Superintendent Leonard Whalen: Board Report for September 14, 2017

Items of involvement (not all-inclusive) since our August 22, 2017 Board Meeting:

We continue to have things rolling very smoothly. Our ACT scores are no longer embargoed and as was mentioned by Principal Stockman at our last meeting, our prior graduating class seniors from 2017 have kept the bar high…with an overall composite score of 20.4 which is .4 above the state average. The current year (2018) seniors currently have a composite of 20.5 which we hope will rise slightly as they re-take the ACT and hopefully inch those scores up.

I have briefed the Board over the last few days…the Governor has proposed a 17.4% budget reduction “across the board” with the exception of SEEK student funding. The AG, Andy Beshear, has said this is illegal at this time so we will stay tuned. Also, late last week, we learned last week that next fiscal year, FY 2019 will include an increase in the CERS payment into the classified pension system. The additional cost to the District will be $83,289 (from $165,030 FY 2018 to $248,319 FY2019).

At this time we have decided to hold off on recommending purchasing a new bus that would need to be ordered this October. I am still optimistic that for our October agenda I will be able to recommend a one-time 2% pay increase to each full time benefitted employee that would be payable in the November payroll. My intent was to make this recommendation at this current September meeting but until we get clarification on how the potential 17.4% state budget cut may impact us I cannot make that recommendation. I believe our employees deserve this and I hope we can still do it. The state is making things very difficult as they continue to pass massive expenses down from the state level to the local level.

Wed. Aug. 22nd: - Attended the WKEC Supt. Meeting

Fri. Aug. 25th: - Conducted regularly scheduled Administrator Team Meeting

 - Attended Fun Night at the Park

Mon. Aug. 28th: - Went and watched our golf team after school in Livingston County

Tue. Aug. 29th: - Attended KSBA Regional Meeting with our Board Team

Fri. Sept. 1st: - Conducted regularly scheduled Principal Team Meeting

 - Met regarding paving project across from Gym

 - Met with Dawn Lampley (KEA) to discuss common pension concerns

Tue. Sept. 5th: - Met with John Stevens regarding our roofing and inspections and our warranty

Wed. Sept. 6th: - Met with State Representative Jim Gooch regarding pension legislation and concerns

Fri. Sept. 8th: - Attended the UK annual School Law Conference in Lexington

Tue. Sept. 12th: - Attended regular Rotary and Chamber of Commerce meetings

On the radar for the coming month:

- Continue to be active and accessible around our schools and attend multiple after school and community activities

- Attend Rotary and Chamber Meetings and WKEC Co-op Meetings as scheduled

- Attend one day School Law Institute put on by our Board Attorney in Bowling Green

- Have focus group luncheons with Ele, HS, Certified, Classified, Parent, Business and Community partner groups over the coming few weeks.

- Attend WKEC Superintendent Retreat in Bowling Green