

**NORTH PUTNAM COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
OCTOBER 8, 2020 MINUTES**

The members of the Board of School Trustees of the North Putnam Community School Corporation held a regular session meeting on Thursday, October 8, 2020, 7:00 P.M. at North Putnam Middle School, Media Center, 8905 N CR 250 E, Roachdale, Indiana.

Board members present in person: Amber Greene
Mark Hoke
Dustin Osborn
Travis Lambermont
Joanie Knapp
Ron Spencer

Board members absent: Darrell Wiatt

Superintendent present: Nicole Singer

Attorney present: None

I. PUBLIC MEETING

A. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance:

Ron Spencer called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Amber Greene, Mark Hoke, Dustin Osborn, Travis Lambermont, Joanie Knapp and Ron Spencer.

B. Approval of Agenda:

Dr. Singer stated that any additional personnel changes have been noted with an asterisk. Travis Lambermont requested that Item I: Administrative Pay Increase be separated and voted on individually.

C. Public Comments:

There were no comments from the public.

II. CELEBRATING SUCCESS

A. Celebrating Success – Rodney Simpson, Principal, Bainbridge Elementary (Honoree: Julia Nesbitt):

Julia Nesbitt, Teacher at Bainbridge Elementary, is the recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Award for October.

Julia Nesbitt graduated from Purdue University. She has taught students at Bainbridge Elementary for 13 years. She does such a great job with the students. She enjoys walking, watching and attending school events, and being with family. She is very valuable to Bainbridge Elementary. Congratulations to Julia Nesbitt. We are very proud of her.

III. CONSENT AGENDA (All Board Approvals for Personnel are Pending an Expanded Criminal History Check and completion of appropriate new hire paperwork)

- A. Approval of Minutes-September 17, 2020, Regular Session Board Minutes**
- B. Approval of Claims for Payment and Payrolls**
- C. Donation Report**
- D. Fundraiser Report**
- E. Personnel Report**

Travis Lambermont motioned to approve the above consent agenda as presented. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 5 – 1 vote (Mark Hoke nay).

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of the 2021 Budget as Presented on the Following Forms (Form 4, Resolution of Appropriations):

Tanya Pearson noted that the public Budget Hearing for was held during the last Board meeting. The Board needs to vote at this meeting to adopt the budget as presented.

Joanie Knapp motioned to approve the 2021 budget as presented. Travis Lambermont seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

B. Approval of Resolution to Authorize Reductions (Budget):

Mark Hoke motioned to approve the Resolution to Authorize Reductions. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

C. Ratification of Collective Bargaining Agreement with NPCTA:

Dr. Singer noted the Board received the changes to the Collective Bargaining Agreement at the October 5, 2020 meeting. There were no comments during that time. The base salary increase will be paid retroactively beginning on the first teacher day in August.

Ron Spencer motioned to approve the ratification of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with NPCTA. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 5 – 1 vote (Dustin Osborn abstained).

D. Approval of Film Project:

Joanie Knapp is excited that North Putnam will be showcased in this project and she is very impressed with this project. Dustin Osborn asked if everyone on the Board was able to get their questions answered regarding this project. Ron Spencer commented that all questions were answered.

Dustin Osborn motioned to approve the above Film Project as presented. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

E. Approval of Middle School Trip to Iceland – Bucky Kramer:

Scott Miller noted that it is likely the Italy trip will be cancelled. The Iceland trip would replace the Italy trip. The Italy trip is totally refundable through May 2021 for parents who signed up for the insurance. If they did not, that money can be transferred to the Iceland trip. The decision will be made in November on the Italy trip. The Iceland trip will take place in the summer.

Dustin Osborn motioned to approve the above middle school trip to Iceland. Ron Spencer seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

F. Approval of School Improvement Plans – All Schools:

Dr. Singer noted that the administrators complete a needs assessment every few years and it's time to do that again.

Joanie Knapp motioned to approve the above School Improvement Plans as presented. Travis Lambermont seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

G. Approval of AdTec CIPA Compliance Agreement:

Dr. Singer noted this is a checklist that we review with our e-rate representatives. We need to submit this each year for our e-rate discount.

Joanie Knapp motioned to approve the above agreement. Dustin Osborn seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

H. Approval of Interlocal Agreement with Putnam County Commissioners:

Dr. Singer commented that she was approached by the county commissioners about Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) dollars and the need for this money in our school corporation. We asked for more disposable masks, portable hand sanitizing stations, backpacks for play areas, and a water bottle filling station (cost of a little under \$10,000). She is asking the Board to approve the agreement.

Ron Spencer motioned to approve the above agreement. Amber Greene seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

I. Administrative Pay Increase:

Dr. Singer noted that the discussion over the summer was to wait and see where the budget was before approving pay increases. The pay increase would be equal to what the teachers receive, which is \$1,200 to the base salary to be paid retroactively.

Joanie Knapp motioned to approve the pay increase for Terry Tippin. Ron Spencer seconded the motion and it carried with a 5 – 1 vote (Dustin Osborn nay).

Ron Spencer motioned to approve the pay increase for Jason Chew. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

Travis Lambermont motioned to approve the pay increase for Brandon Wagler. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

Joanie Knapp motioned to approve the pay increase for Roger Busch. Ron Spencer seconded it and the motion died with a 2 – 4 vote (Dustin Osborn, Amber Greene, Travis Lambermont, and Mark Hoke nay).

Travis Lambermont motioned to approve the pay increase for Scott Miller. Amber Greene seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

Joanie Knapp motioned to approve the pay increase for Bucky Kramer. Travis Lambermont seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

Travis Lambermont motioned to approve the pay increase for Rodney Simpson. Amber Greene seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

Amber Greene motioned to approve the pay increase for Beth Waterman. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

J. Central Office Non-Certified Pay Increase:

Dr. Singer noted that 18 months ago Central Office staff was moved from hourly to salary. No adjustment to the pay has been made since then. This pay increase has been built into the budget and would be paid retroactively.

Joanie Knapp motioned to approve the above pay increase for Central Office staff as presented. Amber Greene seconded the motion and it carried with a 5 – 1 vote (Travis Lambermont abstained).

K. Non-Certified Staff Insurance Premium:

Dr. Singer noted that non-certified staff receive a regular pay increase every year based on the salary schedule. She recommends the Board pick up the increase to their insurance premium. The total amount is approximately \$6,700.

Mark Hoke motioned to approve the above non-certified staff insurance premium. Travis Lambermont seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

V. REPORTS

A. Superintendent:

Dr. Singer wanted to thank the students, parents, and administration for working hard this school year and making it as normal as possible. This is why we have been able to keep a handle on the Covid situation. She thanked Chase Hiland, Kathy Sykes, and the bargaining unit for a successful bargaining season. She appreciates the teachers and understanding the school corporation situation during this time. Next week is Fall Break and Monday through Thursday will be eLearning and Friday is a day off. She wanted everyone to enjoy the break.

B. Treasurer:

Tanya Pearson thought our auction was successful on Saturday. The Board meeting is a week early, so we will have claims that need to be paid after the Board meeting. She can send a list to them if they want.

C. Director of Operations:

As part of the Safe Schools Commission, we will be using a School Safety Emergency Alert Phone Application from Caliber. This will be set up at all of our schools, so staff can use if an emergency occurs. This is not cost to us and Terry Tippin wanted to thank them for this service. The average number of lunches purchased in August was 610. Since the USDA offered the free lunch program, the average number of lunches purchased in October increased to 1,100. We also offered the pick-up service during this time.

D. Administrators:

Rodney Simpson commented that the homemade salads have gone well. The Title Grant was approved. He wanted to thank the community for their support. The donation of water is much appreciated. The students have been able to enjoy the outdoors. He has been attending the Indiana Principal Leadership Institute (IPLI) and has really enjoyed it. He had a couple of new students come into the district and twelve that are returning from virtual school.

Scott Miller agreed about the lunch food. It has been very good. We are nine weeks in and things are good. The students have done an amazing job and adjusted well. The 6th graders have been doing outdoor education in place of Camp Tecumseh. They have really enjoyed it. They have had some new enrollments this week. He feels we will get some of the virtual students back.

Jason Chew wanted to commend the office staff including secretaries, nurse aides, etc. The Covid Guidelines change week by week and they handled it very well. The teachers have done a great job too. Homecoming week was last week. We didn't have a parade, but still had other normal things. After Fall Break, we will make changes to the seating in the cafeteria. The students are being very responsible and he appreciates this. The Board approved the resignation of the high school guidance counselor. Mrs. Certain helped bring Edge 21 to the high school and we appreciate the work she has done. Trunk or Treat is scheduled for October 28, 2020 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the high school. We currently have a plan to the Health Department for this and it should get approved tomorrow. He wanted to commend Roger Busch for working so hard with the health plans to make sure athletics ran as normal as possible. He appreciates the work of that department.


Roger Busch commented that the fall sports have been extremely challenging. They are on the fifth plan with the Health Department. Bucky Kramer and Adam Nicodemus were huge in the planning process. Most of the coaches have done a good job. The most successful program this year was boys' soccer. They had their best season in school history. Girls' soccer has been challenging due to losing a lot of seniors. The officials told him that they were a great group of girls. Girls' golf won their third county title in a row. Football has had its challenges, but with 14 seniors who graduated and a new coach they are working hard. The coaches have done a great job. Next week North Putnam will host the Volleyball Sectional.

VI. BOARD COMMENTS:


Mark Hoke asked if we advertised for an Executive Session this evening. Dr. Singer noted we did not. Travis Lambermont asked how many people on the sidelines or in the press box are approved. Jason Chew noted we only approve the ones who are in direct contact with our students. Joanie Knapp congratulated Terry Tippin on being elected to the STAI Executive Board. Joanie asked about parent/teacher conferences. Dr. Singer noted these will be held on October 21, 2020 and teachers will be available from 10:30 a.m. to noon for eLearning and then 1:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. for conferences. Amber Greene also congratulated Terry Tippin. Dustin Osborn thanked all of the staff members. He asked for an update on the construction crews. Dr. Singer noted they are waiting on appliances and some smaller items to complete the project. There is a reduced presence of construction workers. Dustin Osborn asked if the missing appliances had been delivered to the kitchen. Jason Chew noted that all of the items are here. He denied the athletic department appliances because they were residential. Ron Spencer thanked the entire staff.

VII. ADJOURNMENT


There being no further business to come before the Board, Joanie Knapp moved for adjournment of the meeting. Dustin Osborn seconded the motion and it carried by a 6 – 0 vote. The next meeting will be held at the high school.



Ron Spencer, President



Travis Lambermont, Member



Dustin Osborn, Vice-President

Mark Hoke, Member

Darrell Wiatt, Secretary



Joanie Knapp, Member

Amber Greene, Member