

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
JACKSON SCHOOL BOARD
Jackson Grammar School
August 6, 2009**

1. **Call to Order:** A special meeting of the Jackson School Board was called to order at 5:00 p.m. Present were Jerry Dougherty, Keith Bradley, Genn Anzaldi, Andrew Kearns, Dr. Carl Nelson, and Gayle Dembowski. Also present was Shawn Bergeron of Bergeron Technical Services.

Motion was made by Mr. Bradley, seconded by Ms. Anzaldi and carried by unanimous vote, to move Item 2 to the end of the agenda.

3. **Consider Awarding Bid for Boiler System Upgrade:** Mr. Bergeron had provided recommendation that the contract be awarded to APEX Plumbing & Heating in the amount of \$27,325. Dr. Nelson noted that \$25,000 had been set aside for the boiler, Mr. Bergeron's services were approximately \$7,000. Mr. Bergeron reported a rebate of \$3500 to \$4500 is expected from NHEC for installation of a new boiler, after it is installed.

Mr. Bergeron noted the only other bid was from J.E. Lyman for \$34,000+. There were two bids of about \$7200 for Siemens controls for the new boiler - \$6,000 is for labor, \$1,000 for parts, plus \$3,000 paid annually to Siemens to service the control system. Ms. Anzaldi questioned whether that would keep the rooms from heating to 85 degrees as was the case last year. Mr. Bergeron explained that last year the construction was in process, and this year that should not happen.

There was question as to how the new boiler would run in conjunction with the old one. Mr. Bergeron stated it is all set forth in the specifications. The old boiler would still be used. He stated Mr. Bordash has the knowledge to go into the control system if one of them should fail. Dr. Nelson noted it is automatic, if one goes down the other one kicks in.

Mr. Bergeron pointed out the boiler has not as yet been ordered. The contract completion date is Sept. 30th; however, they will want to make it happen as soon as possible. When they start the project the other boiler will be shut down. He said there should be no interruption of classroom time.

Ms. Anzaldi questioned, since the kids will be in school and the workmen will be on site at the same time, whether there is a need for background checks. Dr. Nelson stated it is a contracted service, they will have been checked out by their employer. It was noted also there will be a separation between the students and the workers.

Motion was made by Mr. Kearns, seconded by Ms. Anzaldi, that the Board approve the boiler system upgrade contract with APEX. Carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Bergeron stated he will take care of getting the contract signed by APEX and getting the original to Jim Hill.

Mr. Kearns questioned whether there is any contingency money that this is coming out of and how long it can sit there? Dr. Nelson said there is no deadline.

4. Consider Personnel Actions: Motion was made by Mr. Bradley, seconded by Ms. Anzaldi, to accept election of all personnel under Items A, B & C.

A. Election of Katie Saunders as Part-time Clerical Assistant

B. Election of Lisa White as Part-time Food Service Employee

C. Election of ESY Summer Personnel.

Dr. Nelson noted with regard to Item C, Victoria Hill's name should be stricken from the list in that she did not work for the District. It was noted the program is needed for Special Ed students whose IEPs required additional services.

As regards the two part-time positions, Ms. Dembowski was asked whether she is happy with the two choices and she replied in the affirmative. Upon question of number of hours involved in the clerical position, it was noted it is for ten hours a week. **Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

5. Any Other Business: Ms. Anzaldi reported she had received bids from the fence company and asked that the fence be placed on the Agenda for the Aug. 17th meeting.

Mr. Bradley questioned advertisements in the newspaper for anticipated openings. Ms. Dembowski said she has sent the paperwork for the three positions to the SAU and Wendy has them ready to go. She will follow up on this on Friday.

2. Consider Awarding Bid for Construction of the Playground: [Low bidder L.A. Drew at \$17,950.]

Mr. Bradley had some concerns about spending that kind of money. Mr. Kearns said he is concerned about the relocation of the underground utilities. Mr. Dougherty stated we do not have the money for that. Dr. Nelson said he had discussed it with Josh today and he had said if we run into the utility line we could shift the playground one way or the other. It was noted that Dig Safe could not find it. Mr. Bergeron stated that seemed "mysterious" because we have power going to the Whitney Center. Mr. Dougherty did not believe hitting the line will be an issue and he is in favor of going forward with the project. It was noted that surface water may be an issue and we need to look at that. Ms. Anzaldi

questioned whether this includes eliminating any water getting into the building? Ms. Dembowski said it is to keep the playground area itself dry. Mr. Kearns said we do not need to use the playground in the winter. Mr. Dougherty said using it in the wintertime is not the issue; we are concerned about a wet fall, spring, and for the summer program. He agreed that is a big number to spend. Ms. Anzaldi pointed out it does not include the installation of the equipment, nor resodding. Mr. Dougherty said it would include reseeding and bark mulch, stone, 8” pipe, fabric, 12” pressure treated barrier around the entire thing.

Mr. Bradley said since our last meeting he has discussed this with people on the Playground Committee and there was question as to whether they are happy with the current equipment – they told him that discussion had not come up. He said his other concern is, is the present equipment going to go back in or are we better off waiting and getting it all done at once?, adding if we buy new equipment we may find the area is not big enough. He questions whether we should spend this kind of money for a temporary playground.

Mr. Dougherty stated the reality is that is the only place we have to put playground equipment. He cautioned we would not want to put the wood chips in until all the equipment is back in place. He said the question is “do we want to engineer this ground the best that we can, or take a chance and put it back the way it is (put in sand)”? Or, not put it in this year and come up with a more comprehensive plan? He questioned what not putting the playground in for another year means to this facility, was it missed by the kids? Ms. Dembowski said a lot of the kids did well with group games, etc. The few that really missed the playground are those who were not athletically inclined and wanted to swing and not be a part of the group games. She said the teachers would really like to have the playground in there, finished, and to be supervised.

Ms. Anzaldi felt it could be a PTO or fundraising project. Mr. Bradley said he does not have a problem spending this money if it can be done properly; he wants to do it all at the same time. Ms. Anzaldi said she does not mind spending a thousand or two and getting it in the ground. Ms. Dembowski said the companies will look at the space and needs of the kids and design what works for us. Mr. Kearns questioned where the high cost is. Dr. Nelson said materials and labor, i.e. the certified chips are not cheap.

Upon question of the water situation, it was noted the drain pipe will carry the water to the swale directly behind the building. Mr. Dougherty stated it is hoped that we have fixed the water problem in the basement, it seems to be basically dry.

Mr. Dougherty said if our goal is to get the playground back into place this year, we can either approve this contract tonight or come up with a plan as to how we are going to engineer that space – we need to consider this contract tonight.

Motion was made by Mr. Bradley that the Board table Item #2. Mr. Bradley said we would have more time for discussion and tabling this would give ten days to have a good look at itemized costs for materials. Mr. Dougherty questioned L.A. Drew's start date. Dr. Nelson stated Drew was concerned about the bonding (there is question of whether it could be piggy backed on the bonding we already have).

Mr. Bradley expressed concern with the location of the pipe. Mr. Kearns is concerned with the utility line. It was Mr. Dougherty's opinion that is not an issue. Mr. Kearns questioned the depth of the drainage pipes and the playground equipment that goes in.

There was no second to Mr. Bradley's motion to table, thus no action taken.

Ms. Anzaldi requested that goals be set so that a decision can be made at the next meeting. Dr. Nelson agreed to find out what Dig Safe's issue was. Mr. Kearns said there is underdrain around the entire perimeter, we cannot shift it a little bit – if it hits it we will be spending \$8,000 for utilities. Mr. Dougherty said he feels fairly confident the conduit is not an issue.

Motion was made by Mr. Bradley, seconded by Mr. Kearns, to table consideration of awarding the playground bid. Carried by unanimous vote.

Dr. Nelson was directed to seek information as follows in preparation for the Aug. 17th meeting:

- Risk of hitting underground utilities
- Location of utilities
- Unit cost of materials, i.e. bark mulch
- Depth of underground drain

Mr. Dougherty said the space is not designed to handle any specific playground equipment. In general that is going to be the playground area. Dr. Nelson said the only thing they would run into is if they buy too much equipment for the space, or the equipment is too big.

Dr. Nelson will invite Josh to attend the Aug. 17th meeting.

- 6. Adjourn: Motion was made by Mr. Dougherty, seconded by Ms. Anzaldi and carried by unanimous vote, that the meeting be adjourned at 5:55 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Gail T. Currier, Recording Secretary