

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Special Meeting – Board Work Session**  
**April 28, 2009**

The Shelby City Schools, Board of Education met in special session on Tuesday April 28, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Mid Ohio Educational Service Center conference room, 890 West Fourth Street, Mansfield, Ohio.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Briggs. The following board members were present; JoAnn Nelson, Doug DeVito, Lorie White, Randy Terman and Bruce Briggs.

Mr. Briggs reminded board members of the Board of Education Policy BBA entitled ‘School Board Powers and Duties’ and the ten Board of Education responsibilities. It was noted that the board should focus on questions like, What? Why? How much? And How well? Administrators should be allowed to focus on questions like How? When? Where? By whom?

**Review of Spring 2009 Board of Education Evaluation:**

Discussed:

1. Community Input
  - a. What does the BoE Policy manual say that we should do? Are we doing it?
  - b. Does the community really want to provide input? Or do they prefer to observe?
  - c. BoE Agrees:
    - i. Make ourselves more accessible, but we will not “actively” seek community input.
    - ii. Change the wording of the BoE self-eval to reflect new community input position.
2. Curriculum Changes
  - a. BoE duty is to Consider, Approve or Reject. Are we being given that opportunity?
  - b. How can we encourage suggestions to improve curriculum?
  - c. BoE Agrees:
    - i. BBriggs will schedule a work session with the Admins to better understand the proposed changes prior to Fall start. Curriculum, Buildings, Staffing, Plans, etc.
3. BoE/Admin Roles and Trust
  - a. Reinforce that BoE members need to know “Why?” Consider, Approve or Reject.
  - b. Staff feels that BoE turnover has left them wondering, “Where do we stand?”
  - c. Staff wants BoE to set goals. “Really made a difference in their focus.”
  - d. BoE Agrees:
    - i. To make goal setting a priority.
4. Handling of Complaints
  - a. Are we abiding by our 3/24/09 agreement to channel all complaints to the Superintendent as long as the Superintendent agrees to include us in the response?
  - b. BoE members may contact staff directly when they have their “parent hat on”.

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*Board Evaluation Review con't.*

c. BoE Agrees:

i. We are doing OK so far and will continue to focus on proper complaint handling.

5. Differences of Opinion

a. How can we avoid appearances of “special interests” and “personal agendas”?

b. BoE Agrees:

i. BoE members may focus on a particular facet of public education because they are more familiar with it. This does not necessarily constitute a personal agenda. Ideally, the strengths of one BoE member complement weaknesses of another.

6. Rating Drops and Changes from 2008 to 2009

a. Not discussed specifically, but most of the key changes were covered in other topics.

**Board / District Goals**

Mr. Briggs reminded board members that improvement requires some degree of conflict and that momentum favors the status quo.

Mr. Briggs reviewed 5 questions to be considered when setting goals:

Where are we now?

Where do we want to go?

How will we get there?

How will we know we are there? (or getting there)

How can we keep it going? (sustain focus and momentum)

1. Master Plan?

a. LWhite and RTerman provided BoE with a board member’s perspective.

2. 4-day work week during the summer months?

a. BoE Agrees: Ask BNeff to publish summer office hours for all buildings and BoE office.

3. Remove Phys Ed requirement?

a. BoE Agrees: LWhite and DDeVito will seek a meeting with BNeff to discuss PhysEd exemption for high school and middle school athletes.

4. Add agenda item for submission of new agenda items? Or is polling OK?

a. BoE Agrees: BBriggs will continue to poll BoE members prior to Agenda Meeting.

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*Board / District Goals con't.*

5. Social Networking / Texting Policy?

- a. BoE Agrees: BBriggs & BNeff to propose new social networking / texting policy if none exists today.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. White at 9:13 p.m. and seconded by Mr. DeVito.

Vote Yes: Mrs. White, Mr. DeVito, Mrs. Nelson, Mr. Terman and Mr. Briggs

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Bruce Briggs, Board President