

NOTE: These are “proposed” minutes and will not be approved until the April 10, 2018 School Board Meeting

4:00 p.m.
Administration Center

Tuesday
March 20, 2018

PUBLIC HEARING

CALL TO ORDER - President David Black called the March 20, 2018, Public Hearing of the Board of School Trustees to order at 4:00 p.m. All Board Members were present. Others in attendance included Jane Allen, Superintendent, Robby Goodman, Assistant Superintendent, Mark Snyder, Director of Business Services, Michelle Willey, Director of Transportation and Jeff Palmer, Director of Buildings and Grounds.

CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING PROPOSED SUPERINTENDENT 2018-21 CONTRACT – Mr. Black asked if there was any public comment regarding the proposed Superintendent 2018-2021 Contract.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

ADJOURNMENT - Mrs. King moved and Mr. Souder seconded a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing as presented. The motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

BOARD MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER – President David Black called the March 20, 2018, meeting of the Board of School Trustees to order at 4:03 p.m. All Board Members were present. Others in attendance included Jane Allen, Superintendent, Robby Goodman, Assistant Superintendent, Mark Snyder, Director of Business Services, Michelle Willey, Director of Transportation and Jeff Palmer, Director of Buildings and Grounds.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – None.

EXPRESSIONS FROM PATRONS – Ms. Stacey Lopez, 977 Highfield Court, Middlebury, IN, addressed the school board.

“I wanted to address the walk-out that happened and the notification that came the day before from the Middle School. I was told by the Superintendent the decision was made two weeks prior, yet we did not get notified as parents until the night before – less than 24 hours. So, we were not able to address the board ahead of time or to let our feelings known as parents and sufficiently be prepared and prepare our students for this. I was also told that the hands were pretty much tied because of Tinker vs Des Moines although if you look at that the Supreme Court ruling it specifically stated that they have the right to proceed as long their conduct is not materially disrupted classwork or involves substantial disorder or invasion of the rights others. This substantially disrupted the rights of my child to participate in his classwork without being disruptive. I actually had to keep him from school. He would have seen everything going on and I didn’t want him involved in a political statement. I’m also concerned that it was said it wasn’t political although this school is aligned with, on their website, The Woman’s March, who put this all in place-who has under their youth empowerment a raised fist. This is a very radical movement from The Woman’s March there aligned with numerous radical people including Louis Farrakhan and I think that the Teacher’s Association (the union) is prominently displayed as a partner of theirs which is also somewhat concerning. I have a lot of information about this, I would love to discuss this further but I know time is limited with this. I am also wondering if there are going to be further marches; they have another one planned on April 20th. I would also like to know if there is going to be the same rise accountable for people that might want to protest the 60 million babies that have been aborted since Roe vs Wade passed, because there is a huge March with that as well. I personally think there’s a better way, as adults, we should teach them not to disrespect authority and walk out of class. But, if you want to memorialize someone do it on a different date. This one is aligned with some very radical anti-Semitic people and is definitely not ran by the students. They began organizing this two days after that shooting and their list of demands for the youth empowerment for the school walk (it’s on their website, there is even a teacher’s resource tool on their website for the teachers to get their kids involved), Their list of demands is all about pulling 2nd amendment rights from everyone else. So, I’m very disheartened that instead of, it seems like kind of our students were used, and instead of saying, hey, yes, you have the right to be heard with something. Let’s do it in a respectful manner, teachers should not allow students to just walk out of class, and put them in jeopardy actually instead of them being safe within the building, standing out where they could have been shot and said in another way you guys we can do it this way and kind of walk through that process of political protest and what it is all about and make sure they are knowledge in it. I think a disservice was done to the parents and the students and to the teachers that do not agree with this. For all the students who felt pushed to participate or say, “well, I don’t really agree with this but everyone is going along with it”. That peer pressure that is definitely unacceptable and I expect more from our adults here in Middlebury Community Schools.” Mr. Black said according to our statement when patrons come in and talk to the school board. We actually had it recorded so we can go back over it. Mrs. Allen will be responding to you in an appropriate fashion as to what the reason the situation was and or what was prompted the reason for allowing this to happen.

That will be sent to you in a written form from Mrs. Allen. If she, at any point of time, want to come back to the board, feel free to come back to the board. Again, this is something that Mrs. Allen would send you a written response. The board thanked Ms. Lopez and Ms. Lopez thanked them.

CONSENT AGENDA –

- Claims Lists
- Minutes from the March 6, 2018 School Board Meeting and Executive Minutes
- Financial Statement
- Personnel List

EMPLOYMENT:

Northridge High School

Classified: Mark Gruwell, Assistant Track Coach, Moving from $\frac{3}{4}$ to fulltime, Start Date: March 13, 2018

Northridge Middle School

Certified: Melanie Crowel, Cheerleading Coach, 22198-1, Replacing: Kristine Wise
Start Date: March 20, 2018

Heritage Intermediate School

Certified: Melissa Eichorst, Temporary 5th Grade Teacher, Covering Tina Yeater's Leave
Start Date: April 9, 2017

RESIGNATION:

Northridge High School

Certified: Jeff Payne, Assistant Track Coach, Effective Date: March 12, 2018

Classified: Dena Deal, Guidance Secretary, Effective Date: April 28, 2018

Meelah Hines, 6.5 Hour Autism Para, Effective Date: March 26, 2018

Heritage Intermediate School

Classified: Melissa Eichorst, 5.5 Hour Special Education Assistant, Effective Date: March 20, 2018

EMERGENCY LEAVE:

Jefferson Elementary School

Certified: Betsy Rogusta, Reading Recovery Teacher, .5 Day: March 2, 2018

Jefferson Elementary School

Certified: Tricia Brickner, Instructional Coach, .5 Day: March 6, 2018

Mr. Souder moved and Mr. Miller seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ADVERTISING FOR NHS STUDENT TRIP TO SCOTLAND AND ENGLAND – Mr. Jon Bowen, Teacher at NHS was present to answer any questions board members may have regarding a student trip to Scotland and England in March of 2019 (during Spring Break). Mrs. Allen indicated Mr. Bowen had given quite a bit of information to the board regarding this trip. The board just needs to approve the advertising for the trip.

- Departure Date: March 29, 2019; Return Date: April 6, 2019.
- Students will visit Scotland and England – Glasgow, Edinburgh and London
- This trip will provide a learning environment outside of school, arouses interest, and relates school experiences to real life
- Open to students of NHS in good academic standing and acceptable discipline record.
- Goal is a minimum of 12 with a maximum not to exceed 42.
- Jon Bowen and Paul Johnson (World History Teachers) will be going on the trip.
- Ideally one chaperone for every five students.
- 0-2 school days may be missed
- Estimated cost of trip \$3,300 for transportation, most meals and accommodations

Mrs. Allen asked if the students were going to be able to drive a car while there. Mr. Bowen said no, most of the time they will be with a tour group. Mrs. King questioned about travel insurance if one of our students has issues during the trip. Yes, an insurance company covers the students. Mr. Gayler moved and Mr. Miller seconded a motion to approve the Advertising for NHS Student Trip to Scotland and England as presented. The motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MCS FACILITY RENTAL AND COMMUNITY RECREATION FEES - Mrs. Allen indicated the board members had received a packet of information regarding updating the Facility Rental and Community Recreation fees. The policy has not been changed, but is requesting approval of the new rental prices for facilities and usage. In most cases, the increase would be

approximately \$5.00. This is the first time we've done this in 10 years. A new addition is patrons can rent and pay for facility rental on-line. Mr. Miller questioned if we rent out the auditorium at the middle school. Mrs. Allen will check with Mrs. Troyer, as it wasn't on the list. Mrs. King said, by looking at the list of rentals, only one gym at the Intermediate School is available to rent out. Mr. Gayler asked if there was an annual report generated so they could see the revenue (which goes into General Fund) we've received. Mrs. Allen said she would ask Mrs. Troyer for that information. Mr. Gayler moved and Mr. Miller seconded a motion to approve the Middlebury Community Schools Rental and Community Recreation Fees as presented. The motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF DONATIONS TO NORTHRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL - Request approvals for Donations to NHS:

- Indiana Glavanizing, LLC – Car \$ 500
- Jeffery & Melissa Rodino \$2,000 for Science Olympiad State Competition to go towards the cost of a Cardinal Bus.
- Community Foundation of Elkhart County \$5,000 for Athletics, Baseball Field, repair and equipment
- Adam and Meredith Clark \$ 695 Donation for Wrestling Coach's State Rings

Mrs. King moved and Mr. Souder seconded a motion to approve the donations to Northridge High School as presented. The motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF DONATION TO YORK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - Mrs. Buller, Principal at York Elementary, is requesting approval from the York PTO:

- Purchase and installation of a large wooden ship on the playground – this is 22 feet long and the cost of this project is \$4,629 (shipping and set-up included)
- Provide an outside learning area – the 1st stage would be purchasing six picnic tables in the amount of \$7,629.

Mr. Souder moved and Mr. Gayler seconded a seconded a motion to approve the donations to York Elementary School as presented. The motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF DONATION TO NORTHRIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL –

- Donation from Northridge Middle School PTO in the amount of \$3,000 for All Grade Levels/Functional Skills/Mixed Ability

Mrs. King moved and Mr. Miller seconded a motion to approve the donation to Northridge Middle School as presented. The motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

FIELD TRIPS – Dr. Goodman reviewed and answered questions regarding the list of field trips.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE -

- Congratulations to the NHS Starlight's who received a 2nd in the State!
- Congratulations to the NHS Northern Lights received a 3rd in the State!
- Congratulations to the NHS Northern Lights Orchestra who received a 1st in the State!

They did a beautiful job – great show!

REQUESTS FOR TRAVEL – Dr. Goodman reviewed the list of Requests for Travel.

EXPRESSIONS FROM BOARD MEMBERS -

- Mr. Miller thanked Mrs. Lopez for coming and sharing. He knows a lot of them have had conversations much like what she said. A lot of frustrations that he's hearing was it a political thing, was it not a political thing. He thinks everyone in this room hears what she is saying. The challenge is just a tightrope that they have to stay balanced on. Freedom and keeping order. So, he appreciates her coming in and sharing where she is at. Thank you.

OTHER BUSINESS – Mrs. Allen wanted to comment that Mrs. Lopez has been very respectful during conversations with Mrs. Vallance and herself. She has gone the right, proper channels and she appreciates that. She knows she doesn't always appreciate what they say, that's something we always have conflict. However, she is always very respectful and we can't tell you how we appreciate moms like her who take care of the kids. Because that is what we need is good parents. Mrs. Allen really appreciates that. Mrs. Lopez said not that she doesn't appreciate what Mrs. Allen says, it's that they disagree, it's not about not appreciating. Mrs. Allen said she understands.

ADJOURNMENT – Mrs. King moved and Mr. Gayler seconded a motion to adjourn the March 20, 2018 meeting of the School Board of Trustees at 4:45 p.m. . The motion was unanimously approved with a vote of 5-0. The next scheduled school board meeting will be on April 10, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. at the Administration Center.

Robert Souder, Secretary

Scott Miller, Member

Paul Gayler, Member