

**PROPOSED**  
**WARRICK COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION**  
**SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES**  
**October 12, 2021**

The Warrick County Board of School Trustees met in regular session on October 12, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Boardroom of the Central Services Building with all members present. President Tim Mosbey called the meeting to order. A moment of silence was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Tim Mosbey read a statement to the Public on behalf of the Warrick County School Board. This stated that the Board welcomes and values community comment but would like to remind patrons that the comments should be limited to five minutes. President Mosbey further stated that no comments should be directed at any individuals, nor should they be profane or derogatory in nature. President Mosbey also added that the Board has discretion on the amount of time given to each Patron, depending on the amount those who have signed up to speak. President Mosbey added that the time limit for tonight would be five minutes, and he thanked all in advance for cooperation with this policy.

**Patron Concerns**

**Irene Fuller**, came before the Board to ask that the WCSC put a hold on any further engagement with Panorama Education, and the social emotional learning survey being piloted by several schools. Mrs. Fuller stated that this survey is based on CRT. Mrs. Fuller stated that Warrick County is a blend of races, cultures, and political views, and our own teachers, administrators and community provide the best teaching and social emotional opportunities. She stated that she is concerned about the cost of this service. She also stated that some responses on this survey could be harmful and divisive. She urged parents to opt out of the survey.

**Jim Post**, came before the Board to discuss Panorama. He stated that one major concern can be found in the teacher training, and statements made against people who did not align politically with training material. He asked that WCSC take a further look into this, or cut ties with them as soon as possible.

**Richard Whitney**, came before the Board to discuss Panorama education. He spoke about the survey and Panorama Education, and stated that information found directly shows the co-founder supports the teaching of CRT. Mr. Whitney is concerned about the purpose and objective of the program. He asked if this was vetted by the Board and administrators.

**Jerad Whitney**, came before the Board to discuss concerns with Panorama education and the survey. He stated that he opted out of the survey, because he and his wife as parents are the ones in charge of helping teach and help their children with social

emotional needs. He stated that his concerns are the same as those who came before. Mr. Whitney asked that the Board look further into this program and asked if the parents are able to see the answers, because he feels that some of the questions he saw are not something that he would like his children reading or answering.

**Bonnie Speicher**, came before the Board to ask them to look into the survey. Mrs. Speicher also came before the Board to speak against masks. She stated that she hopes the Board is listening and she would like to believe that this is based on valid science. She stated that this is more about optics. Mrs. Speicher stated that masks obscure the face, and it is cruel punishment for kids to never see a teacher's face. She further stated that masks are a control measurement, and asked the Board to reconsider and make them optional.

**Corrie Meunier**, came before the Board to discuss masks. She stated that schools and county numbers are both moving in a favorable direction, and hoped that the update tonight would lead to a mask optional policy. She stated that it was the second consecutive week of declining numbers. Mrs. Meunier stated that anyone who feels more comfortable wearing a mask should certainly be able to do so, but universal masking isn't the answer. She went on to object to a previous speaker's thoughts on after school activities and sports, and stated the valuable life lessons learned from them. Mrs. Meunier stated that it is time to give the choice whether to mask or not back to parents.

### **Consideration of Routine Items**

A motion was made by Jeff Baker and seconded by Brenda Metzger to approve the following Routine Items, as listed:

- A. Approve the minutes of the School Board meeting held on September 27, 2021
- B. Approve Claims 1- 17 dated, September 30, 2021
- C. Approve Claims 1- 160 dated, October 12, 2021 and sign the docket
- D. Approve the Requests for Professional Leave

Motion carried.

### **Consideration of Items for Board Action**

- A. President Mosbey recessed the regular Board meeting and opened a Public Hearing on the proposed 2022 Budget, Capital Projects Plan and the Bus Replacement Plan.

Mr. Todd Armstrong presented information on the proposed 2022 Budget, Capital Projects Plan and the Bus Replacement Plan. The full presentation can be found here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TiK01H\\_fbDg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TiK01H_fbDg)

President Mosbey opened the floor to the public for comment.

After some discussion, Mr. Mosbey closed the public hearing and reconvened the regular Board meeting.

- B. A motion was made by Brenda Metzger by and seconded by Lynda Glover to adopt the Preliminary Bond Resolution establishing the maximum amount to be borrowed, maximum term of repayment, and maximum interest rate, as presented. Motion carried.
- C. A motion was made by Jane Wilhelmus and seconded by Stephanie Gerhardt to approve the If the School Corporation pays any preliminary costs related to the project in advance of receiving the bond proceeds, it may want to reserve its ability to be reimbursed from bond proceeds after the closing. The Internal Revenue Service requires that a School Corporation declare its official intent to reimburse as documented in this resolution in order to reserve this ability to reimburse. I recommend that the Board declare such intent, as presented. Motion carried.
- D. The first reading of proposed Policy 1360- Electronic Participation in Board Meetings was held. The proposed policy includes revisions from the first reading.
- E. The second reading of proposed Policy 4035 – Student Residency Verification was held.  
Mrs. Jane Wilhemus made a motion to adopt proposed Policy 4035 – Student Residency Verification, the motion was seconded by Mr. Jeff Baker. Motion carried.
- F. A motion was made by Lynda Glover and seconded by Stephanie Gerhardt to approve the recommendation from Dr. Walter Lambert to change two course titles to the high school offerings list for the 2021-2022 school year. The first course is Technical Communications and the second course is Technical Business Communications. These courses are currently in use, but under different titles, and must be adjusted to align with the state course catalog, as presented. Motion carried.
- G. A motion was made by Brenda Metzger and seconded by Lynda Glover to approve the list of teacher and lay coach assignments for 2021-2022 Extra-Curricular positions. Past practice has been to allow principals to assign individuals to Extra-Curricular positions and have the Board approve those assignments, as presented.
- H. A motion was made by Stephanie Gerhardt and seconded by Jordan Aigner to accept a \$1,229.46 cash donation from SABIC to Newburgh Elementary School to be used for the Boys to Men Club, as presented. Motion carried.
- I. A motion was made by Jane Wilhelmus and seconded by Brenda Metzger to accept four cash donations to Castle High School. The first donation is a \$1,000.00 cash donation from an anonymous donor. The second donation is training equipment valued at \$1,569.59 purchased by the Newburgh Sea Creatures to be used by the Swim and Dive Team as well as the Newburgh Sea Creature Athletes. The third donation is an \$833.34 cash donation from the Bayer foundation to be used by the FFA. And the last donation is a \$500.00 cash donation from Youth Resources of Southwestern Indiana to be used by the Teen Power club, as presented. Motion carried.
- J. A motion was made by Lynda Glover and seconded by Jeff Baker to accept two cash donations to Tecumseh High School. The first donation is an

\$833.33 cash donation from the Bayer Fund to be used by the THS FFA. The second is a \$500.00 cash donation from the Toyota Benevity Fund % Scot Pemberton. These funds are to benefit the THS boys Baseball Program, as presented. Motion carried.

- K. A motion was made by Jane Wilhelmus and seconded by Stephanie Gerhardt to accept a donation to Sharon Elementary School from the Sharon PTO of Peak Endurance Playground equipment valued at \$15,930.00, as presented. Motion carried.
- L. A motion was made by Stephanie Gerhardt and seconded by Jane Wilhelmus to accept a donation to Chandler Elementary School from the Chandler PTO of a Shelter House to be built on the grounds valued at \$9,000.00, as presented. Motion carried.
- M. A motion was made by Jane Wilhelmus and seconded by Lynda Glover to approve the request from Castle North Middle School Principal Mr. John Bertram to enter into a contract with All Blown Up to provide inflatables for the Monster Mash Bash on October 29, 2021, 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.**

A motion was made by Lynda Glover and seconded by Jane Wilhelmus to employ the following positions:

- Shianne Lockhart, Temporary ABS Teacher at Yankeetown Elementary School
- Katherine Maurer, Temporary Preschool Teacher at Loge Elementary School
- Heather Payne, Temporary Program Assistant at John H Elementary School
- Sara Davis, Temporary Program Assistant at Castle High School
- Krystal Fields, Temporary Program Assistant at Yankeetown Elementary School
- Erin Williams, Temporary Program Assistant at Oakdale Elementary School
- Hilary Singh, Temporary Program Assistant at Castle High School
- Kelly Counts, Temporary ABS Program Assistant at Oakdale Elementary School.

Motion carried.

#### **B. Consider Termination of Employment:**

A motion was made by Jeff Baker and seconded by Lynda Glover to terminate the following:

- Amber Baehl, Dual Role Employee - effective October 6, 2021.

C. Leave Requests:

A motion was made by Stephanie Gerhardt and seconded by Jane Wilhelmus to approve the following leave requests:

- Katie Larramore, Second Grade Teacher at John H Elementary School.
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  - Haylee Fisher, Program Assistant at Chandler Elementary
  - Paul Shoulders, Class B Maintenance.
  - Denise Burkes, 6.5 hour Cafeteria Employee at Castle High School
  - Yvonne Fisher, Cafeteria Manager at Sharon Elementary School
  - Felicia Smith, Program Assistant at Boonville Middle School.
  - Edyth Ford, 5.25 hour Cafeteria Employee.
  - Linda Lamb, full time Custodian at Lynnville Elementary School
  - Allie Franklin, Program Assistant at Newburgh Elementary
- Motion carried.

D. Dr. Gresham reported on the following leave:

- Kristi Held, ABS Teacher at Yankeetown Elementary School, was on a directed leave of absence from September 10, 2021 to September 22, 2021.

E. Dr. Gresham reported on the following reassignment:

- Kristi Held, ABS Special Education Teacher at Yankeetown Elementary School is being reassigned to WEC as a Special Education Teacher effective September 23, 2021.

F. Dr. Gresham reported on the following report of return:

- Kristen Cates, Health Aide at Newburgh Elementary School, is requesting an early return from her previously approved medical leave of absence that began September 21, 2021 with an anticipated return date of November 3, 2021. The new return date will be October 11, 2021.

G. Dr. Gresham reported on the following report of resignations:

- Jessica Bugg, Temporary Program Assistant at JH Castle Elementary School - resignation effective October 1, 2021.
- Cara Cobb, Program Assistant at Castle High School - resignation effective October 21, 2021.
- Robin Summers, ABS Program Assistant at Castle High School - resignation effective October 18, 2021.
- Belinda Adamson, 3.5 hour Cafeteria Employee at Castle South Middle School - resignation effective September 5, 2021.

**Reports**

Dr. Walter Lambert gave an update on the Policy and Curriculum Committee. He shared that the attendance policy will be updated soon but still needs a teacher committee to be assigned. He also reminded the Board that testing is beginning for High School students as well as winter re-tests. Dr. Lambert also stated that all the high school teachers are currently going through training for test administration, and security in regards to the Indiana SAT's.

Dr. Doug Gresham gave an update on the He stated that they discussed the downward trend in Covid numbers. Dr. Gresham also shared that Manager of Food and Nutrition Department Mrs. Shenae Rowe, updated the committee on staffing and turnover within the department. She also presented the committee with information regarding the increases in meals, and challenges her department has had over the past year.

Mrs. Lynda Glover asked if we had any shortages in food deliveries.

Dr. Gresham stated that the department is experiencing these challenges, but Mrs. Allison Robison works diligently to make sure everything is ordered and is a healthy substitute for the shortages.

**Other Board Business**

Dr. Todd Lambert gave an update regarding the Covid numbers. Dr. Lambert stated that the team evaluates the information every Wednesday when the state releases the two-metric county score. The team then reviews this number and the positive student cases in context with the county data. Although the school data continues to drop, the county data remains in the orange category. Dr. Lambert stated that the administration team will re-evaluate the numbers tomorrow morning and will make any decisions regarding a change in the mask policy from there. If there is a change, that information will be given to families through communication from their schools as well as the website.

**Policy and Curriculum Committee Meeting**

– Monday, October 25, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at the Central Services Building.

**Transportation & Special Education Committee Meeting**

– Tuesday, October 19, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. at the Administration Building.

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

– Monday, November 8, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at the Central Services Building.

**Construction, Technology, & Maintenance Committee Meeting**

– Wednesday, October 13, 2021, at 7:30 a.m. at the Administration Building.

**Career Pathways Committee Meeting**

– Wednesday, October 13, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. at the Administration Building.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

These minutes were approved by the Warrick County Board of School Trustees on the 12th day of October, 2021

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

Attested:

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