NORTH PUTNAM COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION MAY 20, 2021 MINUTES

The members of the Board of School Trustees of the North Putnam Community School Corporation held a regular session meeting on Thursday, May 20, 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

Amber Greene Eric Oliver Mark Hoke

Rachel Mandeville Joanie Knapp 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 7:31 P.M. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Travis Lambermont, Amber Greene, Eric Oliver, Mark Hoke, Rachel Mandeville, Joanie Knapp, and Ron Spencer.

B. Approval of Agenda:

Dr. Singer-Allee noted that middle school staff members in attendance requested that Mr. Miller be approved separately from the personnel report. This will be Item A under the action agenda. We added an MOU with the North Putnam Classroom Teachers Association and this will be Item K under the action agenda.

C. Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

D. Elementary Classroom Presentation:

Jeanine Peterson and Jessica Tarr, Teachers at Bainbridge Elementary, gave a presentation on a classroom proposal in which they would co-teach. Jeanine Peterson noticed early on with a second grade class that the students had very different needs. They were struggling to develop relationships with their perrs and excel academically. She and Jessica Tarr discussed this and talked to Mr. Simpson about providing this class. The students who would benefit from this class are slow to bond and are still struggling with a basic reading foundation. They are very excited to share information for this class.

Jessica Tarr explained they discussed with Dr. Singer-Allee about having 16 to 18 students and two teachers in one room. Students would have a desk, but with flexible seating. They would have multiple tables for small groups. This class will help improve peer relations and provide more teamwork and fewer frustrations. Dr. Singer-Allee explained that this would be open to the whole building. A daily schedule would be set up and reading and math would be on a rotating schedule. They would need to add a parent/teacher conference because the student and parents need this to excel. They will use the ClassDojo Program to assist in tracking how students are behaving and progressing. They would like to provide field trips to help the students get a sense of community. They are very excited to experience this and

they welcome the opportunity to try something new with students. Dr. Singer-Allee commented that this will help address the needs of our students.

II. <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**-April 15, 2021, Regular Session Board Minutes
- B. Approval of Claims for Payment and Payrolls
- C. Donation Report
- D. Field Trip Report
- E. Fundraiser Report
- F. Personnel Report

Mark Hoke motioned to approve the above consent agenda with the exception of Scott Miller being moved to the action agenda. Amber Greene seconded the motion and it carried with a 7-0 vote.

III. ACTION ITEMS

A. Personnel Report - Scott Miller, Principal:

Matt Couch, Teacher, wanted to thank Mr. Miller for being a leader who taught them what they need to do every day to succeed. He's a principal and he's a friend. The staff will really miss him, but wish him the best of luck in his new position. Scott Miller expressed gratitude to the Board, staff, and the North Putnam Community for their support. It has been an honor and a privilege to be Principal the last seven years. The middle school will be in great hands because of the great people there. Dr. Singer-Allee commented that he has been a great colleague and thanked him for his service.

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

B. Review of Back to School Guide:

In order to receive Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) grant money, we need to review and approve the Back to School Guide. This is the same plan as before with new changes highlighted. Potentially some of this could change because the guidance regarding this will change. She looks for next year to look a little different. Travis Lambermont asked if this is the worst case scenario. Dr. Singer-Allee said yes it is. Mark Hoke asked about face coverings. Dr. Singer-Allee will check with the Putnam County Health Department.

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

C. Feasibility Study:

Dr. Singer-Allee provided a comparison of CSO and Schmidt companies to perform the feasibility study. The service they provide and the cost are listed in their information. Dr. Tippin and Dr. Singer-Allee met with both groups and the recommendation would be to approve CSO. Ron Spencer noted it appeared there were three samples in the packet. Dr. Singer-Allee noted there were three and they were from CSO. Ron Spencer commented that Schmidt has hourly rate schedule, but there isn't one for CSO. Dr. Singer-Allee noted that CSO talked about a fixed rate amount except for anything related to equipment that would need to be paid to Shambaugh, if something would need to be sent overnight, or their travel expenses. Ron Spencer was impressed with the samples provided by CSO.

Amber Greene motioned to approve CSO for the feasibility study. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 7-0 vote.

D. Recommendation for Middle School Principal:

Dr. Singer-Allee commented that Bucky Kramer is an excellent leader with a lot of experience. He was previously named the Dean of Students and then his title changed four years ago to Assistant Principal/Athletic Director. He has demonstrated a passion and commitment for working with the middle school. He is familiar with our staff, students, policies, operations, and initiatives. She could not think

of a better replacement for Mr. Miller. She is recommending he be approved as Principal with a two year contract beginning July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023. Bucky Kramer commented that he could not ask for better people to work with every day. The staff, administrators, and coaches are great.

Mark Hoke motioned to approve Bucky Kramer as Principal. Rachel Mandeville seconded the motion and it carried with a 7-0 vote.

E. Administrative Contract Recommendation:

Our administrative team has done a remarkable job leading our schools during a pandemic. Their efforts exceeded expectations. This talented group of educational leaders gave selflessly and demonstrated a true collaborative approach to the education of every child K-12, regardless of their building assignment. It is a distinct honor to work with each of them. She is recommending an extension to their contracts/agreements to run through June 30, 2023. Additionally, each administrator does a varying amount of work from their personal mobile devices with updating school social media and web pages, contacting parents, communicating with each other as well as the Director of Operations and the Superintendent, and building security. They are always on call, so with all of this she is requesting a technology stipend be approved for them.

Amber Greene motioned to approve the above administrative contract recommendation. Rachel Mandeville seconded the motion and it carried with a 7-0 vote.

F. Calendar Adjustment and Inclusion of Two Hour Delays 2021-2022 School Year:

In order to capture as much instructional time as possible this year due to learning lost with COVID-19, we decided to suspend professional development for teachers during the 2020-2021 school year. We know the need for teachers to continue to grow in their learning is important, so we can offer in-house professional development. In previous years, we offered early release Wednesdays. As we visited the opportunity to offer professional development again in 2021-2022, we discussed with the CTA about scheduling two hour delays four times through the year. This would be two per semester. She is requesting the Board approve the amended school calendar to include the four scheduled two hour delays occurring on September 20, 2021, November 8, 2021, February 7, 2022, and April 18, 2022.

Travis Lambermont motioned to approve the calendar adjustment as presented. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 7-0 vote. Dr. Singer-Allee will get this out to staff and parents tomorrow.

G. After School Transportation Proposal:

In an effort to allow more students to participate in various after school activities, including tutoring for learning loss as well as events to enhance social-emotional connections, we propose providing after school transportation for the 2021-2022 school year and potentially the 2022-2023 school year. Terry Tippin noted they propose providing two buses for transportation home after tutoring and events Monday through Thursday for approximately 140 days per year. Dates and time will be determined. One bus would drop in Roachdale, Russellville, and Van Bibber Lake and the other bus would drop in Bainbridge, Heritage Lake Clubhouse, and Floyd Township Fire Station. The cost to provide this service will be approximately \$20,456. Rachel Mandeville asked if this could be paid out the CARES money. Dr. Singer-Allee said it would be paid out of ESSER Grant money. Ron Spencer is concerned about drop off points and abandoned students. Terry Tippin noted that when they transfer any student they will need to know the parents and no student will be dropped off without knowing a parent is around. Dr. Singer-Allee noted these are the spots used for the free lunch deliveries. They will pick up at places that are well-lit. Ron Spencer asked if there was an age limit. Terry Tippin said it is elementary through high school level.

Joanie Knapp motioned to approve the above after school transportation proposal. Eric Oliver seconded the motion and it carried with a 7-0 vote.

H. Elementary Jump Start Summer School:

Rodney Simpson and Beth Waterman would like to request a Jump Start Summer School for our incoming Kindergarten and First Grade students. Kindergarten readiness data shows that offering a jump start setting would be beneficial. Students could get used to the school environment and learn things such as

lining up, waiting turns (restroom, fountain, talking), sharing, working together in groups, working independently/seat time, eating in a cafeteria style setting, and general social rules. The present group of Kindergarten (next year's First Grade) students missed a portion of their school year as many experienced disruption with quarantines and different procedures from normal. They are requesting to hire two additional teachers for a Kindergarten and First Grade Jump Start Summer School. By pulling these two grade levels out of the standard summer school, we will be able to focus more on readiness skills for school.

Ron Spencer motioned to approve the above Jump Start Summer School as presented. Rachel Mandeville seconded the motion and it carried with a 7-0 vote.

I. Amend Approval of Elementary Summer School:

Dr. Singer-Allee noted in the past we have done summer school for Third Grade through Fifth Grade. We want to extend this to include First Grade and Second Grade. This is the same information the Board received before for approval and the only change is adding the two grade levels. They have over 60 students signed up for summer school this year for grades one through five.

Mark Hoke motioned to approve the above amendment to elementary summer school. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 7-0 vote.

J. Approval of Textbook Adoption-Elementary SS Curriculum:

Rodney Simpson and Beth Waterman met with a committee of elementary teachers and parents to discuss the Social Studies textbook adoption. They are requesting to adopt a Social Studies Curriculum for grades three through five from SAVVAS. This would be added to book rental.

Ron Spencer motioned to approve the Social Studies textbook adoption as presented. Amber Greene seconded the motion and it carried with a 7-0 vote.

K. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the North Putnam Classroom Teachers Association: The MOU is between the North Putnam School Corporation and the North Putnam Classroom Teachers Association (NPCTA). Grant money became available after we modified the teacher's contract. We are asking to amend the contract to include a summer school stipend for learning loss. Summer school teachers would be paid \$25 per hour with a \$750 stipend and Jump Start teachers would be paid \$25 per hour with a \$1,000 stipend. This stipend is higher because they will be asked to serve the prepared meals to the students. Kathy Sykes and Chase Hiland, Co-Presidents of the NPCTA, have reviewed and approved the amendment.

Travis Lambermont motioned to approve the above MOU as presented. Eric Oliver seconded the motion and it carried with a 7-0 vote.

IV. DISCUSSION:

A. Facility Request:

Dr. Singer-Allee previously talked to the Board about the Facility Use Request form and that it needed to be reviewed. She provided a copy with revisions. She would like to continue discussing this at the June and July meetings if necessary. Eric Oliver commented that with the current policy the North Putnam Youth Baseball and Softball would have to pay to use the indoor facilities. They would only use if it rained outside. He thinks the youth are where it starts and they shouldn't be charged and it's our kids. It's not a money maker for them. He just wants them to keep this in mind when reviewing. Dr. Singer-Allee noted we can use his suggestion and change the policy so that outdoor sports can use the indoor facilities when needed and it's available. She wants to make sure they understand it will apply to any situation. Once we open the doors to one group, we must open to all. She will have the corporation attorney check over any changes. She does not want to provide any key fobs since April Lambermont and Terry Tippin can remote into the buildings and provide access at any time. Travis Lambermont suggested they could list that gym as needed if it rains. Rachel Mandeville commented that youth sports lead into school success. This can be a first reading.

B. First Reading – Elementary Homeschool:

In order for homeschool elementary and middle school students to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities, co-curricular clubs, or classes such as art, band, choir, music, STEM, or physical education, students and parents must do the following: provide proof of immunizations and physical examination, when required; complete all state-wide examinations as authorized by the Indiana Department of Education; submit grade information to the school to affirm the student is passing all courses; be enrolled in the school for a minimum of English/Language Arts and Mathematics classes; and follow all criteria established for the extracurricular activity, co-curricular club, and/or class. Rachel Mandeville asked if the classes are virtual. Dr. Singer-Allee commented yes they are only virtual.

V. REPORTS

A. Superintendent (Dr. Singer-Allee):

Thanks to everyone for a successful school year. The teachers, students, and parents did a great job adapting. It was a really good school year. She previously discussed the DUAB letter with them about over transferring money. She watched a DUAB meeting last Friday and the Board for this approved our changes and recommendations. They recognized that the initial guidance changed and that caused the confusion with the transfer. She thanked the Board and community. Have a great summer.

B. Treasurer (Tanya Pearson):

We have changed software for Komputrol and things will look a little different. She did not get the fund report done with the new system. She will get it to them as soon as she can.

C. Director of Operations (Terry Tippin):

No comments.

D. Administrators:

Rodney Simpson commented they had an excellent 5th Grade promotion program and it was fun. ILearn preliminary scores are in and they are in the process of reviewing these. He thanked them for all their support.

Scott Miller commented that they had their first awards day in two years. The students really cheered each other on and it was great. They finished the school year with the Last Blast. They had a great ending to the school year.

Jason Chew congratulated Scott Miller on his new position. He's been a dear friend and great administrator. Congratulations to Bucky Kramer. He is looking forward to working with him. The Academic English Super Bowl Team was State Runner-Up. This is the first time in school history. They were able to have an in person awards program and Senior night awards. They are getting ready for graduation. Every student matters and North Putnam has passion when it comes to the needs of the students. What they are doing at the elementary shows the great staff we have to support our students. He thanked them for everything they do and the Board's support.

VI. BOARD COMMENTS:

Mark Hoke appreciates all the staff. Rachel Mandeville agrees and appreciates the staff and administrators. She wants to thank the parents and students for their resilience this year. Eric Oliver thanked all the staff. He wished Scott Miller good luck. Ron Spencer thanks the staff and he appreciates them. Good luck to Scott Miller. He thinks Bucky Kramer will do a great job. Joanie Knapp thanked Scott Miller for his great leadership. She congratulated Bucky Kramer. Thanks to all staff for navigating through this difficult year. Amber Greene congratulated Scott Miller and Bucky Kramer. It says a lot about the kind of administrators they are with the number of teachers in attendance to support them. Travis Lambermont received a letter from the Indiana Association of School Board Officials (IASBO) and last year Dr. Singer-Allee was selected as the Region 7 Business Official of the Year. This was voted on by her peers. Congratulations to her on this award.

VII. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u> There being no further business to come before the Board, Travis Lambermont moved for adjournment

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

of the meeting. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 7-0 vote. The next meeting