

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

February 8, 2021

The Board of Education of Perry Township Schools, Marion County, Indiana, held a Regular Board meeting on Monday, February 8, 2021 at the Perry Township Education Center, 6548 Orinoco Avenue.

Board of Education members present:

James H. Hernandez, President
Lee Shively, Vice President
Hannah Dale, Board Secretary
Emily Hartman, Board Member
Scott Heller, Board Member
Steve Johnson, Board Member
Kenneth J. Mertz, 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. Kent Hatcher, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Matthew Willey, Chief Technology Officer

OPENING OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Mr. Hernandez called the regular board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda by Mr. Shively. It was seconded by Mrs. Hartman. The motion passed 7/0. Included with the minutes are copies of the following items:

- Minutes of the January 11, 2021 Organizational, Board of Finance & Regular Meetings
- Minutes of the January 25, 2021 Public Work Session
- Financial Report for December 2020
- Allowance of Vouchers
- Personnel Report
- Fundraiser Requests

- Approval of Acceptance of Donations:
 1. Henry Burkhart Elementary
 - a. Henry Burkhart received a donation of \$500.00 from Southport Lodge # 270. This money will be used to support reading at the school.
 2. Homecroft Elementary
 - a. Homecroft Elementary received a donation of \$400.00 from an anonymous donor. This money would be used to help fund the many service-learning projects that the G.I.R.L.S. club participates in.
 3. Rosa Parks Elementary
 - a. The Southern Dunes HOA donated \$2956.00 to Rosa Parks Elementary School. This money will be used to repair the basketball hoops on the playground.
 4. Rosa Parks Kindergarten
 - a. Rosa Parks Kindergarten received a donation of \$100.00 from the family of Ava Hughes. Ava is a current Kindergarten student at RPK. This money will be used to purchase classroom materials and indoor recess equipment.

- Approval of Conflict of Interest Forms of Board of Education members
- Approval of Renewal of Smart Learning Suite with Tierney Brothers
- Approval of Renewal Contract between Clinton Young Elementary and Salt Creek Retreat.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ITEMS OF INFORMATION REQUIRING ACTION

Mr. Sampson recommended the approval of the boiler and chiller replacement projects at Mary Bryan Elementary, Southport, Abraham Lincoln Elementary, Clinton Young Elementary, Douglas MacArthur Elementary, and Perry Meridian Middle School. Mrs. Dale moved to approve, Mr. Johnson seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Sampson recommended approval of the Holder Field Soccer Complex expansion. The project will include an upgrade of the lighting on the original soccer field to LED lighting, which is more cost efficient; construction of a new turf soccer/lacrosse field with lights, scoreboard, bleachers and press box; construction of a new grass soccer field that may be used for practice but will have a scoreboard and can be used for competition if needed; construction of a building to house the concession stand, restrooms, storage for Perry Meridian and Southport teams, and storage for maintenance equipment; and, installation of 6' perimeter fencing around the complex. Mrs. Hartman moved to approve, Mr. Shively seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Sampson will recommend the approval of the Perry Meridian Middle and Perry Meridian High Schools Kitchen Renovation Project. Mr. Mertz moved to approve, Mrs. Dale seconded. The end result of the projects will be to have two functional, correct-sized kitchens that serve their respective buildings, and eliminate the need to daily satellite food from one building to the other. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Sampson recommended approval of the amendment to the Guaranteed Energy Savings Agreement with Energy Systems Group to complete the boiler and chiller projects. Mrs. Dale moved to approve, Mrs. Hartman seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Sampson recommended the approval of the agreement with the Skillman Corporation to provide services to Perry Township as construction manager on approved projects. The Skillman Corporation has successfully and satisfactorily completed numerous projects at Perry Township Schools. Mrs. Dale moved to approve, Mr. Mertz seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Sampson recommended approval of the agreement with Schmidt & Associates to provide architectural and engineering services at the following projects: Holder Field, Perry Meridian Middle School, and Perry Meridian High School. Mr. Shively moved to approve, Mr. Johnson seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Hatcher recommended approval to void outstanding checks two or more years old. Attempts have been made to contact all parties involved. Mrs. Dale moved to approve, Mrs. Hartman seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Bohannon recommended approval of a textbook adoption for the Early College Quantitative Reasonings course for secondary schools. Mr. Shively moved to approve, Mrs. Hartman seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mrs. Carpenter recommended approval for Homecroft Elementary 5th graders to travel to Camp Framasa in Nashville, IN for their outdoor education learning program planned for May 19 to May 21, 2021. The cost per student is \$80, and the PTA will pay \$10 or each students' cost. The cost will not prevent any student from attending. The trip would be cancelled for student safety if COVID-19 numbers prevent the learning experience. Mrs. Dale moved to approve, Mr. Heller seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Mertz had no comments.

Mrs. Hartman said she encourages parents and community members to attend Public Work Sessions. Our last work session was very informative. We learned about student growth, Indiana Department of Education expectations, and more. She invited parents, staff, and community members to attend the public work sessions.

Mrs. Hartman stated in regards to the projects approved tonight, there is a lot of work done prior by several different departments, organizations, schools, etc. to accomplish the task. The soccer fields are shared by schools and lacrosse. It is rewarding to see everyone from all of the different departments, schools, etc. working together to make it work for all. For example, on the Holder Field project, the two athletic directors from different schools, building administrators, Mr. Kirby Schott, and Mr. Chris Sampson all work together to work on the project. On the cafeteria renovation projects, the PMMS and PMHS and affected schools are working together during the renovation of their cafeterias to bring them up to requirements. Everyone works together as a team. Mrs. Hartman has seen organizations that people/departments are not equally aligned to work towards the same goal. To see our teachers, departments, buildings, and administrators equally aligned for a common goal, is something to be very proud of!

Mrs. Hartman wishes to bring attention to what is going on in Myanmar (Burma.) Please keep students, families and our community members in your thoughts and prayers. A lot of our Burmese students and families have family in Burma. A student commented on social media that his aunt is in Parliament and

has been arrested. It struck me that we don't always realize what people are dealing with outside of school or work. I ask that we become cognizant of this.

Mrs. Hartman acknowledged some people who have gone above and beyond. Please see 'Recognitions' below.

Mr. Heller stated he appreciates and thanks everyone who has helped him as the newest board member. He said he continues to be blown away by the organization of our school system. The continued effort that everyone continues to put in, every day, pandemic or not, and have the district in a good position. Sitting as a board member and looking at what you do and what you have accomplished, and the foundation this school district is built upon makes Perry Township an incredible place to live, work, and a great place to serve. Thank you for everything you do.

Mr. Heller said he reflects on what Mrs. Hartman shared at a previous meeting, she said this is her time to serve in this capacity on the board. In reviewing the items requiring approval this meeting, there are projects updating our buildings and grounds. We are stewards of not only the opportunity to grow kids, but also the facilities the kids are in. That takes a lot of effort to make that happen. Thank you to Mr. Sampson and your team, faculty, and staff that care and maintain our facilities for our students and our community. I am appreciative of the staff that does that each and every day. It's not easy with the pandemic. The care and maintenance of our building structures and expenses is necessary. I recently went back to my home school which is out-of-state and I was very sad to see the condition of the school. It takes a constant effort to keep up the maintenance and care of our buildings and grounds. In doing so, we continue to invest in our schools for the good of our community and kids. I very much appreciate the ability to do that. I very much appreciate the teams that help come up with great plans to keep us moving forward as a school system and not lagging behind. I am grateful for that.

Mr. Johnson had no comment.

Mrs. Dale echoed the comments about the projects that were approved this evening. Some of the projects are getting us where we need to be and others are creating new opportunities for our students. That is very exciting. Mrs. Dale congratulated Mr. Scott Heller and welcomed him to the board.

Mrs. Dale congratulated Mr. Bob Bohannon on his decision to retire in October.

Mrs. Dale spoke of and wished to highlight The Skillman Corporation, and the service you have provided to our district. Mrs. Dale knows other ways The Skillman Corporation has partnered with and served Perry Township Schools. It's nice to partner with people whom we can trust and know you have our best interest at heart. We appreciate that. Thank you.

Mr. Shively stated, as we are in mid-February, and a lot of you know this is the time of year everyone is looking forward to Spring Break, so Mr. Henninger, as a representative of the teachers in this district, I wish to say keep up the good fight -- I know the days are literally dark, but spring break is coming.

Mr. Shively wished to bring attention to donations within the Consent Agenda. There is \$4,000 in donations being given to three different elementary schools. Our community continues to be generous in ways, and at times anonymously as they don't necessarily want the credit they just want what's best for kids. This is a great thing.

Mr. Shively mentioned earlier of his knowledge of the Homecroft Elementary outdoor education program. I have a 5th grader who is looking forward to this program. In talking to the staff at Homecroft Elementary, we know what school looks like, but what does a two-night away from home educational school trip look like? The amount of work the teachers have put into this project to make this happen for these kids who have had a disrupted school life the past year is amazing to me! Yet, it's not surprising to me. Everyone in this room to the custodians who clean and sanitize our buildings have adjusted through this pandemic and done so very professionally. I think these opportunities for students is a huge positive based on the efforts put in by their teachers, aides and principals.

Mr. Shively said he has two children who are finishing up their season of winter basketball through Perry Township. He greatly appreciates the coaches and staff for giving of their time. Our coaches happen to be high school students who are at the school at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday mornings! These young coaches are inspired by their own coaches and teachers, and are willing to give of their time on a Saturday morning. This is just one of the things we do not see that are happening in our district.

Mr. Shively echoed previous sentiments.

Mr. Shively said things like carpet and paint are things you don't necessarily think of. These are items are important to a school environment. Things such as carpet and paint are important for kids and teachers to feel appreciated. Mr. Shively thanked Mr. Sampson and Mr. Schott for all of the time and work you put in to making our schools feel like a community environment in our buildings. It is very much appreciated. Thank you.

Mr. Hernandez spoke earlier of Mr. Bohannon and Mrs. Bohannon's retirement notice. He recognized Mrs. Jane Pollard has accepted the position of Assistant Superintendent of Career Preparation (secondary schools.)

Mr. Hernandez echoed the contributions and donations from the community and the partnership with The Skillman Corporation is wonderful.

Mr. Hernandez also mentioned the team work and coordination in the district. It is not just the projects, but in everything we do. Teamwork and coordination go along with our mantra, #WeGrowKids.

Mr. Hernandez thanked everyone for their hard work and dedication; and importantly the flexibility of everything that you, the staff, are doing, as everything that is changing almost daily.

Everyone please stay safe and healthy. Thank you.

Mr. Mapes thanked Bob and Natalie Bohannon and for their years of service to Perry Township Schools. We will recognize Bob in October. He congratulated Mrs. Pollard. Thank you to The Skillman Corporation for your continued support of Perry Township Schools as well as Schmidt & Associates, who have been great partners also. The kitchen projects are huge and a lot of communication will be necessary. Knowing that Skillman Corporation and Schmidt & Associates are on the job makes us feel better knowing the depth of this project.

Mr. Shively, you are correct ... this time of year is the doldrums of education, the month of February. It's going to be cold and a tough stretch. Everyone has been inside for a long time. We all need to have a lot of patience with everyone, with parents, kids, with our own staff and each other. It's an intense time dealing with the pandemic and not a normal environment. We will remind people to have grace during this period and do the best we can during all of this and continue to grow kids in Perry Township Schools.

RECOGNITIONS

Southport Middle School

One staff member that has come up in Mr. Ashcraft's administrative team meetings is Kristen Jordan.

Kristen Jordan has been at SMS over a decade, and she is our webmaster for our school website. In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and so many things constantly changing, Kristen has been keeping our website up to date with the latest information. Also, we began streaming middle school athletic events this fall due to the pandemic. Kristen was an integral part in getting that process going. She stepped up to the challenge in a big way. She has shown an unwavering commitment to making sure our families are able to view live events through our Athletics Facebook page. We are very appreciative of her many extra hours of service to our school community!

Perry Meridian Middle School

A week before school started, Mr. Romine lost two ELA teachers as they transitioned to Master Teacher roles. While he was very happy for them this left a hole in his department and within a couple of their teams. Allison Dillman, volunteered to move teams, grade-levels, and assume a greater role in leading the department. As the year has progressed, she continues to take on more responsibilities all while meeting the needs of her EL and Read 180 students. Her connections with her students was highlighted during a forced absence due to COVID just prior to break. While subbing, it was clear just how much her students loved being in her class, and how much they valued their relationship with her. It was abundantly clear Ms. Dillman was and is a huge reason the students show up each day to PMMS. Ms. Dillman has gone above and beyond in many ways, but none as important as the work she has put in to build lasting relationships with her students that allow her to push them to grow, despite the trying circumstances we are all dealing with this year.

Mackenzie Hokenson is a Perry Middle School student that finds opportunities for the lessons inside of the classroom to reach the community outside the classroom walls. While learning about a piece of our city's history through the story of Attucks her teacher asked her to think about how to take a stand against injustices. Even though her answer could have been theoretical, Mackenzie chose to make a real difference at that moment. She rose to the task and wrote, "the injustice I'm taking a stand against is that homeless people in shelters are lacking the basic needs in order for them to stay healthy...I want to help families get back on their feet and help them during COVID." Mackenzie worked with two other girls and her family to reach out to the local Dayspring Shelter and coordinate a COVID safe donation. Through her leadership and work, hundreds of food, clothing, and hygiene items were donated. The future is bright because of young leaders like Mackenzie.

Compass Education Center

Donovan Butler is a new student who came to Perry Township Schools in December. He comes to school every day and puts forth his best effort and is doing an outstanding job!

Kristen White is new staff member to the Compass Education Center this year in the role of our Behavioral Therapist. She provides students with both academic; and social and emotional support that has really benefited the students at the Compass Education Center.

Clinton Young Elementary School

Mr. Henriott stated that he cannot say enough about the Clinton Young staff as a whole. The school have recently hired a new nurse and new receptionist. The office staff is complete and superb! The teachers and support staff have gone above and beyond, since last March. We do not know how they continue to give it their all, but they do!!! Mr. Henriott is currently conducting a data study comparing this point last year to the same point this year. With the results, the staff will focus on areas at summer school. Since last March 2020 with virtual learning, Clinton Young students are showing higher scores in areas than last year. Here is a shout out to the Clinton Young staff and answering the call to serve during this COVID-19 pandemic.

Douglas MacArthur Kindergarten Academy

Principal Nicole Jewell reported that her whole staff is doing a fantastic job with being flexible and working through the staffing issues they have had when people are sick/quarantined.

One of the biggest things that stood out to her right now is the fact that our EL teacher has been out with COVID complications since Thanksgiving. With that being said, the Assistant Principal (Stacy Knoop) and Master Teacher (Kim Barnhart) have been awesome at covering for her by doing WIDA testing with

our EL students. Both of them have done a great job, while also still doing their own jobs. In addition, our feeder schools (Burkhart and Douglas MacArthur) are sending over their EL teachers to help us get through this. This isn't something the Kindergarten Academy typically needs help with, but both schools' EL staff are willing and ready to jump in and help us get this testing completed. AND, if that's not enough, the district EL coaches, Lisa Netsch and Nichole Seal, have been coming over during their free times too! It truly takes a village! Both Ms. Jewell and I love that we can count on the people around us to help when we are struggling!

Abraham Lincoln Elementary School

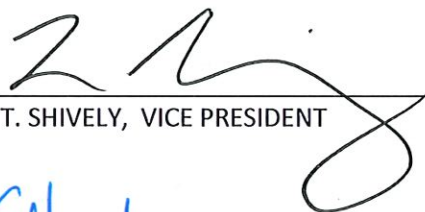
Genesis Taknan (4th Grader), single handedly used his skills learned from the Second Steps program to change the dialogue of a potential online bullying situation. This student recognized the negative actions of his peers and used his words to defend another student and make others reflect about their actions and the impact it would have on this student. He spoke of Love and Kindness. We are extremely proud of Genesis and how he represents himself, family, school, and community.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hernandez sounded the gavel to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 p.m.



JAMES H. HERNANDEZ, PRESIDENT



LEE T. SHIVELY, VICE PRESIDENT



HANNAH H. DALE, SECRETARY



EMILY HARTMAN, MEMBER



SCOTT HELLER, MEMBER



STEVE JOHNSON, MEMBER



KENNETH J. MERTZ, MEMBER

