

**NORTH PUTNAM COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
AUGUST 20, 2020 MINUTES**

The members of the Board of School Trustees of the North Putnam Community School Corporation held a regular session meeting on Thursday, August 20, 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
Darrell Wiatt
Travis Lambermont

Board members present by Google Meet: Joanie Knapp

Board members absent: Ron Spencer

Superintendent present: Nicole Singer

Attorney present: Dan Taylor

I. PUBLIC MEETING

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

Dustin Osborn called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Amber Greene, Mark Hoke, Dustin Osborn, Darrell Wiatt, and Travis Lambermont. Joanie Knapp was present via Google Meet.

B. Approval of Agenda:

Dr. Singer noted that one instructional assistant was added to the personnel report. The Film Documentary Presentation is being removed from the agenda.

C. Public Comments:

There were no comments from the public.

II. CELEBRATING SUCCESS

A. Celebrating Success – Beth Waterman, Principal, Roachdale Elementary (Honoree: Mary Lee Rippy):

Mary Lee Rippy, Teacher at Roachdale Elementary, is the recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Award for August.

Mary Lee Rippy graduated from Purdue University with both a Bachelor's and Master's Degree. She has taught students with special needs at North Putnam for 42 years. She enjoys reading, collecting antiques, coaching the Special Olympics, and spending time with family. She is very valuable to Roachdale Elementary. Congratulations to Mary Lee Rippy. 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-June 18, 2020, Executive Session**
- B. Approval of Minutes-July 9, 2020, Executive Session**
- C. Approval of Minutes-July 16, 2020, Executive Session**
- D. Approval of Minutes-July 16, 2020, Regular Session Board Minutes**
- E. Approval of Claims for Payment and Payrolls**
- F. Personnel Report**
- G. Donation Report**
- H. Fundraiser Report**

Travis Lambermont motioned to approve the above consent agenda as presented. Amber Greene seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. Permission to Advertise Budgets, Tax Rates and Levies for 2021 (Budget Estimate and Current Tax Levies, CPF Plan Notice of Expenditures, School Bus Replacement):

Tanya Pearson provided all of the forms she is required to complete for the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF). She included a comparison of the levies. We advertise high since we do not know the assessed value yet. The Education Fund dropped due to the ADM student decline. Dr. Singer noted the value of farm ground has dropped and this may affect these rates too. We have money put back in the Rainy Day Fund for HVAC if needed. The system at Bainbridge Elementary is a concern and there are some issues with HVAC at the middle school. Dustin Osborn asked how old the system is at Bainbridge Elementary. Terry Tippin noted it was installed in 2014.

Darrell Wiatt motioned to grant permission to advertise budgets as presented. Dustin Osborn seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 - 0 vote.

B. Approval of Property Casualty, Workman's Comp, and Liability Insurance by HBG:

John Parmley, HBG Insurance, provided a spreadsheet to break down the costs. He suggests we change carriers from Wright Specialty to Astra on buildings and liability. This will save the corporation approximately \$24,000. The deductibles are similar, but Astra gives 10 years or newer on replacement of busses. They have great rate renewals and provide very hands-on training. Dustin Osborn asked if the coverage was similar. John Parmley responded that yes they are and the coverage is good. Astra is a little broader.

Mark Hoke motioned to approve the above insurance as presented. Amber Greene seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

C. Approval of Contract for Library Media Specialist:

Dr. Singer noted this is something the Board approved last year. The contract was approved by our attorney. Schools are required to have a licensed library specialist and this is a contracted service. Vickie Berry worked in this position last year. She has been great to work with and addresses all of our library needs. Joanie Knapp asked when she is here. Dr. Singer noted that she works a normal contract day when she is here. It could be full day or half day typically two days a month. We can be flexible with her time.

Darrell Wiatt motioned to approve the above contract as presented. Mark Hoke seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

D. Teacher Appreciation Grant (TAG) Policy:

Dr. Singer noted that each year we have to approve our Teacher Appreciation Grant (TAG) Policy. This awards teachers who are highly effective and effective. The funds must be distributed 30 days after receiving the funds in November or December. The policy is the same as last year, but we added virtual instruction per Dan Taylor, Corporation Attorney. Dustin Osborn asked if the virtual instruction evaluation is the same evaluation tool as compared to what is used for a classroom teacher. Dr. Singer noted that we plan to use Rise Rubric 3.0, which is what we have now minus the testing piece so the evaluations will be the same.

Travis Lambermont motioned to approve the above TAG Policy as presented. Darrell Wiatt seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

E. Virtual Class Fees for 2020-2021 School Year:

With the development of the virtual classroom, we have fees that would be associated with this. The \$100 chromebook fee would remain the same, but if they enrolled in a virtual classroom and would rather use their personal device then they would not be charged for a chromebook. Virtual class fees would include

\$25 for elementary students and \$35 for high school and middle school students. These fees will help with the cost of the curriculum.

Amber Greene motioned to approve the above virtual class fees. Darrell Wiatt seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

IV. REPORTS

A. Superintendent:

Dr. Singer noted again that the teacher evaluation tool will be the Rise Rubric. She did talk to teachers to see if they wanted something different and they felt comfortable keeping the rubric we have. She thanked them for their help and cooperation. Beginning in September, we will have Board policy changes starting with Chapter 5. She wants to get through the other five chapters this school year. The start of the school year has gone smoothly. The students and teachers are doing a great job. She appreciates the staff for their professionalism and making it seem as normal as possible for the students. She thanked the administrative team.

B. Treasurer:

The Form 9 was accepted and is on the website. She is the IASBO Region VII Director and recently had the State Board of Accounts speak about virtual audits.

C. Director of Operations:

Terry Tippin noted we had a couple of issues on busses, so he rode the first few days. The drivers have done a great job handling the students and the masks. Due to state mandate, they are reviewing the safety of bus routes. The number of McKinney-Vento homeless families has gone up.

D. Administrators:

Rodney Simpson commented they have had a great start. The students and staff have been great.

Beth Waterman stated they had a great start also. The teachers and students have been great. They have been able to take students outside to read and this has been good. They worked on the High Ability Grant and this has been submitted. They are working on School Improvement Plans and surveys were sent out to parents. They have received good feedback. The teachers will get their surveys next week.

Scott Miller is the Corporation Test Coordinator and testing has been delayed. Students and staff have done great. They have shut off the bells throughout the day and students have done great with the staggered classes. Tonight was the first middle school football game. The start of school has gone very smoothly.

Jason Chew stated the students and staff have been great. It has been a smooth start. Today they had class meeting and it felt normal. Athletics started last Saturday. Tomorrow we host our first home football game. Joanie Knapp commented that the Facebook lives are very much appreciated.

Dr. Singer noted we have 91 students enrolled in virtual school and 1,177 in person. We had 1,318 students last year. We are down 50 students, so this is not quite as bad as the first day of school. Some parents decided to home school, but have said when this is over they will be back. We are basically down 30 more students than we projected, which is better than expected. The staff have been great and very willing to help where needed since we did not replace staff who left. Amber Greene asked what we get for the virtual students. Dr. Singer commented the state says we get 85%, but this could change later.

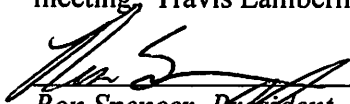
V. BOARD COMMENTS:

Darrell Wiatt enjoyed the tour of the high school and athletic facility and the opening day for teachers. He thanked all of the staff. Amber Greene feels things are going so well. Staff and administrators have done a great job. Dustin Osborn asked if the building project is close to wrapping up. Dr. Singer noted they will do a final walk through on Tuesday. Most of the items on the punch list have been addressed. Jason Chew noted there are some larger things they are finishing up early in the mornings and on

weekends. By Tuesday, they should be pretty well done. Joanie Knapp thanked everyone for a smooth start. She wanted to invite everyone to the Putnam County Dollars for Scholars drive thru on September 19, 2020. Dustin Osborn thanked all of the staff for a great start.

VI. 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 6 – 0 vote.



Ron Spencer, President



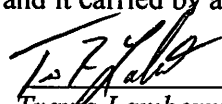
Dustin Osborn, Vice-President



Darrell Wiatt, Secretary



Amber Greene, Member



Travis Lambermont, Member



Mark Hoke, Member



Joanie Knapp, Member