

**GARFIELD HEIGHTS BOARD OF EDUCATION
GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO**

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes – Special Board Meeting
December 14, 2011**

The Board of Education of the Garfield Heights City School District met in Special session on Wednesday, December 14, 2011, at the Garfield Heights High School at 6:00 p.m. with Mr. Joseph M. Juby, President of the Board, presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present : Mr. Juby, Mr. Dobies, Mrs. Kitson,
Absent: Mrs. Geraci, Mr. Wolske

Let the record show that Mrs. Geraci is excused for personal reasons and Mr. Wolske is also excused for a prior out of town commitment.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Mr. Dobies, seconded by Mrs. Kitson to adopt the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Dobies, Kitson, Juby
Nays: None

Moved by Mr. Dobies, seconded by Mrs. Kitson to approve Resolution No. 2011- 039, a resolution adopting the employment separation agreement.

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-039

RESOLUTION ADOPTING EMPLOYMENT SEPARATION AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the Board of Education currently employs Melissa Daley (“Ms. Daley”) as a teacher and extended her supplemental contracts for the 2011-2012 school year as Head Softball Coach High School and for Credit Recovery Course Grades – Mathematics High School; and

WHEREAS, a dispute arose between the parties as to whether Ms. Daley’s continued employment was feasible; and

WHEREAS, the Board, Ms. Daley and her Union seek to amicably resolve this matter meaningfully, with the interest of District students in mind, and with minimal expense to them; and

Section 1: The Board of Education adopts the Separation Agreement as contained in Exhibit A. Consequently, effective December 9, 2011, Ms. Daley was no longer an employee of the Board as a teacher or under the 2011-2012 supplemental contracts. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to execute the Separation Agreement and implement its provisions.

Section 2: It is found and determined that all formal actions of the Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Board, and that all deliberations of the Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings in compliance with all legal requirements, including R.C. §121.22.

Ayes: Dobies, Kitson, Juby

Nays: None

WORK SESSION

Moved by Mr. Dobies, seconded by Mrs. Kitson to conduct a work session to discuss and hear community feedback on the district's realignment plan.

Ayes: Dobies, Kitson, Juby

Nays: None

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Good evening and welcome to tonight's Board Meeting. We appreciate the interest in the school district and taking the time to come to this important meeting.

As you all know by now, our levy went down to defeat in November. We had stated before the vote, changes would occur if the levy did not pass. These changes were sent out to the residents by mail and posted on our website. Superintendent Reid also stated what changes would occur in her letter that was posted on the website prior to the vote.

We have not received any new operating monies since 1992.

This Board has the responsibility and the legal obligations to balance the budget by the end of the fiscal year. It is important that the levy passes in 2012 because we will not receive the money until 2013.

This Board and administration does not want to make cuts, but we have no other choice. In addition if the levy fails in March there will be additional cuts that will have to be made. These cuts will greatly impact every student in the district. Everything will be on the table such as:

- Outsourcing of food service
- Outsourcing of transportation
- Outsourcing of maintenance
- Elimination of extracurricular activities
- Elimination of all sports
- Closing of the Middle School
- Closing of buildings one hour after dismissal and no night activities
- Elimination of additional personnel across the board

By contract agreement and law we have to notify personnel of cuts by April. The cuts to take place for the 2012-2013 school year will be announced at the January Board Meeting.

While preparing this report, I was reflecting with my wife and children, all proud graduates of the Garfield Heights City Schools, on how it was when we attended school. We had reasonable class sizes, three or four foreign languages, honors classes for many subjects at every level, intramurals, sports, full busing and a host of other activities that we do not have now. The parents and city sacrificed because they wanted their children to have the best education possible. The real question is why don't the citizens of Garfield Heights do the same for our children today? Some citizens have commented that with the potential cuts, they are facing a difficult decision on whether to send their children to Garfield. In reply I would like to say that if the levy passes, then you can be proud to send your children to this district.

I know you will have questions concerning the upcoming changes. We will attempt to answer all your questions and every resident will have a chance to speak if they choose. There will be a three minute time frame for you to voice your questions and concerns.

At this time, I would like to turn this over to Mr. Sluka.

Mr. Sluka provided those in attendance with an overview of financial facts which included school district property tax millage rates, revenue and expenditure per pupil amounts and residential taxes as a percentage of overall revenues.

Mrs. Reid provided an overview of realignment plan, an explanation on why it was needed, and the logistics on what it would look like in each of the buildings including lunch and transportation.

The meeting was then opened to questions about the realignment plan. Over fifty individuals in the audience addressed the Board and administration with questions and statements.

Being no further questions or comments, Mr. Juby then wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.


Moved by Mr. Dobies, seconded by Mrs. Kitson to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

Ayes: Dobies, Kitson, Juby

Nays: None



President



Treasurer