

**THE GIST
BROOKFIELD R-III SCHOOL DISTRICT
OPEN SESSION --- REGULAR BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 19, 2023**

The Brookfield R-III Board of Education, Brookfield, Missouri met in open session on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in person in the HS Media Center. The following board members were present: Jim McIntyre, Blake DeVoy, Ryan Burns, David Shaw, Galen Hicks, and Noel Staddie. Samantha Howell was absent. President McIntyre called the meeting to order and led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The board unanimously approved the Agenda and the Consent Agenda as presented. There were no public comments. The board reviewed the upcoming calendar dates.

Denise Carlson presented the annual Special Education Compliance Plan for 2023-24, which the board approved unanimously.

Mr. Thudium gave the board an update on how the Success Center is going so far in the High School. He is very happy to report that Mr. Hughes seems to be a perfect fit as the program's instructor. Discipline problems and tardies are down. His students seem to be progressing well and working with him very well. The JAG program is helping significantly also with our at-risk students. Mrs. Berger will be present next month to give a presentation to the board on the new JAG program.

The board reviewed the finance reports for 08/31/23. It was noted that we ended the last school year with K-12 enrollment at 810 and the new school year's enrollment is currently at 842. Hopefully, this trend will continue.

Dr. Hoyt and the board discussed the district's bonding capacity. They discussed a possible no-tax increase debt service initiative for the spring of 2025 to address many different areas on campus in need of updating. This discussion will continue in the coming months.

Dr. Hoyt reported that Southern Bank, formerly Citizens Bank and Trust Co., has agreed to honor their debit card program with the school district but will no longer issue any new Bulldog debit cards. Beth Roby with Regional Missouri Bank has asked if the district would allow RMB to issue bulldog debit cards with 5 cents being donated to the district each time a bulldog debit card is used. Dr. Hoyt and the board did not see any trouble in allowing RMB to move forward with this program.

The board unanimously approved the 2023-24 Career Ladder Plan, which has not changed from last year, and the list of participants.

Dr. Hoyt discussed graduation accolades with the board. He also discussed whether Algebra 1 taken by 8th graders should be included in their high school GPA. Dr. Hoyt, Mr. Thudium and the board agreed that it should count as a high school credit but not count towards their high school GPA, which is how it has been handled in the past. The discussion on the honors of valedictorian and salutatorian versus graduating summa cum laude and magnum cum laude will continue in the future.

The board unanimously approved the 2023-24 transportation routes and the 2023-24 Free & Reduced Lunch Application Guidelines as presented.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned and moved into closed session at 6:07 p.m.