

**MINUTES OF THE CLEVELAND HEIGHTS-UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Special Meeting of November 16, 2010

The Board of Education of the Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District, Cuyahoga County, held its Special meeting in the public meeting room of the Board Building at 2155 Miramar Boulevard, University Heights, Ohio, on Tuesday, November 16, 2010.

Ms. Nancy Pepler, President, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Present at Roll Call: Ms. Nancy Pepler, President
Mr. Kal Zucker, Vice President
Mr. Eric Coble, Board Member
Ms. Karen Jones, Board Member
Mr. Ron Register, Board Member

Also Present: Mr. Douglas Heuer, Superintendent
Mr. A. Scott Gainer, Chief Financial Officer
Members of the Central Office Staff
Patrons of the School District
Representatives of the News Media

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Recommendation to Approve the Following Field Trips

It was recommended that the Board of Education approve the following field trips:

The Cleveland Heights High School JV/Varsity Basketball Scrimmage Field Trip to Newark, OH, scheduled for November 26-27, 2010

The Cleveland Heights High School JV/Varsity Basketball Tournament Field Trip to Grove City, OH, scheduled for December 28-29, 2010

The Cleveland Heights High School Varsity Basketball Tournament Field Trip to Dayton, OH, scheduled for January 15-16, 2011

No. 10-11-168 It was moved by Mr. Coble, seconded by Ms. Jones, that the above Field Trips be approved.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Coble, Ms. Jones, Ms. Pepler,
Mr. Register, Mr. Zucker

Nays: None

Recommendation to Approve the NEOLA 9000 Board Policy Series

It was recommended that the Board of Education approve the NEOLA 9000 Relations Policy Review with adjustments made from the first and second readings.

No. 10-11-169

It was moved by Mr. Zucker, seconded by Mr. Coble, that NEOLA Board Policy 9000 Relations Series be approved.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Ms. Jones, Ms. Pepler, Mr. Register,
Mr. Zucker, Mr. Coble

Nays: None

WORK SESSION: Small Schools Update and Recommendations

Superintendent Doug Heuer asked members of the Education Services Department, staff, and faculty of Cleveland Heights High School to conduct this work session to discuss the high school organization and high school schedule. Assistant Superintendent Jeff Talbert led the discussion, along with other members of the Small Schools Review Team (Allison Byrd, Marc Aden, Donna Feldman, Lisa Lefstein-Berusch, Karen Kastor, Kristen Cano, Tom Schmida and Jeff Johnston). The team was charged with determining the effectiveness of the current small school structure at CHHS and making recommendations based on their findings. Guiding principles of the review include:

- 1) staying small
- 2) aligning with District initiatives
- 3) focusing on freshman
- 4) integrating career tech
- 5) creating an alternative schedule
- 6) providing common planning time
- 7) balancing staff
- 8) ensuring school purity in the core areas and
- 9) providing opportunities for college credit

The review team identified some of the benefits of small schools: caring relationships between staff and students, improved small school selection process, smaller 9th and 10th grade classes,

and graduation rate increases. Some of the areas in need of change are lack of vertical alignment (communication between middle and high school teachers), lack of balanced collaboration time, limited small school experience for IEP students, OGT-driven curriculum, and feelings of isolation among elective and citywide teachers.

The review team concluded that the small school initiative has been successful, but there is more work to be done. The team is committed to remaining small, focusing on freshman, better defining the small school themes/instructional models, developing a flexible/alternative schedule, and ensuring school purity in core subject areas.

After working with the teachers collaboratively to find solutions to the information resulting from their research, Mr. Talbert stated the review team will report back to the Board in January.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

It was recommended that the meeting be adjourned.

No. 10-11-170

It was moved by Ms. Jones, seconded by Mr. Zucker, that the meeting be adjourned.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Ms. Jones, Ms. Pepler, Mr. Register,
Mr. Zucker, Mr. Coble

Nays: None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Nancy Pepler, President

Scott Gainer, Chief Financial Officer