

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

March 8, 2021

The Board of Education of Perry Township Schools, Marion County, Indiana, held a Public Hearing and a Regular Board meeting on Monday, March 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in 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 PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Hernandez called the Public Hearing to order at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Hatcher conducted the 1028 Additional Appropriation Public Hearing for the district's 2021 Series A-B-C District-Wide Facilities and Technology General Obligation Bonds. The issuance of these bonds will have a neutral effect on the district's tax levy.

The 2021 Series A Bond - the intended use of the funds includes the Holder Field Project and projects from the ten-year plan to be completed over the term of the bond. The projects include but are not limited to flooring; HVAC; pavement and concrete; roofing; security; locker replacement; playground equipment; and other building maintenance projects at Abraham Lincoln Elementary, Clinton Young Elementary, and Mart Bryan Elementary.

The 2021 Series B Bond - the intended use of the funds includes kitchen projects at Perry Meridian Middle School and Perry Meridian High School, and projects from the ten-year plan to be completed over the term of the bond. This project will bring the kitchens up-to-date and more efficient. The bond will also include but is not limited to HVAC; pavement and concrete; roofing; security; locker

replacement; flooring; playground equipment; and other building maintenance projects at Glenns Valley, Perry Sixth Grade Academy, Perry Meridian Middle School, and Rosa Parks Elementary.

The 2021 Series C Bond – the intended use of the funds includes: technology one-to-one computer refresh, technology computer lab refresh, technology connectivity and projects from the ten-year plan to be completed over the term of the bond. The projects include, but are not limited to flooring; HVAC; pavement and concrete; roofing; playground equipment; security; locker replacement; and other building maintenance projects at HE, JG, maintenance vehicle, Service Center, Transportation, PTEC, SA, SES, SMS, and WV.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURN THE PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Hatcher and Mr. Hernandez adjourned the Public Hearing.



OPENING OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Mr. Hernandez called the regular board meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

RECOGNITIONS

The Board of Education and Mr. Bohannon recognized Perry Meridian and Southport High School wrestlers who advanced to the 2021 IHSAA Wrestling State Championship meet.

PMHS: Team finished 3rd Place Overall

Alex Cottey, Senior, is a 2-time State Champion at 113, a 2-time Runner Up at 106, a 4-time wrestling State finalist, 20th student athlete to wrestle all 4 years in the IHSAA State Wrestling Finals in 83 years, And the first Perry Meridian High School student to wrestle all 4 years in the IHSAA State Wrestling Finals.

Toby Billerman, Sophomore, 3rd place at 106

Matthew Koontz, Junior, 3rd place at 152

Aiden Warren, Senior, 3rd place at 182

JaJuan Dale, Senior, 4th place at 170

Jeff McClure, Senior, 4th place at 220

Brady McKivitz, Senior, state qualifier at 145

Jakob Sheets, Senior, state qualifier at 160

Keaton Morton, Sophomore, state qualifier at 120

Coach: Mr. Matt Schoettle

Assistant Coaches: Shawn Richardson and Chris Peyton

SHS:

Luke Goodwin, Senior, 7th place at 138

Nathan Smith, Junior, 7th place at 106

Coach: Mr. Nick Skinner

Assistant Coaches: Dezmen Goddard and John Callahan

2020-2021 Read to the Final Four Competition for Third Graders

The Board of Education and Mrs. Carpenter recognized Winchester Village Elementary and Rosa Parks Elementary. Nine of our elementary schools' third graders participated in this Final Four Reading competition. Winchester Village Elementary placed 10th, and Rosa Parks Elementary placed 16th out of 74 schools in their region. Congratulations!

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Minutes of the February 8, 2021 Regular Board Meeting
- Minutes of the February 22, 2021 Public Work Session
- Financial Report for January 2021
- Allowance of Vouchers
- Personnel Report
- Fundraiser Requests
- Approval of Acceptance of Donations:

Southport Elementary

- a. The Perry Township Education Foundation donated \$166.00 to the SE Sprinters Club.
- b. The Coffey Connection donated \$15.22 as an incentive to the Robotics Club.
- c. Daisy Joy's Catering donated \$57.00 to Southport Elementary.

Winchester Village Elementary

- a. Winchester Village received a donation of \$100.00 from Mr. Max Oldham. The money will be used to purchase a plaque in Ray Alexander's name to recognize the top 5th grade student each year.

Southport High School

Request approval of \$250 donation from James Bryant. Donation is in memory of Steve Cline; it will be used to purchase tennis court nets.

Request approval of \$900 donation from Michael Ray, Warren & Janet Jones, Maura Buck, Donald Hurry, Donald & Gail Buck and Janet Hurry. Donation is in memory of Richard Buck, a 1956 SHS basketball player; it will be used to support the Boys Basketball team.

- Approval to renew the agreement with Skyward for their Student Management Suite and related components. The three-year commitment pricing remains the same per student as our previous agreement in 2018.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ITEMS OF INFORMATION REQUIRING ACTION

Mr. Hatcher recommended approval for Baker Tilly to act as the District's Municipal Advisor in conjunction with the district's 2021 Series A-B-C District-Wide Facilities and Technology Bonds and in conjunction with the district's Refunding Bonds for Series 2011. Mr. Mertz moved to approve, Mrs. Hartman seconded. The motion carried 7/0.

Mr. Hatcher recommended approval for Barnes & Thornburg LLP to act as the District's Bond Counsel in conjunction with the district's Series 2021 Series A-B-C General Obligation Bonds. Mrs. Dale moved to approve, Mr. Johnson seconded. The motion carried 7/0.

Mr. Hatcher recommended approval for Barnes & Thornburg LLP to act as the District's Bond Counsel in conjunction with the district's Refunding Bonds. Mr. Mertz moved to approve, Mr. Shively seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Hatcher recommended Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Inc. to act as the District's Underwriter in conjunction with the district's refunding of the Unlimited Ad Valorem Property Tax First Mortgage Bonds, Series 2011. Mrs. Hartman moved to approve, Mrs. Dale seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Hatcher recommended approval of Resolution 21-004, Authorizing the Issuance of the 2021A District-Wide Facilities Bonds and Related Matters. Mr. Johnson moved to approve, Mrs. Hartman seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Hatcher recommended approval of Resolution 21-005, Authorizing the Issuance of the 2021B District-Wide Facilities and Related Matters. Mrs. Dale moved to approve, Mr. Shively seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Hatcher recommended approval of Resolution 21-006, Authorizing the Issuance of the 2021C District-Wide Facilities and Technology Bond and Related Matters. Mrs. Hartman moved to approve, Mr. Johnson seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Hatcher recommended approval of Resolution 21-007, Additional Appropriation of the 2021A District-Wide Facilities Bond Proceeds and Interest Earnings. Mr. Mertz moved to approve, Mrs. Hartman seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Hatcher recommended approval of Resolution 21-008, Additional Appropriation of the 2021B District-Wide Facilities Bond Proceeds and Interest Earnings. Mrs. Dale moved to approve, Mr. Shively seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Hatcher recommended approval of Resolution 21-009, Additional Appropriation of the 2021C District-Wide Facilities and Technology Bond Proceeds and Interest Earnings. Mrs. Hartman moved to approve, Mr. Shively seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Willey recommended approval of a contract with Toshiba Business Solutions to purchase copiers and service contracts. The copiers all replace existing Ricoh machines in buildings. Pricing is based on the new Indiana QPA and is a lower cost than our most recent fleet replacements in terms of entry level and CPC costs. Mrs. Dale moved to approve, Mr. Johnson seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Willey recommended approval of a contract with Vector Solutions of TeachPoint. This product will replace PDEExpress for our online staff signups, tracking, and attendance needs. After several evaluations and quote requests with companies, TeachPoint was selected to fill this need. The previous PDEExpress was no longer meeting our expanded needs of tracking attendance and signups effectively. Mr. Johnson moved to approve, Mrs. Hartman seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Willey recommended approval of a bid by Network Solutions, Inc. for our summer 2021 wired and wireless network upgrade project. The bidding process was advertised and conducted per Indiana and Federal e-rate guidelines. We received three bids and the bid by NSI represented the lowest cost bid that met requested specifications. This project will replace networking equipment at all buildings. Eighty percent (80%) of funding will be provided by the federal e-rate program contingent on acceptance of Category 2 funding. Mr. Shively moved to approve, Mrs. Dale seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Bohannon recommended approval of the 2021-2022 textbook adoption for various Government, Economics, History, Geography, World History, etc. subjects was approved for the secondary schools. Mrs. Hartman moved to approve, Mr. Mertz seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Bohannon recommended a service agreement between Magnify Learning and Southport Middle School. Magnify Learning provides continuing education services and resources to educators focused on Project Based Learning classroom management techniques. Mrs. Dale moved to approve, Mrs. Hartman seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

Mr. Bohannon recommended approval of the student transfer enrollment cap. By statute, schools that allow transfer students from other districts must establish a capacity number for each grade level. Capacity numbers for Grades 6-8 will be set to 675 per grade level per school. Application for student transfers must be submitted by May 7, 2021. Mrs. Hartman moved to approve, Mr. Shively seconded. The motion passed 7/0.

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Hartman congratulated Douglas MacArthur Elementary on receiving the NIET Founder's Award. An amazing accomplishment and "at the end of the day when you have teachers seeing the results, they're wanting to keep doing what is best for kids. We have the same vision and mindset, doing what is best for kids. I love that whether you are here at a board meeting or in a classroom, having that same vision and mindset and doing what is best for kids is what makes Perry Township so successful. I appreciate NIET recognizing Douglas MacArthur Elementary.

Having the 3rd grade reading teachers here today, I am a little sentimental because I have 3 daughters and all 3 will be moving up to a different school at the end of the year. Mr. Thompson from Rosa Parks Elementary, I was just telling Mr. Mapes about him. Mr. Thompson made a huge impact in my oldest daughter's life very early on at Henry Burkhardt. At that time, Mr. Thompson, was an interventionist and I wrote the superintendent at that time an email sharing how wonderful Mr. Thompson was, and that we needed to retain him. At that time, the only position available was an Interventionist. The way that he worked in my daughter's life was amazing. She still talks about him and I am so thrilled that he is teaching in the district and impacting children and their reading.

Mrs. Hartman thanked the Human Resources Department and all of our leadership for extending the COVID-19 leave pay until the end of June. I appreciate this in the midst of everything that is going on. It is one less thing people have to worry about. Thank you.

Approving the authorization and issuance of bonds is not very exciting, but it is exciting because that means that a lot of work and a lot of exciting things are happening here in Perry Township Schools. I appreciate all your hard work, Mr. Hatcher, and Mr. Sampson, thank you and Kirby Schott. I appreciate the Facilities team and the work and the Finance team and how you work together.

Mrs. Hartman appreciated recognizing our students. It was a delight.

Mr. Mertz stated it was nice to have people attending the board meeting. It was nice to recognize the wrestlers who advanced to state competition. PMHS has a long-standing tradition of great wrestlers and wrestling program. It is also great to see two wrestlers from SHS go to state. Congratulations! He congratulated Douglas MacArthur Elementary on winning the NIET Founder Award. Accolades to the teachers and staff.

Mr. Mertz thanked the administration for putting everything together. As Mrs. Hartman said, the bonds may seem simple when you see them on paper, there is a lot of work done in preparation. I remind people often, this is not the first time the Board of Education have seen items we are voting on. We see and discuss items in several meetings prior to it coming to a board meeting for approval. Before an item reaches the approval stage, the board has had several opportunities to review, ask questions, make recommendations, discuss, etc. in order to make an informed decision. It will be exciting for these projects. The kitchen areas have been an issue for a number of years with the problems that come with older kitchens.

Mr. Heller acknowledged the big day for middle school students and teachers being back in the building today. I know there was a lot of details and planning to prepare for all 7th and 8th graders to return to back to school. It is an exciting time to get the students back in the classroom with the teacher instead of a computer screen. Together, we are able to renew what education is all about ... relationships. I am grateful we have been able to get to where we are today. I look forward to the high schoolers returning to school the Monday after Spring Break.

Mr. Johnson stated that Alex Cottey has put in a lot of time and work on the wrestling mats. Congratulations to Mr. Knight on SHS' wrestling program. I will be so glad when we can have all our students back in the classroom. Principals and teachers are frustrated with having their classes with some students in class, and others at home learning virtually, taking attendance ... i.e. student who was in class yesterday, who was virtual today. There is a lot of pressure. The numbers of vaccines are increasing. I pray for the day we get back to normalcy. The past several years I visited the schools, however, with the pandemic, I have not been able to. I hope for a normal start to the school year in July that it will be a positive one with all our kids in the classroom.

Mrs. Dale echoed the sentiments mentioned this evening. One thing I will add, today we have the Journal and The Focus, our high school student newspapers, and I always look forward to receiving these. Mrs. Dale said to Mr. Boedecker and Mr. Knight, your students do phenomenal work, and to Mr. Mertz, as his daughter works on the The Journal newspaper. It is exciting to see people at the board meeting, and to continue recognizing our students and staff.

Mr. Shively echoed the sentiments mentioned this evening. In recognizing student athletes tonight, I had the good fortune last weekend a couple nights to attend the sectional. I was thinking at the moment, at the game and seeing the wrestlers here tonight ... I think how much those coaches in fall, winter, and spring and how much extra they have had to do in addition to what they normally do! It is amazing that our township coaches are putting in all the extra effort to keep our kids safe, but also allow them the opportunity that so many of them find meaning in school. Let coaches know that I appreciate them and their extra effort.

Mr. Shively said the ability for getting more kids back into school 4 days a week is huge. I think it is a testament to the preparation and planning from the top down, but most of all by the teachers and what the teachers have done since literally a year ago this Thursday. The teachers have worked extra hard to educate kids during this pandemic. These kids would not be back 4 days a week, K-12, without the teachers. Please tell all teachers we appreciate what they are doing, what they have done and continue to do.

Mr. Shively to Mr. Willey, you presented information and data at the public Work Session last month related to this pandemic and what the Technology Department did to aid students and teachers in a different way of teaching and learning. Just think about what he and his staff have done to make this possible, and the amount of money put into the school system to make it happen. I have no doubt that Perry Township is leading the charge in regards to make learning as much as possible this year. Thank you.

Mr. Hernandez congratulated Douglas MacArthur Elementary. That is fantastic! We have a great partnership with NIET which we are seeing dividends in our teachers and students.

Congratulations to our Read to Final Four participants and winners. That is a neat project.

Congratulations to all of the wrestlers. And to Alex, I cannot imagine all the time he has put in. Like Mr. Johnson said, Alex was probably wrestling before he was 2 years old.

Mr. Hernandez paused to recognize the hard work by the advisors and the attorneys. It is very hard work.

Mr. Hernandez thanked and appreciates the Administration and teachers for switching gears back to prepare for all the kids coming back. The board supports you; let us know what we can do.

Mr. Mapes stated obviously we have mentioned Douglas MacArthur Elementary, but we also need to recognize Mrs. Star Hardimon, Principal. As I attended different Zoom meetings with over 1,200 people who attended the NIET National Conference and reading the social media messages about her leadership and everything she does for kids each and every day makes your heart feel really good.

Mr. Mapes thanked Mr. Bohannon, Mrs. Carpenter and Mrs. Pollard. He stated he was not here when this all started years ago. Through their blood, sweat and tears we have started to see all the rewards from their labor. I've said this often, I came here in and just had to polish a lot of things and lead. Some things were already in place and some great instructional things had been put in place that we have just taken to the next level. And without Mr. Bohannon, Mrs. Carpenter and Mrs. Pollard, our administrators, and our teachers supporting and teaching, master teachers, mentor teachers, a program with that structure is our kids in an urban school district would not achieve at the level they are. We would look like a lot of other places in Marion County, but because of what we do each and every day for kids in those structures, our kids are really, really strong academically. When kids are in K-12 in our school system, they can go and do what ever they want to do with their life after that. Our structures and the recognition we receive for that as a district, nation-wide -- we are the model of how to take kids of diversity, kids in an urban setting, and growth. I could not be more proud of what happened on Thursday as Douglas MacArthur was recognized.

This is the 2nd time a school in Perry Township has won the NIET Founder Award. Southport Elementary School was awarded the Founder Award from NIET. We were named a distinctive first-ever educator effectiveness by NIET across the nation. All our administrators and teachers have all earned a part of that award. Tonight's Board meeting is feeling more like a board meeting. We have kids with their parents here for recognitions, and we will continue to do that and hopefully everybody can get vaccinated, and we can come back here in the spring before the school year is out and have a lot of schools in and get back to some normalcy. Thank everyone for their work and efforts serving their kids.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hernandez sounded the gavel to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 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