

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
JULY 17, 2018

Members of the Board of School Trustees met in executive session at 5:30 p.m. on this date at the Central Office pursuant to Indiana's Open Meetings Law for the purpose of discussion of: strategy with respect to collective bargaining; any individual over whom the governing body has jurisdiction: to discuss, before a determination, the individual's status as an employee, a student, or an independent contractor; and the assessment, design, and implementation of school safety and security measures, plans and systems. No topics were discussed other than those listed on the public meeting notice. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Klosterman.

President Juergens called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. All members were present with the exception of Mr. Klosterman.

Board members and members of the public stood for the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

Mr. Hooker made a recommendation to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of the Redesigning School Counseling presentation. Mr. Browning motioned to approve and Mrs. Franke seconded. Motion carried; 6-0.

Mrs. Franke moved and Mr. Browning seconded a motion approving the consent agenda which included the minutes of the June 12, 2018 regular meeting, monthly reconciliation summary, claims and payroll, fund report, monthly appropriation report, personnel recommendations, professional leave requests, and approval of the FFA overnight trip to the Indiana State Fair.

The personnel report included the following:

Resignations:

Jill Halterman	Special Education Teacher - Academy	SHS	June 19, 2018
Frank Guthrie	Language Arts Teacher	SHS	June 26, 2018
Jennifer Smith	Kindergarten Instructional Assistant	Brown	June 27, 2018
Cathy Ulrey	Special Ed Instructional Assistant	SMS	June 28, 2018
Daniel J Henkle	Assistant Baseball Coach	SHS	June 28, 2018
Tasha Mendez-Lopez	Mini Volleyball Coach	SMS	July 5, 2018
Wade Banister	Assistant Football Coach	SMS	July 5, 2018
Jeff Klakamp	Assistant Football Coach	SMS	July 5, 2018
Jacob Motosicky	Assistant Football Coach	SMS	July 5, 2018
Jordan Sawyer	Title 1 Instructional Assistant	Brown	July 11, 2018
Greg Davis	Maintenance Technician	Corporation	July 13, 2018
Megan Welch	Special Education Instructional Assistant	Jackson	July 16, 2018

Appointments:

Tilden Slone	Bus Driver	Transportation	July 18, 2018
Curtis Jarson	Bus Driver	Transportation	July 18, 2018
Lindsey Peters	Language Arts Teacher	SHS	August 7, 2018
Susan Walter	Speech Language Pathologist (2 days/wk)	Redding	August 7, 2018
Andy Glover	Full-time Instructional Assistant	JCLC	August 9, 2018
Suzann Sorensen	Special Education Bus Assistant	Transportation	August 9, 2018
Todd Vaughn	Freshman Football Coach	SHS	2018-2019 Season
Andy Rueger	Flag Football Coordinator	SHS	2018-2019 Season
Austin Sutton	Assistant Football Coach	SMS	2018-2019 Season
Tom Lucas	Assistant Volleyball Coach	SMS	2018-2019 Season
Lydia Roberts	Assistant Volleyball Coach	SMS	2018-2019 Season
Crystal Adams	Assistant Volleyball Coach	6GC/SMS	2018-2019 Season

Transfers:

Katie Covert	SHS Special Ed Instructional Assistant to JCLC	August 9, 2018
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Permission to Post

Full Time Custodian

SHS Gym Open until Filled

Full Time Custodian

CO/AA/AG/T Open until Filled

Corporation Bus Driver/Mechanic

Corporation Open until Filled

Permission to Post/Transfer/Hire Prior to July 31, 2018**COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS****SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS:**

Mr. Harpe reported 13 additional third graders passed the I-READ 3 this summer. Summer Ag Experience, Grad Point and Kindergarten Jump Start programs are still going. There were a lot of great programs that took place this summer.

Mrs. Ferguson said 200-250 employees participated over the 3 days of professional development at Seymour High School. There were many great speakers and tours of the facilities. She also said she has received an overwhelming amount of positive feedback. Mr. Harpe and Mr. Juergens thanked Mrs. Ferguson for the amount of work that went into planning this large event.

Mr. Stark provided an update on summer projects.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

Mrs. DuBois introduced the high school's newest English Language Arts teacher, Mrs. Lindsey Peters.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Mrs. Franke recently attended a State Board Legislative Committee meeting and the budget projections for the next two years look like they're going to be tight. She added the Corporation is going to have to be looking at pulling our purse strings in the next two years.

ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Hooker made a recommendation to accept the request for proposal from the carrier Liberty Mutual and broker Beatty Insurance for the school's Corporation Liability Insurance. Mrs. Franke motioned to approve and Mr. Juergens seconded.

Mr. Joray: "This has been an 18-month process so I think it's only fair that the public should understand how we got to this point. Company A is a local company that we've had our insurance with for over 20 years without competition. That is a fault of past school boards and administration. It's well founded in a capitalistic society the best way to keep prices down is through competition. Company B also is a local company. They approached myself approximately 18 months ago and other board members about giving them an opportunity to quote the business. It was decided last year that the timing wasn't good so we put it off for another year. In the meantime, our premiums dropped 7%. I don't know if that was because the market was changed or because competition was introduced. So a few months ago we started this process. The Administration drew up an RFQ for all participants. I took issue with the RFQ because in it it stated basically no matter which company had the lower premium or best coverage, the administration had the right to negotiate with our current company. That alone, would have kept companies from offering a quote. Can you imagine putting in many hours of work to produce something only to have it taken to your competitor, that had a higher quote to see if they could be that price? I didn't and I don't see the fairness in that. We've had board members state that we shouldn't have even been involved in this process. My guess is after payroll and transportation; this is the largest expense that we have. So unless we are just a rubber stamp, then we should have been involved in this. I also heard them say that we might find a cheaper cost but after one or two years it will pump up the price. That's very possible and that is why it should be a policy that this should be put up for quote every 2, 3, 4 years, whatever the board desires. When the quotes came in Company A was 20% cheaper than the premiums two years ago. They were 13% cheaper than last year's premium. Now, once again, I don't know if that's because of changing markets or the introduction of competition. Company B came in with the premium that was 25% cheaper than our premium two years ago, 18.5% lower than last year's premium and 7% cheaper than Company A's initial premium this year. I don't have a pony in this race. The reason I use Company A and Company B, instead of their names, is because we are dealing with taxpayer money. This was not a personal decision. It's strictly business. We have two proposals here that are apples to apples and there's still a close to 7% price difference. So, I'll let my statement rest there."

Mrs. Franke: "Well, for clarification, I don't think it's a 7% difference. It's less than 1%. Thank you Mr. Nauman and to both brokers who both put so much time and effort in putting your proposals together. There was a lot to consider and a lot was brought forth to the Board. It's definitely been a learning experience."

Motion did not pass; 2-4 with Mrs. Franke and Mr. Juergens as the only two supporting the Superintendent's recommendation.

Mr. Juergens: "Do we just extend it with the company that we have?"

Mr. Hooker: "Yes."

Mr. Nauman: "It would actually be a renewal. If you decide to change down the road, it would be a termination, but you'd do it for the current year."

Mr. Browning: "So, you're saying we'd terminate the current contract out?"

Mr. Hooker: "Your other option is this. You voted down the Superintendent's recommendation. You have the option at this meeting to vote to waive your board policy to accept Superintendent's recommendation. If you approve the waiving of that policy, then one of you can make a motion and go with whatever direction you want to go with carriers and brokers. Or, you can continue with what Mr. Nauman is telling you. You can continue with the renewal and then do a cancellation later. You have that option to waive your policy and move forward without Superintendent's recommendation."

Mr. Joray motioned to waive the policy of following the Superintendent's recommendation. Mr. Browning asked for clarification.

Mr. Joray: "If we waive this, it gives up the option to go ahead and pick up the other carrier tonight? It's what you're saying."

Mr. Hooker: "Yes."

Mr. Joray: "So we need to waive your recommendation first?"

Mr. Hooker: "No, you've already rejected my recommendation. You make the motion then to waive the policy where you take a recommendation from the Superintendent and you can make your own. That's policy and procedure. It's not been done very often, but that's how it works."

Mr. Joray: "And all's that would do is get our carrier started at a quicker pace, our new carrier? Correct?"

Mr. Hooker: "Yes."

Mr. Joray once again motioned to waive the board's policy of following the Superintendent's recommendation. Mr. Browning seconded.

Mr. Juergens asked for clarification on the vote.

Mr. Hooker: "You're voting to waive School Board policy on recommendations coming from the Superintendent."

Motion tied; 3-3 with Mr. Kelley, Mr. Silver and Mr. Joray voting in favor and Mr. Juergens, Mrs. Franke and Mr. Browning voting against.

Mr. Kelley motioned to get additional questions answered prior to another vote. Mr. Silver seconded.

Mrs. Franke: "Where would that put our corporation? Will this be voted on at an upcoming meeting before the end of the month? It has to because it needs to start August 1."

Mr. Joray asked what questions Mr. Kelley had. Mr. Hooker suggested they submit those to Mr. Nauman and him, as more board members may have additional questions, rather than air them out in a public meeting.

Mr. Joray: "Where does this leave us?"

Mr. Kelley: "Once we get the information back, with our questions answered, we can vote."

Mr. Joray asked what they will vote on next time.

Mr. Hooker: "You will need to have an executive session prior to the July 31 School Budget Review session to share the results."

Mrs. Franke: "Doesn't this have to be implemented by August 1? If it's the 31st, where does that leave us in the morning on August 1?"

Mr. Nauman: "To not have a lapse in coverage, you will need to extend the current policy. Then you could cancel it."

Mr. Hooker: "You don't want to go without coverage."

Mr. Nauman: "If you make that recommendation on the 31st there is no way for us to make that call until the 1st. That's not fair to either carrier."

Mr. Joray: "Didn't we compare apples to apples?"

Mrs. Franke: "He still has questions that need answered. We should go through the proper procedure."

Mr. Kelley made a motion to extend coverage with our current carrier until a decision has been made and Mrs. Franke seconded. Motion carried; 4-2 with Mr. Joray and Mr. Juergens opposed.

Mr. Hooker: "Who do you want to make the recommendation at the board meeting on the 31st? If you're not going to take the Superintendent's, you've voided me out. You don't have to vote on that one, that's my response to this."

Mr. Joray: "Who can make the recommendation?"

Mr. Hooker: "You can waive policy from here on out on not to take my recommendation or you can make it for the rest of my time, however long that is, that's up to you. When a board crosses this line, you're in some serious stuff here. If you don't accept my recommendation, I understand votes, you are not a rubber stamp. What you're doing tonight, I've only seen this twice, in maybe, 30 years and it never ends well."

Mr. Joray: "So we're going to come back to the next meeting and have to pick up a new insurance company? And basically, I think the vote was to go with Company B."

Mrs. Franke: "No, it was to not vote on Company A."

Mr. Joray: "Correct. So, is this opening the door to bring in somebody else to bid on something?"

Mr. Hooker: "That's up to you. I would suggest that you let us talk to our school board attorney in Indianapolis to make sure we don't make a misstep here on coverage and on this process. Because like you said, this has been a multi-month process and now it's slowed down immensely."

Mrs. Franke: "How much is this going to continue to cost our corporation with people muddling this and stepping into one quagmire and another?"

Mr. Hooker: "We have other items tonight, let's move on from this one."

Mr. Joray: "God forbid we create competition."

Mr. Hooker made a recommendation to approve the Seymour High School Tennis Court change order of \$10,115.00 due to additional cracks in the courts from the estimate given last summer. It will still cost \$17 a linear foot. Mr. Silver moved and Mr. Browning seconded. Motion carried; 6-0.

Mr. Fosbrink made a recommendation to approve the 2018-2019 Bus Driver Handbook. There are no changes from last year. Mrs. Franke moved and Mr. Joray seconded. Motion carried; 6-0.

Mr. Nauman made a recommendation to accept the matching \$50,000 Secured School Safety Grant and the matching \$20,000 Safe Haven Grant. These funds are used for security equipment and SROs. Mr. Browning moved and Mrs. Franke seconded. Motion carried; 6-0.

Mr. Nauman made a recommendation to approve the high school textbook rental prices. Mr. Joray moved and Mrs. Franke seconded. Motion carried; 6-0.

Mr. Manns made a recommendation to purchase new high school basketball scoreboards in the main gym from NEVCO. Mr. Joray moved and Mr. Silver seconded. Motion carried; 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS - FIRST READ ITEMS

Mrs. DuBois and Ms. Browning shared information they’ve collected over the last year as they participate in the Redesigning School Counseling program. They will return in August for approval of the program’s Vision, Mission and Goals.

2019 Budget

Mr. Nauman announced a special board meeting on Tuesday, July 31 at 7:00 p.m. for the 2019 School Budget Review.

IMPORTANT EVENTS

- Executive Session – Tuesday, July 31, 2018 @ 5:45 p.m.
- Special School Board Meeting – Tuesday, July 31, 2018 @ 7:00 p.m.
- First School Day for Teachers – Tuesday, August 07, 2018
- Second School Day for Teachers – Wednesday, August 08, 2018
- First School Day for Students – Thursday, August 09, 2018
- Executive Session – Tuesday, August 14, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.
- Regular School Board Meeting – Tuesday, August 14, 2018 @ 7:00 p.m.
- Executive Session – Tuesday, August 21, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.
- Labor Day - No School - Monday, September 03, 2018
- Regular School Board Meeting - Tuesday, September 11, 2018
- 2019 School Budget Public Hearing – Tuesday, September *tbd*, 2018
- Octoberfest – No School on Friday, October 5, 2018
- School Board Meeting on Tuesday, October 8, 2018
- 2019 School Budget Adoption – Tuesday, October *tbd*, 2018
- Fall Break – No School on Thursday & Friday, October 18-19, 2018
- General Election – Tuesday, November 6, 2018
- School Board Meeting on Tuesday, November 13, 2018
- Thanksgiving Break – Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday, November 21-22-23, 2018
- School Board Meeting on Tuesday, December 11, 2018
- Christmas Break – December 24, 2018 - January 04, 2019
- Teacher Day – Monday, January 07, 2019
- Students Return – Tuesday, January 08, 2019
- School Board Meeting on Tuesday, January 08, 2019

Mr. Silver moved and Mrs. Franke seconded a motion to adjourn. As there was no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

_____President

_____Vice President

_____Secretary
