

MINUTES OF BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES MEETING
August 13, 2018

The Board of School Trustees met in regular session on Monday, August 13, 2018, at the Education Support Center. The following members were present: Mrs. Jenny Higbie, President; Mrs. Elizabeth Galligan, Vice-President; Ms. Lee Ann Wiseheart, Secretary; Mrs. Jan Anderson, Member; Mrs. Donna Corbett, Member; Mr. K. Lee Cotner, Member; and Mrs. Rebecca Gardenour, Member. Also present were the following administrators: Dr. Brad Snyder, Superintendent and Mr. Bill Briscoe, Assistant to the Superintendent for Administration and Operations.

A. CALL TO ORDER:

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

B. RECITE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

C. 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.

The following students, parents, and community members spoke in support of moving forward with using former Green Valley site for a soccer field for New Albany High School and middle schools. The Prosser expansion took a soccer field at the Prosser site and there is limited parking available at the field that is available at Prosser. This is a great opportunity as the land is available at Green Valley and there are funds available within the referendum budget.

Allen Krebs, New Albany, Indiana
Cole Thurston, New Albany, Indiana
Justin Spurgeon, Sellersburg, Indiana
Dr. Andy Scott, New Albany, Indiana
Sara (Dickman) Glass, New Albany, Indiana
Madison Renn, Georgetown, Indiana
Blake Hanen, Sellersburg, Indiana
Kami Geron, New Albany, Indiana
Oscar Martinez, New Albany, Indiana
Josh Dickman, New Albany, Indiana
Kerry Geron, New Albany, Indiana
Logan Barber, New Albany, Indiana
Deep Brahmthatt, New Albany, Indiana
Shane Stuber, New Albany, Indiana
Todd Spurgeon, Sellersburg, Indiana

Mr. Joseph Moore, Georgetown, Indiana, commended the students for speaking tonight and invited to attend other meetings. He is concerned with the "us vs. them" angle that was prevalent during the referendum and it is disappointing. He hopes the Board considers this project on its merits and not whether a neighbor has something better. He would further ask that any vote in favor of the project be conditional upon there being no issues with the Department of Local Government Finance.

Mr. Dale Mann, Georgetown, Indiana, also commended the students for being involved. He reminded Board members their oath of office when sworn in on the Board includes obeying Indiana laws and he appreciates them taking this responsibility.

Mr. George Mouser, Floyds Knobs, Indiana, shared that he doesn't oppose the soccer field, he opposes the way it is being financed. If it were to be done, it should have been included in the original referendum. He commended the

students for showing up and speaking up and hopes they get their soccer field, but doesn't want it financed through the system it is being financed through. In his opinion, the way the school corporation handled the referendum and the facts shared were not a good example for the students.

D. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

- Approval of Minutes of the July 16, 2018, Executive Session and Regular Session, and July 23, 2018, Work Session;
- Approval of Claims;
- Approval of Payroll;
- Approval of Staffing Report;
- Acceptance of Donations to Georgetown Elementary School, Slate Run Elementary School, Hazelwood Middle School, and New Albany High School;
- Acceptance of Donation of Semi-Trailer to Floyd Central High School Band Boosters;
- Approval of Overnight Field Trip Request from Floyd Central High School;
- Approval of Referendum Construction Change Orders;
- Authorization for Director and Assistant Director of Student Support Services to Sign Agreements for Alternative Services and Private Residential School Placements;
- Approval of Transportation Joint Program Fund Agreement for Transportation to Indiana School for the Blind and the Indiana School for the Deaf;
- Approval of Mental Health Contracts;
- Approval of Memorandum of Contract for Washington, D.C. Trip Nurse.

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. Wiseheart asked to remove the Approval of Mental Health Contracts and discuss separately. Mrs. Corbett then made a motion to approve all remaining items on the consent agenda as presented and recommended. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Gardenour and carried unanimously following a roll call vote.

- Minutes of the July 16, 2018, Executive Session and Regular Session, and July 23, 2018, Work Session as presented.
- Claims beginning #82603 through and including #82998 in the total amount of \$9,595,840.08 as submitted.
- Payroll ending 7-13-18 in the total amount of \$2,078,932.03 and payroll ending 7-27-18 in the total amount of \$2,198,027.75 as submitted.
- Staffing Report as presented.
- Donations to Georgetown Elementary School, Slate Run Elementary School, Hazelwood Middle School, and New Albany High School as presented.
- Donation of Semi-Trailer to Floyd Central High School Band Boosters as presented.
- Overnight Field Trip Request from Floyd Central High School as presented.
- Referendum Construction Change Orders as presented.
- Authorization for Director and Assistant Director of Student Support Services to Sign Agreements for Alternative Services and Private Residential School Placements as presented.
- Transportation Joint Program Fund Agreement for Transportation to Indiana School for the Blind and the Indiana School for the Deaf as presented.
- Memorandum of Contract for Washington, D.C. Trip Nurse as presented.

Mrs. Wiseheart asked if the Mental Health Contracts are for the 2018-2019 school year or through the first semester only. Per Dr. Jensen, they are through December 2018 and then they will come back and re-negotiate for services for the second semester. However, he can ensure we will provide services for students the second semester. Mrs. Wiseheart then made a motion to approve the Mental Health Contracts as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Galligan and carried unanimously following a roll call vote.

E. SOCCER

**Review Referendum Proceeds with Bond Counsel;
Discuss Potential Soccer Field at Green Valley Referendum as Addendum to Referendum Projects;
Consider Authorizing Construction Documents for Green Valley Soccer Field;**

Dr. Snyder thanked the parents, students, and community members who spoke under the Comments from the Public portion of the agenda. Tonight, he will discuss the need, legal analysis, decision making, and make a recommendation. A vote tonight would put us in position to bid the project hopefully later this calendar year; after the Greenville project.

In the referendum, the corporation made a pledge to improve nine of the 16 schools in the district. Prosser was included in one of those nine schools to get improvements. A decision was made to move the diesel mechanics program from the Transportation Department into their own building/space. However, in doing this, it required taking the land that the current soccer field was on to build this new building.

We are currently 60-62% complete with all referendum projects. As we do our financial reviews, we are of the opinion, we will have excess proceeds due to a host of reasons. It's a Board decision on what should be done with those funds; however, the Administrative team believes the funds should be used for a soccer field at Green Valley based on the rationale that we took one away at Prosser with the Prosser expansion.

Mr. Thomas Peterson, Bond Counsel, explained that as the soccer field was and is in high demand, it is reasonable to determine that making the decision to use the site of the soccer field for the expansion would require it to be relocated. The relocation of the soccer field would thus be a necessary part of completing Prosser. and therefore, the School Corporation may use the bond proceeds for the relocation of the soccer field taken by the expansion of Prosser.

However, changing the surface of the field from natural grass to artificial turf would be an additional expense beyond providing a similar facility and the School Corporation should hesitate in using bond proceeds for that upgrade. There are other options for the School Corporation to fund the installation of artificial turf. Any moneys available in the Capital Projects Fund could be used to fund the installation of the artificial turf. Also, as the 2018 threshold for controlled projects is now \$5,000,000, the School Corporation could amend the lease for this work without the need for either a referendum for the remonstrance process. Obviously, the latter would require additional legal fees and expenses.

After the entire Project has been fully completed, any excess bond proceeds are held under the Trust Indenture in the Operation and Reserve Fund and are used for expenses of the building corporation and can be used to pay debt service on the bonds. The lease rentals have already been reduced once, going from the estimates down to the actual annual amount needed for bond debt service and trustee fees. These excess funds in the Operation and Reserve Fund could be used to reduce the annual rentals over a number of years. This determination, however, can only be made after the entire project has been fully completed and all costs have been settled.

Dr. Snyder added if approved tonight, the resolution would ask for base bids with a grass field and then an alternate bid that would include turf in order to identify how much that would cost. In his opinion, the way to fund that would be with CPF monies. The "big picture" is using bond proceeds to relocate the field and then have a way to upgrade the field.

Mrs. Gardenour said it is a given these young people need another field. She is concerned to hear from these students there is grass and weeds in the field at Prosser. Why are we not taking care of the field for these students? This was being brought to the Board as a "\$3.2 million project or nothing" and now there is a possibility of having the bid of a grass field rather than an artificial turf field. She is also concerned that during the referendum, she heard people were promised a soccer field if they voted for it; however, at the referendum meetings she attended this was never discussed. Dr. Snyder said a budget was set for the Prosser expansion and, at some point, it was decided it was in the best interest of programming to move the students in the diesel mechanics program out of the transportation barn and have them in their own building. This in turn dictated the movement of the soccer field. Mrs. Gardenour asked if this could be bid out or if there is another architect that could do this project for less than \$225,000 as listed in the submitted documents. Dr. Snyder said Schmidt Associates was chosen because they have done the work at Green Valley and Slate Run and we have been extremely impressed. However, yes, a different architect could be chosen if the Board wanted.

Mrs. Wiseheart said, "you young people, if anyone sitting at this table or anyone sitting on this side of the room or outside this building ever said to you that Mrs. Wiseheart doesn't want you to have what you deserve it has been a lie. I

have never said that and I never will say that. I am a former, with an emphasis on former, college athlete before Title 9 who as a female basketball player got stuck in the sweaty, slimy small gym as a varsity player. I know what it feels like to fight for what is right in quality in a school sports program. I would never want that for you guys. I have absolutely no idea why we are sitting here talking about what we will build, but we have kids sitting in this room right now that we haven't fixed where they can practice now." She does feel the students deserve to have the practice and playing fields; however, in being a good steward of the money she has to be sure she is making the right decision. She has not received any comparison on turf fields vs. grass fields so there is still information she needs before she can consciously vote on what is best. There is no question she wants the students to have a practice field and a state-of-the-art playing field. There are also other options we could look at by talking with neighboring schools to see what they do. We have to make right financial decisions. She supports getting what the students deserve, but wants to make sure she is doing that with all the information possible before she votes.

Mr. Unruh added that currently some of the teams are practicing at Binford Park and some of the teams are practicing on the turf football field later at night. The middle school soccer teams practice on the football practice field. The Silver Street Park will be available for use beginning in September.

Mrs. Wiseheart thanked the soccer families for the emails. Many do not want extravagant facilities. They want a facility that won't get dilapidated over use, nice restrooms, and a place they will not be at late at night because they have to share a field. In all due respect, we could get them what they need without spending \$3.2 million of referendum money. And, use the remaining money for other projects.

Mrs. Wiseheart then made a motion to table moving forward with construction documents until more financial information can be received and an educated vote can be made. Mrs. Gardenour seconded the motion. The motion failed with three votes in favor and four votes against. Mrs. Wiseheart, Mrs. Corbett, and Mrs. Gardenour voted in favor and Mrs. Galligan, Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Cotner, and Mrs. Higbie voted against.

Mr. Cotner asked if the original 2017 lease could be amended to include the artificial turf. Mr. Peterson said it could not. Mr. Cotner added that he feels this project is way over due. We have the means and resources to do and the timing is right. He feels we should move forward and get it done now. We took a field and now we need to replace it.

Mrs. Corbett said she understands we took a field so we can replace a field with referendum money. Does that include restrooms, press box, etc. because they didn't take those things from the previous site at Prosser? Mr. Peterson said yes, you can get the grass field, restroom, press box, lights; everything that was at the original site. Mrs. Corbett asked about using the current turf fields as multi-purpose fields. Mr. Wisheart said they are smaller than regulation size soccer fields and to make them large enough for soccer fields we would have to have taken out the running tracks.

Mrs. Gardenour asked if the proposed locker rooms and coaches offices could be scaled down from the proposed \$750,000 cost. Dr. Snyder said you can have design options to reduce costs. Mrs. Higbie added she is emphatically fine with the plans as is and if anything she thinks they could be larger scaled. Mrs. Galligan said she likes the plans also. She thanked the students who spoke. Even before one of their fields at Prosser was taken, it was not equitable, but they did not complain. Not only was one of their fields taken at Prosser, but the Board voted to expand soccer into the middle schools which made practicing even more difficult. She added, "I do take exception to the people that spoke saying that they don't think these kids should be saying they want what Floyd Central has and all that; of course they should want that. It's equality and all of our kids should have the same opportunities within reason. And, I don't mean just within soccer. I don't think this is a soccer problem. This is an equality problem; whether it's do they have AP Calculus, Orchestra, or whatever. Within reason, be equitable. I have a unique situation. I have a senior at New Albany and a senior at Floyd Central. They both go to Prosser. I wouldn't want anybody to tell one of my kids you can make due and you get the taj mahal. I just don't think that's right. I'm hoping we can get our questions answered, come together, and find a way to move forward tonight."

Mrs. Wiseheart added, "I will repeat what I said earlier, I want them to have it. I just think I need more information on other options we haven't discussed to make sure this is the right one." She then asked, in the spirit of equity, if this passes, do we then have to allocate money for turf at Floyd Central. Mrs. Galligan said their soccer field is in a flood plain according to Mr. Wiseheart so it would not be possible.

Following this discussion, Mr. Cotner made a motion authorizing the Administration to commission construction level drawings for a New Albany High School soccer field. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Anderson. The motion carried with six votes in favor and one vote against following a roll call vote. Mrs. Galligan, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Corbett, Mr. Cotner, Mrs. Gardenour, and Mrs. Higbie voted in favor and Ms. Wiseheart voted against.

F. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Review of Policy 3417 “Teacher Appreciation Grant”:

Mr. Briscoe shared that Indiana Code and Board Policy require an annual review of this policy. It is only eligible for teachers who are “effective” or “highly effective”. Per Indiana Code, a teacher must be employed on December 1st to be eligible for the stipend. Teachers who are “highly effective” receive 25% more than “effective”. Stipends must be distributed 20 business days after receiving funds from the Indiana Department of Education. Administration is not recommending any changes to the policy.

First Reading of Revised Policy 5451 “Student Recognition”:

Mr. Briscoe shared copies of the policy. The Board discussed this policy at their June meeting and asked the Administration to bring recommendations to a future meeting. The recommended changes included changing the last paragraph to read “The Board authorizes and encourages the Superintendent to honor outstanding student achievements. The student’s accomplishments should set him/her apart from his/her peers; and/or his/her actions have made a significant impact to other students, the school, or the community.” He will bring for final approval at the September meeting.

Receive Information Regarding 2019 Capital Projects:

Mr. Wiseheart and Mr. Street reviewed the following list of projects for 2019:

*Hardware Replacement	All	\$725,000
*Baseball - Softball	NAHS (4 of 4)	\$500,000
*Boiler Replacement	FCHS	\$350,000
*Chiller	NAHS	\$300,000
*Auditorium LED House Lighting	FCHS, NAHS	\$250,000
*Hallway Flooring	NAHS (1 of 2)	\$250,000
*Roofing Recoat	Various	\$175,000
*Flooring Replacements	Various	\$175,000
*Air Handler Replacement	EDSC	\$130,000
*Music Instruments	Secondary Schools	\$100,000
*Paving Repairs	Various	\$100,000
*Shelby Property Acquisition	NAHS	\$100,000
*Classroom LED Lighting	Floyds Knobs & Georgetown	\$ 60,000
*Remove Wallpaper (Main Hall)	Highland Hills	\$ 50,000
*New Canopy - Door #8	Hazelwood	\$ 35,000

Mrs. Wiseheart asked if this list will change due to the majority of the Board voting tonight to use some of the CPF monies on the soccer field. Mr. Wiseheart said they have identified some monies that can be moved to that project without interfering with this list; however, two of the NAHS projects could be shifted if necessary.

Mrs. Gardenour asked, since it was brought to the Board’s attention about the lighting, restrooms, and field condition at Prosser, why isn’t there any CPF money allowed for that? Mr. Wiseheart said if there are issues out there he isn’t aware of he will go look at them and take care of them.

G. ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS

Consider Demo Bid Award for Former Green Valley Elementary School:

Mr. Wiseheart recommended award of the Green Valley demolition bid in the amount of \$178,250 to HCL Demolition, Inc. The bid is under budget and everything specified was included in the bid.

Upon motion by Mr. Cotner, second by Mrs. Galligan, approval was given to award Green Valley demolition bid in the amount of \$178,250 to HCL Demolition Inc. as presented and recommended. Following a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Consider Classified HR Adjustments:

Dr. Snyder recommended the following five adjustments to the classified wage grid schedule:

- Health Aides - recommended changing the wage grade classification from grade 4 to grade 5
- Middle School Media Aides - recommended changing from wage grade 4 to grade 7
- High School Secretaries - recommended changing from grade 13 to grade 15
- High School SAL - recommended lowering these assignments down from grade 18 to grade 9 on a “grandfathered” type basis, i.e. when we experience turnover, then the next person hired would make less than the present incumbent.
- High School Liaisons - recommended lowering this assignment down from wage grade 20 to grade 13 on a “grandfathered” type basis, i.e. when we experience turnover, then the next person hired would make less than the present incumbent.

Mrs. Wiseheart thanked Dr. Snyder for this work and said she cannot wait to see this happen for other positions also. She asked what wage grade the elementary and middle school secretaries are paid at. Dr. Snyder said he will check on that; however, they are not on the same grade because they are not 12-month employees as the two high school secretaries are.

Mrs. Gardenour added that we will always have a continuous turnover for some of these positions since we did away with the health plans for our prime time aides, health aides, etc. She thinks it would be a great thing if we could bring that benefit back for that group of employees at some point in the near future.

Upon motion by Mr. Cotner, second by Mrs. Corbett, approval was given to the classified HR salary adjustments as presented and recommended. The motion carried unanimously following a roll call vote.

Consider Approval of Replacement Policy 5610 “Suspension and Expulsion of Students”:

Mr. Briscoe shared the revised policy which states that the Board has voted to not hear any expulsion appeals. Instead, appeals of expulsion must be filed with the county court. If the Board approves this policy, an additional Administrative Guidelines For Reporting Student Expulsion to the School Board 5610A will be added.

Mrs. Wiseheart said, as this is written, the Board will have no authority to change the expulsion determination made by the Administration as the Board has voted not to hear expulsion appeals. What happens to the family, if in fact, the Board finds human error in an expulsion. Mr. Briscoe said he would have to go to an attorney; he doesn’t know the answer to that.

Mrs. Corbett said she was under the impression measures would be in place so the Board could review all the expulsions and reasons for them. Mr. Briscoe said the Administrative Guidelines 5610A was written by the Board’s Counsel and only in the cases in which no alternative education is put forward are brought to the Board.

Mrs. Galligan added that the Board’s Counsel has advised the Board strongly not to hear any expulsions and ISBA also recommends Boards not hear any. So, she feels the Board should take their advice.

Upon motion by Mr. Cotner, second by Mrs. Galligan, approval was given to Replacement Policy 5610 “Suspension and Expulsion of Students” as presented and recommended. Following a roll call vote, the motion carried with five votes in favor and two votes against. Mrs. Galligan, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Corbett, Mr. Cotner, and Mrs. Higbie voted in favor and Mrs. Wiseheart and Mrs. Gardenour voted against.

H. MISCELLANEOUS

Discuss August 27, 2018, Work Session:

Due to ISTEP scores being embargoed until later in September and Administration and Board not having additional items for discussion at the August 27th work session, the work session was cancelled.

With no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Schindler, Recording Secretary