

MINUTES

WEST LAFAYETTE COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

*Happy Hollow Building, LGI Room
1200 N. Salisbury Street
West Lafayette, Indiana*

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

Monday, December 6, 2021

PRESENT: Mr. Alan R. Karpick; Dr. Karen S. Springer; Mr. Bradley Marley; Mrs. Rachel Witt; Mr. Thomas H. Schott; Mrs. Amy Austin; Dr. Yue Yin; Mr. Robert C. Reiling, Jr.; Mr. Stephen Ohlhaut; Mr. Ross Sloat; and Mr. Michael Pettibone, Interim Superintendent.

President Karpick called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

I. ROUTINE BUSINESS

- A. A motion was made to approve the agenda for the Monday, December 6, 2021, Regular Meeting of the Board of School Trustees.**

Motion by: Mr. Schott

Seconded by: Mr. Marley

Vote: 7 of 7

- B. A motion was made to approve the minutes of meetings of the Board of School Trustees held on November 1, 2021.**

Motion by: Dr. Springer

Seconded by: Mrs. Austin

Vote: 7 of 7

II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Academic Achievement – Student Recognition**

Mrs. Shelby Johnson presented the “Red Devil Pride Way to Go” Award Program. The following recipients were selected this month by their school teachers and administrators for exemplifying our school corporation mission and good citizenship.

West Lafayette Elementary School:

Olive Kurtz - Kindergarten
William McKinney – 2nd Grade

West Lafayette Intermediate School:

Ki’Yah Pugh - 4th Grade
Raegan Miller - 5th Grade

West Lafayette Jr Sr High School:

Jorie Meister – 8th Grade
Jackson Gustus – Senior

CONGRATULATIONS to these students; we’re PROUD of you!

B. Superintendent Search

Dr. Springer recapped her monthly superintendent search report and timeline.

*July 1, 2021	Mr. Ross Sloat appointed as acting superintendent effective July 1-31, 2021
*July 1, 2021	The School Board appointed Administrator Assistance as the Superintendent Search Consultant
*July 12, 2021	Mr. Michael Pettibone was appointed as Interim Superintendent
*July 23, 2021	Superintendent vacancy announcement and application posting
*August 9, 2021	Superintendent qualities questionnaire posted; to be completed by August 22, 2021
*August 23, 2021	School Personnel Forum held to receive input on desired qualities of a Superintendent
*August 23, 2021	Parent, Student and Community Forum held to receive input on desired qualities of a Superintendent
*August 31, 2021	AASA Article – The School Superintendents Association article on Public vs Confidential Superintendent searches was posted
*September 1, 2021	Compiled Superintendent qualities questionnaire posted (438 responses)
*September 13-22, 2021	First round of interviews (seven candidates)
*October 20-November 4, 2021	Second round of interviews (four candidates)
*November 15, 2021	Third round of interviews (final two candidates)
*November 18, 2021	The School Board of Trustees reaches a consensus on a preferred potential candidate
*December 3, 2021	Notice of Public Hearing on proposed Superintendent contract was posted in the Journal & Courier and on the WLCSC website
*December 13, 2021	Public Hearing on proposed Superintendent contract held
*December 20, 2021	Special Meeting of the School Board of Trustees to vote on the Superintendent contract and then vote on the candidate

This timeline is posted on the main page of the West Lafayette Community School Corporation website under the Superintendent Search tab. Also, under that tab is the announcement of vacancy, the application, the compiled community Superintendent qualities questionnaire data plus frequency distribution, the American Association of School Administrators article “Superintendent Searches Public or Confidential?”.

IV. **COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Agenda Items

- *Tom Austin – Administrator Assistance
- *Mary Dell Forbes – JSHS Teacher
- *Lily Qiao – Parent
- *Lisa Mills – JSHS Teacher

C. Property Insurance Renewal

Recommendation: Mr. Ohlhaut recommended the Board of School Trustees approve the property insurance renewal with The Henriott Group. The estimated premium for 2022-23 will be \$209,926.00.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve the property insurance renewal with The Henriott Group.

Motion by: Mr. Marley

Seconded by: Mrs. Austin

Vote: 7 of 7

D. COVID Update

Mr. Pettibone provided an update on COVID, which continues to be on the radar. He thanked the governor for continuing the mandates for another month, and noted that The Indiana Department of Health provided update on the new Omicron COVID-19 variant. The Health Department also reminded the community that this is cold/flu season, so all absences cannot be assumed as COVID.

Mr. Pettibone thanked the School Board of Trustees for having the foresight to mandate masks from the beginning of the school year. WLCSC numbers have been extremely low, and this is due to wearing masks, social distancing, hand washing and thorough cleaning.

Mr. Karpick extended appreciation to the school nurses and school physicians for their support in keeping the students safe.

E. Personnel Report

Recommendation: Mr. Pettibone recommended that the Board of School Trustees approve all information contained in the report.

Discussion ensued.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve the administrative requests and names reflected in the Personnel Report.

Motion by: Dr. Springer

Seconded by: Mr. Marley

Vote: 7 of 7

F. Accounts Payable Vouchers

Recommendation: Mr. Ohlhaut recommended that the Board approve the audited claims in the report. The total claims paid: \$3,603,630.29.

A motion was made that the Board of School Trustees approve the audited vouchers as presented.

Motion by: Mr. Schott

Seconded by: Mr. Marley

Vote: 7 of 7

V. **INFORMATION TO THE BOARD**

None

VI. BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Dr. Yin – Attended the Public Schools Foundation Awards Ceremony and eight Tippecanoe School Corporation teachers were recognized.

Mr. Schott – West Lafayette Schools Foundation donated \$5000.00 on “Giving Tuesday” to go to student scholarships, teacher grants and the backpack program. There were six teacher grants across all three schools totaling over \$4000.00. Alumni Wall of Pride and Class of 2023 will be announced in the spring. The current, existing display of plaques have been relocated to the area of expertise inside the main doors, and an interactive touch-screen display will be created. The early returns on the March 26, 2022 Scarlet and Gray Gala is very positive.

Mrs. Witt – The Policy Committee met and is beginning to look at the spring/fall updates.

Dr. Springer – From the Park Board, the Riverside Skating Center was able to open for the season the day after Thanksgiving and will be open weather permitting. Hours of operation and pricing are located on the website. The Holiday Farmer’s Market was held the day before Thanksgiving at the Wellness Center and more than 30 vendors participated. On Wednesday, December 8 from 5 to 7 p.m., there will an Open House at the Wellness Center. This is a second community forum on the master plan process, and the public will be given an opportunity to provide their input. The G.L.A.S.S. Governing Board was held on Tuesday, November 16. G.L.A.S.S. has applied for two grants for the American Rescue Plan Funding Dollars. The preschool grant has already been approved for \$103,000. The 1.3 million school-age grant has not been approved yet, but likely will. The focus on the grants is learning loss, social/emotional learning and behavioral remediation; September 30, 2023 is the deadline for spending these funds. Mrs. Witt eluded to the policy updates which contain minor revisions simply to reflect new state law. The committee is hoping to bring some of those revised policies to the full board by February 2022.

Mr. Karpick – Dr. Springer has historically gathered names for next month’s Organizational Meeting for Board Officers. Dr. Springer will email the board members to see who is interested in serving. There was a tour of the athletics facilities at the high school to evaluate the need for improvements.

Mr. Marley – Negotiations was a smooth process, and it was enjoyable working with the WLEA. This is the best pay increase seen which is a good thing. Also, construction continues along Salisbury for installation of pathways. This will be followed by Grant Street and finally Yeager Road.

Mrs. Austin – Mr. Schott summed everything up nicely.

VII. COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

- *Troy Janes – Parent
- *Angela Janes – Parent
- *Erin Moon-Walker – Parent

VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS

Public Hearing – Proposed Superintendent Contract:
Monday, December 13, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. – Happy Hollow Building, LGI Room

Special Meeting on Superintendent Contract
Monday, December 20, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. – WLIS Cafe

Regular/Organization/Finance Board Meeting:
Monday, January 10, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. – Happy Hollow Building, LGI Room

IX. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.


Motion by: Mrs. Austin

Seconded by: Mr. Marley

Vote: 7 of 7



President



Secretary