



Memphis Democrat

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AYP Places Gorin R-III on School Improvement 1 Status

The Gorin R-III Board of Education met in regular session on Thursday, August 19, 2010. The Tax Rate Hearing preceded the regular meeting at 6:15. President Diane Tague called the meeting to order at 6:28, with five members present. Larry Mohr joining the meeting at 6:50. Tammie Dale was absent.

Christina Myers, third and fourth grade classroom teacher and professional development chair, gave a professional development report of the 2009 – 2010 school year and shared the results of the professional development surveys completed for this school year.

Under old business, Mrs. Townsend shared the summer updates that had been completed.

In new businesses the board was informed that the district audit will be Thursday, September 23rd and Friday, September 24th. Next, they approved the criteria for free and reduced price meals, as well as the milk, lunch, and breakfast prices. President Tague and member Rhonda Peterson reported on the MARE board training they attended in July.

Mrs. Townsend and Mrs. Myers presented information about the Common Goal Systems Teacher Ease grade book and lesson plan/curriculum mapping. Rhonda Peterson made a motion to purchase the program with Ryan Miller seconding. The vote was 6 – 0.

Mrs. Townsend reported that the district has been identified by the Department of Education as a school in School Improvement, Level 1.

The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2001

requires all schools, districts and states to show that students are making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). Missouri's AYP targets were established by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education based on a formula from the NCLB Act and an analysis of Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) data, attendance rate data and graduation rate data from prior years. When all targets are met, the requirements of AYP are met.

Any school failing to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in the same content area or additional indicator for two or more consecutive years is placed on School Improvement status. Any Title I-funded school in School Improvement (SI) status must meet certain requirements, specified by NCLB, to improve student performance.

The district must ensure that the school develops or revises a school improvement plan within three months after identification and at least 14 days before the beginning of the school year, notify parents of each child enrolled in the school, providing a comparison of the school's academic achievement with that of other schools in the district and the state.

The notification must offer an explanation of the parent's option (s) to transfer their child, offering a Public School Choice (PSC) to all students to transfer to another public school or charter school within the district. School choice is required if there are other schools in the district that serve the same grade level AND those schools are not in school improvement, corrective action or restructuring. All students who request a transfer must be transferred; however, if there are inadequate financial resources to transport all children, schools must give priority to lowestachieving students from low-income families.

Supplemental Educational Services (SES) may be

offered as an alternative to PSC for schools in SI Level 1 if either (a) there are no qualified schools or (b) the parents decline to transfer to the school assigned for their child.

Other DESE requirements include spending not less than 10% of the building's Title I funds on professional development.

Every school must remain in School Improvement for at least two years. After being in SI for two consecutive years, the school may exit SI if the AYP is met for two consecutive years in the content area or additional indicator that caused the initial SI status and no other content areas or additional indicators are not making AYP for two consecutive years.

Mrs. Townsend stated that the district had already sent out notification to district families and the steps the district is required to complete. She also shared the process the staff has all ready began in striving to increase student achievement.

More than 600 Missouri schools did not meet the federal AYP requirements last year and are facing similar, if not more drastic requirements.

Following, the board discussed the 1-2-3 Magic program. This program organizes the classroom discipline strategy into three separate and critical steps.

In other business, the board voted 6 – 0 to set the tax rate for the 2010 – 2011 school year for 4.79.

The board went into executive session at 8:15 to discuss student updates and staff issues.

The board returned to regular session at 8:48 and adjourned immediately following.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Tues. September 21, 2010.