

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Minutes of Newton Falls Exempted Village Regular Meeting**  
**Held February 16, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. – Jr./Sr. High School Board Room**

President Debra Davis called the regular meeting of the Newton Falls Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Mr. Baker, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell

**Hearing of Individuals**

Mr. Charles Crum, 534 Ridge Road, Newton Falls, OH 44444

We came up with the idea of “Buy a Brick” to help raise money to resurface the track. We think it would be a good idea to lay brick around the 400 meter sign and get rid of the river rock that is there. Jason Dickey is doing all the labor for free. That’s the first area we want to do, and I would like to have it approved as soon as possible because our fish fry starts March 3<sup>rd</sup> and we want to start advertising it at the fish fry. We are only going to run it this year from March until the middle of June. Then we will ship it away and get our bricks, and get them put in around August. We will buy bags of hot patch to put in because we aren’t going to sell enough bricks in the first year. Next year we want to run it again from November to June. We should definitely have enough bricks by then to do it all. We would like to start it now.

Mrs. Koontz asked how much the bricks will cost. Mr. Crum said that we are selling them for \$75 per brick.

We are going to area businesses for the 8 X 8 bricks. They will sell for \$200-\$300 each. I would have to look at the paperwork on it. The next project where we would want to put bricks would be around the flag pole. The American Legion would buy and 8 X 8 brick. We would put it around the flag pole with some little bricks. Our main concern is the big area first.

Mrs. Koontz asked why the price changed from \$50 to \$75. Mr. Crum said that they wanted to raise more money to help with the track, and do other things around the stadium like eventually resealing the blacktop under the bleachers. We want to do improvements around our school for sports and stuff.

That’s all I’m asking. Can we get it approved? I have two weeks. That’s all.

Mrs. Davis asked the Board if they had any other questions. Mr. Kline asked about the timeline. Mr. Crum said that sales would start at the fish fry and run through the middle of June. Then we would ship the order away and get it back by the end of July so Mr. Dickey can start installing the bricks as soon as we get them.

Mr. Baker asked the Treasurer if we needed a form of a motion to approve the project to cover everything that’s necessary. The Treasurer replied that we should have a motion.

It was decided that the Treasurer would put together verbiage for a specific motion to approve the project.

**“Buy a Brick” Project**

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

**#20-2017**

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BE IT RESOLVED, that the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the “Buy a Brick” project organized by the Newton Falls Athletic Boosters to take place from March 2017 through June 2017, and again the succeeding year from November 2017 through June 2018. Each brick will sell for \$75.00 each with the 8 X 8 bricks selling to businesses for \$200-\$300. All labor will be donated by Mr. Jason Dickey. The bricks will be installed around the 400 meter sign and later around the flag pole in July and August of each year.

**ROLL CALL:** Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Baker, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis

#### **MOTION CARRIED**

**HS/JH Board Report**, John Crowder, Principal; Angelina Berilla, Assistant Principal

Mr. Crowder gave a presentation highlighting curriculum, test scores, graduation requirements, professional development, reading audit, technology, gifted, college credit plus, vocational, and stem programs. Ms. Berilla gave a presentation highlighting discipline.

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

**Student Achievement** – Mrs. Debra Davis and Mr. Kenneth Kline

##### **Elementary**

We had a two hour early release today. I want to thank Ms. Berilla for doing Student of the Month at the high school. I do appreciate it.

##### **Students of the Month - Congratulations**

Kindergarten: Peiton Torrance, Kylee Herald, Jacob Dowling, and Makayla Blevins

First Grade: Devon Goncz, Carly Kwiecinski, Nicholas Vagner, and Nathan Augusta

Second Grade: Mikalex Glenn, James Hogue, and Alyia Slovinsky

Third Grade: Adysen Proctor, Karsen Gazda, and Leva Plyler-Jones

##### **Middle School**

They had their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual spelling bee on January 19<sup>th</sup>. Fifth grader Dylan Wyant took first place followed by sixth grader Jacob Kline and fifth grader Owen Gazda. Congratulations to those students.

##### **Students of the Month – Congratulations**

Grade 4: Logan Elliot and David Johnson

Grade 5: Kimberly Young and Nolan Kaehne

Grade 6: Emily Nutter and Jacob Kline

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Mr. Baker recognized the students attending the board meeting. They were attending for Boy Scouts. Mrs. Davis thanked Mr. Baker for recognizing the students and welcomed them to the meeting. They appreciate the Boy Scouts.

#### Legislative Liaison – Mrs. Debra Davis

Lots of things are going on. The budget bill is still in limbo. Besides money, portions of the budget bill that concern us include valuations for properties, transportation changes, career tech changes, third grade reading, teacher tenure, and college credit plus. There are a lot of things that we are going to be hearing about in the coming months.

Mrs. Koontz asked if this was the bill that would require teachers to work with businesses during the summer to renew their licenses. Mrs. Meeks said that yes that is part of the budget bill.

Mr. Woodard said that there is also a part about adding three board members. Mrs. Meeks said she would review that later in the meeting.

#### Finance Committee - Mr. Brent Powell and Mr. Kenneth Kline

Mrs. Meeks reviewed a few points in the budget bill that would affect the District. Her points included the Superintendent appointing three nonvoting members to the Board who represent local businesses, changes in the transportation funding formula, and requiring the teachers to work an externship with area businesses in order to renew their licenses.

The externship really bothers Mrs. Koontz. She feels it devalues teachers, and they won't gain anything from it.

Mr. Powell said that he believes they are trying to make a connection between public schools, career centers, and the business world to help students get jobs when they graduate high school.

Mr. Baker believes that most teachers have worked outside the school district, and they do have experience in the work force. It's a philosophical issue. Why are the schools here? Is it to provide labor, or to instruct students on being participatory citizens, and having a basis of knowledge for their future lives? It seems to me that they are stressing more of the vocational aspect than the educational aspect.

Mrs. Meeks distributed an article about contacting the legislators to voice your opinion about the board member issue and the externship for teachers. It discusses OSBA's perspective about the situation.

Mrs. Meeks reviewed the circumstances of our state funding this year. Our state funding has decreased by \$331,377 since the forecast was prepared. Therefore, the state budget bill is based on our decreased funding amount versus the amount we were receiving when the forecast was prepared at the beginning of the school year. This means that the state budget would negatively affect our five year forecast even though it provides for a \$22,123 decrease in FY18 and a \$101,567 increase in FY19. It would cut our ending balance next year to \$261,608. Mrs. Meeks is going to review our state funding with the Board on a monthly basis in the future.

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Athletic Council – Mrs. Brenda Koontz and Mr. Brent Powell

Mrs. Koontz

We did not have a meeting, but the girls just won the Trumbull County ACC Blue Tier and the eighth grade girls won as well. Izzy Kline got player of the game last week, and was interviewed for her achievement.

Mrs. Davis

Congratulations Mr. Kline. Your daughter is doing well.

Mr. Powell

The game of the week was Ursuline last week. It was televised live.

Trumbull County Career & Technical Center - Mrs. Debra Davis

They had Career Day at the end of January for students that Newton Falls sends to the career center to see if they might want to attend there. This year we had sixty seven-students who attended the Career Day for Newton Falls. You never know how many will actually go to the school. They just go to see if they would like the programs.

Also, I was able to attend the breakfast for Student of the Month for January. It's very nice to be able to go. I got to meet Cassidy Hastings in the auto collision program. She was nominated by her teacher, Mr. Hess. I was able to sit with her parents and had a really nice time. When Mr. Hess was sharing a story about Cassidy, he said that she volunteered for nine months at Greenwood painting cars so she could learn it. They final hired her. She also had another job during the time she was volunteering. It's neat to meet these students. It was really nice. Congratulations to Cassidy Hastings.

Also, Katelyn Nolton got first place for writing. She will be heading to Columbus on April 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> for another competition.

TCTC is going to add a couple new programs. One program is nail technician. Once they get done with the program, they go right to work. Another program that is going to be added is HVACR. It stands for heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration. There is a need because people are retiring from this field and they don't have new people to replace them. They can start out making \$18 to \$20 per hour and average annual wage for people going into programs is \$43,000 to \$65,000 a year.

Right now at TCTC, we have fifty three students enrolled. That was as of January 27<sup>th</sup>. We pay \$4,782.35 per student.

On February 9<sup>th</sup>, TCTC was recognized as a top performing school in northeast Ohio. They received a banner for their achievement.

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### Minutes

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

**#21-2017**

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Treasurer of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the minutes from the organizational board meeting on January 5, 2017, and the regular board meeting on January 17, 2017, as presented.

**ROLL CALL:** Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Baker, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis

**MOTION CARRIED**

### Treasurer's Report and Recommendations

#### Report

#### Cash Balances

001 = \$	649,411
016 = \$	30,365
\$	679,776

Tax advances will begin this month. We will start seeing higher balances for March.

#### Enrollment

The Treasurer reviewed current enrollment numbers including community schools and open enrollment.

#### School Fees

School fees have been trickling in at a slow rate. I'm sending out a notice to try to speed things up. Collections are down substantially from last year.

#### Cafeteria

The cafeteria is up for review this year. Lynn has been busy sending information to the State. I will update you once the review is complete.

#### Financial Report

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

**#22-2017**

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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 2017, and the short term investments made by the Treasurer which yielded \$ 472.90 for general fund, and \$ .42 for the cafeteria fund.

**ROLL CALL:** Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Baker, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis  
**MOTION CARRIED**

### Invoice Approval

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

**#23-2017**

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

Sean Croell	Choir Accompaniment	\$345.00
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**ROLL CALL:** Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Baker, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis  
**MOTION CARRIED**

### FY17 Appropriations

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

**#24-2017**

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Treasurer of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the FY17 Appropriations as presented.

**ROLL CALL:** Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Baker, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis  
**MOTION CARRIED**

### Establish New Fund

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

**#25-2017**

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Treasurer of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the establishment of a new fund as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Description</u>
007-9017	Zorn Scholarship Fund

**ROLL CALL:** Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Baker, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis  
**MOTION CARRIED**

### Superintendent's Reports and Recommendations

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### Reports

The National Honor Society ceremony/induction will be held on Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The time is still to be determined. That's a two hour early release day.

We have some coaches that will be honored in Columbus at the state boys' tournament. On Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, during half time of the second tournament game that day, Roy Sembach will be honored for having 400 wins. Ed Freisen, Scott Kernan, and Dale Huff will all be honored for twenty consecutive years of coaching within the District. Mr. Woodard distributed a handout for boys and girls varsity state tournaments.

At our March meeting we will have to announce that we will be discussing the calendar for next year. We now have to do that a month in advance of adopting the calendar. We did that last year for the first time. I will have sample calendars in your packets. We will be discussing our professional development for next year at our upcoming DLT meetings.

Last week I attended a luncheon where the state superintendent spoke. We discussed college credit plus. There are no plans in the near future to help schools with the financing of that program. They did say they were trying to look at keeping the costs of the textbooks down. We discussed testing. It was clear to me that there was an agenda. He had us get into small groups to discuss testing that is going on now. There is a scare that the current point system will prevent many juniors from graduating next year. There is a committee looking at that right now. He wanted to know what tests we felt were not necessary, and the ones that we felt were necessary.

We also discussed some funding issues which I was pretty vocal about. I talked about how it's been unconstitutional for many years and nothing is being done about it. It's not fair to the child who is born into a certain district who doesn't get all the opportunities that someone else might get. In our district it would sure be nice to have funding for preschool so we could help our children learn better. I've been trying to find a funding source for preschool, but I can't anybody to call me back or answer the phone. I will keep trying.

I want to thank Brent and Dave Rapzcak. We have a lot of potholes in our lot. The township has touched base with Brent, and they are going to come here over the weekend to fill in holes for free. In the future they will try to help us as much as possible.

Mrs. Davis wondered if the trustees approved it. She just wondered if we could send them a thank you letter. We really appreciate it. Mr. Woodard plans on a formal phone call from him as well. Mr. Powell plans on going to their next meeting.

This Thursday I will be attending a special education workshop in Independence all day long with Robin Langley.

Mr. Kline's son came in second in the middle school spelling bee. Actually, Mr. Powell's son came in fourth. He was the youngest participant to be left in there. The county contest will be next Wednesday at Liberty.

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I mentioned drug testing in my last board update. When I first came here we were doing it once every season. That's dropped off due to our finances. Last year we didn't do it at all. I just wanted to see how you feel about it because some people have mentioned it to me. We haven't done it so far this year. We still have another season coming up. You don't have to answer me right now. It's just the high school, and our policy states that when I test I have to test at least ten percent. In the past I've done twenty five percent. Give it some thought. It cost \$17.50 per student.

Since we established funds for the sign and the track, I'm going to try to get some new quotes so that we know how much it will cost. If you know anyone who wants to contribute to that, they can do that by contacting Dawn. We are going to start to go out and talk to businesses and influential people in our district to see if we can get any help.

I was at the commerce meeting again on Tuesday. I keep bringing up our need for a new sign, but nobody is responding.

We need to go into executive session tonight. Our next board meeting is scheduled for March 16<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Recommendations**

#### **PERSONNEL**

#### **Classified**

#### **Volunteers**

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

**#26-2017**

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the following as volunteers:

Michael Staton	-	JV Varsity Softball Coach
Mark Stimpert	-	JV Varsity Softball Coach

**ROLL CALL:** Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Baker, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis  
**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **Use of School Facilities**

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

**#27-2017**

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the use of school facilities consistent with adopted policies and procedures for the following:

Kiwanis Club  
Bob Wujcik, President  
Andy Jacob Memorial Jr. Olympics

May 6, 2017 - (May 13, 2017 Rain Date)  
Football Field/P.A. System  
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon



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**ROLL CALL:** Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Baker, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis  
**MOTION CARRIED**

### Items too late for the agenda

#### Employment – Supplemental

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

**#28-2017**

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education employ Robert Spahlinger as Assistant Softball Coach for the 2017 season only.

**ROLL CALL:** Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Baker, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis  
**MOTION CARRIED**

#### Memorandum of Understanding

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

**#29-2017**

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the track memorandum of understanding for the 2017 season only.

**ROLL CALL:** Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Baker, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis  
**MOTION CARRIED**

#### Retirement – Monica Dockery

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

**#30-2017**

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the retirement of Monica Dockery as cafeteria helper effective June 1, 2017.

The Board thanked Monica for her service.

**ROLL CALL:** Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Baker, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis  
**MOTION CARRIED**

#### Old Business

None

#### New Business

##### Mr. Woodard

The city asked to use our facility for civil service testing on March 13, 2017. I told them it was okay.

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### Communications

Mrs. Davis

Capital Conference will be restructured next year. The classes normally held on Wednesday will be held on Sunday. The attendance on Wednesday has been declining, and this will help put people back in their offices sooner.

### Executive Session

**#31-2017**

Mrs. Koontz moved and Mr. Powell seconded the motion to enter into executive session at 8:34 p.m. with no action to follow.

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.   X   Dismissal
  - 4. \_\_\_\_\_ Discipline
  - 5. \_\_\_\_\_ Promotion
  - 6. \_\_\_\_\_ Demotion
  - 7. \_\_\_\_\_ 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.
- 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.

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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 items A2, A3, D, E as listed above.

**ROLL CALL:** Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Baker, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis  
**MOTION CARRIED**

The Board came out of executive session at 9:56 p.m.

The Board scheduled a special meeting for Tuesday, March 7, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of evaluating the Superintendent and the Treasurer.

### Adjournment

**#32-2017**

Mr. Baker moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:56 p.m. and Mrs. Koontz seconded the motion.

**ROLL CALL:** Ayes: Mr. Baker, Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Kline, Mr. Powell, Mrs. Davis  
**MOTION CARRIED**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
President