

# THE BELL RINGER

## GAVEL-TO-GAVEL MEETING UPDATES

### SNAPSHOTS OF SUCCESS: HSE PEER ART

In the third installment of the digital #SnapshotsOfSuccess, we feature the new Peer Art Class at Hamilton Southeastern High School. Launched this year and taught by Dan Moosbrugger, Peer Art has students working and teaching Exceptional Learners. While COVID has changed the classroom dynamics up a bit with going from all virtual to hybrid, students have still enjoyed learning from one another, and Moosbrugger says he has also learned a lot as well. [Click here](#) to see this #SnapshotsOfSuccess video.

### NBE PLAYGROUND PROPOSAL

New Britton Elementary School Principal Lori Mankin presented her request for matching funds for new playground equipment. With approval from board members, NBE will receive \$30,000 in matching funds in addition to \$27,000 raised by the school's PTO and a \$3,000 grant from the YMCA.

Back in November 2017, board members passed a resolution to use the money from the sale of land at Cumberland Road and 131st Street as a financial base from which a match up to \$30,000 is available to each PTO that proposes an eligible playground design and/or project at their respective school. The board will consider a maximum of two projects from each PTO, but the combined total of matching dollars is capped at \$30,000.

### NEW SCHOOL START TIMES APPROVED

The board approved new school start times as presented 5-2 on Wednesday. The new times will go into effect for the 2021-22 school year. The decision follows a months-long study by ORTAC (Operation Right Time Advisory Committee) comprised of administrators, teachers and parents. ORTAC sub-committees also collected information to help board members better understand the research surrounding the topic.

In addition, the board passed the following recommendations:

- Approve a feasibility study of walking zones to the school buildings in partnership with the City of Fishers.
- Evaluate the benefits of three-tier busing in light of the challenges.
- Appoint a task force to further study the feasibility and support for the reconfiguration of schools and a K-12 feeder system.

To review the timeline, history and ORTAC sub-committee presentations, [click here](#).

Recommended 3-Tier Flipped							
		Teacher Day		Minutes	Student Inst Day		Minutes
Elementary	M / Th	7:20 AM	3:20 PM	480	7:40 AM	2:10 PM	390
	Tu / W / F	7:20 AM	2:30 PM	430	7:40 AM	2:10 PM	390
		<b>Weekly Minutes</b>		<b>2250</b>	<b>Weekly Minutes</b>		<b>1950</b>
		Teacher Day		Minutes	Student Inst Day		Minutes
High School	M / Th	8:05 AM	4:15 PM	490	8:20 AM	3:20 PM	420
	Tu / W / F	8:05 AM	3:25 PM	440	8:20 AM	3:20 PM	420
		<b>Weekly Minutes</b>		<b>2300</b>	<b>Weekly Minutes</b>		<b>2100</b>
		Teacher Day		Minutes	Student Inst Day		Minutes
Grade 5 - 8	M / Th	7:55 AM	4:05 PM	490	9:00 AM	4:00 PM	420
	Tu / W / F	8:45 AM	4:05 PM	440	9:00 AM	4:00 PM	420
		<b>Weekly Minutes</b>		<b>2300</b>	<b>Weekly Minutes</b>		<b>2100</b>

## NEW PROJECTS

The board on Wednesday approved the project resolutions for the the following:

- Fall Creek Junior High School
- Fishers Junior High School
- Hamilton Southeastern High School

To read about each project, [click here](#).

## BUDGET STUDY TASK FORCE

CFO Cecilie Nunn reviewed with board members a proposal to create a budget task force that will look for ways to reduce expenses by \$5 million for the 2021-22 school year. Nunn says this is an Education Fund deficit, but the task force will review a number of ways to reduce expenses in all funds. She laid out the guiding principles for the task force, which includes:

- All programs should be reviewed/ considered.
- Innovative delivery methods should be explored.
- If a reduction in force is necessary, attempt to do it with attrition.

The task force will be comprised of at least two board members, department leaders, building administrators and teachers. The goal is to have a recommendation presented to the board on March 10, 2021.

## PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE

Superintendent Dr. Allen Bourff updated board members on the work being done on Portrait of a Graduate. Currently, a summary is being composed on how the skills outlined in POG relates to the Indiana academic state standards.

## WAYNE TWP. ELEMENTARY

Superintendent Dr. Allen Bourff gave a brief update on the new Wayne Township Elementary School that is in need of an official name. Board members discussed a few names they liked, such as Deer Creek Elementary, but ultimately would like to get some ideas from students. The site for the building is on a 40-acre lot at the northwest corner of Boden Road (cont.)

and 156th Street. The completion date for the school is July 2022.

## OPERATIONS REPORT

Superintendent Dr. Allen Bourff updated the board on the Operations Plan in regard to the City of Fishers Health Department changing the Community Risk Rating to Level 4 (Red). He said, "we are taking the new guidance provided by FHD and evaluating how we may best incorporate it into the Operations Plan." The board voted 7-0 to approve the following change:

- Beginning Monday, November 16 until Winter Break, December 18 (subject to change) will be in effect:
  - Grades PreK-4 will remain 100% In-person.
  - Grades 5-6 will remain Hybrid (50/50).
  - Grades 7-12 will move to 100% Virtual.

In partnership with FHD, Bourff told the board we have learned more about how to better protect and slow the spread of COVID in schools.

The above changes took into consideration the following information:

- Recognizes low rate of spread within schools.
- Acknowledges the cohorting difficulties in grades 7-12. (cont.)



- Enables the redistribution of support staff to grades PreK-6.
- Recognizes older students are more independent and adept to virtual learning.
- Provides opportunity for further measures, if necessary.

Additional changes to the Operations Plan are possible following a vote by the City of Fishers Board of Health on Friday afternoon.