NORTH PUTNAM COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION MARCH 18, 2021 MINUTES

The members of the Board of School Trustees of the North Putnam Community School Corporation held a regular session meeting on Thursday, March 18, 2021, 7:00 P.M. at North Putnam High School, Large Group Instruction Room, 8869 N CR 250 E, Roachdale, Indiana.

Board members present in person: Travis Lambermont

Joanie Knapp Amber Greene Eric Oliver Mark Hoke

Rachel Mandeville Ron Spencer

Board members present by Google Meet: None

Board members absent: None

Superintendent present: Nicole Singer-Allee

Attorney present: Darren Chadd

I. PUBLIC MEETING

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

Travis Lambermont called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Travis Lambermont, Joanie Knapp, Amber Greene, Eric Oliver, Mark Hoke, Rachel Mandeville, and Ron Spencer.

B. Approval of Agenda:

Dr. Singer-Allee noted that ECA approvals were added to the agenda.

C. Public Comments:

There were no comments.

II. CELEBRATING SUCCESS

A. Celebrating Success – Rodney Simpson, Principal, Bainbridge Elementary (Honoree: Jessica Tarr): Jessica Tarr, Teacher at Bainbridge Elementary, is the recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Award for March.

Jessica Tarr graduated from Taylor University. She has taught students for nine years at Bainbridge Elementary and worked as an instructional assistant for three years at South Adams and Greencastle. She does a great job with the students and works well with the staff. She enjoys reading, teaching, traveling, music (Nigerian), musicals, gospel, spending time with friends and family, and string art. She is very valuable to Bainbridge Elementary. Congratulations to Jessica Tarr. We are very proud of her.

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

- **A. Approval of Minutes**-February 23, 2021, Regular Session Board Minutes
- **B.** Approval of Minutes-February 24, 2021, Board Work Session Minutes
- C. Approval of Minutes-March 2, 2021, Executive Session Board Minutes
- D. Approval of Claims for Payment and Payrolls
- E. Donation Report
- F. Field Trip Report
- G. Fundraiser Report

H. Personnel Report

Tanya Pearson provided them with the Bainbridge Utility bill amount and the difference from last month and this month with the increase due to the natural gas issue. Roachdale Utility will spread out the increase over several months. Bainbridge Utility offered to do the same, but the amount was much less than expected and we would like to pay this one all at once. We greatly appreciate both of them for working with us on this.

Amber Greene motioned to approve the above consent agenda as presented. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 7-0 vote.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. Food Service Contract Renewal:

Terry Tippin noted we have been with Chartwells for one year now and it is time to renew. Terry Tippin noted that the Department of Education requires us to send to them a request for approval to renew our food service provider. Kelly Deahl, Chartwells, was present at the meeting to answer any questions from the Board. She commented it has been a trying year with Covid, but we were still able to provide 64,000 meals from March to June. The free food program for schools will run through July. This could change, but it will depend on what the state decides. The Summer Lunch Program was very successful. Terry Tippin noted we passed our Food Service Management Evaluation. He commented that Chartwells ability to get grants and their willingness to assist the school corporation in any way they can have been a tremendous help. Two years ago, we had to transfer money into the food service account and now we are in the black. We can now begin transferring money back. They have greatly helped us turn around the Food Service Program. He recommends we renew our contract with Chartwells.

Joanie Knapp motioned to approve the above renewal for the Food Service Contract with Chartwells. Mark Hoke seconded the motion and it carried with a 7-0 vote.

B. Intent to Reimburse Expenditures:

The Board needs to consider a reimbursement resolution noting the corporation intends to finance the renovation and improvements to the school facilities in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000. This could include the purchase of equipment and technology, site improvements, roofing, and HVAC.

Amber Greene motioned to approve the intent to reimburse expenditures as presented. Rachel Mandeville seconded the motion and it carried with a 7-0 vote.

C. Engaging Long Range Planning and Demographic Study:

Dr. Singer-Allee noted that the Board had a Work Session on Monday to discuss long term planning for the corporation. We followed up on checking with demographers, but we will need to look at someone else to do a feasibility study. She can get with EMCOR next week and they should be able to do this study. If not, we could engage services from an architect. She talked to Chad Blacklock and he would be willing to help with short term and long term goals. The cost would not exceed \$4,000. The recommendation is for them to look at the information from the work session, so they can make a decision in April.

Rachel Mandeville motioned to approve moving forward with the long range planning and demographic study with Susan Brudvig named as the demographer. Mark Hoke seconded the motion and it carried with a 4-3 vote (Joanie Knapp, Ron Spencer, and Eric Oliver nay).

D. Request to Sell/Salvage Old Instruments:

Jason Chew provided a list of old instruments and many are just parts and not complete. Ron Spencer asked if students would have the opportunity to buy these. Jason Chew noted these can be fixed up for resale, but he thinks it will take a lot of work to get them ready. They just aren't worth anything.

Eric Oliver motioned to approve the request to sell/salvage the old instruments. Mark Hoke seconded the motion and it carried with a 7-0 vote.

E. Resolution for Pay for Local Emergency:

Due to the unforeseen emergency that caused the school corporation to be without natural gas services on February 18 and 19, 2021, we were required to close all schools and employees were directed not to report to work on those days. This resolution will allow us to pay the 260 day employees for days they were unable to work due to the emergency closure.

Ron Spencer motioned to approve the above resolution as presented. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 7-0 vote.

F. Approval of Summer School Programs for Elementary and the Middle School:

Joanie Knapp motioned to approve the above summer school programs for elementary and middle school. Rachel Mandeville seconded the motion and it carried with a 7-0 vote.

G. Approval of Board Policy Criminal Gangs and Criminal Activity in Schools:

Terry Tippin noted that the Board received this policy at the last meeting as a first reading.

Ron Spencer motioned to approve the above policy as presented. Eric Oliver seconded the motion and it carried with a 7-0 vote.

V. REPORTS

A. Superintendent:

Dr. Singer-Allee has a conference call next week with Beth Bendix, Director, to discuss the upcoming documentary. This call will begin the process for it. She wants the Board to think about a retreat to discuss long range planning around mid-summer. She wished everyone a safe and relaxing Spring Break.

B. Treasurer:

Tanya Pearson noted that the Annual Performance Report will be in the paper next week. This is a yearly requirement. According to the Distressed Unit Appeal Board (DUAB), the corporation transferred more than the fifteen percent transfer target of the total Education Fund revenue in calendar year 2020. We did not transfer money in November and December of 2019, but then transferred in 2020. By not transferring by the end of 2019, the report shows we went over the fifteen percent for 2020. We were told we could transfer between fifteen and eighteen percent, but not that it had to be by a certain time. Tanya showed them the actual expenditures. We could have transferred approximately \$280,000 more. The state decided they would do a look back period, so we over transferred approximately \$56,000. Part of what we are required to do is publicly acknowledge receipt of the notice at a Board meeting, enter into the official school minutes acknowledgement of this notice, and within thirty days publish the IDOE's notice on the corporation website.

C. Director of Operations:

Terry Tippin learned last week that state legislation has House Bill 1266. This bill could create a county-wide transportation hub. Letters have been written to state officials on how devastating this would be for school corporations. He can forward the email address of the committee members to the Board so they can contact them noting we do not support House Bill 1266. He thanked the Indiana Safety Company for donating 495 masks and 50 gallons of hand sanitizer.

D. Administrators:

Rodney Simpson commented that they are focused on iRead. They had one hundred percent of students test for iRead.

Jason Chew noted they inducted over sixty new members into the National Honor Society. They had five winners at a recent FFA event. The winners were Ruby Sullivan - Extemporaneous Public Speaking, Katie Fry and Handley Everman - Animal Science Demo, Grace Timm- Leadership Ambassador, Jayden Simpson - Ag Farm and Business Management Demo, and Seth Ariens - Prepared Public Speaking. It was all virtual. These students did a great job. Darcie Cox was named the Outstanding Senior in the

entire Region VII JAG District, which includes Cloverdale, Northview, Sullivan, Riverton Parke, Parke Heritage, West Vigo, Terre Haute North Vigo, and Terre Haute South Vigo. This is a great accomplishment. New signage was installed two weeks ago at the athletic building. There have been questions about prom and graduation and he does not have a lot of answers right now.

Roger Busch commented this has been the most successful winter sports season in twenty years. We had three wrestlers make it to Regional. Mason Brooks was selected for the IBCA Academic All-State First Team and Dane Spencer and Reghan Christy were selected as Honorable Mention.

VI. BOARD COMMENTS:

Ron Spencer thanked the administrators and staff. He thanked Tanya Pearson for addressing the DUAB Report so quickly. He thanked Terry Tippin for the heads up on the House Bill. Eric Oliver agreed with his comments. He has been approached by several people who commented on how proud they are of our plans, students, and how we followed the guidelines during Covid. Kudos to some of the things going on right now. Amber Greene thinks that Dr. Singer-Allee has worked hard on getting the Board training and information together for the studies. She thinks the Board Retreat is a great idea. Congratulations to the National Honor Society inductees and the FFA students. She attended the boys' basketball sectional final and was impressed to see how well our team played and the good sportsmanship of our players and fans. She thinks the athletic department is doing a great job posting on Facebook. We now have a boys' Volleyball Club and that is exciting. Brandy Dickson has put together a middle school team and has done a great job. She thanked Tanya Pearson for her hard work. Rachel Mandeville feels there has been phenomenal communication from everyone. She is very impressed with this. She also thanked Tanya Pearson for her hard work. She hears good things about Terry Tippin almost weekly. She commended him for everything. Mark Hoke mentioned the opinion piece in the newspaper about House Bill 1005. This bill as well as House Bill 1256 need to be researched. Travis Lambermont noted the next regular Board meeting is scheduled for April 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the high school in the Large Group Instruction room.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Joanie Knapp moved for adjournment of the meeting. Ron Spencer seconded the motion and it carried with a 7-0 vote. The next meeting will be held at the high school.

Travis Lambermont, President	Joanie Knapp, Member
Mark Hoke, Vice President	Eric Oliver, Member
Rachel Mandeville, Secretary	Ron Spencer, Member
 Amber Greene, Member	