

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

August 9, 2021

The Board of Education of Perry Township Schools, Marion County, Indiana held a regular Board meeting on Monday, August 9, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Perry Township Education Center, 6548 Orinoco Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46227.

Board of Education members present:

Lee Shively, Vice President
Hannah Dale, Board Secretary
Emily Hartman, Board Member
Scott Heller, Board Member
Steve Johnson, Board Member
Kenneth Mertz, Board Member

Board of Education members absent:

James H. Hernandez, President

Administrative staff present:

Mr. Patrick Mapes, Superintendent
Mr. Chis Sampson, Associate Superintendent of Operations
Mr. Bob Bohannon, Assistant Superintendent of Career Preparation, 6-12
Mrs. Jane Pollard, Assistant Superintendent of Career Preparation, 6-12
Mrs. Vicki Carpenter, Assistant Superintendent of Foundation Learning, PreK-5
Mr. Matthew Willey, Chief Technology Officer

Administrative staff absent:

Mr. Kent Hatcher, Chief Financial Officer
Mrs. Sharon Baker, Director of Human Resources

OPENING OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Shively stated board member Mr. Hernandez could not be in attendance but was listening via conference call and would be excluded from voting.

RECOGNITIONS

Mrs. Jane Pollard recognized the following students:

Recognition of Perry Meridian High School Freshman, Dylan Walden, member of Boy Scout Troop 139, St. John's United Church of Christ. Dylan's Eagle Scout project was a School Supply Drive benefiting our Perry Township community. He organized a successful collection of school supplies and arranged for members of his troop to help stuff 50 backpacks. The backpacks were distributed at the SHARE event on July 24, 2021. We appreciate Dylan's commitment and hard work.

Recognition of Perry Meridian High School Senior, Logan McCleese, participant in the NIET 2021 Summer Institute Panel, "Shifting to Student Ownership." PMHS principal, Kert Boedicker, nominated Logan to represent Perry Township Schools at the NIET National Conference. Logan spoke on a student panel about the effectiveness of the framework for creating teacher excellence and how he experiences that from a student's perspective. Logan is an outstanding student who has served on the Principal's Student Advisory Committee and is well revered by his teachers and peers. He aspires of attaining an appointment at West Point.

Mr. Mertz commended both young men for their service.

Before moving on to the Consent Agenda, Mr. Mapes gave an update on COVID related statistics and numbers. Mr. Mapes stated that we were still under a mask optional and monitoring our students for positivity in each building. He stated that currently we have 24 students who have tested positive, 10 staff members for a positivity rate of .001. He stated that we are still recording our positive cases to the Marion County Health Department every day. If we need to make any adjustments to our policies, we can do that swiftly and make certain we can continue having our students in-person learning.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- Minutes of the July 12, 2021 Regular Board Meeting
- Financial Report for June, 2021
- Allowance of Vouchers
- August 9, 2021 Personnel Report
- Report to Board on Travel Beyond 75 Miles by Certified and Classified Staff
- Approval of School Travel
- Fundraiser Requests
- Approval of Southside Special Services Meal Service Contract with Perry Township Nutrition Department

Motioned: Mrs. Dale

Seconded: Mrs. Hartman

Approved: 6/0

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Joseph Smith addressed the board asking for a mask requirement for Perry Township Schools
Ms. Britany Webb addressed the board asking for a mask requirement for Perry Township Schools

ITEMS OF INFORMATION REQUIRING ACTION

Recommended Approval of Acceptance of Donations presented by Mrs. Vicki Carpenter:

- Abraham Lincoln Elementary received a donation of \$10,000.00 from a donor that would like to remain anonymous. This money will be used to support students.
- Jeremiah Gray Elementary School received a donation in the amount of \$100.00 from Ms. Shelby Clark. The money will be used to purchase items for a Pre-school classroom.
- Rosa Parks Kindergarten Academy received a donation of \$623.75 from Bailey & Wood Mortgage Lender for the purchase of staff spirit wear.
- Southport Elementary received a donation of 50 backpacks with school supplies from Southport Heights Christian Church. They also received a donation from Point of Hope Apostolic Church of 25 backpacks and school supplies to help support economically disadvantaged students.

Mrs. Dale was glad to see the donations moved to the Action items.

Motioned: Mrs. Dale

Seconded: Mr. Mertz

Approved: 6/0

Recommended Approval of Renewal of IXL Contract

Mr. Matthew Willey requested approval of a renewal contract with IXL. The contract provides Math/ELA licensing for 2-6 and Math only for 1st grade students. The license represents unlimited access to their skill building system. The quote represents an 11% increase from last year due to the vendor increasing pricing at the end of our past price lock-in.

Motioned: Mrs. Hartman

Seconded: Mr. Johnson

Approved: 6/0

Recommended Approval of Peas for Kids Contract

Mrs. Vicki Carpenter stated our school psych team has had limited applicants for open positions this year. Due to these staffing concerns, we are contracting with Peas for Kids to temporarily support these open school psych positions as we continue our recruiting efforts for the next school year. The cost of this contract will come from our Education Funds.

Mrs. Hartman asked for clarification between the difference in our vacancy and the hours of service stipulated in the contract.

Motioned: Mrs. Dale Seconded: Mr. Heller Approved: 6/0

Recommended Approval of Superintendent Contract

Mr. Shively recommended the approval of Superintendent Mapes contract. The board unanimously approved the contract and voiced their thanks to Mr. Mapes for his leadership and service.

Motioned: Mrs. Hartman Seconded: Mr. Johnson Approved: 6/0

Recommended Approval of School Bus Bids from Bluebird

Mr. Sampson recommended the acceptance of bids from Bluebird for the purchase of twelve school buses from MacAllister Transportation. The bids were procured through the CIESC purchasing cooperative which satisfies all legal requirements for purchasing items over \$150,000. The purchase aligns with our bus replacement plan and will be paid out of the Operations Fund. These buses will replace buses that will be retired. It is necessary to be proactive on this purchase as deliver time of newly purchased buses is currently 9 months.

Mrs. Dale thanked Mr. Sampson, Transportation and the Chief Financial Officer for being proactive by anticipating our needs and saving the district money.

Motioned: Mr. Mertz Seconded: Mrs. Dale Approved: 6/0

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Johnson thanked everyone who attended. He congratulated Dylan and Logan for their achievements. He thanked Mr. Smith and Ms. Webb for giving us their opinions and thoughts on masking.

Mr. Heller stated he appreciates the reports the board gets on what is going on in the schools and our COVID cases. He appreciates the respectful way information is given.

Mrs. Hartman thanked Mr. Smith and Ms. Webb for coming out and respectfully giving their wisdom and guidance. She was thankful for our transportation department and their foresight, she is grateful for the dedicated custodial staff a Henry Burkhart. She was also thankful for our School Police who go above and beyond to look out for our students, even on weekends. She was impressed with teachers and coaches who are innovative and care for students beyond the classroom.

Mr. Mertz recognized Dylan and Logan for their accomplishments. He thanked Mr. Smith and Ms. Webb for their comments and encouraged all parents and community members to attend the board meetings. Mr. Mertz also thanked his fellow board members for their dedication to the students of Perry Township Schools.

Mrs. Dale recognized Dylan and Logan. She thanked Mr. Smith and Ms. Webb for coming to the meeting. She encouraged the board to look to the experts to guide us on health issues for our students. Mrs. Dale also thanked attendees who did not speak but came to the meeting.

Mr. Shively mentioned an incident where school staff came together to help a student in distress and stated that events happen every day at every building where staff pull together to do what is best for our students. He was glad we placed the donations in the Action items so we could see the generosity of others. Mr. Shively congratulated Logan and Dylan for their accomplishments. He also thanked Mr. Smith and Ms. Webb for sharing their expertise with the board. Mr. Shively stated that as we get into September, to please remember our teachers.

Mr. Mapes thanked all the employees, Teachers, Administrators, Directors and Assistant Superintendents for the strong start of the school year. He stated we have students who have not been in the classroom for 45 weeks who have had to learn how to “do school”. Mr. Mapes said that our staff has shown patience and given grace to our students as we are all getting used to normal school again. He said in regard to COVID, we will watch what is happening in our buildings with the main objective to keep our kids safe, in our buildings and educated. Mr. Mapes stated we have a long road ahead of us to get our students where they need to be academically. He thanked the board for the approval of his contract and their faith in him to lead. Mr. Mapes said our goal will always be Students First.

ADJOURMENT

Mr. Shively sounded the gavel to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

ABSENT 8/9/2021

JAMES H HERNANDEZ, PRESIDENT

LEE SHIVELY, VICE PRESIDENT

HANNAH DALE, SECRETARY

EMILY HARTMAN, BOARD MEMBER

SCOTT HELLER, BOARD MEMBER

STEVE JOHNSON, BOARD MEMBER

KENNETH J MERTZ, BOARD MEMBER