

**West Geauga Board of Education  
Monday, October 20, 2014  
Special Meeting Board Retreat  
8:00 a.m.  
Punderson Manor**

**Roll Call**

Board President Mr. Thoreson called the meeting to order at 8:20 am with the following members present:

Mrs. Dottore, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Kotowski, Dr. Phelps and Mr. Thoreson.

Mr. Thoreson led the Board in the pledge of allegiance.

**LONG RANGE PLANNING**

Mr. Thoreson suggested the following long range agenda items for the retreat over the next two days.

Day One

1. Board Meeting Presentations and Format
2. Public relations and communication plan
3. Grade level consolidation for Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade
4. Insurance Update
5. Superintendent search

Day Two

6. Open Enrollment
7. Five Year Forecast Scenarios

Board Meeting Presentations and Format

Mr. Nutter proposed a change in the format of the Board meetings. He suggested the Board consider utilizing a monthly work session for administrative presentations and a regular meeting.

All members supported the new format.

Public Relations and Communication Plan

The Board discussed several different ways to improve communication with the community during the school year. Mr. Nutter will develop a communication plan to discuss with the Board at a future date.

### Grade Level Consolidation (K thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade)

The Board discussed the advantages and disadvantages of consolidating grades levels for kindergarten through fifth grade. Some discussion topics included:

- Academically better for children
- Ability to better align curriculum to standards
- Efficiency in delivering professional development
- Transportation issues surrounding rescheduling start times and duration on the bus
- Impact on families with multiple children
- Impact on middle school readiness
- Declining enrollment projections

The Board asked Mr. Nutter and the administrators to make a presentation at the November work session.

### Update on Insurance Negotiations

The Treasurer and Superintendent updated the Board on the current insurance bids noting all bids included significant increases over the past years. The Superintendent and the Treasurer will present the bids to the District's Health Insurance Committee for consideration on Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> and update the Board following the discussions.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**2014-153**

**A motion was made by Mr. Thoreson and seconded by Mr. Douglas to enter into executive session at 10:37 a.m. to consider the employment of public employees (Superintendent Search) - O.R.C. 121.22 (G) (1). Ms. Cheryl Ryan, Ohio School Board Association (OSBA), Mr. Mike Nutter, Interim Superintendent and Ms. Karen Penler, Treasurer were asked to join the Board in executive session.**

**Roll Call: Yes: Mrs. Dottore, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Kotowski, Dr. Phelps and Mr. Thoreson.**

Executive session ended at 11:30 am

Regular session reconvened at 11:30 am

### **CONTRACT SEARCH**

**2014-154**

**A motion was made by Mr. Kotowski and seconded by Mr. Thoreson to enter in a contract with Ohio School Board Association (OSBA) effective October 20, 2014 to perform a new Superintendent Search. The contract is for \$6,900 plus travel and printing expenses.**

**Roll Call: Yes: Dr. Phelps, Mr. Thoreson, Mrs. Dottore, Mr. Douglas and Mr. Kotowski**

**Announcement of Next Board Meeting**

Special Meeting – Board Retreat

October 21, 2014, 8:00am

Punderson Manor

11755 Kinsman Road

Newbury, OH 44065

Regular Meeting

October 27, 2014, 7:00 pm

Middle School Community Room

8611 Cedar Road

Chesterland, OH 44026

**Adjournment**

**2014-155**

**A motion was made by Mr. Kotowski and seconded by Mr. Douglas to adjourn the meeting at 11:33 am.**

**Roll Call: Yes: Dr. Phelps, Mr. Thoreson, Mrs. Dottore, Mr. Douglas and Mr. Kotowski**



**President of the Board**



**Treasurer**