

Prepared Notes for Board Meeting – Requests, Comments Concerns
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Marc A. Schare –
614 791-0067
marc9@aol.com

Obviously, tonight marks my last official meeting as Board President and I wanted to take just a moment to reflect back on 2011. As far back as 2007, this board urged the administration to define a succession plan to deal with the anticipated retirements of many administrators in key positions. As I look around the room, I see the results of the districts transition plan. We have a new assistant Superintendent, a new HR director, a new director of innovation and support, new leadership in special education and across the district, we have new principals at the high school, middle school and elementary school levels and of course, to my right, a new school district Superintendent. This “next generation” of Worthington Schools leadership has handled the transition about as well as change of this magnitude could have been handled and I didn’t want my term as President to end without acknowledging our administrators, old and new, past and present, who did whatever they had to do to assure continuity for our students, all the while improving on the opportunities we are able to offer to our students.

The year began with a presentation from Worthington Kilbourne High School about their new International Baccalaureate programme and it ended with the approval of the most ambitious set of new course offerings this district has seen in a long time, including the enabling classes for IB. Talk about coming full circle.

I’d also like to acknowledge what didn’t happen this year. We didn’t run a levy. In 2009 when we ran the incremental levy, the math almost certainly pointed to a two year levy cycle. The fact that we avoided this is not an error in forecasting, it is the result of a lot of hard work by a lot of people and no small sacrifice on the part of every staff member in this district. It may not sound like much, taking a two year levy cycle to a three year levy cycle and NOT running a levy isn’t going to make it into anyone’s year-end review, but all the same, I think it was an accomplishment worthy of my last written word as Board President.