September 10, 2004

The September 8, 2004 Board of Education meeting began with the approval of the Consent Agenda where the following appointments were made:

- Megan Peters – Middle School Permanent Substitute
- Tracie Wheeler-Holcomb and Erin Gryn – Monitors
- Colleen Barnes – Cleaner
- Carol McMahon – Jr. High Cross-Country Coach

Also under the Consent Agenda, the Board of Education accepted with thanks the donation of computer equipment from Steve and Ardith Haywood.

Under Reports to the Board, the Superintendent and Building Principals reported on opening day activities and orientations.

The majority of the meeting was spent discussing the renovation project. A long list of possible renovation items was reviewed item by item. The list has been developed over the past two years by the Buildings and Grounds Committee and was added to when meetings were held with staff at each building this Spring. The list was further defined by meeting with department heads. The Buildings and Grounds Committee actually developed two lists – a maintenance list and a capital needs list with the difference being defined by the financial impact of each item. If the cost was substantial and could not be handled with the local budget, it was placed on the capital needs list where state aid would be received if done under an approved project. By doing this, the financial impact of paying for the renovation is lessened to taxpayers because of the offsetting aid received from the state. In a building project, for every dollar spent, 83¢ is paid by the state and 17¢ by local taxpayers. Also, this local share can be spread out over a period of years. Since projects have not been undertaken since 1991 in the Elementary School, 1993 in the Middle School and 1995 in the High School, the list contains many needed repairs to roofs, electrical, plumbing and heating systems.

After reviewing each item on the list, the Board of Education set a cap amount and asked to review the financial impact of this at the next meeting before making any decisions. At this point, the Superintendent shared a timeline with the Board that would have them making a final decision on a project at the first meeting in October with a project vote taking place on November 30, 2004.

Also under Old Business, the academic goals for the strategic plan were shared and approved and the Board of Education committees and liaisons named for the 2004-2005 school year.

Under New Business, the Board of Education approved the list of presentations for the 2004-2005 school year with one addition - a presentation from the music department. At the end of the regular agenda, the Board recessed into executive session.