



School District Liaison Committee
Tuesday, December 8, 2020 - 5:00 PM
MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chairman Block called to order the School District Liaison Committee meeting for December 8, 2020 at 5:05 pm

2. Roll Call

Present - Marvin Block, Sharon Hendren, Doug Lehner

Absent - None

Staff present - Jim Lenner - Village Manager, Jack Liggett - Assistant Village Manager, Abe Haroon - Chief of Police, Mayor Chip Dutcher - Village Council, Benjamin Lee - Village Council, Teresa Monroe - Clerk of Council

Johnstown-Monroe Schools staff present - Dale Dickson - Superintendent, Ruth Ann Booher - School Board President, Tim Swauger - School Board member

No other members of the public.

3. Action on Minutes

a. July 28, 2020

ACTION: Marvin Block moved to Approve; Doug Lehner seconded and all were in favor.

AYES: Marvin Block, Sharon Hendren, Doug Lehner

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 3 - 0

4. Joint Rec District Update

Jim Lenner provided update that he, Mayor Dutcher and Bailey Klimchak met with representatives of JYAA and they are very interested in the rec district and what that could be for them in terms of space etc. There has been discussion with Northridge Schools, they have concerns with control proportion; Mr. Lenner said at this time he recommends the partnership be with the Village of Johnstown, Johnstown-Monroe School District and the Johnstown Youth Athletic Association (JYAA). Mayor Dutcher updated on preliminary discussion with JYAA for potential annexation of the Belt Field property into the village, nothing formalized; they have some improvements they would like made, Mr. Dutcher said no promises were made. Also preliminary discussion on the General Miles Estate because the youth league is in desperate need of soccer fields, discussions to continue in the new year, legal assistance offered from one of their board members. Discussion on the formation of the Park District, appointment of a Board and Board Members; Mr. Lenner to continue communication with School Superintendent Dickson to get representative boards growing in the same direction in terms of legislation etc. Mr. Dickson said he would be happy to present any updated versions.

5. Maintaining Educational Services & Activities during pandemic - Mr. Dickson

Superintendent Dale Dickson said the schools are doing quite well. Yesterday the Governor reported that only 29% of Ohio's children are attending classes in person; Mr. Dickson said he was happy to report that 75% of Johnstown students have attended full time, five days a week for first semester so far. Working to make changes going into second semester in order to accommodate an increase of in-person learners because beginning January 4th, 86% have selected to attend in person. Mr. Dickson said standards continue to change, they were under a six foot social separation and now they are able to keep students at three foot intervals so long as they are masked. Mr. Dickson reported some Licking County Health Department statistics and said that Johnstown Schools are doing much better than surrounding districts. Mr. Dickson praised the school staff and reviewed protocols being taken, reports there have only been a handful of positive student cases since the beginning of the year, the protocols are working.

6. Reporting Protocols/MOU on school sexual assault reporting - Chief, Mr. Dickson

Mr. Dickson said there has been an uneasiness among the administrative staff on when to or not to call the police when dealing with sexual harassment or sexual assault issues, there is always a challenge for the Principals to ascertain information prior to calling the police in and question whether the school owes it to parents to let them know what is happening. Mr. Dickson said there has been great discussion with Johnstown Chief of Police on creating a protocol with which to deal with this in the future. Chief Haroon said sexual misconduct and sexual contact are things that do need to be addressed and educated within the school system; he would like to create a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Johnstown Division of Police and the Johnstown-Monroe School District that acts as a standard operating procedure on how to handle alleged reports of sexual misconduct or contact. Ruth Ann Booher said before moving forward with an MOU she suggests looking at their current policy which has been reviewed and approved by their attorneys and has been the protocol. Mr. Dickson said that refers to Title Nine and the MOU would cover procedure for when to involve the Police, it is more than the Title Nine policies, it is more guidelines and procedures as to how the school will act and when they will report instances that occur. Chief Haroon said he just wants to make sure the school is properly educated when they deal with these situations and to be able to determine if there is a need to contact Law Enforcement. Mr. Block asked if there was a female Police Officer in the event of a female student feeling more comfortable, Chief said they did not and they only have one officer who is certified to do such interviews. Both Chief and Mr. Dickson said there is a great spirit of cooperation for the benefit of the kids and the community.

7. Other Business

1. Mayor Dutcher asked for an update on the Searfoss building; Ms. Booher noted a meeting tomorrow with the architect, construction managers and administration to review the plans, no further update provided at this time.
2. Ms. Booher said the school weight room is ready for flooring and some finishing touches with technology, water bottle filling stations etc.; anticipate completion before Christmas.
3. Mr. Dickson wished all a Happy Christmas.

8. Adjourn

ACTION:	Doug Lehner moved to Adjourn; Marvin Block seconded and all were in favor.
AYES:	Marvin Block, Sharon Hendren, Doug Lehner
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

Passed 3 - 0

Meeting adjourned approximately 5:45 pm