



## FINANCIAL REVIEW AND REPORTING COMMITTEE

### Minutes

New Albany Plain Local School District  
Administrative Offices  
55 N. High St.  
New Albany, OH 43054

**Financial Review and Reporting Committee**  
**Monday, October 20, 2014 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

**Our Mission:** *To ensure the development of high achieving, ethical, self-directed, and Intellectually curious citizens of the world.*

**Members Present:** Joseph Armpriester, , Molly Cooper, Phil Derrow, April Domine, Becky Jenkins, Parag Patel, Mark Ryan, Kevin Stahl and Brian Steel

Members Absent: David Demers, William Neville, Tom Pace and Laura Kohler

- Mark Ryan welcomed the committee members.
- Minutes from the September 29, 2014 meeting were approved.
- August/September Financials: Ms. Jenkins reviewed the August and September 2014 financial reports. Ms. Jenkins informed the committee that the district only received \$158,000 in income tax sharing from the City as opposed to the anticipated \$300,000 due to one large company filing an amended income statement which showed a net loss. The City projected an \$800,000 net profit. Due to this amended income statement the August income tax sharing payment was much less. The August payment was also not received until September. The September income tax sharing payment was slightly higher than anticipated. This revenue source must be monitored closely in the coming months.
- Five Year Forecast Update: There were no changes to the forecast or assumptions from the September 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Ms. Jenkins discussed that the five year forecast would change substantially whether the levy was successful or not. This is because should the levy be successful the revenue from the levy will be included in the real estate line, the capital outlay expenditures would be reduced as they will be moved to permanent improvement and county auditor/treasurer fees will be increased due to the increased real estate tax collections.

Should the levy be unsuccessful the reduction list approved by the board will be implemented and included in all expenditure lines of the five year forecast.

- Mr. Ryan informed the committee that Ms. Jenkins and her team received the Auditor of State Award with Distinction for their most recently audited financial statement and CAFR. Only the top 5% of all entities audited by the Auditor of State's office receive this award. The Auditor of State's office performs over 5,800 audits each year.
- Levy/Final Reductions Update: Mr. Ryan asked Dr. Domine to review the final reduction list and the process used to determine this list with the committee members. Mr. Ryan also noted that the board requested Dr. Domine and the administrative team to prepare this list in order to be completely transparent with the community as well as to have a business plan in place should the district have to operate without the revenue generated by the new levy.

Dr. Domine walked the group through the history of the district which led into much discussion around the 2012 levy, the plan for the district to keep that millage lower due to the economic condition at that time by spending down the carryover balances and moving to a two-year levy cycle.

The committee discussed the difficulty of helping the community understand school finance. The committee asked if the district was able to track website hits and suggested that the district create a short document/power point of five slides or fewer that could quickly explain how schools are funding and where funds are spent. This document could include charts/graphs to pictorially show the story. This could also help tell the "why" behind the levy without feeling threatening or overwhelming.

The committee also discussed the fact that the upcoming election would likely result in much lower voter turnout which makes passage of a levy more difficult.

Dr. Domine requested feedback on the list. Mr. Patel brought up the unbalanced treatment of athletic activity funding vs. academic extracurricular activity funding. He said the residents/parents he has heard from believe the athletic pay to participate fee should be higher regardless of levy outcome and more resources should be directed to academic extracurricular activities.

Dr. Domine and Mr. Armpriester explained that these supplementals are negotiated and that there is a committee which uses a detailed rubric around whether a supplemental is created and at what level the supplemental is paid. The length of the season is not what is measured, but rather, the number of times an advisor must meet with the group.

Mr. Darrow pointed out that the "elephant in the room" were the labor agreements. He said that what he is hearing from community members is that they do not agree with the pay structure and would like to see change in this area. Mr. Darrow pointed out that the district could eliminate all of the principals and other administrators and it still wouldn't fill the gap because that is not where the costs are. They are in the teaching staff. He suggested using existing staff in different ways and to discuss with the associations making salary reductions across the board instead of eliminating positions.

- Ms. Jenkins informed the committee that she is required to file an approved five year forecast with ODE by Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>. She requested that the committee members contact her with questions or suggestions in the next couple of days as the board would be asked to approve the forecast at its October 27 board meeting.
- Ms. Jenkins asked the committee if they would be opposed to moving the meeting time to 8:30 based on a request from one of the committee members. The group decided an 8:30 start time would work.
- The meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

Next Meeting – Monday, November 17, 2014 8:30 am – 10:00 am