

Approved Minutes
Warrick County School Corporation
Board of School Trustees
February 27, 2023

The Warrick County Board of School Trustees met in regular session on February 27, 2023, at 7:00 pm with the following Board Members present: Mrs. Jane Wilhelmus, Ms. Brenda Metzger, Mr. Eric Franz, Mr. Jeff Baker, Mrs. Lynda Glover, Mr. Jordan Aigner, and Mr. Tim Mosbey. YouTube is the electronic means of communication used by the public to attend remotely.

President Wilhelmus called the meeting to order and asked everyone to remember Boonville High School student Ashton Pryor. Aston is the daughter of Brandon and Jamie Pryor, both of whom are employees of the Warrick County School Corporation. Aside from softball, Ashton also played volleyball at Boonville High School and was lettered in both sports. She was an honorary National Honor Society nominee, Freshman Homecoming Basketball Attendant and a member of the Play For Kate Foundation. Most of all, she was a beloved daughter, sister, granddaughter, niece, teammate and best friend to so many people that loved her. A moment of silence was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Patron Concerns

Robert Howard came before the board to give a shout out to the staff at Boonville Middle School for doing a fantastic job caring for their students. Mr. Howard also verbalized his opinion on Senate Bill 486 Education Matters.

Leah Barnett came before the board asking for students' voices to be heard at school. Ms. Barnett is a substitute teacher in several school buildings and feels students have something to say.

Carmen Downing has been a bus driver in Warrick County for 48 years. She is asking the board to consider giving bus drivers benefits such as retirement and Insurance like other counties in the area. Ms. Downing feels these benefits may help to employ more bus drivers.

Kelly Schmitt is a WCSC employee. She came before the board asking for a pay increase for permanent cafeteria workers. Ms. Schmitt is worried cafeteria employees will find better paying jobs which will cause schools to be short staffed.

Jim Post came before the board to congratulate Dr. Lambert in his new position. When searching for a new Superintendent, Mr. Post asked the board to search for a local person who understands our community and wants to stay in Warrick County.

Irene Fuller came before the board asking if the policy that requires teachers and counselors to withhold information from parents regarding preferred pronouns of students has been withdrawn.

Consideration of Routine Items

A motion was made by Ms. Metzger and seconded by Mr. Aigner to approve the following routine items:

- Minutes of the School Board Meeting held on February 13, 2023.
- Claims and docket for February 27, 2023.

Motion carried.

Consideration of Items for Board Action

- A. A motion was made by Mr. Mosbey and seconded by Mr. Baker to approve the 2023-2024 Elementary Agenda Book request submitted by the Director of Learning, Dr. Abbie Redmon.
Motion carried.
- B. A motion was made by Mr. Mosbey and seconded by Mr. Franz to approve a donation request from Newburgh Elementary School Principal, Dr. Holly Arnold, in the amount of \$4,470. This donation is on behalf of the Newburgh High School Alumni to be used for general expenses or projects for the school.
Motion carried.
- C. A motion was made by Mrs. Glover and seconded by Ms. Metzger to approve a donation request from Tecumseh High School Principal, Mr. Jason Fischer, in the amount of \$800 from the National FFA (Future Farmers of America) Foundation, Inc. This donation is on behalf of Blesch Brothers to be used for general expenses for the school.
Motion carried.
- D. A motion was made by Mr. Baker and seconded by Mr. Aigner to approve a donation request from Chandler Elementary School Principal, Mrs. Stephanie Henrich, in the amount of \$669.75 from the Warrick Public Education Foundation, Inc. This donation is for "Everything is Awesome with Lego Force and Motion!" grant written by Debbie Berkley.
Motion carried.
- E. A motion was made by Mrs. Glover and seconded by Mr. Baker to approve the agreement from Castle High School with the Bring Change To Mind (BC2M) high school program. This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) lays out the specifics of the program that will be started at Castle High School. The school corporation's attorney, Mr. Cliff Whitehead, has reviewed this document.
Motion carried.
- F. A motion was made by Mr. Mosbey and seconded by Ms. Metzger to approve the request from Sharon Elementary School Assistant Principal, Mr. Kris Warner, to enter into a contract with Backyard Blasts, LLC for inflatable equipment to be used in May 2023 for the Sharon Backyard Bash.
Motion carried.
- G. A motion was made by Mr. Aigner and seconded by Mrs. Glover to approve the request from Castle South Middle School Principal, Mr. Greg Harris, to enter into a contract with Jumping Jack's Entertainment for inflatable equipment to be used on March 13, 2023 for the Castle South Dragon Fun Night. Motion carried.

- H. A motion was made by Mrs. Glover and seconded by Ms. Metzger to authorize Board president, Mrs. Wilhelmus, to execute the related settlement documentation relating to a potential settlement in the pending litigation against Juul, for its role in the vaping epidemic and its resulting effect on our schools. Once entered into this agreement, our Corporation will receive a portion of the settlement funds in exchange for a release of claims against Juul and its related entities.

Motion carried.

- I. A motion was made by Mr. Franz and seconded by Mrs. Glover to approve the bid request from Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Todd Armstrong, for Interactive Flat Panels. Proposals were received on February 23, 2023, at the Warrick County School Corporation Administrative Building. Only one vendor, Computer Discount Warehouse (CDW), met the requirements of the request for proposal (RFP). The approval of the bid submitted from CDW is for the purchase of 150 or more of each of the items in the bid tabulation.

Motion carried.

Consideration of Personnel Recommendations

Human Resources Director, Dr. Doug Gresham presented the following recommendations for employment:

- A. A motion was made by Ms. Metzger and seconded by Mr. Baker to approve the following positions:

- Crystal Weyerbacher - 3.75 hour Cafeteria position at Boonville High School
- Megan Imlay - 3.75 hour Cafeteria position at Castle North Middle School
- Veronica Jones - 3.5 hour Cafeteria position at Newburgh Elementary School
- Natalie Ellison - 3.25 hour Cafeteria position at JH Castle Elementary School
- Christina Schultz - Temporary Program Assistant at St. John's Elementary School (Grant funded)

Motion carried.

- B. A motion was made by Mrs. Glover and seconded by Ms. Metzger to approve the following leave requests:

- Paul Shoulders, Class B Maintenance
- Dee Postin, 3.75 hour Cafeteria Employee at Boonville Middle School
- Rayann Roettger, 6.5 hour Cafeteria Employee at Chandler Elementary School
- Kristi Held, Itinerant Special Education Teacher
- Charlotte Aylsworth, Health Aide, at Loge Elementary School

Motion carried.

- C. Cafeteria Transfers:

- Serena Gehlhausen, 4.5 hours at Castle High School to 6.5 hours at Castle High School
- Kim Eidson, 6.5 hours at Castle High School to 4.5 hours at Castle High School
- Miji Kim, 4.75 hours at Castle High School to 6.0 hours at Castle High School
- Page Chamberlain, 3.5 hours at Boonville Middle School to 3.75 hours at Boonville Middle School

D. Report of Change from Personal Leave to Medical Leave

- Jennifer Seiler was approved as taking a personal leave of absence from February 1, 2023 with an anticipated return date of April 3, 2023. It will be a medical leave of absence beginning February 1, 2023 through February 15, 2023.

E. Resignations:

- Jennifer Seiler, Special Education Teacher at Chandler Elementary School - resignation effective February 24, 2023.
- Heather Oxley, 3rd Grade Teacher at Lynnville Elementary School - resignation effective May 31, 2023.
- Sherri West, 6.5 hour Cafeteria Employee at Castle High School - resignation effective July 19, 2021.
- Whitney Buck, Program Assistant at Lynnville Elementary School - resignation effective March 10, 2023.
- Banani Mondal, 3.5 hour Cafeteria Employee at Castle South Middle School - resignation effective February 24, 2023.

Reports

Construction, Technology & Maintenance, WPCC Committee:

Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Todd Armstrong, commented on the progress of the WPCC construction project. Due to rain the project is a few weeks behind schedule. Mr. Armstrong met with the general contractor to rework the schedule to build in Saturday work days for the subcontractors at the expense of WCSC. There will be a contract increase causing a change order to take place possibly by the next board meeting.

Mr. Armstrong discussed several projects being looked at in the upcoming months.

Some of these may include:

Boonville HS - kitchen and cafeteria renovation

Castle HS - internal building-wide upgrades

Tecumseh HS - bleachers in upper deck

Boonville MS - air conditioning in gym B and office renovation

Castle North MS - air conditioning in gym B

Lynnville ES - resurface parking lot

Sharon ES - more ballards

Other Board Business

Mr. Aigner spoke about the JUUL litigation (item H). He believes the board needs to hear the public's concerns. He suggested a presentation regarding the issues and struggles we are seeing as a community. Dr. Lambert agreed with Mr. Aigner and added this issue is also on the minds of the administrators, teachers, and parents. Dr. Lambert stated an informational presentation of some facts and figures over the past few years could be ready within the next few meetings.

Mrs. Wilhelmus thanked Ms. Metzger for attending the ISBA (Indiana School Boards Association) State House Day and representing the Warrick County School Corporation. Ms. Metzger met with the legislature to discuss bills that are moving through the house. She shared statistics and details on some of those bills. Per Ms. Metzger:

"2023 Legislative Session Calendar and Status 123rd General Assembly, is the longest session

that's required to conclude on April 29. ISBA is tracking 218 bills out of the 1,162 bills which is 50% more bills than the last session and the most bills in a session in at least 8 years. Indiana parents were polled with 88% of them saying they are happy with their child's school and that 93% of school age children attend public school. Governor Holcomb is wanting to push for a \$60,000 average teacher pay but is receiving push back from legislatures. The national average of school psychologists per student is 94/1 but in the state of Indiana the average of school psychologists per student is 674/1. There was a long discussion about tax caps and complexity issues. One presentation addressed a bill which makes school corporations unable to collect textbook fees. Another bill not resolved yet is a bill that would have an appointed representative of the school corporation on the TIF boards as a voting member."

Upcoming Meetings

Personnel, Food & Nutrition, and Custodial Committee:

- Monday, March 13, 2023, 6:30 pm at Central Services, 930 W. Main St, Boonville, IN

Board of School Trustees ONLY meeting for March:

- Monday, March 13, 2023, 7:00 pm at Central Services, 930 W. Main St, Boonville, IN

Policy and Curriculum Committee:

- Monday, March 13, 2023, 7:30 pm at Central Services, 930 W. Main St, Boonville, IN

Construction, Technology, and Maintenance Committee:

- Tuesday, March 14, 2023, 7:30 am at the Administration Building, 300 E. Gum St, Boonville, IN

Special Education and Transportation Committee:

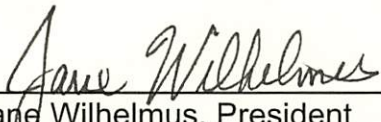
- Tuesday, March 21, 2023, 8:30 am at the Administration Building, 300 E. Gum St, Boonville, IN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

These minutes were approved by the Warrick County Board of School Trustees on the 13th day of March, 2023.


Lynda Glover, Secretary
Warrick County Board of School Trustees

Attested:


Jane Wilhelms, President
Warrick County Board of School Trustees