

**MINUTES OF A  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF  
PERRY TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS  
MARION COUNTY, INDIANA**

May 8, 2017

The Board of Education of Perry Township Schools, Marion County, Indiana, held a Regular Board meeting on Monday, May 8, 2017 at the Perry Township Education Center, 6548 Orinoco Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Board of Education members present:

**Kenneth J. Mertz**, Board President  
**Edward T. Denning**, Board Vice President  
**Jon P. Morris**, Secretary  
**Emily Hartman**, Board Member  
**Steve Johnson**, Board Member  
**Stephen M. Maple**, Board Member  
**Charles R. Mercer, Jr.**, Board Member

Administrative Staff present:

**Mr. Pat Mapes**, Acting Superintendent and Associate Superintendent of Operations  
**Mrs. Vickie Carpenter**, Assistant Superintendent of Foundational Learning, Pre K-5  
**Mr. Bob Bohannon**, Assistant Superintendent of Career Preparation, 6-12  
**Mr. Mike Bagley**, Chief Financial Officer  
**Mr. Matthew Willey**, Chief Technology Officer  
**Mrs. Rhonda Jones-Jointer**, Director of Human Resources  
**Mr. Louis Norris**, Associate Director of Human Relations/Student Services

**CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Mertz called to order the Regular Board meeting at 6:30 p.m. The presentation of colors and Pledge of Allegiance were presented by Boy Scout Troop #139 from St. John's Unite Church of Christ led by Mr. David Ashbrook.

**RECOGNITIONS**

Patrick Carper, Salutatorian of Perry Meridian High School was recognized and will graduate with a 4.5987 GPA.  
Tiger Chang, Salutatorian of Southport High School was recognized and will graduate with a 4.63 GPA.  
Erin Sullivan, Valedictorian of Perry Meridian High School was recognized and will graduate with a 4.6384 GPA.  
Erika Shellenberger, Valedictorian of Southport High School was recognized and will graduate with a 4.656 GPA.

Caroline Kavanaugh was recognized as the recipient of the Dr. Thomas A. Brady Comeback Scholarship Award. The scholarship honors student athletes from Indiana who have distinguished themselves by overcoming adversity or injury and returned and excelled beyond expectations in their respective sport.

Erin Sullivan was recognized as the recipient of the Eugene Cato Memorial Scholarship Award. The scholarship honors well-rounded, positive role models have demonstrated excellence in academics, school and community involvement, character, sportsmanship and citizenship.

Mr. Alan Slightom and Mr. Andrew Wilson, Perry Meridian Middle School band directors were awarded the 2016-2017 Indiana State School Music Association All-Music Award. To receive this award, individual students and large ensembles were required to participate in every sanctioned ISSMA event and earn a gold rating.

### CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda by Mr. Mercer. It was seconded by Mr. Morris. The motion passed to approve the Consent agenda 7/0.

Included are copies of the following items:

- Minutes of the:

- April 6, 2017 Executive Session
- April 10, 2017 Regular Board Meeting
- April 13, 2017 Executive Session
- April 24, 2017 Public Work Session
- April 27, 2017 Executive Session
- May 2, 2017 Executive Session

- Financial Report for March 2017

- Allowance of Vouchers

- Personnel Report

- Approval of Professional Travel Requests

- Report to Board on Travel Beyond 75 miles by Certified Staff

- Approval of Fundraiser Requests

- Recommend Approval of the Acceptance of Donations

1. \$1,000 donation from the GPD Employee Foundation to assist the Early Childhood Academy in purchasing See Saw assessment software program. The program will allow preschool teachers to create electronic folders for each student and gives teachers the ability to monitor progress and share real-time information with parents.
2. \$800 donation and student journals, bags for storing leveled libraries, storage tubs and letter tiles from Mount Olive Lutheran Church to Henry Burkhart Elementary to support the "All That Jazz" choir.
3. Donations from the following companies for the 2016-2017 district retirement dinner:
  - a. \$1,000 donation from Valic
  - b. \$750 donation from JA Benefits
  - c. \$500 donation from MJ Insurance
  - d. \$500 donation from Community Health Network
  - e. \$150 donation from Sun Life
  - f. \$100 donation from Fifth Third Bank
  - g. \$100 donation and designer sunglasses to raffle from VSP

- Approval of Renewal of Waterford Contract

- Approval of Renewal of Microsoft Agreement

- Approve Replacement of Copier Leases

- Approve Carpet Cleaning Contract with Stanley Steemer International, Inc.

- Approve Carpet Cleaning Contract with Kleenit Group, Inc.

- Approve PMHS Girls Basketball Summer Camps
- Approve SHS Strength and Conditioning Summer Camp

### **INTRODUCTIONS**

Mr. Bohannon introduced Mr. Karl Vierling, new band director at Perry Meridian High School.  
 Mrs. Hardesty introduced Mrs. Jeanetta Penniston, new assistant principal at Henry Burkhart Elementary.  
 Mr. Knight introduced Mr. Adam Morelock, new Southport High School girls' basketball coach.  
 Mr. Knight introduced Mr. Andrew Ashcraft, new assistant principal at Southport High School.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

### **ITEMS OF INFORMATION REQUIRING ACTION**

Mr. Willey recommended approval of a contract with Network Solutions, Inc./Cisco for the replacement of the district telephones. The contract includes licensing for the entire district for 5 years and additionally includes complete replacement of the telephone systems at PTEC, Homecroft, Jeremiah Gray, Rosa Parks, Douglas MacArthur and Henry Burkhart. Mr. Willey explained the telephone system is over twelve years old and this contract will include telephone systems to five major construction sites (kindergarten academies and Henry Burkhart Elementary.) Pricing contained within this proposal is reflective of the Indiana Qualified Purchasing Agreement. Mr. Morris moved to approve, Mr. Johnson seconded. The motion carried 7/0.

Mr. Willey recommended approval of the disposal of surplus equipment to an approved asset disposal vendor which is required by state and local laws. Mrs. Hartman asked if hard drives will be wiped clean of data. Mr. Willey stated the company is a certified recycling company that provide a certification of destruction. Mr. Morris moved to approve, Mrs. Hartman seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mrs. Carpenter recommended approval of a contract with IEP Therapy to provide speech therapy for students that due to a lack of qualified candidates to fill the required legal hours of speech services. Mr. Denning moved to approve, Mr. Mercer seconded. Mrs. Hartman asked are we currently using these services this year. No, but we have in the past. Mrs. Carpenter stated it is difficult to find certified speech language pathologists and we must provide coverage for maternity leaves, etc. next school year and need support from IEP Therapy. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Bohannon recommended approval of the following out-of-state travel requests:

1. SHS wrestling team to travel to the NHSCA (National High School Coaches Association) Duals in Virginia Beach, VA from May 25 to May 30, 2017.
2. PMHS Cyber Blue Team 234 Robotics team to attend an off-season competition across state lines and travel to the Central Ohio Robotics Initiative in Dublin, Ohio from on June 23 and 24, 2017.

Mrs. Hartman moved to approve, Mr. Maple seconded. The motion carried 7/0.

Mr. Bohannon recommended approval of adoption for Health textbooks/consumables at Perry Meridian Middle School and Consumer Science textbooks/consumables at Perry Meridian High School. Mr. Denning moved to approve, Mr. Mercer seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Bohannon recommended approval of the 2017-2018 textbook rental for secondary schools, grades 6-12. Textbook rental is individualized and based on courses selected by the student. Mrs. Hartman asked what the current secondary fees are. Mr. Bohannon stated 9<sup>th</sup> grade is \$188; 10<sup>th</sup> grade is \$208; 11<sup>th</sup> grade is \$205; and 12<sup>th</sup> grade is \$181. Certain books and classes have increased 5 to 10%. Mrs. Hartman asked if we are still in the range. Yes, we are. Mr. Maple stated it is ridiculous that Indiana is one of the couple of states that charges individuals for textbook rental. Mr. Denning moved to approve, Mr. Maple seconded. The motion carried 7/0.

Mr. Bohannon explained that by statute schools that allow transfer students from other districts must establish a capacity number for each grade level. In the past, we have allowed all secondary transfer students without limit. Our enrollment has increased that it is now necessary to establish a capacity number for transfers. Mr. Bohannon recommended approval for the capacity number for grades 6-8 to be 575 per grade level per school. Application for transfers must be submitted by September 1 of each school year. Mr. Johnson moved to approve, Mrs. Hartman

seconded. Mr. Mertz asked what is enrollment typically in those grades. Mr. Bohannon replied that typically, the enrollment is between 570 to 600 students in each of grades 6, 7 and 8. Mr. Morris asked do we charge students who transfer. No, we receive ADM monies. Mr. Morris asked if we provide transportation for transfer students. No, we do not. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Mapes recommended approval of ERS-OCI Wireless Communications Bid Acceptance for Radios to update the radio communications system. The bid will replace radios on all school buses and all hand-held radios in buildings in the district. The work will be completed this summer and ready for the start of the school year. Several bids were received and reviewed. Mr. Mercer moved to approve, Mr. Denning seconded. The motion carried 7/0.

Mr. Mapes recommended approval of Skillman Corporation Amendment #8 which includes the following facilities: Perry Meridian High School Instructional and Athletic Facility Improvement, Douglas MacArthur, Homecroft, Glenns Valley and Southport Elementary and Rosa Parks projects. Due to the unforeseen weather and the time required for the permit process we ask for Skillman to extend the project with a completion date of July 15. These funds are already in the project contingency plan and there is no additional cost. Mrs. Hartman moved to approve, Mr. Morris seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Mapes recommended approval of the 2017-2018 school lunch and breakfast fee increase. Each year, the United States Department of Agriculture determines the paid equity amount based on the new reimbursement amount and inflation rate. The 2017-2018 paid lunch equity amount is \$2.86. Since we currently charge less than \$2.86 and we do not meet the waiver criteria of more than 3 months operating expenses, we are required to increase our meal price by a weighted average of .10. We are required to serve a fruit or vegetable with each breakfast meal. Produce prices continue to increase, therefore, it is necessary to increase the breakfast fee. The last breakfast fee increase was in 2013. Mr. Denning moved to approve, Mr. Johnson seconded. Mr. Maple asked what percentage of students pay. Students who qualify for free and reduced are over 60%; less than 40% of students are supposed to pay. Mr. Maple asked how much do we actually receive? We receive 30% and attempt to collect 10% of the meal fees. Eventually the unpaid fees go to the collection agency and they attempt to collect the fees. The motion carried 7/0.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT**

Mr. Johnson made a motion the board exercise their right in paragraph five of the contract with Dr. Thomas J. Little, Jr. to not extend the contract an additional year. Mr. Maple seconded the motion. The motion carried 7/0.

Mr. Denning moved the board act pursuant to paragraph 6 of the contract with Dr. Thomas J. Little, Jr. to cancel the contract effective May 9, 2017. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Mr. Maple stated he understands the majority of the board wishes to do this and he will support the board, but it certainly wasn't the path he would have chosen. The motion carried 7/0.

#### **COMMENTS AND CONCERNS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT**

Mr. Mercer stated he is impressed with our students and their abilities. Congratulations to Mr. Slightom. We have attended band concerts for approximately 20 years under his direction and he does a great job. Congratulations to our new staff. Welcome.

Mr. Johnson has fulfilled his promise to visit all of the schools in the district. I have been very impressed by administration, teachers and staff. I am impressed with how Perry Township is moving forward and I foresee this continuing in the future. Thank you to the valedictorians, salutatorians, scholarship recipients, administrators, teachers and staff who work hard to help with the progression of Perry Township Schools.

Mr. Maple stated he wished the news media reported on the great things that happened here tonight: the valedictorians, salutatorians, the young lady with great courage and scholarship recipients. The media reports on bad news, crime, etc. which is important, but equally important is education. We talk about championing education, but it isn't reported in the media. It would be nice if the media reported on the good things in education.

Mrs. Hartman echoed it is an exciting time at the end of the year with graduations, valedictorians, salutatorians, scholarship recipients and new hires. There are a lot of great things happening. I am thankful the portable classrooms will no longer be necessary. Thank you to all staff for the great things that are happening in the district. I want to mention every time I drive by Southport High School, Brian Knight is there. Brian gives and gives of his time. Thank you to Brian, teachers, administrators and staff to give of themselves for the success of the students. Mrs. Hartman received an email from Mr. Mapes informing the board an employee passed away, Mr. Ratcliffe at Perry Meridian Academy. My son had Mr. Ratcliffe in class. When I told my son, he teared up. Mr. Ratcliffe made an impact in my son's life. Mr. Ratcliffe made a difference. Mrs. Hartman had the privilege of participating in two 6<sup>th</sup>

grade field trips. Her son asked if we could sit near Mr. Ratcliffe on the bus. It was very apparent that Mr. Ratcliffe had a heart for children. He was an extraordinary man. Mrs. Hartman thanked everyone for everything you do for kids.

Mr. Morris congratulated the students who were recognized for their academic success. He thanked teachers and parents for encouraging and mentoring students. Mr. Morris shared a story. After spring break the concert band at PMHS found themselves without a director. The kids didn't know what was going to happen with five weeks to prepare for the ISSMA competition. The band consists of 37 students. Mr. Henry Buckingham came on board to fill the void

temporarily. Mr. Buckingham said he could not let those students and seniors not have an opportunity to participate in the state competition. He stepped in and worked with the kids preparing them. The kids said he was tough, but nice. The concert band earned a gold and received the highest marks. Thank you to Mr. Henry Buckingham.

Mr. Denning congratulated new staff, teachers and administrators. He looks forward to graduation and thanked teachers, staff and administrators for all you do. To teachers and staff, enjoy your summer.


Mr. Mertz welcomed new staff to the district and those in new positions within the district. As we introduced the new PMHS band director earlier, he can look forward to working with Mr. Slightom. Mr. Slightom runs an unbelievable program and Mr. Vierling will receive students from Mr. Slightom's program. Mr. Slightom has high expectations and teaches kids how to deliver on those high expectations. He runs a great program.

Mr. Mertz stated he is in awe every year at the young men and women who are valedictorians and salutatorians. Their accomplishments are impressive. Thank you to our teachers and parents who support these students. Tonight we witnessed your influence on these students. Students will be back in a couple of months and we look forward to an exciting time of opening four kindergarten academies and implementing a new bus schedule. Enjoy your time off with your families.

Mr. Mapes recognized ERS OCI Wireless Communications in the audience who will work this summer to implement the new radio system. We look forward to working with them. Mr. Mapes thanked Mr. Bohannon and Mrs. Carpenter, administrators, Mr. Linville and teachers who all networked to fill the need of a band director. It was a group effort. If we are constantly keeping our eye on the prize which is the students, we will find great people to work with the students and everyone will step up and do their best for Perry Township Schools. We thank everyone for everything they do.

#### ADJOURN

Mr. Mercer moved to adjourn the meeting, Mrs. Hartman seconded. Mr. Mertz sounded the gavel to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

  
KENNETH J. MERTZ, PRESIDENT

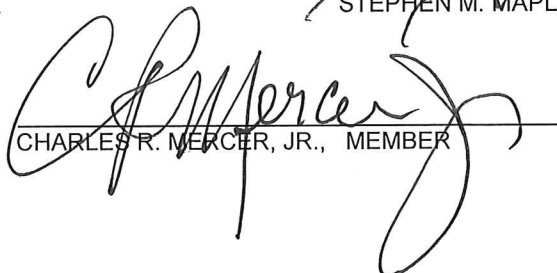
  
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