

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

## Minutes of Newton Falls Exempted Village Regular Meeting

### Held February 15, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. – Auditorium in the High School

President Debra Davis called the regular meeting of the Newton Falls Board of Education to order at 6:04 p.m.

Mrs. Davis: Thank you Mr. Woodard and I would like to start this board meeting at 6:04pm. We are going to start this Newton Falls exempted village regular board meeting on February 15, 2018.

#### **FLAG SALUTE**

**ROLL CALL:** Mrs. Crowder, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Kline, Mr. Powell, Mrs. Urbania

#### **Community Meeting**

Mrs. Davis: Now we will start our community meeting with our superintendent.

Mr. Woodard: I would like to start off by saying thank you once again for coming out tonight. We want to hopefully inform you of what we're looking at with closing the elementary school due to decreased enrollment that we continue to experience here in our district. The purpose of the meeting tonight would be to give you correct information regarding the closing of the elementary building, to answer questions you might have, to give you little more insight on what we're facing financially, and also with the enrollment decline. The way we are going to conduct it is myself and our treasurer, Jon Pusateri, will go through a presentation with you. You should've received a packet when you walked in. There will be a PowerPoint presentation on the screen that will kind of coincide with this but if you follow along during my presentation, it's going to be right there in your lap in front of you. After we're done then we will open up for questions and answers when we do that we ask that, I walk around and hand you the microphone. We ask you give us your name and your address because this still is a board meeting we need that for records. If you could ask questions will do our best to answer them between the board, myself, our administration, our supervisor's, and the treasurer are here tonight and try to give you the best understanding of the decisions were having to make.

The first thing that I have on the agenda there is, "Why is the Newton Falls Board of Education considering closing our elementary school at the beginning of the school year 2018-2019?". There are two factors the Board of Education is considering when looking at closing the elementary school. The first is the declining enrollment and see the chart below we list years 1990 through 2017 and the student enrollment. In 1990, we had 1711 students here in the Newton Falls district and there has been a steady decline over the years. In 2017, that's this school year, our enrollment is down to 1101. Second would be to try to be fiscally responsible. Due to the down turn in enrollment, we have a strain on the amount of money in the general fund. We must look at ways to increase the depleting funds of the district. Up until this year we were getting \$6000 per student from the state of Ohio.

You can see the figures there from 1990 to 2017, with the declining enrollment we've lost over \$3,666,000. From 2010 to 2017, with the loss of 350 students it's over \$2 million. Just in the last year from May until present we're down \$462,770. If our enrollment would continue to decline at the rate that it currently is, and even just by taking projections of what we have in our lower grades, by 2022 our enrollment will be 925 students.

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There are multiple factors for schools that are experiencing a drop in enrollment. They are things such as people relocating for a job or lack of jobs in the area, there are more choices now days for schooling such as homeschooling, charter schools, private schools. Other reasons include families having fewer children, communities growing older and young people moving away. Right now one of the places in Ohio that is growing is the Columbus area or in the suburbs of Columbus. They're building new schools every year while many of the schools in Northeast Ohio have to shut schools down. We're not the only ones that are experiencing this type of decline in enrollment and you can see there just last year in Trumbull County Maplewood Schools had to close one of their schools due to the drop in enrollment by 500 students over the last 12 years. Southeast Schools, right on our border, enrollment over the last 10 years went from 2100 students to 1550. Southeast is roughly down over 500 students. In the last 10 years, Crestwood Schools, in Mantua, have lost about 1000 students and they're looking at shutting down one of their middle schools. Windham is another school district not too far from here where their enrollment has dropped from 950 students in the early 2000's to 497 students currently. With a drop of enrollment that drastic, they had to shut down one of their new elementary buildings. What grades will be housed at the middle school? The plan would be to move the kindergarten through third grade students that are currently at the elementary school and move them to the middle school. The sixth grade students would move into the junior high wing with the seventh and eighth graders.

Will the kindergarten through third grade students fit into the middle school? Yes, there's an interesting fact, in 2004 the middle school housed grades third grade through sixth grade, there was 470 students in the building. Currently if we placed grades kindergarten through fifth grade in the middle school next year there will be approximately 424 students in the middle school. So you can see more grades, but with a declining enrollment, there's going to be fewer students in that building. The middle school building could physically handle the amount of students we are looking to place there next year.

Will there be room on the buses if we have kindergarteners to fifth grade on the elementary run and sixth grade to seniors on the high school run? Yes, currently the more populated of the two runs is the elementary run. There is more than enough room on the high school run to accommodate the sixth grade students.

In your packet we have a map of the kindergarten through fifth grade building and the possible configuration. The other map is the high school and junior high housing grades six through twelve. Junior high and high school map, we would have room to fit the sixth, seventh, and eighth grade all in the same hallway and we went to an alternating bell schedule with our junior high students so they would be on a different bell schedule. This will allow us not to have the junior high and high school students in the hallway at the same time.

Will there be changes to the academics? No, we would continue to teach the state curriculum that we are asked to teach and specific tests that we have to get ready for each year.

What will happen to the current elementary school? There is no plan in the immediate future for the elementary school. For now, it will be used for storage and we would use the gym in the evenings, a little bit like we do now, for some of the sports team. To save as much as possible on utilities for that building, we would not house any offices or classrooms down in that building. On the page after the maps, here is our enrollment as of January 26, 2018 in all the grade levels. I want to point out the last few years we've been graduating around 92 to 100 students, we still have a couple grades we are close to that enrollment, but if you look at our kindergarten

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through fourth grade you can see that the amount of people that are currently coming in is around 70 students. We even have one class of 63 students and back to the point that I made a little while ago that if this continues at this rate, our enrollment trend continues it will have us at 925 students in the district in 2022.

At this time I'm going to ask Jon Pusateri, our treasurer, to come up and talk to you a little bit more about the finances and how enrollment affects our finances. Once he's finished and we will open this up for question-and-answer where we will come around with a microphone and again we ask you to state your name, where you live and your address. We have the board, myself, our treasurer, along with our administrators and supervisors to help answer questions if need be. We just ask that we have a respectful conversation tonight and we go through the evening trying to present the facts and be respectful to one another. I would like to introduce our new treasurer, Jon Pusateri.

Mr. Pusateri: Good evening everyone and thanks for coming to this community meeting. My part of the presentation is to show you guys the state of our school district and why the consolidation is the best option for the school district.

My first slide is a breakdown of the most recent five year forecast that was done in October 2017. Cash balances plus the revenues and minus expenditures will give us our ending cash balances. The first column 2017 was actual data from last fiscal year and from 2018 on out we are forecasting what the funds will look like. As you can see starting in fiscal year 2018 we are deficit spending which means we're expending more money than we're bringing in, so we have to go into our cash balances. The main reason for this deficit spending is because of the decreased enrollment.

On the next slide is what levies and millage that were passed the last five years. Renewal levy that was passed in May 2015, next year will bring \$592,720. The next column on the right is the new levy that was passed in November 2015 and will bring in \$765,597 for the next fiscal year. As Mr. Woodard talked about earlier, our enrollment has decreased drastically. Starting in 2017, each student brings in \$6,010 that is supposed to cover the cost associated with educating that student. When our enrollment dropped by 77 students from May to now, the district doesn't receive the \$462,770 that I thought it was going to receive. That amount of money almost negates the four mill levy that was renewed in May 2015.

The next slide is an estimated savings in utilities if we were to close the elementary building starting next year school year. The column on the left is last year's figures of what we actually spent on utilities for that building in electricity, water, sewer, gas, and Internet access. Next year if we were to close the elementary building we will save approximately \$53,799.28.

The adjusted five year forecast takes into consideration the savings that the district is going to make in the next couple of months. The Board of Education, Mr. Woodard, and I are looking at every avenue of new revenue ideas and looking into ways we can reduce our expenditures. In conclusion, decreased enrollment has created financial difficulties for Newton Falls Exempted Village School District. Therefore, we have to make changes in order to make our school district solvent.

Thank you

Mrs. Davis: We're going to open it up to the individuals who would like to address myself, any of the board members, and our treasurer will take your questions. We ask that you state your name and your address. We would appreciate that and Mr. Woodard has the microphone so if you would like to, we will answer your questions.

My name is Ray Smith, 1022 Paige Court; my question is what is your projected class size?

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Mr. Woodard: The state recommends that you try to keep the class size at 25 or under, we would look at that as a guide and try to do our best to do that. We will take a look at class sizes across the board K-12 and do our best to try to maintain that.

Emily Spletzer, 2975 Rosetta Boulevard, I was wondering has there been any thought of putting a preschool of any sort in the elementary building?

Mr. Woodard: I've been trying for seven years now to look at ways to do that. Currently, the Trumbull County consortium has some preschools throughout Trumbull County with all the schools that make up the consortium. When you have a unit for a preschool, you can only have six students of your own in that unit. Three of them are typical students and three of them are special education students. I've looked into ways, I talked to the state, I talked to the county; ways maybe we could try to have our own preschool here. We believe it would be very beneficial but the only way we could do it is we would have to fund it. We have not had the funds to be able to do that. Another example, Badger Schools in Trumbull County has a preschool but the parents have to pay the tuition for the students to go. We would love to have one, I've went to legislator luncheons the past few years and talked to them about trying to get all schools funding for preschools because it would help us not only with the socialization skills of young students coming into the kindergarten and first grade, but also to get them ready for the reading guarantee in third grade. This would be huge, though the state legislator level has always said great idea we agree with you but nothing has been done to help us.

Christene Stinson, 253 Arlington, my question would be how much money are we saving based off of the fact that we are losing teachers and are those cuts being made to teachers being made across-the-board in all buildings or how are you choosing what teachers to cut from and what class sizes to leave larger?

Mr. Woodard: We are currently working with both unions on staffing cuts and there's a procedure we have to follow based on seniority. Whenever you make these types of cuts we have work with those unions. I said on WKBN, if you saw that, our projection with closing the elementary school and with the cuts we would be looking to make here we hope to see you between \$350-\$450,000 with the first round. If our enrollment continues to decline at the rate that it's been declining, last year we lost from May to August 77 students, that would negate the whole amount of money.

Anna Eby, 50 W. 9th St., we're kind of new here we have lived here about to two and half years now. We came here when the school levy was going on. We were for the levy and everything and right now I really feel like I was "duped" by you all. My question is why isn't there like pay to play sports for sports? Get rid of transportation all these things because I think her children deserve the education more than being a bussed or playing sports.

Mr. Woodard: Couple of remarks and if anybody wants to jump in again they can. When we came to you two years ago and we asked to pass a new levy at that time there's no way we could've foreseen 70 students from May to August not coming back. We knew there was an enrollment decrease based on the graduating class and what was coming into kindergarten. Predicting 20 to 25 students based off of graduation but there is no way to be predicting 77 students. Those types of declines of have been happening to us the last couple of years. Also when we came to you two years ago, we were did not come to you in anyway to be dishonest, we had not passed any new money in this district for 24 years. I've been down to Columbus several times, going to different workshops and talk to people about funding. When I've said that to our legislators and to other school officials, they are amazed that we still have our doors open, 24 years without any new money is a long time. When it comes to pay to play, looking at busing

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decisions, it's kind of a two edge sword. If we cut some of our sports, let's say we cut soccer and volleyball, 10 students leave our district, they leave our district to go somewhere else that's adjacent that has those that's \$60,000 walking out the door. So that's a tough decision to make and that's something we talked about and we shared those discussions with our staff. We have talked to our coaches about that and it's something that's been on the table we've talked about, but you weigh are you going lose more students and it's going to be detrimental to your funds than keeping students here. When it comes the busing, cutting busing is the same thing. If you go to state minimum, you lose funds that you get for busing. It places a burden on the people that live within that 2 mile radius around the schools. So these are not easy decisions and this is stuff that we looked at, those are decisions we talked about, and we have to weigh all those

things going forward.

Julie Lemon, 36 E. Broad Street, what year was the middle school built in and when it was built why was it not built to house kindergarten through sixth grade automatically because that seems like that could have saved a lot of money over another year but years? Also doesn't the school district kind of feel like you're making 11-year-old girl grow up a little bit too fast to be riding the bus with 16 and 17-year-olds, as a mom of the 11-year-old little girl this is a very large concern for me.

Mr. Woodard: Would anyone like to field the first part of that and I'll take the second part. I wasn't here specifically when the middle school was built and I don't know do we have anybody that was on the board at that time? Possibly, what the discussion was when they built the middle school on the back of the property?

Mrs. Davis: None of us were on the board at that time, I don't know. We can find that information out for you.

Mr. Crowder: From my understanding, I came in the middle school was actually already built the year that I came in 2003, the traditional school break down for Newton Falls has always been a three through six middle. When this building was opened in 1972, I was one of the first students in sixth grade at the time; it's always been three through six middle school. We have housed our elementary in different places like the Methodist Church, Arlington etc. and that is traditionally always been a K-2 sometimes K-3. I believe the administration and even previous administration, Mr. Wilson who was superintendent he came in after those decisions from the 2000 bond levy we're already made. I can only assume at that point they followed traditional guidelines, unfortunately Newton Falls has never followed the traditional guidelines. Middle schools are really a five through eight tradition in the state of Ohio at this time.

Mr. Woodard: I know it's tough and it's hard to get used to things but traditionally many school districts around the state of Ohio have kindergarten up to sixth or fifth as the elementary school. Five through eight or six to eight as their middle or junior high school, our school system is different and I've not really been anywhere else that has had it set up this way. Some of the things that I've seen go once from older students that ride the bus help the younger students. An example as Jon he can talk to you little bit about that graduated from Waterloo where is dad's a board member, they went through some changes recently.

Mr. Pusateri: My father has been a board member at Waterloo for 29 years this year and to probably four or five years ago they went to K-12 bus run and it was a huge concern for parents. You know having their kids riding with older students scared most parents. Honestly, to my knowledge they had no problems whatsoever with the students. It's actually unbelievable to see

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the older students help the younger ones. Change is scary at first, but these changes can be better for the district as a whole.

Mr. Woodard: Change is scary. Coming from Waterloo as a graduate and a principal, I have heard nothing but positives from that change. That comes from education from our teachers, our families, and our classified staff.

Ryan Falb, 716 West Broad Street, I am confused on the numbers to a point. We are saving \$53,000 in utilities we are still spending \$36,000 on utilities to play basketball there, where is the rest of the money coming from is it teacher cuts?

Mr. Woodard: Obviously, besides the \$50,000 projected savings in utilities, I said a little bit ago we are in discussion with both unions about staffing cuts. When your enrollment decreases, you're going to have staff cuts. Well the \$53,000 figure from just savings on utilities, I said \$350-400,000 total on the staffing cuts with that included. It will be staffing cuts with both unions.

Heather Howard 3096 Malibu Drive my question is if you have to start doing stuff and with six graders are moving up those students with IEP's or the special-needs, how are those teachers

moving up and are there going to be enough of them to house them up there?

Mr. Woodard: Yes, we would make sure that we follow state guidelines on caseload when it comes to the special education students and teachers staffing. Yes, we will make sure that we had enough staff.

Coleen Marquette, 3603 Bailey Road, you say there wouldn't be any changes to academics but forcing teachers that teach something that they don't have expertise in, and we rely so heavily on the score of testing for the state, what does that do for our students?

Mr. Woodard: Some of those are tough decisions. However, we would not put a teacher into a position that they don't have the certification for. It might be something they have not taught, their certified for it, they haven't thought of perhaps or maybe it's been a long time since they've taught it, but because of the laws that we have to follow in the contractual things that we have to follow those are decisions we have to try to make the best decision. None of this is easy. Were in a place right now that if we don't have to do the things we're doing and if our enrollment does not level off, it's just a matter of a short time before the states going to come in and tell us what we have to do.

Mr. Pusateri: The middle school cost will probably increase a little bit with the sewer and water, but electricity is going to be almost identical. The main reason that there still is going to be money spent on the electricity at the elementary building is because the lights are tied into that meter so no matter what we will have some expenditures protecting that school. There will be some increased costs but not as much as we are saving.

Faith DeCesare, 3164 Newton Tomlinson, I guess my biggest concern is I have a fifth grader who would be going to the high school next year and by my calculations and just so you know my background, I'm also a superintendent, by my calculations \$53,000 in savings is approximately 8.5 students, so we get 8.5 more students in kindergarten we've made up the difference. I know, I'm there I live your life every day, my concern is if you're saving \$300,000 on staff, I feel like we could keep that elementary school open and only use part of it. I'd rather not cut staff but you're cutting staff and cutting the building, you're doing it all at once where I think maybe looking at some smaller steps might be a better way to go. Safety of our students because your job, your number one job, is to provide safety of students and I don't think that's what's the number one concern here.

Mrs. Davis: What was the question? We wanted to know what was the question was?

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Mr. Woodard: She said that if we get the elementary school open their cost savings would equate to like eight have students and why wouldn't we just keep the elementary school open and she's worried about safety.

Mr. Powell: Unfortunately, we're out of time right now that we can whittle away at a deficit anymore. Over the past five years since I've been on the board every board meeting has been cut, cut, cut, cut, cut we are at the point where we have to make this drastic cut all at once in order to keep the doors open. I want to keep the doors open, yes this is not going to be easy, it's not. I have a child, he's in fifth grade will be going to sixth grade, and is going to be in the same scenario was the woman down in the front. I want to do what's best for the students and the school district. We're going to have to make it work. There's going to be growing pains no question but we have great leadership here, we have great parents, we have great teachers, we have to make this work. We have to.

Mr. Woodard: The \$53,000 is just not what we would save by shutting down the elementary school because if the Elementary school is open we would have to continue to have staff it, so by closing the elementary school that amount has been increased because obviously you got to have a cafeteria still down there, you're going have to clean the buildings, those kind of things so the savings of a closing elementary is more much more than \$53,700 and it comes with the

things that you would be able to talk with staffing in closing in elementary school.

Gentleman: I have two questions, one is what is the district doing to make pull more kids into the district? if you do close the elementary, can it be used as a community center since we don't have one?

Mr. Woodard: The school, we are constantly looking at things that we can do to make things better. For example, this year we are offering tutoring at the elementary school with three new tutors to try to help kids with their reading scores as we struggle with those as many schools out there. Since the new report cards and the new AIR test came out that's one thing I, myself, am a part of the committee that is looking at trying to help get the missile defense system in the Ravenna Arsenal. I will be going down to Columbus next week. The state legislators along with a couple other surrounding superintendents will be talking to legislators down there about how the construction of such a thing at the arsenal would benefit our community and hopefully help increase our enrollment. There are no plans to do that right now, however, the board and I have been in discussion it's ongoing. We are not shutting the door on any options down the road.

Gentleman: If we close the school does that stop the bleeding?

Mr. Powell: As Mr. Woodard mentioned before, if we can stabilize our enrollment can keep it level set at 70+ we should be okay with renewing the levies.

Mr. Pusateri: They're going up multiple reasons, the first would be inflation and then also insurance rates are increasing. In January 2018 the insurance rose 7.5% and in July 2018 they're going to increase another 7.5%. So in one calendar year were talking about 15% increase. We are hoping that it levels off as well. The previous six years with we have not had insurance rates increase. That was great when other school consortiums were raising their insurance rates, however Trumbull County though it was best you know to wait it out and try to ride out the storm. Now it's coming to the point where we need to increase it so we're hoping that in the year, two years, it can level that out.

Mr. Woodard: The cost of doing business continues to go up for all of us it will continue to go up in a little bit with us paying bills with electricity, etc. that will continue to go up. We're losing 25

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students every year for what's coming in the graduating class that's a lot of money you're talking \$180,000 a year with a small budget. If it doesn't, at some point, the state will take us over. Tim Stinson, 253 Arlington, got a couple questions. First, she said that we're negotiating with the union currently?

Mr. Woodard: We are currently negotiating with our teaching staff and our classified staff has one more year on the contract.

Mr. Stinson: What would happen if we don't renew that contract with union is there any possible way, because you also mentioned in the beginning of those that there are we have to keep you tenured teachers and lose the younger teachers who are more vibrant?

Mr. Woodard: We have to follow the procedures when it comes to reduction in force in contractual things that we have to follow. Yes, if we have to file bankruptcy then state comes in they will say to you, you got a find a way to cut \$1 million out of your budget. So I'll have to figure out a way to do that what we have we have two unions in and we have to follow contractual with the classified as well as the certified staff. The classified staff makes up our custodians, our bus drivers, and our cafeteria workers.

Patrick Pellin, 3018 Rosetta Boulevard, couple questions on the first one I noticed besides the 2011 renewal levy and the new levy in 2015, is there any other living money that is collected locally through tax excepted to the school district and another taxes yeah so each these are additional money?

Mr. Pusateri: Yes, when the school was founded there are other taxes that are preexisting besides these two levies.

Mr. Pellin: Total millage?

Mr. Pusateri: I believe 36 mills.

Mr. Pellin: Inside vs. outside?

Mr. Pusateri: I believe 26 inside millage and 10 outside millage.

Mr. Pellin: Effective millage?

Mr. Pusateri: The 4.00 renewal levy is now 4.20. This is because the valuation of the property has gone down. In this case, you never collect less than what you passed when you passed.

Mr. Pellin: Are you sure that's correct?

Mr. Pusateri: I'm pretty sure.

Mr. Pellin: When people build houses and the real estate money goes up, your effective millage goes down. If the board would replace that, 4.00 mills might be 2.00 mills. If the board would replace that in 2015 and that would have been a renewal and a replacement that millage would have gone back to 4.00. That would have increased your money, thereby negating this. Like that old millage that is out there from 20-30 years ago, you're not asking for new money. You are negating this whole problem. Replacement levies.

CORRECTION: Mr. Pusateri was incorrect on the millage amount, effective millage, and inside vs. outside millage. The total millage for the district is 43.75 mills. The effective millage is 35.240250 mills. Inside millage is 5.10 mills. Outside millage is 36.00 mills.

Rodney Hedge, 4752 Scott Street, could you put back on the five-year projected? The thing that is most scary to me, you had the five years you show the forecast right now early one. The thing that stands out for me tonight is that this is pretty important but if you look at the bottom number. I don't understand how you could cut; you can't cut that kind of deficit. To me it looks like the big storm is going to be in 2021 and I question where do we come up with that kind of money?



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Mr. Woodard: Well, let me just emphasize, that whenever you doing a five-year forecast the further out you go it's an approximation it's not always 100% accurate. There's no way you can because you can't foresee everything that's going to happen. You can see there are, in 2018 the ending cash balance of \$623,667, whenever we have a three month we need \$850,000 just to meet our needs of the three pay month. So we're hurting already because that's not enough for us to pay three payments. Two years ago, we had to take loan out to meet our three month. We can't do that again so unless we see that increase in our enrollment we're at a point right now as Mr. Powell said just a few minutes ago, we have to look at some drastic measures right now to try to stay alive.

Mrs. DeCesare: So looking at this five-year break down, you said this is with the levy? This best case scenario so I don't see and I'm usually a very optimistic person, I don't see a levy passing again because as the lady spoke earlier we feel duped. You know, you asked for money and you cut, cut, cut this is the best case you better look at worst case which is scary to me as a parent of three students here. I don't I don't work here, I work somewhere else, but that's frightening that this is best case scenario. Let's say 4 or 5 teachers and saving \$300,000 we're talking about combining schools. I don't see that happening because we didn't get the things that I think people thought we were going to get with the last levy. We thought that's going to fix things, which is going make everything better and it made things worse.

Mr. Woodard: Well, I would disagree with that because when we passed that levy there's no way we could predict that we would lose 150 students and 70 students over the last year. There's no way you can predict that 70 students just from May to November.

Mrs. Davis: And let me say that we didn't dupe you. It was necessary we want to keep these schools open our children are our priority. As Mr. Woodard stated earlier, our students are everything. That's why we serve on this board, we want to represent the community and the safety of our students is the most important. As Mr. Woodard said, we do not know how many students we are going to have in. Every decision we make as a board, is in the best interest of these students. I am here because I do care about the kids, I care about this community, and I want things to get better. We can't predict exactly and that's why you get a five-year forecast projection which is to give us some ideas of what we have to do to look ahead. When we had the new levy and it kept the doors open. We are thankful for that and we appreciate the community support for that levy. We want this district to be Newton Falls Exempted Village School District.

Mr. Woodard: If you look at enrollment would've stayed the same or gone up a little bit the last couple years, we would be in decent shape. Those levies would have been sufficient that we had passed two years ago. Other districts around us are in the same boat we are. Waterloo had to cut 12 certified and classified employees just to keep the doors open. They are probably going to be in fiscal caution this year. Everyone in the area is feeling this decrease in enrollment in areas where there's not a lot of industry. In areas like Columbus, where there's a lot of versatility a lot of industry and they're growing.

Tim Irons, 2247 Weiss Street, I'm actually a senior here at Newton Falls and where I have my concerns is we keep cutting our math department. It seems like every year we are getting rid of a new math teacher. I know Mr. Haught, left on his own terms but we keep getting rid of new math teachers. Our math department is struggling because we are bringing in new teachers over and over again. Since I have gone through our math department, our math department has declined. We need a good math teacher to teach math.

Mr. Woodard: There are procedures we have to follow. I know there are teachers that come in and you like them. We have to follow the steps in the contract. We are always trying to do

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professional development type of things here to help our teachers grow and get better. We have a lot of good teachers here.

Katie Burns, 319 Oak Knoll Street, I'm also a senior here and I know you said bring up the sixth grade to the junior high that they already have different bell schedules implemented for the junior high. Would the six graders have to travel through the high school like some of the seventh graders are doing so right now? I believe there are three classes that they travel for. These classes are important for those students like multimedia and journalism that are good classes for those students. That would be a big concern for me if I had a little sibling in the school district or niece or nephew.

Mr. Woodard: Mr. Crowder will address this matter. Mr. Crowder and Mr. Sullivan have been looking at the schedule and taking into consideration these types of things.

Mr. Crowder: As our student just mentioned, up until this year there have been many classes that have been moved back and forth across the district. In anticipation of something like this coming, we did go to an alternate bell schedule for the junior high. So that there is only one time during the entire school day that all students are in the hall at the same time. The three classes she speaks about is, one it's a computer class we will remain with that teacher actually earlier in the fall discussed the possibility of moving future junior high computer classes to the computer lab with the addition of the chrome book carts that we have put into the district. The other is a multimedia class we can move that down to the junior high as well. They're not moving while the rest of the high school staff or students are moving. The third one actually is a special education class that we move some of our students down because we lost a high school math special education teacher to a new at risk program called Career Based Intervention. So that teacher is working with students and save them from leaving the district and thus far by adding that program, we have reduce the number of juniors and seniors that leave. We had a great improvement in attendance and grades for the freshman sophomores in the program. It's to the point that we've actually has the Board of Education, and will discuss a little bit later tonight, the addition of a junior high career based intervention class so that we can start targeting some of the at risk students in seventh and eighth grade. So she is correct, there are three classes that do move at this point but all three of those situations will not be occurring in the future, which is a great reduction from previous years. When we did align the junior high we have moved the sixth grade classes will all be closer to the office. They will be the very first group of classrooms that you see and the seventh and eighth grade classes will be at the bottom end of the junior high hallway. Yes, they are in the same hall but there should not be that much crossover between sixth, seventh, and eighth graders in with in that hallway.

Richard Zamecnik, 613 Ridge Road, I just got off of council for eight years, council is doing lots of things right now to try to bring in business through annexation. I would suggest that this is bigger than just you guys. You guys need to go to council, the trustee of the work together to try to bring industry and business here. That'll relieve some of the problems. All of the kids that have left here I would charge the board to ask them, why did they leave? Was there a program or something they found at another school district that we could possible implement in our school. We can make some tweaks here to get the students to stay. We got a business here; they dumped \$1 million into the building. We got Taco Bell, \$1.2 million for the town. We are making changes but it is slow.

Mr. Woodard: We do try to do exit surveys for our families and students when they leave, we asked them to fill out paperwork to let us know the reason for their leaving. Many times they

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don't want to take the time to do that, but most of the time when they do that the major thing that we do say is they are leaving because of a job situation.

Hi, Vicki Ruscoe, 21 Eagle Point, I have a sixth grader next year and two kindergartners coming in this fall, so we're going to be affected by this. My question is with what's projected, is this a temporary Band-Aid or does the bleeding stop? Would there be a chance could we merge with a different school district with Windham or Lordstown? Couple years ago, when we passed the levy there was talk of doing that because I had a potential to where that could be future down the road?

Mr. Woodard: Good question and I actually I've had conversations with other districts about these kind of things. If you going to fiscal caution, the first step would be to come in and tell us we have to cut x-amount of dollars out of the budget. If the school goes into fiscal emergency, the state sets up a commission to come in and they are stricter on what you have to do it telling you what you have to do. I know there has been a different district there was one up around the Cardinal Middlefield area, years ago that had to merge with other districts. The state would dictate how that and when that would happen. The worst case scenario is merger with another district would be a possibility. We do everything we can to stop this. If Newton Falls were to lose their schools, they would lose their identity of the town. We have been cutting over the years through attrition. We cut an administrative position last year. We have been looking at those things and trying our best to stay solvent. I am not sure how it would all work out if the state came in and we had to merge. We try to do shared services with other school districts. I am constantly talking to school districts about that. Lordstown has had some businesses moving in over there and they are going to benefit from those businesses. They probably do not want to take on someone else's debt.

Julie Dunlap, 2259 Myron Avenue, I know when I substitute teach at the elementary school my first question is always where is the bolostick? Do you know if the middle school, junior high, and high school are they all equipped with the bolostick for in light of what happened?

Mr. Woodard: Yes, every room has one.

William Backer, Ridgewood Avenue. How was all of this going to affect those special classes like the advanced math class and science classes and STEM? Another thing is that I'm seeing here is by your own projections it's almost a foregone conclusion that going broke is what's going to

end up happening?

Mr. Kline: We have the same outlook as any other community member. Any other school does the best scenarios, worst scenarios, what happens if you have a good year or a bad year? We were not looking to cut, cut, cut and we're not looking to go broke. If you look at the individuals, here like Debbie, said each of us are residents here, each of us have children here, each of us live here. This is a good school and a good community. Change is scary, we're not going into our decisions and just throw them out there, but we look at the different decisions. We have to make we look at the logistics of those decisions. What can we do or add to make this school better or more attractive. I have had people come to me in the community and I pastor at the church here in the community. They tell me, "they will never vote for the levy". I ask them, "Why?" However, these people want every technology or course that could be offered. There is a cost that is associated with that class. There are decisions that we have to make that are scary. We have to make these decisions so that the school continues on. We want this school to thrive. We too look at the logistics of it as well. I would challenge individuals to do is to believe the facts. Come together with real facts and come together for the students of this community. Everything

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we do, every decision we make, and whenever we get cut, we bleed orange and black. We are for the students. We are for the students. I was hoping we would come together as a community tonight and look at this information. Maybe this is a poor decision right now. But it's a starting point and conflict is not a bad thing. The board has made this decision but if we come together and figure out the best solution for these students. We are not looking to close the schools; we are looking to get better.

Mr. Crowder: Mr. Kline I am going to follow up on this just slightly. As the one student mentioned we did lose a very good math teacher actually chose to go on and teach at the college level at Kent State. Presently, one of our math teachers is taking the certification courses they need to open up math, which we can open up the college credit math again next year. We just opened up this year, college writing one, and college writing two with an English teacher. Even in discussions earlier today that same teacher is petitioning Kent State to allow her to offer two more elective college classes. We're not slowing down at all with our accelerated classes. Actually the state of Ohio, has added three more additional honors diplomas. We are looking at how our staff that we have and by adding courses were adding additional social studies and electives we are creating an elective rotation so that each year new electives are offered. So that our high school students will have the opportunity to meet those honors diplomas. We added stem exploratory in our seventh grade this year which is a first time we've done something like that. A teacher, one of our middle school teachers, it's going to be coming to this building with six grade has already been to robotics. Now I have spoken to those teachers and they know that our goal is to increase STEM which will eventually have a robotics course, but they also know that we need corporate sponsorship for that. So we're busy working on those things. Everywhere we go we're not trying to reduce, we're trying to improve. We have to reduce the number of classes, let's say reduce the number of English courses in grade 9 down to three instead of four. We're still not trying to reduce the quality, were trying to increase the quality. We've added in two years 15 different chrome book carts just in this building alone. Started last year moving some chrome book carts into the middle school last year and the elementary just this year. In curriculum and one of the parents asked about curriculum, we've just started initiate it was called Lexia reading, Lexia learning. We are finding deficits in reading programs by having our students use that as enhancement along with the special resources it provides our teachers, they're finding and helping some deficit reading that that we haven't been able to deal with before. Today, Mr. Sullivan our elementary principal, God bless him, he's running back-and-forth between two buildings. Speaking of staffing in buildings that's one of the things they the people forget, we're staffing two buildings with one administrator. He has been running himself to death doing it, but he was at the county with some of our staff working on a grant. We have two high school teachers are also working on grants, so we're out looking for additional resources to help fund curriculum improvements.

Mr. Woodard: Is there anyone that hasn't an asked a question? That wanted to ask questions. Jared Lewis, 2342 South Center Street, I would have to ask with these recent cuts or the projections to cut that you want to take is there anything that we can look at this and see the silver lining? Can we see that possibly get better school lunches? Will get better materials for the classes? With the recent events with that school shooting in Florida, God forbid, is there any kind of security measures? Do you have or do we have any expectations to reinforce?

Mr. Woodard: School lunches fall under a lot of restrictions now as to what we can serve and we have to have so many colors of this on the plate then have the use of for example wheat bread so this is kind of things we have to we have to follow guidelines that are federal guidelines in our

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school lunches now. When it comes to school security you'll see most a lot of our staff are probably wearing these badges tonight. We have gone and put on the outside of our buildings a card reader for you to be able to get in to the building. You have to be buzzed in that's one thing that we can use our economically disadvantage funds for but this is one of the things. We can use that for and we did do that we do have the question was about bolosticks to try to help keep the door shut in case you have a lock down. We have those types of things in place and we've done over the last few years we work with our police department in town this year. In the last few years we've had grants with them so we can have a resource officer. I know the government after yesterday's tragedies is out there saying some different things in the news about we have to find better ways to keep our children safe and if there are opportunities that come about from this tragedy to where we were we can try to maybe have a more resource officers or look at other ways to help keep our children safe were absolutely going to look at those things.

My name is Renee Schaeffer I live at 439 W. Broad Street, my concern with intertwining the younger children with the older children especially when it comes to the girls, are they going to put a zero tolerance to sexual deviance in place so that your girls that are being abused or boys, whatever, is there a way to make them safe? So that they're not leaving the school district too.

Mr. Woodard: We always have the safety of our kids first and foremost for our staff all of our staff. I'm talking from bus drivers to her teachers through our cafeteria everyone at administration, myself, first and foremost is keeping these children safe. We want to continue to do that. When it comes to the mindset of when we change have K-5 at the middle school and 6-12 at the high school, yes absolutely were going to look at monitoring those students. We have different codes in place where we have to try to enforce rules and regulations. We're going to look at all those things like I said before is that change is hard. When it comes to the elementary mindset, K-5 traditionally your elementary mindset. Your middle schools in those places are 6-8 sometimes even 5-8. I've been in buildings before in my career where it's been five through eight so we will absolutely look at those things and try monitor the best we can.

Mr. Falb: Last question, I guess is that I have is it possible to keep the bussing the same just stagger with those kids to get to the high school without having to be able to get the kids in the buses?

Mr. Woodard: Those starting times would cause us some problems with scheduling. These sixth grade students will be a part of the same bell schedule as the junior high. When the older student's bus runs go out, picks up the students, and drops them off to start their day. The next groups of students are picked up and they start together. It would not be able to work. Is there anybody else that would like to ask a question that we have not gotten to yet?

Alayna Falb: I just really want to commend every one of you up there. For working as hard as you are working. A lot of us are here tonight because we've been here forever. I have been a part of this high school and I want to kids to do the same. This is a tough decision, but I get that it is. I really commend all of you for sitting here in and doing this.

Chuck Homa, 56 Woodland Street, question is you talk about our costs going up saying insurance and wages but like any other business if you are not making any money, then you can't pay any more money out. So my question is if the staff is taking any of that hit also to kind of absorb some of that cost we're going to get. Secondly, I know that I'm one of several parents in here considering this doesn't look good so if I'm going to move my kid it's best to do it when he's young; what can you say to us to keep us from actually taking our kids out the district which is going to make the school district worse because you're going to lose that money?

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Mr. Woodard: When we went out to you several years ago and asked for to vote for the new levy, at that time our district made a promise. We will take a two year pay freeze and we have done that. When I came here a few years ago, we did it then as well. The wages do increase. When you look at the school system or business budget, must of the time, salaries and benefits are about 75% of the budget. It doesn't matter if it's a church, business, or school; those are going to increase over time. That's something that you have to build into the forecast. When it comes to what we could say to you with young children and what you're looking at to keep them here; I've been here now seven years. I've come to know a lot of the staff here. I try to get around of the buildings and talk to people. There's people that are here like John Crowder, Roy Sembach, Peggy Guiliano, and different staff members that grew up here. They went to school here and they have a lot of pride here. Roy Sembach has been a coach for over 30 years and is one of the winningest coaches in the state of Ohio, I remember when we were doing our levy campaign he came up with the phrase, "Once a tiger, always a tiger." There's a lot of pride here in this community and Mr. Kline alluded to just a little while ago, we're going to have to make some tough decisions because of the way the economic state is and the decline in enrollment were up against. It's happening in many areas that have the same kind of socioeconomic make up as our town. We're going to have to make that decision is going to try to do everything we can to keep our doors open. Mr. Crowder has alluded to and we have talked about but tonight we're not trying to stay stagnant, were trying to look at ways to still make things enticing. Programs like CBI, which is a program to try to keep at risk kids in school. Lexia which works with students who are struggling at the elementary age with the reading. College credit plus to make it attractive for high school students. We're trying to do the best to make it attractive so you would want to stay here.

Mr. Crowder: I just like to follow just briefly with it in a small school district doesn't mean we're not going have good quality education. We have provided excellent education and we could attest that with our recent graduation speakers. This year, we have a White House correspondent coming in there that was a graduate and walked these halls. A couple years ago, we had the Mayor and City Manager of Sanibel Island, we're talking about having a doctor that works at the Mayo Clinic that was just honored here on our basketball team. Every graduate speaker that comes back to Newton Falls has gone on and had a fabulous career. That career started right here in these halls with our teachers. Yes, but is the quality of education there very much so there is a lot of alumni that would attest to that just leave your child in Newton Falls because they will get a fabulous education.

Mrs. Crowder: I did want to mention, you know, I'm just so grateful of all the comments and all of the questions because it's thought posing comments, that we are gathering that will help us develop a think tank. I wanted to reiterate again change is difficult. When I look at our area, Northeastern Ohio, by the economic status we are considered a blighted area. I was just sitting here thinking since 1979, we had 1700 or 1800 kids at that point. Most or a lot of you know families that had nine or ten children to the unit. Our graduating classes were large then because we had Rockwell, we had Tubewell, we had Luxair, we had Bliss, we had WCI, we had Copperweld, we had Carl Mazingo Auto, we had Vermillion Ford, we could just go on and on. The tornado was a changing element in this area and forever changed the face of Newton Falls. Gas when I graduated, and I'm not that old ,but it was \$.80 but even seven years ago gas was \$1.20. What did you pay today, \$2.45? When you filled up your heating oil this year for like the third time, what did you put in that tank? The cost-of-living just keeps increasing and it is that on a monumental scale when you're working with \$11 million budget. I'm new on the board. Mrs.

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Urbania and myself are the newbies here but I am so proud of our teachers that do tremendous education. I just listened too on the statement about the graduates that come back, we produce a heck of a quality here at Newton Falls. We always have, we always will. Those administrators, those teachers, the classified, the cafeteria workers, and down to our nursing , you name it we work together to make it happen. People still look back in your past that made such a prominent force in your life or your path career. That's not to be underestimated we have been a school of excellence, we have been a bronze medal school, we have a lot of character and we have a lot of pride in this town. It's all because we work together; community, staff, teachers, kids, and it's something that goes along with being a tiger. It may look grim because the whole area of Northeastern Ohio is struggling. We are not Columbus Ohio. This area has taken a hit but I do believe that we are on the upscale. Yes, Lordstown has some great gifts right now as far as the economy that's moving in, but when you have as many jobs that we have lost and that's when you lose kids. If there are no jobs here, then people don't stay. I hope and I pray that we are on the rebound, but working together will help us. I kind of want to develop a think tank. Back in 1985, what we called a steering committee which was headed by John Severino. It was input from community members, teachers, and it was just a big conglomerate of a lot of thinkers. These thinkers were trying to make the best of it a good situation and I hope this is something that we can look at. Your concerns are waived very greatly with us, it's not something that we take lightly. We will probably go back and review and shred this apart and see where and what we can do make sure that the schools that we are, will still be the schools that we will be in the future. It is because again of our community, our strength, our administrators, our teachers, our board, our kids and that is truly a goal. Mr. Homa's asked what can you guarantee, I can guarantee that our education format is strong and that is because we are Newton Falls. Denise Raddatz, 730 Ticknor, as you said it's the economy has a lot to do with this town. We lose jobs, we lose people. We lose kids now on the news every day you hear about the Ravenna missile site might be coming close to town. If we have to close the school down, are we prepared, or are we going to be able to do the flipside if we get 570 jobs to this area? If people come this way start looking and they're going to go to Newton Falls and other school districts, going down are we going to be prepared to flip it, open these doors back up? Are we going to wait 2 to 4 years and not take the chance of grabbing these families when they can move in? Mr. Woodard: I talked about the missile defense contract a little bit ago, I'm not sure if you were here or not, but myself, our mayor, our city manager, and some of our city Council are going out to talk to legislators on Wednesday about that. Yes we would we would be willing to reopen that if that would happen. We have enough space with all three buildings that we could take on a huge amount of people because my understanding is that we would get that missile defense contract it would bring in 2000 construction jobs for a few years and after it was over with at least 850 rocket scientists down the stretch. I guess we would be willing to go on with the other surrounding districts around there than original we would be able to do it physically. I can tell you that we would be able to hopefully up the elementary school. We would be able to house many more students in both buildings. We're starting to wind down here. We're going to go into executive session here in just a few minutes. I wanted to see if there was anybody that hasn't had a question yet I would like to ask a question.

Raven Schaeffer, 439 W. Broad Street, I am a current senior this year and as my peers have said earlier about the lack of teachers in the junior high and high school whenever we bring up the sixth grade, we have seventh and eighth graders that have to take their reading or their English up in the high school, are we going to be bringing up more other schools to teach the

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junior high or they just can we keep coming into the high school to be taught by our current English and reading teachers?

Mr. Woodard: We will be bringing up the sixth grade staff here along with special education staff to be able to meet the needs of those students coming up.

Kerri Howdershelt, 4778 Herbert Road. I just had a quick question about this map, my daughter will be in six grade seventh grade I see you only have 2 seventh grade classrooms and I was just wondering if that's a mistake? Is one of them is a special education room and went to the English room? I didn't know if you were combining two seventh grade classrooms?

Mr. Woodard: We would be looking at in some places having some teachers perhaps maybe teach six grade and seventh grade math within their certification. We would be able to do that with what we are looking at.

Elderly Woman: There was a brief mention to future school levies, I can remember my father telling me at the teenager approaching adulthood and responsibilities of adulthood you always vote in favor of education. Today with township received numerous houses for sale and my question which I believe I know the answer to this question, but when there is the school levy who is the individuals who provide that revenue?

Mr. Woodard: The goes back to the DeRolph case decisions back in the 90s in the way we fund our schools has been declared, by our state Supreme Court is unconstitutional. The property owners that own the property in the school district of the ones of the burden is placed on.

Mrs. Davis: We appreciate all of you coming in asking these questions. I think everybody's had opportunity to ask. You can you know call us in general if there something that you would like to ask. That one gentleman I know you might not have been able to ask a question. We are going into executive session after this next question. We will go into executive, which means the board so if it's a private with us. We will come out finish our public meeting and it will be action taken after executive, but I will take the one more question.

Meagan Johnson, 409 apartment B, Newton Drive, I am a graduate of the school who was highly into sports. So I have a really good personal experience with the Newton Falls tiger pride that is my main reason for still being in the town. So I know that sports and the importance of that but I have two children who are coming up. Both of my children occasionally have been failed by the school system but because of my experience in this town, I am also a single mother so when he comes to the income problem and the economy, I have a very good idea of what it what it takes to make money stretch. My question is there any other areas sports included of what we can look into or other people we can talk to? Is there any little thing we can do on top of what we are doing? If this has to happen as a parent I still hear there's tiger pride, I still see we are all here and we're together but I'm not seeing it as much. If it is happening and I just don't see it could that the positive things be brought out more? Student fees are they going to be increasing as well? Do you know exactly or have a good idea of how many teachers and other people you would be getting rid of?

Mr. Woodard: We have talked about a lot of different things; this is just not something that we've thrown out there in the last month or two. We been looking at this for well over year with cuts and we've put everything on the table and talked about those things again. We are getting close to knowing what we're looking at cuts with the figures I talked about early tonight. I want to say something, I'm not someone that lives in the community, but when it comes to the tiger pride that you talked about I see it every year. I see it every year when it comes to our Veteran's Day program. We have the best Veterans Day program probably in the state of Ohio and our senior class puts it on with one of our teachers Mr. Bugos. He along with some other teachers it with a



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fantastic job. I tell people about our Veterans Day program from this community and they come this place is packed. I can guarantee you that there's not a dry eye in here when it's done. In the last few years with the help of Mr. and Mrs. Donley our technology supervisor and one of our science teachers we work together as a community to put together a craft show. Each year from that craft show, we donate about \$4,000 to get presents for local needy families. Mr. Hill our art teacher, volunteers his time in the evenings to teach art to students that maybe graduated from here or even older people. There are a lot of great things going on around here and you don't have to look very far to see it. So none of these decisions come lightly. We do look at everything. Some of these decisions we have to look at are these decisions going to help or hurt the budget. So I want to myself thank everybody for coming tonight. We do appreciate it. I'm going go and let Mrs. Davis know what we're going into executive session for.

Mr. Kline: I just wanted to say, our budget and supplies we do our purchases by looking at different companies to save money. When we look at the tiger we look at sports or any other extracurricular there is a lot more than wins and losses that come from sports. Our sports are not held on at the expense of losing or making money. You look at Coach Sembach who has been here a long time and a lot of the sports teams provide a lot for their expenses. He does a lot of fundraising to cover uniform costs or things like that. So that is something that we look at are we putting too much of an emphasis on some of the extracurricular where we should cut back there. So I figured I would just throw that out there.

**Executive Session**

**#031-2018**

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Urbania seconded the motion to enter into executive session at 7:48 p.m..

WHEREAS, as a public board of education may hold an executive session only after a majority of the quorum of this board determines by a roll call vote to hold such a session and only at a regular or special meeting for the sole purpose of the consideration of any of the following matters:

- A. To consider **one or more, as applicable**, of the check marked items with respect to a public employee or official:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ Appointment
- 2.   X   Employment
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ Dismissal
- 4.   X   Discipline
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_ Promotion
- 6. \_\_\_\_\_ Demotion
- 7.   X   Compensation
- 8. \_\_\_\_\_ Investigation of charges/complaints (unless public hearing requested)

- B. To consider the purchase of property for the public purposed or for the sale of property at competitive bidding.

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- C. Conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action.
- D. Preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment.**
- E. Matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or rules or state statutes.**
- F. Specialized details of security arrangements where disclosure of the matters discussed might reveal information that could be used for the purpose of committing or avoid prosecution for a violation of the law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Newton Falls Exempted Village Schools District Board of Education, by a majority of the quorum present at this meeting, does hereby declare its intention to hold an executive session on item A2, A4, A7, D, and E as listed above.

**ROLL CALL:** Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**Exit Executive Session**

**#032-2018**

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Crowder seconded the motion to come out of executive session at 9:23 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Crowder, Mrs. Urbania, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**Committees and/or Delegations – Related to the Agenda, Education, and Committee Report**

**Student Achievement**

Mrs. Davis started off recognizing the students for honor roll and students of the month for the elementary and middle schools. Kindergarten students were Catlin Messenger, Elliot Thompson-White, Ava Sheroksy, and Zoe Grace. First grade students were Brady Smith, Addison Irwin, Kinsley Kendall, and Kylee Herald. Second grade students were Dannika Pigg, Julia Arthur, Hadley Winkleman, and Adrianna Silvis. Third grade students were Jakob Zimmermann, Alexis Reynolds, and Jacob Coleman. Fourth grade students in December and January were Kate Holesko, DeAndre Reed, Raina Noel, and Dylon Smithberger. Fifth grade students in December and January were Grace Hufford, Gage Phares, Annabelle Andrukat, and Harley Pendleton. Sixth grade students in December and January were Ella Downing, Nolan Kaehne, Desiray Smith, and Chad Stiffler. Job well done with representing Newton Falls. The mother son dance was put on by the ABC club was a hit. Father daughter dance will be March 2<sup>nd</sup>. National Honor Society induction will be on March 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.. Boys and Girls Buckeye State interviews will be next week. Pep band is doing well at the games. Roughly 30 students and happy with the

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energy it brings to the games.

Mr. Woodard mentioned that the boys and girls basketball teams will begin the state playoffs soon.

#### Legislative Liaison

Mr. Powell briefly mentioned that he will be reading up on House Bill 343 soon.

#### Finance Committee

Nothing.

#### Athletic Council

Nothing.

#### Negotiations

Negotiations with the Certified Union will be on February 27<sup>th</sup> at 3:45 p.m.

#### Trumbull County Career & Technical Center

Mrs. Davis spoke about the Newton Falls sophomores were on a tour of TCTC. This happens every year to see if students would want to become part of TCTC. Six students were no shows.

#### Approval of Minutes

**#033-2018**

Mrs. Crowder moved and Mr. Powell seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Treasurer of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the minutes from the special board meeting on January 13, 2018 at 9:00 a.m., and regular board meeting on January 18, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. as presented.

**Roll Call:** Ayes: Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Powell, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Davis  
**Motion Carried**

#### Treasurer's Report and Recommendations

Nothing to report.

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Minutes of Newton Falls Exempted Village Regular Meeting**  
**Held February 15, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. – Auditorium in the High School**

**Financial Report**

**#034-2018**

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Urbania seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Treasurer of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the financial reports for the month of January 2018, and the short term investments made by the Treasurer which yielded \$862.79 for general fund, \$1.31 for the cafeteria fund, and \$51.98 for the scholarship fund.

**Roll Call:** Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis  
**Motion Carried**

**Payment of Invoice**

**#035-2018**

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Urbania seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Treasurer of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the following invoice for payment:

NEOMIN	\$3,345.00
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**Explanation:** Mr. Pusateri spoke of the transition between himself and the past treasurer, this bill was just recently found. He must follow Ohio Revised Code on these matters.

**Roll Call:** Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis  
**Motion Carried**

**Superintendent's Reports and Recommendations**

**Reports**

Mr. Woodard spoke about his trip he would be taking to Columbus. He will be speaking with legislators along with other community members about the necessity of having this project come to the Ravenna Arsenal.

**Supplemental Contracts**

**#036-2018**

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Urbania seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education employ Gara Fawver as 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Cheerleading Advisor for the 2017-2018 school year.

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Minutes of Newton Falls Exempted Village Regular Meeting**  
**Held February 15, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. – Auditorium in the High School**

**Roll Call:** Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis  
**Motion Carried**

**Employment - Classified**

**#037-2018**

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Crowder seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education employ James Ewell as cafeteria van driver for the remaining 2017/2018 school year.

**Roll Call:** Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Davis  
**Motion Carried**

**Supplemental Volunteer**

**#038-2018**

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Urbania seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve Jason Spahlinger as a volunteer for JV/Varsity Baseball Coach for the 2018 season.

**Roll Call:** Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis  
**Motion Carried**

**Items too late for the agenda**

**Memorandum of Understanding**

**#039-2018**

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Crowder seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education adopt the memorandum of understanding between The Newton Falls Board of Education and the Newton Falls Association of Classified Employees as presented.

**Roll Call:** Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Davis  
**Motion Carried**

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Minutes of Newton Falls Exempted Village Regular Meeting**  
**Held February 15, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. – Auditorium in the High School**

**Supplemental Contracts**

**#040-2018**

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Urbania seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education employ the following for supplemental positions for the 2018 season:

Jonathan Culp	Assistant Track Coach
Brian Kropp	Assistant Baseball Coach
Marisa Toensing	J.H. Track Coach
Brooke Barreca	J.H. Track Coach

**Roll Call:** Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis  
**Motion Carried**

**Disposal of Obsolete Equipment**

**#041-2018**

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Crowder seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Treasurer of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education authorizes permission to dispose of equipment materials no longer needed for school purposes, and less than \$10,000.00 in compliance with section 3313.41 of the O.R.C. as follows:

Floor Scrubber #1	#10612
Floor Scrubber #2	#10057
Floor Scrubber #3	#10613
Government Books (80)	Copy Right 1996
Broken Chairs (46)	
Broken Desks (3)	
Large Fan (1)	

**Roll Call:** Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Davis  
**Motion Carried**

**Old Business**

**#042-2018**

Mr. Powell moved and Mrs. Crowder seconded the following motion:

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Minutes of Newton Falls Exempted Village Regular Meeting**  
**Held February 15, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. – Auditorium in the High School**

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the second reading of Policy JEC.

**Roll Call:** Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Davis  
**Motion Carried**

**New Business**

**Communications**

**Adjournment**

**#043-2018**

Mr. Powell moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 p.m., and Mrs. Crowder seconded the motion.

**ROLL CALL:** Ayes: Mr. Powell, Mrs. Crowder, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Urbania, Mrs. Davis  
**MOTION CARRIED**

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Treasurer

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President