



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

**October 3, 2022**

The Board of Education of Perry Township Schools, Marion County, Indiana held a Regular Board Meeting on Monday, October 3, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Perry Township Education Center, 6548 Orinoco Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46227.

**Board of Education Members:**

Mr. Lee Shively, President	Present
Mrs. Emily Hartman, Vice President	Present
Mr. Scott Heller, Board Secretary	Present
Mr. Kenneth Mertz, Board Member	Present
Mr. Steve Johnson, Board Member	Present
Mrs. Hannah Dale, Board Member	Present
Mr. James H. Hernandez, Board Member	Present

**Administrative Staff:**

Mr. Patrick Mapes, Superintendent	Present
Mr. Chis Sampson, Associate Superintendent of Operations	Present
Mrs. Jane Pollard, Assistant Superintendent of Career Preparation, 6-12	Present
Mrs. Vicki Carpenter, Assistant Superintendent of Foundation Learning, PreK-5	Present
Mr. Kent Hatcher, Chief Financial Officer	Present
Mr. Matthew Willey, Chief Technology Officer	Present
Mrs. Sharon Baker, Director of Human Resources	Present

**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.



### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Samantha Kirk addressed the Board regarding her concerns about the proposed redistricting plan.

Heather Pease addressed the Board regarding her concerns about the proposed redistricting plan.

Leslie Wells addressed the Board regarding her concerns about the proposed redistricting plan.

Elizabeth Janes addressed the Board regarding her concerns about the proposed redistricting plan.

Alyson Edwards addressed the Board regarding her concerns about the proposed redistricting plan.

Andrew Stephens addressed the Board regarding his concerns about the proposed redistricting plan.

Michelle McPhillips addressed the Board regarding her concerns about the proposed redistricting plan.

Karen Duvall addressed the Board regarding her concerns about the proposed redistricting plan.

Jennifer Byrd addressed the Board regarding her concerns about the proposed redistricting plan.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- Minutes of the September 12, 2022 Regular Board Meeting and the September 26, 2022 Public Hearing to Present the proposed 2023 Advertised Budget, CP Plan and Bus Replacement Plan, Public Hearing to Present the Tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement Between Perry Township Schools and Perry Education Association (PEA) and Public Work Session
- August, 2022 Financial Report
- October 3, 2022 Allowance of Vouchers
- October 3, 2022 Personnel Report
- Perry Township Schools Staff Travel
- Perry Township Schools 2022-2023 Teacher Handbook
- Agreement Renewal with Actuarial Alternatives, Inc. for Pension Bond Analysis
- Agreement Renewal with Mr. William Brown for Pension Bond Analysis
- Contract Renewal with PEAS for Kids



- Contract with Grant Keys Lawn Service to Perform Snow Removal Services
- Contract with Phillip's Paving to Perform Snow Removal Services
- Fundraisers, Secondary

*Motioned: Emily Hartman*

*Seconded: Hannah Dale*

*Approved: 7/0*

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

##### **Recommended Approval of the Contract with Schmidt Associates to Perform Architectural/Engineering Services for the 2023 Improvement Projects**

Mr. Sampson recommended the acceptance of an agreement with Schmidt Associates to perform Architectural/Engineering services for 2023 Improvement Projects. The terms of agreement include fees of \$15,500 for the Project Definition Phase and fees of \$18,000 for Reimbursable Expenses. Fees for final design, construction documents, bidding and construction administration services will be determined after construction costs are determined and approved by the school corporation. The scope of the 2023 Improvement Projects includes Southport Middle School Cafeteria Serving Area, Mary Bryan Elementary Restroom Renovation, Douglass MacArthur Elementary Playground Improvements, Homecroft Elementary Playground Improvements and Perry Meridian Middle School Exterior Bleacher Replacement and Access Road.

*Motioned: Ken Mertz*

*Seconded: Steve Johnson*

*Approved: 7/0*

##### **Recommended Approval of an Amendment to our Guaranteed Energy Savings Agreement with Energy Systems Group**

Mr. Sampson recommended the approval of an amendment to Perry Township Schools Guaranteed Energy Savings Agreement with Energy Systems Group to complete various HVAC and roof projects. The cost of the project is \$2,770,000. Phase V of the Guaranteed Energy Savings contract with Energy Savings Group (ESG) involves Perry Meridian HS Pool HVAC for \$497,700, PTEC Network Operation Center (NOC) Server Room HVAC for \$306,300, Transportation HVAC replacement for \$194,500, Jeremiah Gray Chiller replacement for \$797,250, Jeremiah Gray HVAC Controls replacement for \$310,000, Perry Meridian HS Football Locker Room HVAC addition for \$97,000, Cardinal Stadium Football Locker Room HVAC addition and roofing improvements for \$572,250. The project is Phase V of the original Guaranteed Energy Savings contract with Energy Savings Group (ESG). The previous GES projects were Phase I of the Guaranteed Energy Savings contract was the LED lighting conversions, Phase II was the installation of air conditioning





in the 6th Grade Academy Gyms and High School Auxiliary Gyms, Phase III Replacement of Boilers at SHS and MB and Chillers at CY, PMMS, DM and Phase IV Bi —Polar Ionization install and replacement of Chillers at Homecroft Elementary and Henry Burkhart Elementary. The guaranteed energy and operational savings over 15 years is — \$3,106,469.

*Motioned: Hannah Dale*

*Seconded: Jim Hernandez*

*Approved: 7/0*

### **Recommended Approval of the Acceptance of Donations**

Mrs. Vickie Carpenter recommended the approval of the following donations:

#### **Jeremiah Gray Kindergarten**

Impact Bethany Church donated school supplies and school uniforms to Jeremiah Gray Kindergarten Academy. These will be used to help support students.

#### **Rosa Parks Kindergarten**

The Dollar General Literacy Foundation donated \$3,000.00 to Rosa Parks Kindergarten Academy. This money will be used to purchase a Literacy Footprint Kindergarten Kit.

#### **Southport Elementary**

Tina White, the Art Teacher at Southport Elementary, has donated \$250.00 for the purchase of shirts for all members of the SE Student Council.

Servant's Heart donated 30 school backpacks filled with lunchboxes and school supplies. These backpacks will be given to new students and families with limited finances.

#### **Winchester Village Elementary**

Mr. Kent Franklin donated \$360.00 to Winchester Village Elementary. This money will be used to help students in need attend the 5th grade camping trip to Camp Rancho Framasa.



### **Perry Township Schools**

Perry Township Schools has partnered with Office Depot as a part of the Back to School Program which gives a portion of the proceeds of their sales back to identified schools. We would like to accept on behalf of Perry Township Schools a donation from Office Depot for approximately \$20,000 to purchase supplies and materials at Office Depot for our staff and students.

Mrs. Jane Pollard recommended the approval of the following donations:

### **Perry Meridian High School**

PMHS respectfully requests approval of a \$701.95 donation from Azzip Pizza's Rivalry Week Giveback. The donation will be used for student t-shirts and halftime giveaways at athletic events.

### **Southport High School**

SHS respectfully requests approval of a \$3 57.08 donation from Azzip Pizza's Rivalry Week Giveback. The donation will be used for Student Engagement in athletics, such as game giveaways and prizes for contests.

SHS Girls Volleyball program respectfully requests approval of donations from the community for "gift baskets". The gift baskets will be raffled off at their annual Cancer Awareness Night, to be held Wednesday, September, 21, 2022. All proceeds will be donated to 'Ovar' Coming Together, an organization dedicated to improving life and early detection of those living with Ovarian Cancer.

SHS respectfully requests approval of a \$100 donation to the Orchestra Program from Robert Redd. Mr. Redd has a granddaughter, Sonya Ramsey, in the program.

*Motioned: Hannah Dale*

*Seconded: Steve Johnson*

*Approved: 7/0*

### **ITEMS OF INFORMATION NOT REQUIRING ACTION**

Mr. Sampson continued the preliminary discussion regarding the establishment of elementary boundary lines. He started off by thanking all patrons for attending the meeting and sharing their thoughts and concerns with the Board. He encouraged everyone to reach out to him with any questions or concerns, he is happy to meet and discuss the proposal. Mr. Sampson stated that in the Spring of 2022 a committee





comprised of himself, Mrs. Carpenter, Mr. Spencer, Mrs. Hardimon and Mr. Willey was formed to identify efficiencies or alternatives that would reduce the number of buses needed to transport students to school. The committee identified two possible solutions that would positively impact the situation. The first was to route C-9 students home on middle school routes (4 buses). This small solution was deemed feasible and was quickly implemented and started the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year. The second possible solution was to eliminate CHOICE schools (16 buses). Mr. Sampson reiterated that we are very early in the process of looking at the benefits to Perry Township Schools. The committee identified the benefits of redistricting are academically, programing and curriculum are uniform across all schools; all schools equally utilize NIET supports; and processes and academic outcomes are similar across all schools. Regarding benefits to transportation, routes would be shorter as the school boundaries will be smaller, all buses will run closer to capacity, road construction will not play as big an impact and we would be able to eliminate an estimated 16 bus routes. So far, the committee has introduced the proposal to elementary principals, engaged PEA through discussions, introduced the proposal to the School Board and provided a progress update to the School Board. The next step is to examine school boundaries: Enrollment vs. Building Capacity. The committee continues to vet the school boundaries and associated issues, discuss the impact on the Title 1 program and our SPED services along with other issues. Mr. Sampson said the committee is in the process of creating and posting FAQ on the township website, posting proposed boundaries on the township website, holding public meetings on both the Southport and Perry side and continues to field questions and meet with patrons as requested. Mr. Sampson wanted to clarify that this is not a "done deal", that the township is researching this as a possible solution to a very serious problem and when they are done with their research, if feasible, the committee will present a final proposal of boundaries to the Board on November 28, 2022 and be ready for the Board to vote on the proposed redistricting plan at the December 12, 2022 Board meeting. Mr. Sampson stated that if the proposal passes, it would not take effect until the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year.

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

Mr. Hernandez appreciated all those who spoke. He heard the passion and does not take that lightly. Mr. Hernandez stated how great it was to hear all the positive experiences the patrons who spoke had with the schools in our district. He stated that the Board would consider all aspects before deciding on school boundaries and he considers the community part of the team. Mr. Hernandez thanked Mr. Sampson for his presentation and for taking everyone's feelings and thoughts into consideration, he knows that this Administration wants to hear from the community. Mr. Hernandez thanked Mr. Sampson for the work and discipline he exhibits when taking care of projects and his ability to look out years in advance to determine what our future needs will be. Mr. Hernandez stated he always enjoys hearing the donations and learning about the partnerships we have with the community.





Mrs. Dale thanked the patrons for coming and speaking to the Board. She said that we hear about a lot of hostile school board meetings but we have been so fortunate in Perry Township to have our community voice their thoughts, concerns and opinions in a respectful, kind manner. Mrs. Dale stated that it is so important for the community to come and share with the Board and encouraged patrons to continue to come and voice their thoughts and concerns. Mrs. Dale said Mr. Sampson and the patrons who spoke have given her a lot to think about.

Mr. Johnson stated that as a Board, they have worked diligently to do what is best for Perry Township Schools, students, staff and administrators. He stated that the information presented tonight by the community would not be disregarded. Mr. Johnson said that the redistricting proposal is not something that was thought of overnight, there are a lot of thoughts and studies going on and the Board and Administration will do the best that they can to provide the best for the students, staff and community. Mr. Johnson stated that he joined the School Board because he and his family have been a part of the Perry community for half of his life and as a former educator in Perry Township for over 30 years, he can provide a valuable perspective. Mr. Johnson stated that the information Mr. Sampson provided gives a blue print of how things have looked up to this time. Mr. Johnson said that he was working in Perry Township when Choice started and parents were required to provide transportation for their students. Somewhere in the process, the district started transporting students. Mr. Johnson said we are trying to do the best we can to still provide transportation so students don't get home so late. Mr. Johnson stated that right now, every township in the country is having to deal with similar issues, we are not isolated. Mr. Johnson stated the doors have always been open, the Board and Administrators are happy to be available to anyone who has questions or concerns. Mr. Johnson ended his comments by stating that the Board will not make everyone happy but they would do their best to make decisions that are the best for our children.

Mr. Mertz thanked everyone for coming and sharing their thoughts with the Board. Mr. Mertz stated that the reason we do not have disruptive Board meetings is because Perry Township has a cohesive Board who don't always agree but understands how you disagree and how to arrive at a decision. He said the other reason is because we have a very respectful community and that is evident by tonight's participation. Mr. Mertz encouraged the gallery to attend more meetings, stating many times we have no participation or interest from the community even though meetings are open to the public. Mr. Mertz commented on how Choice has evolved. When the Board built the two Edison Schools, they were not built as district schools, it was a creative way to get new schools into Perry Township to help with the population of some of our other elementary schools and that at some point in time they knew that we would have to redistrict. He stated that at the time Rosa Parks was built, there was not a neighborhood to supported the school. Now Rosa Parks and Jeremiah Gray have neighborhoods that can support a neighborhood school. Mr. Mertz said that this is a huge decision and one the Board does not take lightly. The Board knows they will not be able to please everyone. He encouraged parents to visit their





neighborhood school and see what it offers. He stated that having an open mind and a positive attitude helps to see the potential in possible changes. Mr. Mertz stated that he is appreciative of the Board members and the community who came in and gave their thoughts. He encouraged people to go to the Board or Administrators for information in lieu of social media, he feels a lot of inaccurate information was shared that way. Mr. Mertz reiterated that if the change to boundaries are made, it would not happen mid-year but at the beginning of the next school year and right now data and information from the public is being presented. Mr. Mertz stated that this will not be an easy decision for the Board but they are in early stages. Mr. Mertz again encouraged the community to participate in meetings.

Mr. Heller thanked everyone for coming, he said it was incredible and felt it was a very brave thing to come and publicly speak and share feelings. Mr. Heller thanked everyone for sharing their personal stories stating that it shows the Board that there is a personal side to this proposal. Mr. Heller stated that moving into this community, choosing to remove his elementary student from a neighboring township and making the transition, he found visiting the school and meeting the Administration and being able to see the great care they have for their kids and the opportunities the school offered solidified the decision his family made. Mr. Heller said that he loves Perry Township Schools and the community that gets built in the elementary schools. Mr. Heller said the Board does not take the proposal lightly and he was so thankful to hear stories about the positive impact our elementary schools have had on families. He understands that the patrons are not arguing against the value of another school, just the environment their child has known and he thanked the patrons for attending and encouraged parents to communicate with the Administration and Board during this process.

Mrs. Hartman congratulated Southport Elementary School for their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. She stated they had a fabulous celebration and it was wonderful to attend, it felt like a family reunion. Mrs. Hartman stated that it was special to see the number of teachers at Southport Elementary who are alumni of Southport Elementary School. Mrs. Hartman was grateful she had the opportunity to attend the Indiana School Board Association conference in downtown Indianapolis. She visited several of our vendors with the intent of thanking them for their great partnership with Perry Township Schools and was thrilled that they mentioned how great our facilities staff and Kirby Schott were to work with. Mrs. Hartman stated she knows that there is no way any decision the Board makes is going to please everyone. Mrs. Hartman stated she has four kids and understands how parents love their child's school and she is going to walk away with the knowledge that every person who spoke at the meeting talked about how they love Perry Township and how they love their elementary school. She stated we are here to empower kids socially, educationally and behaviorally, that is our mission. She said she wanted parents to know that they are being heard and considered. Mrs., Hartman encouraged the community to come to not only Board meetings but also Work Session where information, data and planning is shared. Mrs. Hartman informed the gallery that the Board all sit on various committees and information is shared during those





meetings so the Board has a chance to be educated on all the planning, information and data pertaining to the district. Mrs. Hartman appreciated the gallery for coming and respectfully sharing their thoughts.

Mr. Shively stated that Mrs. Hartman referenced the different committees and explained that when someone comes to a meeting and an Administrator presents information that is voted on, it can seem like decisions are made quickly but what you don't see is the amount of time and effort that goes into researching and vetting all the information presented. He stated that it is a quick vote but dozens of hours of work have been put into informing the Board. Mr. Shively thanked Mr. Sampson and his team for the countless hours they put into research and data before presenting information to the Board. Mr. Shively stated that Southport High School was hosting about 200 to 300 people celebrating the end of the Youth Football League. He can't stress enough how impressed he is with the adults who give countless hours of their time to support all the extracurricular activities for our kids to make our community even better. Mr. Shively discussed the many ways that the Outdoor Education program benefits our 5<sup>th</sup> graders and how much he appreciates people donating to the program so that all students can attend, regardless of their financial situation. Mr. Shively addressed all those who spoke and attended the meeting, letting them know that their concerns have been heard. He stated that this is a delicate situation, we have kids who are on buses for over an hour plus and kids who don't get home from school until after 5:00pm. He said we have struggled to fill bus routes for over 2 years and has seen the wear it takes on staff. Mr. Shively wanted the gallery to know that this is not a decision that has been haphazardly jumped into or something the Board is going to just vote on one day and move on, they know what it means to the parents, students and community. He addressed the parents, letting them know that they are heard and the Board appreciated them coming and sharing in a respectful way and he hopes everyone continues to engage with the Board moving forward on this topic and others as well.

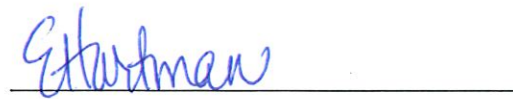

Mr. Mapes concurred with the Board, thanking everyone for attending the meeting and sharing their comments and concerns. He couldn't stress enough that this is an ongoing process and it is at the preliminary stages and hopes to have something to present to the Board at the end of November. Mr. Mapes recognized Southport Elementary for their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and all the work the students did to have a great program. Mr. Mapes said that Perry Township Schools were selected by Office Depot to be the Indiana state representative to receive rewards of the customers who gave back to education. Mr. Mapes thanked Office Depot for awarding us \$20,000 that can purchase school supplies and equipment to serve Perry Township Schools. Mr. Mapes said it has been a trying school year, we fix things with people and we are down 50 instructional assistants and are not fully staffed in any category in our school system right now. He stated that we have made fiscally sound adjustments and increased pay to try to attract people to serve our students. Mr. Mapes said even with the shortages, our teachers and staff have done an outstanding job for our first 9 weeks. Mr. Mapes thanked those involved in fall activities for representing our community both on the Perry and Southport sides and thanked our staff at both high schools as well as middle and elementary who celebrated homecoming for the last 2 weeks. Mr. Mapes



said he appreciated the community support and interest in our schools as we celebrated both Southport and Perry. Mr. Mapes ended by thanking everyone for attending.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Shively sounded the gavel to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

  
LEE SHIVELY, PRESIDENT  
EMILY HARTMAN, VICE PRESIDENT  
SCOTT HELLER, SECRETARY  
KENNETH J MERTZ, BOARD MEMBER  
HANNAH DALE, BOARD MEMBER  
STEVE JOHNSON, BOARD MEMBER  
JAMES H HERNANDEZ, BOARD MEMBER