Claymont City Schools
Board of Education
Special Board Meeting – Work Session
February 20, 2018
5:00 p.m.

The Claymont City School District Board of Education met in special work session on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in the Administrative Office with Mrs. Sproul presiding.

ROLL CALL: Present –Mr. Fawcett, Mr. Shamel, Mr. Abbuhl, Mrs. Sproul

Mrs. Statler noted that Mr. Beckley was absent due to an illness.

Visitors and Personnel – The following personnel and visitors were present: John Rocchi, Superintendent; Lori Statler, Treasurer; and, Ryan Tarbert, Vonda Garabrandt, Dalyn O'Connor, Amy Rossi, Kelsi Barnhart, Heather O'Connor, and Jessica Klingler, members of the public.

What is the District Plan and how was it created: Mr. Rocchi did a presentation on the District Plan (Plan) and how it was created. He stated the Plan was started 3 years ago and was developed by the District Leadership Team (DLT). The Plan aligns needs with the Ohio Improvement Process (OIP) and what is required by ODE. They created a needs assessment which is located in the CCIP. The DLT met over a 3-4 day period and questions were answered and data was analyzed. Mr. Fawcett asked if there is a tracking process with the Plan. Mr. Rocchi responded that they do compare progress with the Plan in conjunction with the OIP.

Dr. Reeves Presentation: Mr. Rocchi explained that on January 2, 2018, he attended a seminar presented by Dr. Reeves. Using the computer, Mr. Rocchi shared a recorded portion of that presentation. The focus was that the Plan needed to be based on data and not on opinions with the standards of evidence being belief, personal experience, group experience, systematic observation, and finally, preponderance of the evidence. He showed the OIP guide and explained the process. Each building has Teacher Based Teams (TBTs) with this being the 2nd full year of their implementation. Mr. Rocchi gave out a copy of the literacy plan, which is available on-line. He explained that the Plan is based on data and has to be revised every year. Mr. Rocchi shared a portion of Dr. Louisa Moats' presentation "Believe Literacy is Possible: Strategies for Success". Mr. Rocchi stated that the Plan requires intensive work and changes to schedules and he appreciates all of the hard work that staff has done to implement these necessary changes.

School Safety: Mr. Rocchi stated that he has reached out to Ira Wentworth, Superintendent at Indian Valley LSD. Mr. Wentworth is willing to talk to the board about what Indian Valley has done with arming staff members and Mr. Rocchi would like to move forward with that process. He also will be presenting a policy to restrict cell phone usage in the buildings based on issues that occurred in the buildings. Mr. Rocchi believes there should be a discussion regarding a resource officer but would like to have current staff members trained first. To be eligible to be armed, staff members

would need to have a conceal carry permit and also obtain additional training. Mr. Shamel and Mr. Fawcett both asked if the board would know the names of the armed staff. Mr. Rocchi responded that he would need to talk to Mr. Wentworth regarding that. Indian Valley currently has 2 armed staff members in each building and is looking to add more. Mr. Fawcett voiced his concerns about all students coming into the high school and staying in the same area. Mr. Rocchi responded that in 2015 multiple safety meetings were held and ALICE training was received by all staff. He will be coordinating another training. Previously, high school students could roam the halls for 20 minutes unsupervised and he feels the procedures that are in place now allow for more control but they could be tweaked. Mrs. Sproul mentioned that she witnessed the morning process at the high school and it was smooth and orderly. Mr. Abbuhl asked what the cost for security would be. Mr. Rocchi responded that he did not have that figure. Mr. Abbuhl stated that he would prefer that the district have their own security officer. Mr. Rocchi responded that where he worked previously, resource officers were on staff and he feels that is a direction we might want to look at. Mr. Shamel stated that unless you check every students' backpack, there is no way to stop everyone. Mr. Rocchi stated that there is a need to get mental health services to those in need and identify them early so they receive the needed treatment. Mr. Rocchi stated that he did an all call to try and alleviate fears of parents and students. Mr. Rocchi stated that he has a very good relationship with the police forces in the community and he welcomes their presence in the buildings. Mr. Rocchi has created safety plans in conjunction with the Department of Homeland Security. Mr. Abbuhl asked why an all call was not done earlier in the day. Mr. Rocchi responded that they did not believe there was ever a threat and they did not complete the investigation until 3:00 pm.

Policy 1.16 – Public Participation at Board Meetings: Mr. Rocchi shared Tuscarawas Valley School District's policy on public participation. Their policy does allow an individual to request to speak at a board meeting by completing a form prior to the meeting and the total participation is limited to 30 minutes. Mr. Rocchi stated that we cannot allow criticism of staff in open session as this could result in an unfair labor practice filed by the unions. Mr. Fawcett stated that the board would need to enforce the public participation rules. He also stated that Tuscarawas Valley utilizes a form that is completed by the member of the public and it is given to the board president before the meeting begins. Mr. Rocchi asked if the board would like to have a modified policy 1.16 on the March agenda. Mr. Fawcett responded that he would like to see that at the March meeting.

Policy 1.18 – Board – Staff Communication: Mr. Fawcett stated that he understands where Mr. Abbuhl is coming from with his issues with the policy and he hopes that there can be a common ground reached. Mr. Fawcett asked if the policy could be kept as is but keep the time notification requirement flexible. All board members agreed that the Superintendent should be aware of any visits and the policy would be amended in March to include "if possible" at the end for the 24 hour notification requirement. Mr.

Rocchi asked the board to refer issues back to him so that he can address them as they occur. He also thanked the board for letting him share the District's Plan and what is going on with teachers and students.

18-019 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Abbuhl made the motion, and Mr. Shamel seconded the motion that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss the employment of personnel with no action to follow, time 6:20 p.m. On roll call vote: Mr. Abbuhl, yes; Mr. Shamel, yes; Mr. Fawcett, yes; Mrs. Sproul, yes. Motion carried.

Mrs. Sproul declared the executive session ended at 7:47 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned
Mr. Shamel made the motion, and Mr. Abbuhl seconded the motion that the special board meeting of the Claymont City Board of Education be adjourned. On roll call vote: Mr. Shamel, yes; Mr. Abbuhl, yes; Mr. Fawcett, yes; Mrs. Sproul, yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Approved: _____
President

Attest: _____
Treasurer