

Northwestern Consolidated School District of Shelby County

Board of School Trustees

Triton Central Elementary School Media Center
Wednesday, October 9, 2013
7:00pm - 8:00pm

Present: Mr. John Merlau, J.D., Board President; Mr. Terry Morgan, Board Vice President; Mr. Ken Polston, Board Secretary; Mr. Tim Kelly, Board Member; Mr. Jeremy Miller, Board Member; Mrs. Mary Pardue, Board Member; Mr. Chris Hoke, Director of Operations and Finances; Mrs. Kathy Cord, Administrative Assistant; Dr. Shane Robbins, Superintendent; Mrs. Laura Mullen, Corporation Treasurer; Mr. Todd Welty, Board Member; Mr. Bob Thopy, J.D., Board Attorney

1 Regular Session

Mr. John Merlau, J.D., Board President

1.1 Call to Order

Minutes

Mr. Merlau called the regular scheduled school board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All Board members were present.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes

Mr. Merlau invited all present to join him in honoring our country by standing and reciting the pledge of allegiance.

1.3 Revision of Agenda

Dr. Shane Robbins, Superintendent

Minutes

Dr. Robbins added a Resolution Electing to Enlarge Participation in the Public Employees' Retirement Fund to the agenda as Item 5.7.

1.4 Northwestern Stars

The following students scored a PERFECT 750 on the Math portion of the ISTEP+ Exam

*Samantha Ackley
Kiefer Earl
Reagan McNeely
Madelyn Russell
Maggie Schweitzer*

Minutes

Bobby Thompson introduced Amiya Tucker who is the Middle School Public Relations Liaison for Student Council and she introduced the five 5th grade students who scored a perfect 750 on the math portion of their 4th grade ISTEP. The students are Samantha Ackley, Kiefer Earl, Reagan McNeely, Madelyn Russell and Maggie Schweitzer. These students were part of a group of 116 in State of Indiana with a perfect score.

1.5 Comments from Patrons

Minutes

Matt LeMasters questioned if the Gambrel property can be farmed in the spring or will the school reclaim the property for construction. Dr. Robbins stated there are no immediate plans for construction so the property can be farmed.

Parent Pat Haney expressed concern about a situation he felt was not handled properly with a coach from last year. He also feels the process to gain information regarding safety concerns at school is difficult. Dr. Robbins stated he never received any information regarding an incident, and he has contacted the former Athletic Director who also did not have any information.

Parent Troy Floyd related there was an incident where his daughter was intimidated and verbally abused by a coach. Parent Craig Holtz voiced similar concerns.

Mr. Merlau stated that coaches are monitored and are disciplined if necessary.

Parent Tim Fox expressed he had a conversation with Mr. Graham regarding the coach in question and he didn't have any concerns at this time.

2 Consent Agenda (B.A.R.)

Dr. Shane Robbins, Superintendent

 [Sept 11 2013 Minutes.pdf](#)

 [Sept 24 2013 Minutes.pdf](#)

 [October Claims.pdf](#)

Minutes

A motion was made by Mrs. Pardue and seconded by Mr. Kelly to approve minutes of September 11, 2013, minutes of September 24, 2013 and October claims. Motion passed 7-0.

3 TCES Special Presentation (I.O.)

TCES Teachers

Triton Central Elementary School Teachers;

Brian Smith and Terry Whitaker- "Using Everyday Math"
Mrs. Cramer and Mrs. Jackson- "Using Study Island at the elementary level"

Minutes

Dr. Robbins introduced elementary teachers Brian Smith, Terry Whitaker, Emily Cramer and Erica Jackson who gave presentations on technology they are using in their classrooms. Mr. Smith and Mr. Whitaker gave a demonstration on Using Everyday Math highlighting the lattice method to teach multiplication. Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Cramer demonstrated how they are using Study Island to teach concepts of language arts.

4 Proposed 8th Grade Class Trip to Washington D.C. (I.O.)

Mr. Bobby Thompson

 [MS Washington DC Trip.pdf](#)

Minutes

Mr. Thompson introduced Mr. Nathan Vogas with Bob Rogers Travel who reviewed his proposal for an 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C. that will include a stopover in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The trip is tentatively planned for May 27, 2014, through June 1, 2014. Cost of the proposed trip will be \$698 per person based on 50-55 paying travelers. Mr. Thompson stated that he has discussed with Dr. Robbins the idea that fund raising for students could begin in 5th grade so they would have money banked by the time they are in 8th grade if they plan to go on this class trip.

Mr. Polston questioned how many chaperones will be going. Eighth grade teacher Lori Diehl stated that three 8th grade teachers have committed and she has spoken with two to three 8th grade parents. Mrs. Diehl stated that if we get more than 55 travelers, we will add coaches and redistribute travel costs. A presentation will be brought to the Board for approval after plans have been finalized. By consent, the Board agreed that Mrs. Diehl should continue with plans.

5 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Shane Robbins, Superintendent


- 5.1 2014 Budget Proposal- Recommend adoption of the 2013 payable 2014 General Fund, Capital Projects Fund, Transportation Operating Fund, Bus Replacement Fund, Debt Service Fund, 3-Year Capital Projects Fund Plan, and the 12-Year School Bus Replacement Plan.**

 [Budget Adoption.2 2013.pptx](#)

Minutes

Dr. Robbins requested that the Board adopt the proposed 2014 Budget which includes the 2013 Payable 2014 General Fund, Capital Projects Fund, Transportation Operating Fund, Bus Replacement Fund, Debt Service Fund, 3-Year Capital Projects Fund Plan and the 12-Year School Bus Replacement Plan and also recommended adoption of the Tax Neutrality Resolution 2014-4 per HEA 1192. A motion was made by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Welty to approve the proposed budget and the Tax Neutrality Resolution. Motion passed 7-0.

5.2 Recommend adoption of Resolution (2014-4) Tax Neutrality Resolution per HEA 1192 (B.A.R.)

 [Resolution 2014-4 Tax Neutrality.docx](#)

Minutes

Included in Board action for agenda item 5.1.

5.3 Personnel Report (B.A.R.)

 [October Personnel Recommendations.pdf](#)

 [2013-14 ECA Sponsors and Coach Recommendations.xls](#)

Minutes

Dr. Robbins presented recommendations and resignations for Board approval. Mr. Polston and Mrs. Pardue expressed concerns with the 6th grade coach recommendation and would like to hold off on voting on this coach. Dr. Robbins suggested tabling that vote. Mr. Merlau stated John Burgess' name will be removed and the vote will include all other names in the personnel report. A motion was made by Mr. Polston and seconded by Mr. Welty to approve the following personnel on agenda item 5.3 with exception of the 6th grade girls basketball coach:

- Julie Oslund, Middle School Teacher - Resignation
- Jim Perry, Middle School Teacher - Hire
- Matt Davis, Middle School Instructional Assistant - Resignation
- Amy Israel, Child Care - Resignation
- Melissa Price, Middle School Instructional Assistant - Hire
- Jennifer Buening, Child Care - Hire
- Adam Hammond, 7th Grade Girls Basketball Coach - Hire
- Jim Perry, Middle School Wrestling Coach - Hire
- Jamie Tindall, 7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach - Hire

Mr. Welty questioned what the investigation process will be. Dr. Robbins instructed Mr. Graham to use a previously approved coach to run the 6th grade tryouts and stated he will conduct an investigation and bring the results back to Board and also stated that Mr. Burgess will not coach. Motion passed 7-0.

5.4 Recommend the Approval of Transfer Student (B.A.R.)

 [Transfer Student.pdf](#)

Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Kelly to accept Brayden Diehl as an out-of-district student enrolled in the pre-school program, to accept donations to TCHS Singers from a parent and from Bob Thomas Capital City Ford and to the school district from Greg Seago for the Mendenhall Field entrance in the form of labor to lay brick, to approve an overnight field trip for FFA, and to adopt a Resolution Electing to Enlarge Participation in the Public Employees' Retirement fund. Motion passed 7-0.

5.5 Recommend Acceptance of Donations (B.A.R.)

 [October Donations.docx](#)

Minutes

Approved with agenda item 5.5.

5.6 Recommend Approval of an overnight fieldtrip (FFA)

 [FFA Overnight Trip Request.pdf](#)

Minutes

High school Ag teacher Miss Emilie Kuhn explained the details of the Foundation in Reaching Excellence (FIRE) leadership conference to be held November 22-24, 2013. This item was approved with agenda item 5.5.

6 Director of Operations Report

Mr. Chris Hoke, Director of Operations and Finances

6.1 Fund Report (I.O.)

 [September 2013 Fund Report.pdf](#)

Minutes

Mr. Hoke explained that the General Fund cash balance grew by approximately \$50,000 in September due to non-salary expenses. Utilities were paid from the Capital Projects Fund which is allowed for a short term and will return to the General Fund for November and December. Our Average Daily Membership report was filed on September 13 and our enrollment was reported at 1349.5, which is higher than our reported estimate in June. Other funds are on track or below appropriations. Mary asked if the count for free and reduced students is available yet. Mr. Hoke stated our numbers are similar to last year and the report is due in November.

6.2 Fieldhouse Project Update (I.O.)

Minutes

Mr. Hoke reported that permits have been obtained and work has resumed. Footers are currently being dug and are on track. Bids for under-surface drainage are being sought and a decision will be made at the next weekly meeting with the contractor. Excavation and the elementary playground work will be done during fall break. The tentative timeline for steel being onsite is the last week of November. The bi-weekly construction meetings with the contractor will resume.

6.3 Recommend adoption of Resolution (2014-5) PPACA Lawsuit (B.A.R.)

Dr. Shane Robbins, Superintendent

 [Resolution 2014-5 PPACA.docx](#)

Minutes

Dr. Robbins recommended that the Board approve a resolution to include Northwestern Schools as part of a suit against the federal government by the State of Indiana to challenge the interpretation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA).

Mr. Hoke explained that the State of Indiana along with 14 other Indiana school districts will file suit against the PPACA based on two points: 1) it violates 10th amendment of the U.S. Constitution which states that government entities cannot tax other governmental entities, and 2) Section 1321 of the act does not say that in states where the federal government has created an exchange, the federal government has authority to offer subsidies, nor that employers can be fined for not following act. The cost of representation is being covered 100% by the state of Indiana. We will be represented by Mr. Jim Hamilton with Bose, McKinney & Evans and the suit will be filed in the Southern District Court of Indiana. Mr. Miller asked what we would be suing for. Mr. Hoke stated exemption from the law is the desired outcome which would allow us to return our employees to their former hours. A motion was made by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Kelly to adopt the resolution to allow Northwestern Consolidated School District to be

included in the lawsuit and to retain Bose, McKinney & Evans as legal counsel. Motion passed 7-0.

7 Input from School Board Members and Administration

Mr. John Merlau, J.D., Board President

Minutes

Dr. Robbins reported he met with faculties of each school building to report unofficial data that indicates that the elementary school grade is a B, the middle school grade has improved from a C to an A, and the high school grade has improved from an F as of three years ago to an A. The school district has a grade of exemplary A status.

Mrs. Pardue thanked the elementary school teachers for their presentation and all their hard work.

Mr. Miller also thanked the elementary school teachers.

Mr. Polston complimented the teachers on their presentation.

Mr. Welty thanked the teachers.

Mr. Merlau also thanked the teachers for the presentation.


8 Adjournment


Mr. John Merlau, J.D., Board President


Minutes


There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Mrs. Pardue and seconded by Mr. Miller to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Motion passed 7-0.

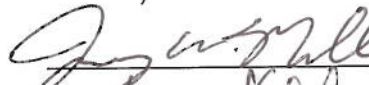
Approved:


 John Merlau, President

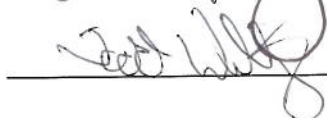
 Terry Morgan, Vice President

 Ken Polston, Secretary

 Mary Pardue, Member

 Jeremy Miller, Member

 Tim Kelly, Member

 Todd Welty, Member