

- VI. Dr. Richard opened the meeting and briefly shared the purpose of the meeting agenda. A.J. Ginnetti, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer presented the Youngstown City School District financial update (*refer to meeting materials.*) He presented a detailed overview of the financial report for the month of December and the district Five year forecast & assumptions. Several items were discussed which included health insurance premium holidays, consolidation of energy, and ongoing monthly financial reconciliations. It was also mentioned that the 2019 fiscal year State audit and Medicaid audit were in progress. Discussion continued regarding report specifications, 2017 maintenance of effort payment and January 2020 increase in expenditures due to a 3 pay month. Dr. McGee, ADC financial advisory committee chair shared that the district is making the efforts to be transparent within its communication and operations. No future financial advisory committee has been scheduled. Dr. Richard stated that future financial advisory committee meetings should be advertised to the public.
- VII. CEO Jennings continued the meeting with a presentation on the progression of the district improvement/strategic plan. He stated that he is working on a new plan and has begun sessions with the SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, outcomes, threats) analysis sessions, K-12 insight survey, scheduling upcoming school building staff meetings and community town hall meetings lead with SWOT analysis and open dialogue and questions.

Dr. Richard expounded on the various research and studies regarding district/school turnaround. He explained a few areas that were common in turnaround work which were:

- Principal leadership stability and principals that understand good instruction
- Totally aligned curriculum
- Instructional strategies
- Support system beyond the school district

He also reflected on the research and views of author, Doug Reeves and the successful turnaround work completed through author, Jim Collins with respect to the Youngstown improvement plan and it being data oriented , researched based, sustainable, goals and timeline driven and simplistic. CEO Jennings continued his presentation with discussion on building leadership, process and procedures, culture, and curriculum.

Dr. Richard asked what was Mr. Jennings time frame in making recommendations of strategic plan to the ADC members. CEO Jennings responded within the 2nd week of March. Dr. Richard suggested a work session with 1 or 2 Board of education members to gain a joint understanding of the plan.

Dr. McGee commented that within the strategic/improvement plan there should be a plan for interventions. CEO Jennings expressed that he wants to develop a plan that is sustainable and fully transparent with a timeline, chain of command, etc.

Dr. Richard noted that there is an ADC member vacancy and that he was informed by a Youngstown board of education member that within the next week or two he would have the name of a teacher representative to sit on the YADC.

VIII. Public Comment:

Angelo Perruzzi, Jr. district employee had questions regarding the Youngstown City School District October 2019 5-Year Forecast for 2020. He commented that majority of his questions, which were emailed prior to the meeting were answered earlier in the meeting by Mr. Ginnetti within his financial presentation and by Mr. Jennings regarding researching other comparable urban school districts. He asked if he still needed to submit public record request for the information he desired and Dr. Richard stated that his email was suffice. He also asked about the state funding of the CEO's innovative education programs and requesting the CEO to consider providing educators with appropriate professional development on "current street language in order to bridge the understanding gap between literacy and the streets for the YCSD educators." Dr. Richard stated the ODE goes through a budget process with the legislative assembly. He mentioned in terms of per pupil spending, specifically last year Youngstown was 14th in the state from the top and the 4th highest per pupil in the 2019-2020 fiscal year. It is important that we are very careful in spending dollars aligned to the improvement plan.

Jackie Adair, Youngstown Board of Education member commented and requested the following:

- Request for copies of the monthly check registers and voucher packages
- Concern of building leaders being properly trained
- Achievement gap statistics between African Americans & Caucasians. Explain the gap and where did the percentages come from and how they were calculated?
- District staffing plan
 - o What subjects are we teaching?
 - o Teacher to student ratio
- Discipline is out of control
 - o PBIS is not working; Students are sent to PASS
- Board funding – What money has been allocated for the school board

Dr. Richard stated that he would provide clarity directly to Ms. Adair's questions. He briefly addressed and provided an explanation of the achievement gap statistics.

Tina Cvetovich, Youngstown board member questioned the district improvement plan/strategic plan and the work on professional development that would be established for the district staff. Dr. Richard commented that it might be, but may not go into detail. There should be a place somewhere in the plan for professional development. She also wanted to know if district staff was trained to recognize substance abuse disorders among their fellow staff members and/or students to help engage them in the proper care that they may need to receive.

Larry Ellis, Youngstown Education Association President asked if copies would be made available of the financial reports. Dr. Richard responded yes, they are public documents. Mr. Ellis also questioned the meeting time. Dr. Richard commented the goal is to typically have the meetings after work hours but due to the meeting importance and scheduling challenges, it was critical to schedule accordingly regarding the CEO's performance evaluation within the first 6 months of his contract.

IX. The Commission entered into executive session at 2:06 p.m. to consider the employment, promotion, demotion, compensation and/or discipline of public employees; as it relates to the Chief Executive Officer's performance evaluation and performance bonus. It was announced that there would no formal vote after returning from executive session.

Motion by: N. Santucci

Seconded by: M. Hoffmaster

Roll Call Vote:

Dr. John Richard	Yes	x	No	
Nicholas Santucci	Yes	x	No	
Dr. Maria Hoffmaster	Yes	x	No	
Dr. Ben McGee	Yes	x	No	absent

X. Return to open meeting at 3:38 p.m.

XI. Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.