Resolution of Necessity, and such other pertinent documents and data as may be required by said agencies.

SECTION 8. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board of Education concerning and relating to the adoption of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board of Education; and that all deliberations of this Board of Education and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Seconded by Sylvia Ellison.

Vote: Yes – Aida, Sean, Sylvia, Steve C.

No – None

Abstain – Steve M.

Motion Carried: (4-0-1)

**0118.06 ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR – ADMINISTRATIVE**

Motion by Steve Conn to approve the following administrative items with one vote:

**Board Policy – First Reading**

to approve the following policies for first reading:

- Revised Policy 2271 College Credit Plus Program
- New Policy 4120.05 Employment of Substitute Educational Aides
- Revised Policy 5200 Attendance
- Revised Policy 5330 Use of Medications
- Revised Policy 6233 Amenities for Participants at Meetings and/or Other Occasions
- Revised Policy 6680 Recognition
- Revised Policy 7300 Disposition of Real Property/Personal Property
- Revised Policy 8600.04 Bus Driver Certification
- New Policy 9141 Business Advisory Council



**Resolution for Recognition of Funds - Policy 6680**

WHEREAS the purpose of the Board of Education to honor its staff, former Board members, and other nonemployee persons with plaques, pins, token retirement gifts and awards and other amenities.

WHEREAS the Board wished to also honor staff, students, citizens, and advisory groups for their contributions with appropriate recognitions and authorizes administrators to purchase meals, refreshment, and/or other amenities to further the interests of the District and to be reimbursed for such purchases if they are initially made with administrators’ personal funds.

WHEREAS The Board hereby affirms that the expenses incurred as listed do serve a valid and proper public purpose. These expenses include:

- Staff appreciation lunches/gifts
- Retirement plaques/gifts
- Food for staff related meetings

WHEREAS the funds shall be made available from the general fund and other funds for such purposes as designated by the Treasurer.

Seconded by Sylvia Ellison.

Vote: Yes – Sean, Sylvia, Steve C., Steve M., Aida

No – None

Motion Carried: (5-0)

**0118.07 ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR – PERSONNEL**

Motion by Sylvia Ellison to approve the following personnel items with one vote:

**Employments:** (Contingent upon completion of all O.R.C. & O.D.E. Employment requirements)

**ALPHA 3.0 Grant: (\$25.00/hour)**

Debra Mabra ALPHA 3.0 Project Advisor  
(approximately 12 hours)

Eli Hurwitz ALPHA 3.0 Project Advisor  
(approximately 12 hours)

Kevin Lydy ALPHA 3.0 Project Advisor  
(approximately 12 hours )

**Homebound Tutor as needed \$25.00/hr:** 1-Year Limited Contract (2017-18 school yr)

Lorrie Sparrow-Knapp

**Substitutes:** 1-Year Limited Contract (2017-2018 school year)

**Teacher (\$90.00/day, \$45.00/half)**

David Kowalski

**Custodian (\$11.00/hour)**

Jerry Upton

**Bus Driver (\$15.00/hour)**

Jerry Upton

**Non-Renewal of Co-Curricular Contracts**

to approve that the following 2017-2018 co-curricular contracts and supplemental contracts not be renewed for the 2018-2019 school year, and that appreciation be expressed to those who provided their services.

**Supplemental: Athletics**

**McKinney Middle School:**

**Non-Staff:**

Margaret Swanson 7/8 Grade Volleyball Coach

**Yellow Springs High School:**

**Staff:**

Chelsee McFarland Reserve Volleyball Coach

**Yellow Springs High School:**

**Non-Staff:**

Christine Linkhart	Varsity Volleyball Coach
Ben Van Ausdal	Boys' Head Soccer Coach
Mark Breza	Boys' Assistant Soccer Coach
William Houchins	Girls' Head Soccer Coach
Anthony Lobertini	Girls' Assistant Soccer Coach
Isabelle Dierauer	Cross Country Coach

Seconded by Sean Creighton.

Vote: Yes – Sylvia, Steve C., Steve M., Aida, Sean

No – None

Motion Carried: (5-0)

**BOARD COMMUNICATIONS**

**John Merrow visit to Yellow Springs**

Broadcast journalist and writer who has been reporting on education issues since the 1970's. Supposed to come to Yellow Springs at the end of February, early March, TBD.

**Set date for 2020 update**

With all that is going on, might want to move to June. Present before June regular board meeting. We need to start thinking of the next strategic plan.

**Greene County Career Center report**

*Steve* – The GCCC reviewed the results of a county-wide survey. 90% of those surveyed would like to see an aeronautical program at the GCCC.

**Other Board members’ items**

*Steve* – Has been contacted by the Economic Sustainability Commission regarding representation from the YS school board. Treasurer Bennett had served on that committee many years ago then it dissolved. It was recently revived and communications are sent to the Treasurer. The Treasurer was unclear as to what the YS Schools involvement needed to be. Steve C. and Steve M. will contact Saul Greenberg and Brian Housh to discuss.

*Aida* – Briefly discussed board protocols and asked everyone to sign.

*Aida* – Welcomed Steve M. to the school board.

**0118.08 Executive Session**

Motion by Steve Conn to go into Executive Session at 8:07 p.m. for discussion of:

- a. The employment of an employee

Seconded by Sean Creighton.

Vote: Yes – Steve C., Steve M., Aida, Sean, Sylvia

No – None

Motion Carried: (5-0)

The Board returned to Open Session at 9:36 p.m.

**0118.09 Adjournment**

Motion by Sean Creighton to adjourn the meeting at 9:37 p.m.

Seconded by Steve Conn.

Voice Call: All ayes.

Motion Carried: (5-0)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Aida Merhemic, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dawn M. Bennett, Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

REPORTS SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ARE AVAILABLE IN A PERMANENT FILE AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE