

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

September 11, 2017

The Board of Education of Perry Township Schools, Marion County, Indiana, held a regular board meeting on Monday, September 11, 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**, Board Secretary  
**Emily Hartman**, Board Member  
**Steve Johnson**, Board Member  
**Steve Maple**, Board Member  
**Charles R. Mercer, Jr.**, Board Member

Administrative staff present:

**Mr. Patrick W. Mapes**, Superintendent  
**Mr. Chris Sampson**, Associate Superintendent of Operations  
**Mr. Bob Bohannon**, Assistant Superintendent of Career Preparation, 6-12  
**Mrs. Vickie Carpenter**, Assistant Superintendent of Foundational Learning, Pre K-5  
**Mr. Mike Bagley**, Chief Financial Officer  
**Mr. Matthew Willey**, Chief Technology Officer  
**Mr. Louis Norris**, Associate Director of Human Relations/Student Services

**1. OPENING OF THE PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING**

President Ken Mertz called the hearing to order at 6:00 p.m.

**2. PUBLIC HEARING OF 2018 BUDGET**

Mr. Mike Bagley presented the proposed 2018 budget, Capital Projects Fund and Bus Replacement Plan.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

The hearing was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

**1. OPENING OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

President Mertz called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The presentation of colors and Pledge of Allegiance were presented by Troop #194, Daisies and Brownies from Mary Bryan, Jeremiah Gray, Southport Elementary and St. Mark led by Kendra Colbert and Heather Robinette.

Mr. Mertz stated he received a nice thank you note from Mrs. Joan Ellis and Mr. Ed Henry, retired principals of Perry Meridian High School for the courtesies shown them at the grand opening of Falcon Stadium.

## **2. RECOGNITIONS**

Mrs. Tiffany Opper was recognized for beginning an initiative to get more elementary students involved in reading through a partnership with the Indianapolis Marion County Public Library. Because of her initiative, hard work and leadership, Perry Township Schools experienced 704 additional students who received a library card that did not have one prior to this initiative. Also, due to her efforts, we saw an increase of 30% more of our students who participated in the MCPL Summer Reading Program.

## **3. CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda by Mr. Johnson. It was seconded by Mr. Morris.

The motion passed 7/0. Included with these minutes are copies of the following items:

- Minutes of the August 14, 2017 Regular Board Meeting
- Minutes of the August 28, 2017 Public Work Session
- July Financial Report
- Allowance of Vouchers
- Personnel Report
- Approval of Professional Travel Requests
- Report to Board on travel beyond 75 miles by certified staff
- Fundraiser Requests
- Approval of Acceptance of Donations:
  1. An award of \$1,000 was donated to the SHS special education department for participating in a research project with the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research for a goal to provide employment opportunities for transition age youth.
  2. A donation of \$1,000 was from McGuire Sponsel to the Homecroft PTA to be used for students and families in need.
  3. A donation of a 50-foot speaker cord from Mr. Gary Dunn to Homecroft Elementary to allow the school to use two speakers with their sound system for family events.
  4. A \$300 donation from Resurrection Lutheran Church was given to the Perry Meridian Sixth Grade Academy to assist students pay for field trips, school supplies, dress code clothing and other student related needs.
- Approval of Conflict of Interest Forms for 2017-2018
- Approval of Montessori Garden Academy Contract Renewal for Meal Services
- Approval of Southside Special Services Contract Renewal for Meal Services

## **4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Harvey Warrner stated he lives on Brunswick, down the hill from Henry Burkhart and is experiencing drainage problems. He asked if the district can help. Mr. Schott will meet with Mr. Warner and visit the property to assess the drainage.

## 5. ITEMS OF INFORMATION REQUIRING ACTION

5.01 - Mr. Bagley recommended approval of an agreement with the Atlas Collection Agency. Atlas will represent Perry Township Schools as the district attempt to collect past due book rental, food service, technology and lost book/material accounts. Mr. Morris moved to approve, Mr. Mercer seconded. The motion carried 7/0.

5.02 - Mr. Bagley recommended approval of a 2.75% increase in pay for support staff. Support staff that were employed during the 2016-2017 school year must have had an effective or highly effective evaluation in order to receive the increase. This increase is retroactive to the second pay of July 2017. Mrs. Hartman moved to approve, Mr. Maple seconded. Mr. Denning abstained and the motion carried 6/0.

5.03 - Mr. Bohannon recommended renewal of the Masonic Lodge Agreement to allow our cross country teams to run on their property. Mr. Mercer moved to approve, Mr. Johnson seconded. Mr. Morris asked if we used the property for practice? Mr. Bohannon stated we have not used the property this year, however, we do not want to let the agreement lapse. Mr. Denning stated PMHS has not had a home meet as of yet this year; the location was moved for two meets and one meet was rained out. He stated it is advantageous for students and parents to have a home course. The motion carried 7/0.

5.04 - Mrs. Carpenter recommended approval of the following school travel requests:

- a. Abraham Lincoln Elementary 5<sup>th</sup> grade class to travel to Flat Rock River Camp in St. Paul, Indiana April 11-13, 2018 for their annual outdoor education trip. The cost of the trip is \$80 per student which includes lodging, meals, educators, activities and materials.
- b. Homecroft Elementary 5<sup>th</sup> grade class will be traveling to Bradford Woods from October 4-6, 2017 for their annual outdoor education trip. The cost of the trip is \$105 of which \$85 is paid by students, Homecroft PTA pays \$10, and the remainder is covered through fundraising. The cost includes lodging, meals, educations, FLOTS from PMHS, activities and materials.

Mr. Bohannon recommended approval of the following school travel requests:

- a. Perry Meridian High School choirs to travel to New York City, May 27-31, 2018. The students will attend two Broadway productions and a workshop with a Broadway performer. No class time will be missed since the trip will occur in summer.
- b. Southport High School students and advisers of the 2017-2018 SHS publication staff to attend the National Scholastic Press Association Fall Convention in Dallas, Texas from November 16-19, 2017.

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

5.05 - Mrs. Carpenter recommended approval of the renewal of Catapult Learning, LLC. Catapult Learning, LLC will be providing Evaluate student achievement and accountability services for grades 2-10. Each school will have instantaneous data and assessments for reading and math that are aligned to the Indiana academic standards. Professional development will be provided at each building for two days per site this year. This contract will be paid using DOE Formative Assessment Grant Funds. Mr. Maple moved to approve, Mr. Denning seconded. The motion carried 7/0. Mr. Mertz stated he knows it was tough when we expanded, but I think Evaluate has done a great job giving our teachers the ability to adjust their instruction every month instead of quarterly. Mrs. Hartman added the first days of the month I have two little girls that were so excited to come home and tell me what their scores were. That is exciting that the kids are excited. Kudos to the teachers and administrators.

5.06 - Mr. Willey recommended approval to renew myOn for the myOn Reader and News Service. As of the end of August, we will have had 7,756 hours of combined reading by our K-6 students this school year. Mr. Morris moved to approve, Mr. Mercer seconded. The motion carried 7/0.

5.07 - Mr. Sampson recommended approval of a project scope by CSO for Perry Meridian 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Academy and Perry Meridian Middle School. The project scope includes additional classrooms, Project Lead the Way labs, expansion of the middle school cafeteria and reconfiguration of the parking lot at the middle school. There is no commitment of future work with this proposed scope. Mr. Mercer moved to approve, Mr. Maple seconded. Mr. Morris asked if board members can tour the buildings to see where the proposed work would be. Mr. Mertz agreed with Mr. Morris. He stated he agrees the expansion needs to happen as the classes coming into the middle school in a couple years exceed the space in the schools. Mr. Mertz wants to make sure we maximize the space and do it efficiently. Mrs. Hartman asked when the project would begin. Summer 2018. The motion passed 7/0.

5.08 - Mr. Sampson recommended approval of the project scope by CSO for Southport 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Academy and Southport Middle School. The project scope will include additional classrooms, Project Lead the Way labs, expansion of the middle school cafeteria and related site development to accommodate the new construction. Mr. Denning moved to approve, Mrs. Hartman seconded. Mr. Mertz stated what shocked him was everything our food service does in preparing satellite meals and the volume in which they do so, which is another reason in addition to increased enrollment to expand the food service/cafeteria. Mr. Morris stated we began in 1970. The motion carried 7/0.

5.09 - Mr. Sampson recommended the approval of the 2017-2018 Support Staff handbook. Mr. Maple moved to approve, Mr. Johnson seconded. The motion carried 7/0. Mr. Sampson thanked the HR staff for their hard work on updating the handbook.

5.10 - Mr. Mapes conducted the second reading of Policies 3121/4121: Pre-Employment Background Investigation and 3221: Teacher Appreciation Grant. Mr. Mapes recommended approval of these policies. Mr. Mercer moved to approve, Mrs. Hartman seconded. The motion carried 7/0.

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

Mr. Mercer stated he likes that we open the board meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance by our boy or girl scouts. Thank you to Jon Morris for initiating this for our meetings. Mr. Mercer thanked Mr. Steve Johnson for arranging the board members to ride in Corvettes at the PMHS Homecoming parade. Mr. Mercer expressed his sadness for the family of the little boy who drowned and asked if he was our student? The little boy was enrolled in our preschool program last year.

Mr. Johnson had no comment.

Mr. Maple had no comment.

Mrs. Hartman thanked Mr. Warrner for coming to the meeting to express his concerns. Your neighborhood is a great neighborhood and important to our students. We appreciate the support you give to Perry Township Schools. Mrs. Hartman thanked Mrs. Opper for her efforts of getting books in kids' hands. Your work is appreciated. Reading is important. Mrs. Hartman stated she cannot say enough about our police department. Thank you to our police for all the ways they keep our children safe. The work they do in our schools' saves lives and is invaluable. I am forever grateful.

Mr. Morris stated the new athletic facility at PMHS has been very well received. It's a real boost to the students at PMHS. We will learn to appreciate it more as time goes on. Also thank Mrs. Opper for the work you have done. It is important for kids to read. It's a wonderful thing to have a book in your hand and decipher what the words mean. Thank you. Mr. Morris said he was amazed at the number of students who read using myOn. He stated the new teacher reception this evening was worthwhile and I would like for us to continue. It's nice to see our new staff. Many years ago, new staff were placed on buses and taken to each of the schools in the district to familiarize new staff with the community and location of schools. This may be something we want to think about.

Mr. Denning echoed Mr. Morris' feelings about the new teacher reception. Thank you to everyone who worked on the Falcon Stadium grand opening and the work done previously to make it happen. On behalf of the Dad's Club, thank you. Every home game we transported supplies and more to the shared stadium, home away from home. It was great to have three of our former principals at the grand opening. Thank you to Mr. Boedicker for his successful start to the school year. Mr. Denning said as we talk about construction again, it's important to say there will not be referendum dollars involved.

Mr. Mertz congratulated Mrs. Opper and thanked her for her time and efforts in getting kids' reading. He thanked the board and administrative staff for an increase for the support staff. We know support staff are invaluable to what teachers and administrators do on a day-to-day basis. We greatly rely on our support staff. Mr. Mertz to the Transportation staff, a big thank you. A lot was going on the first few weeks of school and the staff and administrators hung in there. Thank you to our Transportation staff for rerouting the reroutes and resolving the problem. Thank you for the long, long hours, weeks and weekends. Mr. Mertz said as a PMHS alumni it was exciting to experience Homecoming at a home stadium. It was fun to see the students excited about their home field. Parents are excited and making plans to tailgate. I appreciate all the work involved planning and preparing for Homecoming.

Mr. Mapes thanked the board for the approval of classified raises. We appreciate the work and efforts of our support staff and it is a well-deserved raise for them. There are so many people to mention to thank for the start of the school year: teachers, support staff, administrators, etc. We saw the true meaning of all hands on deck to solve problems to serve the students and families in Perry Township. From a superintendent's point of view, it made me very proud. It's about people coming together to serve and that's what we see every day in our township. Thank you everyone for their work and dedication.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Mertz sounded the gavel to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

  
KENNETH J. MERTZ, PRESIDENT


  
EDWARD T. DENNING, VICE PRESIDENT

  
JON P. MORRIS, SECRETARY

  
EMILY HARTMAN, MEMBER

  
STEVE JOHNSON, MEMBER

  
STEPHEN M. MAPLE, MEMBER

  
CHARLES R. MERCER JR., MEMBER