

**Cardinal Local School District
Work Session/Special Meeting
October 26, 2016**

The **Work Session/Special Meeting** of the Cardinal Board of Education held at 6:00 p.m. on October 26, 2016, was attended by Ken Klima, Wendy Anderson, Greg McClain, Linda Smallwood and Katie Thomas.

Discussion Items:

Report Card: Dr. Hunt previously shared some information with the Board and now wants to go over it in more detail since there is more to it than just the grades reported. There are the same components as last year. Look at the K-3 Literacy calculation. They look at the number of kids who were not on track in kindergarten and of those kids how many were on track by the end of the year. Then they take the number of kids who were not on track in first grade and of those kids how many were on track at the end of the year. Then the number of kids who were not on track in second grade and how many of those were on track at the end of the year. And finally the number of kids who were not on track in third grade and how many of those were not on track at the end of the year. So 28 out of 72 kids were not on track giving us a 38.9% according to their calculations – an F. He is trying to avoid making it sound like we are making excuses, but the calculation is complicated. *Mrs. Smallwood asked about how many students are in the classes. Dr. Hunt stated 83 kids. Mrs. Anderson thought the numbers were at the bottom of the graph. Dr. Hunt stated 80 out of 83 students are on track but they do not use that in the calculation. There are 83 students in kindergarten, 72 in first grade and 81 in second grade. Mr. McClain stated the numbers the public see are the D's and not the real progress. Mrs. Smallwood added 239 total kids and only 16 are not on track. That is pretty good. Dr. Hunt continued stating after this year it should be a more stable environment since it will be comparing like data. Progress is the most important part. There are four measures, but new things have been added this year since they changed the test last year. This is the first time the high school testing is included. There is a series of calculation to produce a "value-added" rating for your school district. The expected growth of student groups give the school or district a C. This is a good grade in this area. District Progress – overall we got a B component grade. There are not state tests in K-2, CIS – 3-4 got a C overall, CMS – 5-8 got a B overall. Mr. McClain asked if it identifies the kids who are getting the lowest grades. Dr. Hunt stated they have the information to drill down to who, but it is not shown here. We are doing what we should be; we are moving kids from point A to point B. CHS – 9-12 got a D overall. Some of the 8th graders are taking HS Algebra and that is included in this figure. We have some work to do in the area of math in the upper grades. Part of the challenge with block scheduling is it depends on when you are administering the test for how much the students have covered in class. Achievement has two measures – performance index and indicators met. There are new grades this year. They say we are in "safe harbor" this year and this does not count against teachers or students, but that statement is not posted anywhere on the state site. Only the grades that everyone sees are posted and then they assume we are doing poorly. The calculation is the % of students x the multiplier for the level = Ratio Rec'd. 80.2 out of 120 = 66.8% or a D. It is hard to do well when the tests change so the data is not comparable. We know we have work to do, but next year should be better since we will be looking at comparable data from the same tests. 5-6 years ago they gave you a plan to follow and old tests and you were able to create practice assessments. There are no such tools this year. District Achievement is an F. Jordak received an A for achievement but they do not have any tests. CIS, CMS, and CHS received an F overall as they failed to meet the indicators. It is not quite fair to have this out there since they are comparing apple to oranges. Next year should have comparable data and the grades should look better. The presenter at a recent meeting said we should not teach to the test, but you almost have to. It's like a driver's test. You are giving them the information needed to take the test and hopefully pass the test the first time. Mrs. Anderson feels sorry for the kids as these grades do not accurately reflect their progress. Dr. Hunt continued with Gap Closing; again we received an F. There are ten student groups and the AMO is a moving target each year. We are not hitting the target in English and Math. Graduation Rate - the four year graduation rate is 96/106 which equals 90.6% or a B. We graduated 96 last year out of 106 students who started the freshman year. Prepared for Success – is a new measurer. This includes the number of students taking the ACT, the SAT and receiving Honors Diplomas. We have students attending college ready courses and have several credentialed teachers right here at Cardinal. This is what he looks at when we are talking about success.*

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Cardinal is rated #2 behind Perry in offering college courses to students. Gifted Component – there are three components and we met them all.

Dr. Hunt shared the report card grades comparison from the Chagrin Valley Times from September 22, 2016. It shows the six Geauga County School Districts and their grades. Cardinal received the following:

Performance Index	66.8
Achievement - How well on state tests	D
- How many passed state tests	F
Gap Closing	F
K-3 Literacy	D
Progress - Overall	C
- Gifted	A
- Lowest 20%	C
- Students w/disabilities	C
Graduation Rate - 4 years	B
- 5 years	B
Success	D

Overall we received 2 F's while Berkshire received 6, Kenston received 3 and Newbury received 3. It is tough to make an accurate comparison without digging into what is actually happening. The kids are moving forward on their personal report cards with good grades but this state reporting is looking bad – not a true picture of the success of our students.

An interesting data point – Free and Reduced lunches in Geauga County:

Jordak /CIS	#1 in county	47.2%
CMS	#2 in county	38.0%
CHS	#4 in county	30.9%

There is a definite relationship between demographics and the report card scores. Mr. Klima stated he has read articles about this same fact; communities with money have better test grades. Dr. Hunt stated West Geauga High School is at 9% and Kenton is at 7% and in the comparison from the paper they did have higher scores on the report card. Dr. Hunt has a powerpoint presentation on the Report Card. Please contact him with any questions.

ESSA - Dr. Hunt reported the state law has changed in 2016 and there is to be an implementation plan by July 1, 2017, but it is not done yet. Key points for Ohio are in the areas of assessment, education effectiveness (changes in teacher evaluations and HQT measurers), school improvements, Title funds, special populations (change the special education student group to 30), and chronic absenteeism (want to make it part of the reporting mechanism). Lots of changes will be coming but the plan is not complete to know what they all will be. Mrs. Thomas asked if the AIR test will be used next year. Dr. Hunt replied yes. Mrs. Anderson asked what the 2017 graduates have to do to graduate. Dr. Hunt replied there will be changes to the points needed to graduate and further discussion will happen soon. Currently there is about 20% of the county kids going to make it to graduation. This all ties into the membership of Quality Profile which Kenston put out recently. Dr. Hunt just put out the Huskie Report reporting on all things Cardinal. This is paid for by advertising and printed by the Middlefield Post. We could add a special edition called the Quality Report. Mrs. Anderson stated it sounds like the Cardinal Country Calendar that we used to put out, but stopped due to the cost.

Task Force on School Operations – Dr. Hunt has pulled together a group of 22-23 people to do a study of District operations. The first meeting was October 11, 2016. They looked at a specific set of areas and had an overview of why we are doing this. It was a positive meeting. All questions outlined in each area are being

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completed by January 24, 2017, so a summary can be compiled. There are several questions laid out to engage community members to learn about the operations of the District. They will be meeting again the end of November to review and go forward with process.

Work Session – Dr. Hunt has a work session on his calendar for November 23, 2016. Since that is just before Thanksgiving, he was suggesting to cancel the work session. *Mr. Klima did not see a problem with that and the Board agreed.* Ms. Knuckles thought there was only one meeting in November since there is Capital Conference. *Dr. Hunt stated he will check with Mrs. Steyer to verify and will cancel if necessary.*

Executive Session:

Mrs. Thomas moved and Mrs. Anderson seconded a motion to retire to executive session for the purpose of the Treasurer's Evaluation.

Roll call vote:

Wendy Anderson, aye Greg McClain, aye Katie Thomas, aye Linda Smallwood, aye Ken Klima, aye

Motion approved: 7:10 P.M.

Time Retire: 7:15 P.M.

Time Return from Executive Session: 8:55 P.M.

Adjournment:

Mr. Klima moved and Mrs. Anderson seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

Roll call vote: unanimous yes.

Kenneth Klima, President

Merry Lou Knuckles, Treasurer