

**NORTH PUTNAM COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
JANUARY 13, 2020 MINUTES**

The members of the Board of School Trustees of the North Putnam Community School Corporation held a regular session meeting on Monday, January 13, 2020, 7:00 P.M. at the North Putnam Community School Corporation, Administration Office, 300 North Washington Street, Bainbridge, Indiana.

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

Board members absent: None

Superintendent present: Nicole Singer

Attorney present: Darren Chadd

I. PUBLIC MEETING

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

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

B. Approval of Agenda:

There were no changes to the agenda.

C. Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

D. Building Project Report:

Dr. Singer noted that Matt Griffey, Shambaugh, was unable to attend the meeting tonight. They will be given a more detailed report at the next Board meeting. She provided a brief update. They did a lot of work over the holiday break. The hallway is cut through for the new library. They have started the athletic building. They are finalizing colors and furniture for inside the high school. The epoxy floor is all done in the middle school locker rooms.

II. CELEBRATING SUCCESS

A. Rodney Simpson, Principal, Bainbridge Elementary (Honoree: Jennifer Porter):

Jennifer Porter, Teacher at Bainbridge Elementary, is the recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Award for January.

Jennifer Porter graduated from Indiana State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree and has been employed at North Putnam Schools for 26 years. She enjoys gardening, 4-H, camping, and spending time with her sons and grandson. Rodney Simpson commented on how valuable Mrs. Porter is to their school. Congratulations to Mrs. Porter. We are very proud of her.

III. BOARD ORGANIZATION

A. Election of Officers – President, Vice-President, and Secretary (Newly elected President will preside at meeting):

The floor was opened for nominations for President of the Board. Mark Hoke nominated Ron Spencer and Darrell Wiatt seconded the motion. There were no other nominations for President. Ron Spencer was elected President of the Board with a 6 – 0 vote (Travis Lambermont nay).

The floor was opened for nominations for Vice-President of the Board. Darrell Wiatt nominated Dustin Osborn and Ron Spencer seconded the motion. There were no other nominations for Vice-President. Dustin Osborn was elected Vice-President of the Board with a 7 – 0 vote.

The floor was opened for nominations for Secretary of the Board. Joanie Knapp nominated Darrell Wiatt and Dustin Osborn seconded the motion. There were no other nominations for Secretary. Darrell Wiatt was elected Secretary of the Board with a 7 – 0 vote.

B. Establishment of Date, Time, and Place of Meeting:

Board meetings would be held at the Administration Office on the third Thursday of each month except for this meeting and the one in July.

Dustin Osborn motioned to approve the above date, time, and place of meeting. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 7 – 0 vote.

C. Adoption of Board Salary:

Darren Chadd noted the limit for Board salary is \$2,000 and a per diem is also permissible. Currently, Board members are paid \$2,000 per year.

Ron Spencer motioned to approve the above Board salary. Dustin Osborn seconded the motion and it carried with a 7 – 0 vote.

D. Appointment of Corporation Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer:

Travis Lambermont motioned to approve appointment of Tanya Pearson, Corporation Treasurer, and Heather Lawson, Assistant Treasurer. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 7 – 0 vote.

Appointment of Extra-Curricular Treasurers:

Travis Lambermont motioned to approve appointment of ECA treasurers Katrina Watson-BB; Patty Jones-RD; Mandy Keslar-MS; and Linda Stewart-HS. Darrell Wiatt seconded the motion and it carried with a 7 – 0 vote.

F. Approval of Bonds for Treasurers:

Dustin Osborn motioned to approve the bonds for all treasurers as listed. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 7 – 0 vote.

G. Appointment of Corporation Attorney:

Darrell Wiatt motioned to approve the appointment of Taylor, Chadd, Minnette, Schneider & Clutter as Corporation Attorney. Ron Spencer seconded the motion and it carried with a 7 – 0 vote.

H. Appointment of Board Members as Representatives to the Collective Bargaining Process:

Travis Lambermont motioned to keep the representatives the same as last year. Those representatives were Mark Hoke, Joanie Knapp and Ron Spencer. Darrell Wiatt seconded the motion and it carried with a 7 – 0 vote.

I. Forms for Conflict of Interest Statements:

Dr. Singer noted the Conflict of Interest Statements need to be returned to us by the end of the month. They need to list any pecuniary interests, for example, a family member who works for a company being used. It is recommended Board members abstain from the voting when this occurs. April Lambermont will email

the form to them and they can scan and email the form back to her at the Administration Office. If no conflict, they still need to return and note this.

The Board recessed at 7:24 p.m. for the Board of Finance meeting.

IV. RECESS – Board Finance Meeting
A. Elect President and Secretary:

Travis Lambermont motioned to keep the same officers as the Board officers. This would be Ron Spencer, President, and Darrell Wiatt, Secretary. Amber Greene seconded the motion and it carried with a 7 – 0 vote.

B. Review Corporation Investments:

Tanya Pearson provided the Board with a presentation in regards to the corporation investments. This report provides information on the finances and stability of the corporation. Overall, we are doing well as a corporation. Dustin Osborn asked about declining enrollment and how long we can sustain. Tanya Pearson noted that with declining enrollment funding is also cut.

The Board of Finance meeting was closed at 7:45 p.m.

V. 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-December 19, 2019, 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. Dustin Osborn seconded the motion and it carried with a 7 - 0 vote.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

A. Disposition of Outstanding Checks:

Tanya Pearson noted that outstanding checks can be cashed for up to two years according to Indiana Code. We have checks that have reached that timeframe and we need to receipt them back in.

Dustin Osborn motioned to approve the above disposition of outstanding checks. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 7 – 0 vote.

B. Permission to Advertise for Fuel Bids:

Terry Tippin noted that it is time to advertise for fuel bids. A recommendation for fuel will be brought forward to the Board at the February 20, 2020 meeting.

Ron Spencer motioned to grant permission to advertise for fuel bids. Darrell Wiatt seconded the motion and it carried with a 7 – 0 vote.

C. Approval of Extra-Curricular Funds:

Dr. Singer noted the Board can establish ECA funds and they were given a list of the current funds. Travis Lambermont asked if the new basketball program for the youth league would need to have its own account. We had donations on the agenda that went specifically to the elementary youth basketball program. Dr. Singer believes it is under the high school umbrella and it supports the elementary program. Dr. Singer noted they could approve this list as is and Tanya Pearson can check with Linda Stewart on how these funds are handled. If we need to establish a separate account for this, we can bring more ECA accounts back to the Board at a later date.

Dustin Osborn motioned to approve the above extra-curricular funds as presented. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 7 – 0 vote.

D. Approval of Additional Days for All Counselors:

The administrators discussed with Dr. Singer additional days for counselors. With the extra testing, record keeping, and parent/student assistance, they feel these are needed for them to complete everything. Each counselor will work an additional six days per school year. The days would be prorated for this year. Dustin Osborn asked what the additional cost would be. Dr. Singer noted it is approximately \$5,500.

Joanie Knapp motioned to approve the above additional days for all counselors. Ron Spencer seconded the motion and it carried with a 7 – 0 vote.

E. Establishment of Education Alliance:

Dr. Singer is seeking permission to become a member of the newly formed Wabash Valley Education Alliance. This group is comprised of school corporations in Sullivan, Vigo, Vermillion, Putnam, Parke, and Clay counties. The purpose of the group is to partner together on issues that impact our area when dealing with education and business development. The group would work together to advocate for the best interest of our school communities when critical issues arise. There is no cost associated with being a member and participation is currently limited to attendance at their quarterly Board meetings. Dustin Osborn asked if they would revisit this later if a cost becomes a part of the membership. Dr. Singer said it would come back to the Board if this happens.

Ron Spencer motioned to grant permission for North Putnam to become a member of the Wabash Valley Education Alliance. Amber Greene seconded the motion and it carried with a 7 – 0 vote.

VII. REPORTS

A. Superintendent:

Dr. Singer worked with Rodney Simpson on a pre-school grant and they just found out we were awarded the grant. We have been assigned a liaison who will help with the program. The United Way, local churches, and the Town of Bainbridge, among others, are very interested in helping with this. We had to get a financial partner and Tri-County supported this program with a \$5,000 contribution. We have \$98,500 in grant money to use. The program would be tuition-based and offered to any child wanting to join. We are very excited about this program. She has a WV/WCI Insurance Trust meeting tomorrow. Rodney Simpson has invited the administrators and Dr. Singer to attend the IPLI Conference at the end of January.

B. Treasurer:

Due to moving the Board meeting, we will have bills come in after this meeting that need to be paid before the next meeting. We will provide a list of the bills to the Board.

C. Director of Operations:

Terry Tippin congratulated Scott Miller on passing his CDL test. Scott Miller noted that Tony Ryan, Bus Driver, does a great job training drivers for the test. We have served eight days of lunches and breakfasts and the number of meals has gone up. Chartwells provides the menus on our website and through a downloadable app that will show parents and students what is being served each day and the nutritional value of everything served. This is a great service. Dustin Osborn asked if we have received any feedback from the students. Terry Tippin noted they have done surveys by walking around and asking the students. He feels they are really liking the food. Surveys are included on the menus also. Scott Miller noted that his students have had positive comments about the food. Ron Spencer stated that he has received positive comments from parents on how good the lunches have been.

D. Administrators:

Beth Waterman appreciates the Board's support. They have iLearn testing coming up.

Rodney Simpson commented their awards day for the first semester is this Friday. They are getting ready for iLearn testing.

Scott Miller commented that their awards day is this Friday.


Brandon Wagler stated they are off to a good start. We had a great crowd at the basketball game Friday night. Counselors will be in the classrooms to talk to students about signing up for classes next fall. They have ISTEP testing coming up in March. They have had a great first semester and there are great things happening in the classrooms.

VIII. BOARD COMMENTS:

Darrell Wiatt wished everyone a happy 2020 and he is looking forward to seeing changes at the buildings. Joanie Knapp thanked Tanya Pearson for her dedication. She is happy to hear about how well the food program is doing since hiring Chartwells. Amber Greene is excited about the new food service. Dustin Osborn thanked the staff for a great first semester. Ron Spencer is happy to hear how great the food service has been.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Joanie Knapp moved for adjournment of the meeting. Travis Lambermont seconded the motion and it carried by a 7 – 0 vote.



Ron Spencer, President

Travis Lambermont, Member

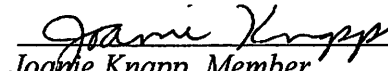


Dustin Osborn, Vice-President

Mark Hoke, Member



Darrell Wiatt, Secretary



Joanie Knapp, Member



Amber Greene, Member