

MINUTES OF BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES MEETING  
June 12, 2017

The Board of School Trustees met in regular session on Monday, June 12, 2017, at the Education Support Center. The following members were present: Mrs. Rebecca Gardenour, President; Ms. Lee Ann Wiseheart, Vice-President; Mrs. Donna Corbett, Secretary; Mrs. Jan Anderson, Member; Mr. K. Lee Cotner, Member; Mrs. Elizabeth Galligan, Member; and Mrs. Jenny Higbie, Member. Also present were the following administrators: Dr. Brad Snyder, Deputy Superintendent; Mr. Bill Briscoe, Assistant to the Superintendent for Administration and Operations, and Mr. Fred McWhorter, Chief Business Officer. Dr. Bruce Hibbard, Superintendent, was absent.

**A. CALL TO ORDER:**

Mrs. Gardenour called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**B. RECITE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Mrs. Gardenour asked everyone to join in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**C. RECOGNITIONS:**

**Floyd Central High School Orchestra State Champs:**

The Board and Administration recognized Mr. Doug Elmore, Orchestra teacher, and students of the Floyd Central High School Orchestra for being named State Champions.

**D. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

The public was invited to address the Board on matters of educational importance. Oral complaints regarding specific students and/or personnel will not be heard. School employees are encouraged to contact their immediate supervisor to be heard on specific complaints relating to the terms and status of their employment prior to addressing the Board. Individuals were asked to confine their comments to no more than three minutes. There were sign up sheets near each entrance prior to the start of the meeting.

Ms. Jenica Miller, 3827 Dogwood Road, Floyds Knobs, shared concerns regarding comments made at a previous meeting regarding students with disabilities not participating in NJROTC. A disabled student should be able to take any class he/she wants. She challenged the Board to find a way to make all classes offered accessible to all students. Disabilities do not define them; they are valuable contributors to the school system and to the world.

Amanda Beam, Oak Valley Court, Lanesville, addressed the Board regarding live streaming. She feels this will give the community a greater opportunity to view elected officials and learn about the decisions they are making in their name. It also improves transparency and accountability. She has live streamed the past few School Board meetings on Facebook and people have been grateful for the access. She feels the community would support live streaming and asked the Board members to support as well.

Ms. Natalie Thurston, 2902 Moccasin, New Albany, and Ms. Kerry Geron, 1108 Creekview Circle, New Albany, both spoke in regard to the middle school soccer program. They thanked the Board members for allowing them to share information at a previous work session and encouraged the Board to vote in support of making this program a school corporation sanctioned sport beginning the 2018-2019 school year.

**E. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

The following items were presented for approval:

- Approval of Minutes of May 8, 2017, Executive Session and Regular Session, and May 22, 2017, Executive Session, Regular Session, and Work Session;
- Approval of Claims;
- Approval of Staffing Report;
- Approval of Additional Self-Supporting Summer Programs and Fees;
- Acceptance of Donations to New Albany High School;
- Approval of 2017-2018 Cosmetology Agreement;
- Approval of Official Bonds;
- Approval of Overnight Field Trip Request from Floyd Central High School;
- Approval of Assistant to the Superintendent Contract 2017-2019 Resolution;
- Approval of Athletic Training Contract for Middle Schools;
- Approval of Textbook Rental and Program Fees for Middle Schools, High Schools, and Prosser for the 2017-2018 School Year;
- Approval to Extend Agreement with Coca-Cola;
- Declare Slate Run Elementary School as Salvage;
- Grant Right-of-Way Easement to Fiber Technologies Networks;
- Approval of July 3rd Holiday.

Board members have received information regarding each item on the consent agenda; however, any member may request that any item be removed from the consent agenda and discussed separately.

Mrs. Gardenour did not wish to remove any items from the consent agenda; however, she had a question about the costs of AP textbooks at New Albany High School. She asked if this expense would decrease with having iPads and e-books. Dr. Jensen explained that the AP course fee includes the cost of the AP testing and the hardback book. Most AP classes do not have e-books.

Mrs. Corbett asked about book rental fees for students on free/reduced lunch. Dr. Jensen explained that students on free/reduced lunch only pay course fees; they do not pay book rental fees.

Mrs. Galligan asked about the salvage items at Slate Run. Mr. Wiseheart said that we have completed the move of classroom contents and kitchen equipment to Graceland. The remaining office equipment will be moved the week of June 12th. We are salvaging HVAC controls, boilers, pumps, technology equipment, and carpet that can be used in other schools. Also, the switchgear that was installed two years ago will be removed just prior to demolition and used in the new building.

Mr. Cotner then made a motion to approve all items on the consent agenda as presented and recommended. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Higbie and carried unanimously following a roll call vote.

Mr. John Skomp was introduced as the new Dean of Students at New Albany High School and Mrs. Jamie Crick was introduced as the new Assistant Principal for Staff Development at New Albany High School. Also, Ms. Nicole Warren was introduced as the new Administrative Intern at Grant Line Elementary School.

## **F. ACTION ITEMS:**

### **Consider Bus Driver's Union Contract:**

Mr. McWhorter shared the current agreement with the New Albany Floyd County Bus Drivers Association expires June 30, 2017. Through good faith negotiations, a two-year agreement is being presented for approval that has been ratified by the Bus Drivers Union. The agreement will increase bus driver wages 3% over the next two years (1% in year one and 2% in year two), provides for CDL examination reimbursement, enhanced attendance bonus, incentives for extra-curricular trips and continued health and dental care contributions.

Upon motion by Mrs. Corbett, second by Mrs. Anderson, approval was given to the Bus Driver's Union Contract as presented and recommended. Following a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**Consider Middle School Soccer;**

Mrs. Higbie thanked the volunteer coaches and parents that have generously given their time to the kids in this program. At last count, there were approximately 242 kids involved in soccer. She would like to see this progress into a school sanctioned sport so it would be more inclusive for all students. She stated at the work session meeting there are students who, despite being on the soccer team for the last few years, have not been able to attend away games due to their family's transportation issues. Going forward, she would love to see as many kids included as possible and have school soccer at the middle school level become a school sanctioned sport.

Mrs. Higbie made a motion to approve having middle school soccer as a school sanctioned sport beginning the 2018-2019 school year. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wiseheart. The following points were raised during discussion.

Mrs. Gardenour asked about the start up costs. Mr. McWhorter said this is something that will be worked through with the athletic directors. We have curricular and extra-curricular expenses and typically extra-curricular expenses are separate from the General Fund. There are not provisions to pay for extra-curricular expenses out of the General Fund; however, there are exceptions to the rule. One of the exceptions is that salaries and benefits can be paid from the General Fund. Transportation costs can be paid from the Transportation Fund. But, items such as uniforms, for example, is not a General Fund expenditure. One option is to turn over to athletic directors at middle schools and high schools and see if funds to cover the uniform expenditure can be found. Another option is for the Board to do a "Home Rule" Resolution. Mr. Briscoe also shared that salary and benefits will have to be negotiated, but he doesn't anticipate any problem with that. Mrs. Higbie shared, "as far as purchasing the uniforms for the team, this is because it's a new sport add and it would be a one-time expenditure. In the future, the uniforms would be the responsibility of the athletic department and possibly the PTO to help with that."

Following this discussion, the motion made above by Mrs. Higbie and seconded by Ms. Wiseheart carried unanimously following a roll call vote.

**G. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Discussion Regarding Live Streaming the School Board Meetings;**

Mrs. Gardenour shared that several years ago, the Board asked to have their meetings aired on WNAS, but the idea didn't pass with a majority of the Board. A couple of years ago, the Board did approve to have the audio of the meetings posted on the corporation's website. She feels this was a step in the right direction and the next step is the live streaming.

Mrs. Higbie shared that it is being done nationally as well as by local school corporations. She, too, feels this is a great opportunity for our parents and community members to be accurately informed.

Ms. Wiseheart asked for administration to gather information on costs and the most efficient way to do if the Board chooses to move forward. Mr. Cotner agreed the Board needs additional information on how it could be done and how much it would cost. Administration will discuss and the Board will bring back at a future meeting.

Under Miscellaneous, the June 26, 2017, Board work session was cancelled.

Also under Miscellaneous, Mr. Briscoe shared that Mr. Doug Taylor was elected as Treasurer of the Indiana State Teachers' Association for three years, a statewide position. These duties will take him out of the classroom part of the time next school year. If approved, there will be a full-time licensed teacher in the classroom on the days he is doing his statewide responsibilities. On the days Mr. Taylor is in the classroom, this person will serve as an aide in the classroom so the students have a consistent presence throughout the year. The ISTA is fully reimbursing all the benefits and salary of this position. Mr. Briscoe requested Board approval. Upon motion by Mrs. Galligan, second by Mrs. Corbett, approval was given to the reimbursement agreement between the New Albany Floyd County Schools and the Indiana State Teachers' Association. Following a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Wiseheart asked for an update on the renovations at Graceland. Dr. Snyder shared that all the classroom materials have been moved and are in the new classrooms at Graceland. The contractor is on site making minor modifications in some of the classrooms. Most of the electronic "drops" are completed. Playground equipment is installed. Food services department is moved in and ready to go.

Also, reminder of Relay for Life being held at Scribner Middle School this Friday, June 16, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.

With no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Schindler, Recording Secretary