MADISON BOARD OF EDUCATION

06-07

6:30 P.M. March 21, 2006

This special meeting of the Madison Board of Education was held on March 21, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. at the Administration Building with all members present and Robert Pound presiding as President.

Members Present; Robert Pound, Pam Jones, Jeff Meyers, Murray Konves and Jane McGinty.
Members Absent: None

The following items were discussed by the board. No decisions were made or conclusions reached. Further research and discussion will occur in the future.

1. Communication

a. What can be done by the district to improve communication with the stakeholders of the Madison Local District?
b. Funds have been cut for the district newsletter.
c. PR program to change the attitude of everyone.
d. Can we trust one another, board/staffs, staffs/parents, parents/board, board/community, community/schools, etc.?
e. Would a public forum held in the high school one month and Madison South the next month provide a good way to communicate with the public?
f. Other thoughts on how to improve communications

Suggestions included:
Keep the event planner up to date on the website.
Email a board meeting summary to staff after each meeting
Newsletter on the website
Educate the various support groups, i.e. PTO's, music boosters, athletic boosters, etc.
Include a public forum on the website: questions asked at the board meeting answered on the website.
Superintendent will institute a public forum (public meetings) at high school and at Madison South Elementary. The topic of discussion will be advertised in advance.
For the regular monthly board meetings have a topic of discussion (10-15 minute) presentation.
Develop a fact sheet to be sent home with students in their folders.

2. Can we reorganize the district to grade level buildings?

a. What would be the configuration of the buildings?
b. What transportation problems could we face?
c. If there is reorganization will students fit in the new buildings?

Mr. Breitinger presented the following information:
Pre-school, Grades K-1 would need 23 rooms
Grades 2-3 would need 25 rooms
Grades 4-5 would require 23 rooms

Current buildings would not accommodate the reorganization.

Eastview has 20 rooms
Wooster Heights 19 rooms
Mifflin 22 rooms.

d. Would there be a savings to the district with reorganization?
e. Will we have to buy modular units for all the buildings to handle the number of students?
f. Pros
g. Cons
h. Others thoughts

3. Is there a possibility of closing the junior high building?

a. Where would the 7-8-9 graders go if this building is closed?
b. What expense do we have keeping this building open?
c. Is there a possibility of building a new junior high (grades 7-9) or a new middle school building (grades 6-8)?
d. Should we consider renovating the current junior high building?
e. Pros

f. Cons
g. Other Thoughts

There was much discussion about questions number 3 and 4. Mr. Pease and Dr. Clay presented information that dealt with the facilities, curricular problems, and staffing that is required because the Madison High School is a Comprehensive High School.

4. Can we move the 9th grade to the high school?

Four additional classrooms would be needed.
Discussion was held on whether an additional guidance counselor and an additional principal would be needed.

5. Do we put a levy on the ballot in November, 2006?

a. What is an Operating Levy?
b. What is a Permanent Improvement Levy?
c. What is a Bond Issue?
d. What is an income tax issue for a school district?

Discussion centered on whether an income tax would be a viable alternative to a property tax.
Income tax would only be paid by those with earned incomes.
Income tax is a more stable source of revenue; more potential for growth.
The treasurer and superintendent will investigate how much millage or what percent income tax would be needed to provide for future needs and report back to the board.

On a motion by Mr. Konves, seconded by Mrs. Jones the Board adjourned this special meeting of the Madison Board of Education with the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held on March 29, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. at the Madison High School.

Vote; Yeas: Konves, Jones, McGinty, Meyers, Pound **Nays:** None **Motion Carried**

Attest;

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Robert Pound, President

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Robin L. Klenk, Treasurer