

APPROVED
WARRICK COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
August 23, 2021

The Warrick County Board of School Trustees met in regular session on August 23, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Central Services Building with all members present, except Brenda Metzger. President Tim Mosbey called the meeting to order. A moment of silence was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Patron Concerns

Kristina Grover, came before the Board to ask that they better determine who is making donations before accepting them and to review library books and curriculum before approving them. She further stated that the Board is the gatekeeper for the students.

Angela Oxbby, came before the Board in regards to her transportation issue she discussed at the previous Board meeting. She stated that no one contacted her to follow up with her child's lack of bus transportation.

Jim Post, came before the Board to discuss the mask policy. Mr. Post stated that he does not want to be told how to run his family, and asked the school corporation to respect that.

Emily King came before the Board to discuss the mask policy. She stated that she has major anxiety and wearing masks makes it worse.

Stacey Cobb, came before the Board to discuss the mask policy. Mrs. Cobb stated that our youth has endured a year plus of horrific and scary times. She further stated that pushing mandates on our children and masking them is relaying a hidden message that they are the problem. Mrs. Cobb asked that the Board use common sense when approaching masks policies in our schools.

Megan Barnhill, came before the Board to discuss how grateful she was for the mask policy. Mrs. Barnhill described her family's fight to make sure her son could get in person learning due to being immunocompromised. She stated that her family felt a huge relief when the mask policy was announced. She thanked the Board for keeping her children and all the kids in the Corporation safe.

Consideration of Routine Items

A motion was made by Jane Wilhelmus and Jeff Baker to approve the following Routine Items, as listed:

- A. Approve the minutes of the School Board meeting held on August 9, 2021

- B. Approve Claims 1-136 dated August 23, 2021 and sign the docket
- C. Approve the Requests for Professional Leave

Motion carried.

Consideration of Items for Board Action

- A. A motion was made by Jeff Baker and seconded by Lynda Glover to approve the "Warrick County Pathways Report" also known as the feasibility study, to be used in the future planning of the Career Center, as presented. Motion carried.
- B. A motion was made by Jeff Baker and seconded by Lynda Glover, to grant Mr. Armstrong permission to move forward with the processes associated with the procuring of professional services necessary for site preparation, as well as those necessary for the design process for the Career Center, as presented. Motion carried.
- C. A motion was made by Jordan Aigner and seconded by Stephanie Gerhardt, to grant Mr. Armstrong permission to proceed with the steps necessary for the issuance of General Obligation bonds for the funding source in regards to Career Center, as presented. Motion carried.
- D. A motion was made by Jane Wilhelmus and seconded by Jordan Aigner, to grant permission to move forward with the acquisition of appraisals of currently owned properties that may be a part of future transactions for the additional land related to the Career Center, as presented. Motion carried.
- E. A motion was made by Stephanie Gerhardt and seconded by Lynda Glover, to accept a donation request from Loge Elementary Principal, Mrs. Lynn Pierce. The donation is the Renaissance Star Reading Program from the Loge PTO and is valued at \$4,000.00, as presented. Motion carried.
- F. A motion was made by Jane Wilhelmus and seconded by Lynda Glover, to accept two donations to Chandler Elementary School. The first donation is valued at \$32,207.00 and is to be used to purchase playground equipment. The second donation is valued at \$5,388.00 and is to be used to purchase picnic tables. Both donations are from the Chandler PTO, as presented. Motion carried.
- G. A motion was made by Jane Wilhelmus and seconded by Stephanie Gerhardt, to accept several donations to Tecumseh High School. The first donation is a \$1,000.00 cash donation from Old Friendship Church to benefit the Christmas fund. The second donation is a \$500.00 cash donation from Old friendship Church to benefit the Nurse's Fund for students in need. The third donation is a \$1,000.00 cash donation from the Deutsch's to also benefit the Nurse's fund and students in need. The fourth donation is a \$780.00 cash donation from the Benevity parent volunteer program through Toyota to benefit the Clay Target Team, as presented. Motion carried.
- H. A motion was made by Lynda Glover and seconded by Jordan Aigner, to accept a \$500.00 cash donation from the Indiana Association of School

- Principals to Sharon Elementary School. This donation is to be used to pay for conference expenses for the Elementary Principal of the Year Conference for Mrs. Bruggenschmidt, as presented. Motion carried.
- I. A motion was made by Stephanie Gerhardt and seconded by Jeff Baker, to accept a \$500.00 cash donation to Boonville High School from an anonymous donor. The donation will go towards purchasing the Lady Pioneers State Softball rings, as presented. Motion carried.
 - J. A motion was made by Jeff Baker and seconded by Stephanie Gerhardt, to approve the request of Mrs. Jamie Pryor, Principal at Oakdale Elementary School, to expend \$1,400.00 from the Athletic Fund, for curricular purposes, as presented. Motion carried.

Consideration of Personnel Recommendations

Dr. Doug Gresham presented recommendations for employment and requests for leave of absence. Upon his recommendation:

- A. Consideration of Employment.
 1. A motion was made by Lynda Glover and seconded by Stephanie Gerhardt to employ the following:
 - **Michelle Loughrie**, Temporary Program Assistant at Boonville Middle School
 - **Kristen Wilson**, Secretary/Treasurer at Lynnville Elementary SchoolMotion carried.
- B. Consider Employment of the following positions which have been hired by Dr. Lambert:
 1. A motion was made by Lynda Glover and seconded by Stephanie Gerhardt to employ the following:
 - **Amanda Herrmann**, Temporary 4th Grade Teacher at JH Castle Elementary School
 - **Sarah Devine**, Temporary 4th Grade Teacher at Chandler Elementary School
 - **Sarah Horn**, Temporary 1st Grade Teacher at Lynnville Elementary School
 - **Suzanne Hall**, Secretary at Tecumseh High School
 - **Sydney McElwain**, Temporary Program Assistant at Castle South Middle School
 - **Melody Connor**, Temporary Traveling Health Aide
 - **Erica Lampton**, Temporary Traveling Health Aide
 - **Kelsey Hocker**, Temporary Program Assistant at Castle High School

- **Tiffany Carter**, 3.25 hour Cafeteria position at JH Castle Elementary School
- **Glenda Kempf**, 3.5 hour Cafeteria position at Newburgh Elementary School
- **Kristin Ailstock**, 3.75 hour Cafeteria position at Castle North Middle School
- **Lynne M Mitchell**, Temporary Program Assistant at Boonville High School
- **Claudette Nicodemus**, 6.25 hour Cafeteria position at Tecumseh High School
- **Katie Gentry**, Temporary Program Assistant at JH Castle Elementary School
- **Sarah Phelps**, Temporary Program Assistant at JH Castle Elementary School
- **Serena Springer**, Temporary Program Assistant at JH Castle Elementary School
- **Brandi Geach**, Temporary Program Assistant at Boonville Middle School
- **Victoria Duff**, Special Education Clerical Aide
- **Belinda Adamson**, 3.5 hour Cafeteria position at Castle South Middle School
- **Heather Scales**, 6.5 hour Cafeteria position at Castle South Middle School

Motion carried.

C. Leave Requests:

1. A motion was made by Stephanie Gerhardt and seconded by Jane Wilhelmus to approve the following leave requests:
 - **Melissa Majors**, 4.75 hour Cafeteria Employee at Castle North Middle School.
 - **Tera Heldt**, Program Assistant at JH Castle Elementary School.
 - **Amanda Herrmann**, Program Assistant at JH Castle Elementary School.
 - **Brooke Strange**, Program Assistant at Sharon Elementary School.
 - **Lauren Poole**, Language Arts Teacher at Castle South Middle School.
 - **Jennifer Tennyson**, 6.0 hour Cafeteria Employee at Yankeetown Elementary School.
 - **Juliza Dillehay**, Program Assistant at Loge Elementary School.
 - **Samantha Tuley**, Special Education Teacher at Loge Elementary School.
 - **Marcy Butterfield**, Clerical Aide at Oakdale Elementary School.
 - **Jennifer Pruden**, Music Teacher at JH Castle Elementary School.
 - **Jennifer Pruden**, Music Teacher at JH Castle Elementary School.
 - **Jennifer Prudent**, Music Teacher at JH Castle Elementary School.

Motion carried.

D. Mr. Gresham reported on the following resignations:

1. **Colin McFadden**, Program Assistant at Castle High School, effective August 9, 2021.
2. **Vickie Beck**, Temporary Program Assistant at Boonville High School, effective August 9, 2021.
3. **Ricky Bethe**, 4 hour Custodian at Boonville High School, effective August 10, 2021.
4. **Erika Foster**, Bus Driver, effective July 30, 2021.
5. **Thomas Brown**, Bus Driver, effective September 3, 2021.
6. **Danielle Velazquez**, Program Assistant at Yankeetown Elementary, effective August 27, 2021.
7. **Jeffrey Elmore**, Computer Technician, effective August 31, 2021.
8. **Heather Payne**, Program Assistant at JH Castle Elementary School, effective August 17, 2021.
9. **Crista Luker**, Program Assistant at Boonville Middle School, August 18, 2021.
10. **Crystal Willis**, 6.5 hour Cafeteria Employee at Castle South Middle School, effective August 20, 2021.
11. **Lynne Mitchell**, Temporary Program Assistant at Boonville High School, effective September 3, 2021.
12. **Kristin Ailstock**, 3.75 hour Cafeteria Employee at Castle North Middle School, effective August 18, 2021.
13. **Qin Liu**, 3.5 hour Cafeteria Employee at Castle South Middle School, effective August 17, 2021.
14. **Jenny Kinney**, Program Assistant at Castle High School, effective August 27, 2021.

E. Mr. Gresham reported on the following retirement:

- **James A Williams**, Maintenance, effective October 1, 2021

Reports

Dr. Todd Lambert gave a presentation regarding the proposed Career Pathways Center.

Dr. Lambert stated that we would like to begin to offer programming in the fall of the 2023-2024 school year. He stated that the end goal is to help fill jobs within the community, or wherever our students would like to be employed and help to fill in the gaps.

Speaking with businesses within the community and based on student surveys, we have landed on three major areas our students will have opportunities in. Those will include health sciences, advanced manufacturing, and architecture and construction. He also stated that as the program grows, so will the offerings.

Dr. Lambert stated that we would like to start the process in May. He also stated that the building itself will cost approximately 15 million dollars to build, all subject to change. He also stated that operating costs will be approximately \$6 to \$8 per sq ft.

Dr. Lambert explained that business owners are very excited to be involved. He also added that this is an opportunity for business to help keep us informed of trends, Prepare kids to chase whatever dream they have.

Dr. Lambert spoke of staffing and capabilities, and how to best blend our staff members as well as some of the specialty staff we may need to complete the school. He focused on the main goal of keeping our in-district staff, while utilizing the expertise of the business in our area.

Dr. Lambert answered several questions from the public in regards to scheduling, transportation, and core instruction classes.

The full presentation can be found at the following link:

[WCSC School Board Meeting 08-23-2021](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a9oyvpUmVFo)
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a9oyvpUmVFo> beginning at 32:04)

Other Board Business

Policy and Curriculum Committee Meeting

– Monday, September 27, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at the Central Services Building.

Transportation & Special Education Committee Meeting

– Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. at the Administration Building.

Personnel & Contracts, Food & Nutrition, Custodial, and Safety Committee Meeting

– Tuesday, October 12, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at the Central Services Building.

Construction, Technology, & Maintenance Committee Meeting

– Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 7:30 a.m. at the Administration Building.

Career Pathways Committee Meeting

– Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. at the Administration Building.

Mr. Jeff Baker explained how the Book adoption procedure works, and said if parents would like to get involved to contact their Principal.

Mr. Jordan Aigner stated that the motions made tonight are a culmination of a lot of hard work from many people. He thanked Dr. Walter Lambert, VPS, and all the administration for moving this forward.

Mrs. Jane Wilhelmus stated that the first Board meeting in October will be held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

A question was asked from the public regarding how videos shown to students are approved.

Dr. Lambert stated that in most cases videos are adopted as part of the curriculum, and if they have a questionable rating or if the subject matter could be offensive; a permission slip or "opt out/opt in" letter is sent home. Dr. Lambert also stated that if anyone had further questions to please call the office.

Dr. Lambert gave an update regarding the Covid-19 numbers in the WCSC. Dr. Lambert explained that in comparison to last year's numbers at this time, we have more students that have tested positive; but have less quarantined students per positive test. Last year for every positive case we quarantined around 10 students and this year we are quarantining around 4, which means our healthy students are remaining in school. Dr. Lambert added that our most vulnerable area at this moment is athletics, because it presents less of a controlled situation.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

These minutes were approved by the Warrick County Board of School Trustees on the 13th day of September, 2021

Lynda Glover, Secretary of the Warrick County
Board of School Trustees

Attested:

Tim Mosbey, President of the Warrick County
Board of School Trustees