

LINTON-STOCKTON SCHOOL CORPORATION
MINUTES FOR REGULAR BOARD MEETING
August 21, 2017

The Linton-Stockton Board of School Trustees met at 7:00 p.m. in the Education Center, 801 First Street NE, Linton, Indiana 47441, to conduct a regular board meeting. Mr. Witty called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were the following board members:

Mr. Mike Perigo
Mr. Leslie Newman
Mr. Ralph Witty
Mr. John Preble
Mr. Clint House

Also in attendance were: Kent Brewer, Alicia Cornelius, Lisa Hollingsworth, Ashley Mathis, Hobie Harrison, Rita Cox, Cheryl Ash, Andrew Wring, Nichole Hughes, Jessi Stanton, Kelsey Jones, Kelly Lannan, Amanda Smith, Timi Smith, Sam Drummy, Nick Karazsia, and one media representative.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Karazsia recommended the board approve the minutes from the July 17, 2017, regular board meeting. Mr. Preble made a motion to approve the recommendation and Mr. Newman seconded the motion.

On roll call:

AYE: House, Preble, Witty, Newman, Perigo

NAY: None
(motion unanimously carried)

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Mr. Karazsia recommended the board approve the following donations:

\$50 – FFA Club from Ron and Misty Hollingsworth
\$300 – Football Club from Taylor Geosynthetics
\$1,000 – Football Club from Hi-Temp Refractories
\$1,000 – Football Club from Bowen Engineering Corp
\$2,500 – Football Club from Honey Creek Machine Inc.

Mr. House made a motion to approve the recommendation and Mr. Perigo seconded the motion.

On roll call:

AYE: House, Preble, Witty, Newman, Perigo

NAY: None
(motion unanimously carried)

Mr. Karazsia recommended the board approve the correction to the date on the legal signed document of the board minutes from October 19, 2015. They were approved on November 16, 2015, with the correct date of October 19, 2015, but the incorrect date of October 21, 2015, was inadvertently put on the legal document, which the board signed. Mr. Newman made a motion to approve the recommendation and Mr. Perigo seconded the motion.

On roll call:

AYE: House, Preble, Witty, Newman, Perigo

NAY: None
(motion unanimously carried)

Mr. Karazsia recommended the board approve the teacher appreciation grant policy as presented in the board packet per I.C. 20-43-10.3.5 and the waiving of the 2nd reading. Mr. Preble made a motion to approve the recommendation and Mr. House seconded the motion.

On roll call:

AYE: House, Preble, Witty, Newman, Perigo

NAY: None
(motion unanimously carried)

Mr. Karazsia recommended the board approve the additional book fees presented in the board packet for the middle school and high school for the 2017/18 school year. Mr. Perigo made a motion to approve the recommendation and Mr. Witty seconded the motion.

On roll call:

AYE: House, Preble, Witty, Newman, Perigo

NAY: None
(motion unanimously carried)

Mr. Karazsia recommended the board approve the transfer of appropriations resolution as presented in the board packet. Mr. House made a motion to approve the recommendation and Mr. Newman seconded the motion.

On roll call:

AYE: House, Preble, Witty, Newman, Perigo

NAY: None
(motion unanimously carried)

Superintendent's Report:

Cheryl Ash, Jessi Stanton, Rita Cox, and Andrew Wring shared information with the board regarding the high school math classes. Jessi stated that having Tiffany Todd as an additional technology coach has been a great asset and also thanked the board for the purchase of the new smart notebook, which is web based. Cheryl stated at the federal level, law makers replaced the "No Child Left Behind" with a new law, and as a result of the new law a general education diploma will no longer be recognized in the state of Indiana, which could affect the graduation rate. The math teachers have met and developed separate tracks according to the student's ability, to help develop the skills needed to pass the classes necessary to obtain a diploma. Rita updated the board on information regarding ISTEP and Math 10 testing. The students that did not pass these tests are being offered a remediation class. There are workshops available that Jessi and Rita will be attending to assist them in developing the skills students need to pass these tests. Andrew is utilizing technology and programs that gives him immediate feedback on the students' progress. He teaches business math and is trying to get speakers to come into the classroom to show the students how math is used in the real world.

Mr. Preble questioned if the teachers are finding our students more or less prepared than in previous years. Andrew stated that the students at Linton-Stockton are more prepared than students, that he has saw in other school districts. Cheryl stated that she has seen improvements in the categories of fractions and decimals and Rita stated that the reading element of math is emphasized a lot in the state testing.

Hobie Harrison, Ashley Mathis, and Timi Smith reported on the math department in the middle school. Hobie stated that using Chromebooks has been the biggest change this year for her. She uses the Khan Academy program and stated that testing online is a struggle for her, especially when the students need to show their work. Ashley stated that this is the 2nd year for her using Chromebooks in her classroom. The students like using both the Chromebook and paper depending on what they are working on. Timi stated that graphing on Chromebooks makes it a bit challenging, so they still use paper some.

Mr. Karazsia questioned if the state is going to move forward with online testing. According to information received, Mrs. Cornelius said that the state is going to require 2/3 of the students be tested online this year. The Smart notebook should help with testing.

Mr. Perigo feels that online testing hurts the scores.

Mr. Preble asked if the Khan Academy program is available to everyone. It was stated that this program is available for everyone.

Nichole Hughes and Kelsey Jones updated the board on the elementary math classes. They have students for 90 minutes a day for math. Nichole stated that they are working on a spiral review concept, which means that skills loop around throughout the year. They also implement time tests, technology activities, and work in base stations depending on the students' ability. Both Scope Pad and Khan Academy programs have diagnostic tests, allowing the teacher to see what level the student is performing at. Kelsey works with special education students, focusing on re-teaching and different teaching styles. The students love Scope Pad, which helps reinforce their skills. Mr. Karazsia questioned how much time is the Chromebook's being used verses paper? Kelsey stated that they quiz through Google forms but for the students first test they used paper. Nichole said that her own child is in first grade and is using Chromebooks, but uses paper and pencil to make sure they understand their work. The elementary is using Envision (common core series) in the math department.

Mr. Karazsia updated the board on current enrollment figures. The elementary has 679 students, the middle school has 357 students, and the high school has 384 students, with a total count of 1,420 students. In comparison to the count day on 9/16/2016 we are down 5 students overall. Mr. Preble asked what the kindergarten class size was. Mr. Karazsia stated there are 116 students in the kindergarten.

Mr. Karazsia updated the board on the construction projects. We are wrapping up projects 1, 2, and 4. The punch list is almost complete and we will have a meeting after Labor Day. Mr. Witty stated that some of the punch list items include seeding and strawing. Mr. Karazsia hopes to hire an architect soon on Project 3 and begin the process of building the athletic facilities.

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Personnel:

Resignation/Retirement:

Mr. Karazsia recommended the board accept the following resignations effective prior to the beginning of the 2017/18 school year:

Katie Lane
Sharon Dudley
Joanna Sipes

Mr. Perigo made a motion to approve the recommendation and Mr. Newman seconded the motion.

On roll call:

AYE: House, Preble, Witty, Newman, Perigo

NAY: None
(motion unanimously carried)

Mr. Karazsia recommended the board accept the resignation of Jodie Oliver Evo as an elementary instructional assistant effective prior to the beginning of the 2017/18 school year. Mr. Preble made a motion to approve the recommendation and Mr. House seconded the motion.

On roll call:

AYE: House, Preble, Witty, Newman, Perigo

NAY: None
(motion unanimously carried)

Mr. Karazsia recommended the board accept the resignation of Andrea Wilson as a middle school teacher effective at the end of the 2016/17 teacher's contract. Mr. Witty made a motion to approve the recommendation and Mr. Newman seconded the motion.

On roll call:

AYE: House, Preble, Witty, Newman, Perigo

NAY: None
(motion unanimously carried)

Employment:

Mr. Karazsia recommended the board officially approve the hiring of the following:

AJ Kenzor – Middle School Social Studies Teacher
John Williams – Band Director
Debra Poole – Elementary Instructional Assistant
Lacey Gennicks – Elementary Instructional Assistant
Amanda Lower – Elementary Instructional Assistant
Stacey Mason – Middle School Instructional Assistant
Morgan Judy – High School Instructional Assistant
Johna Schaefer – Food Service
Crystal Ferree – Bus Aide/Food Service
Katelyn Wells – Food Service

Mr. Newman made a motion to approve the recommendation and Mr. House seconded the motion.

On roll call:

AYE: House, Preble, Witty, Newman, Perigo

NAY: None
(motion unanimously carried)

Mr. Karazsia recommended the board approve a 2 year contract for Aaron Lynn as the high school boys'/girls' track coach. This contract would be for the 2017/18 and 2018/19 school years or until his successor is appointed by the administration. Mr. House made a motion to approve the recommendation and Mr. Preble seconded the motion.

On roll call:

AYE: House, Preble, Witty, Newman

ABSTAIN: Perigo

NAY: None

Mr. Karazsia recommended the board approve Taylor Dunham as the fine arts department head sponsor for the 2017/18 school year or until her successor is appointed by the administration. Mr. Newman made a motion to approve the recommendation and Mr. Witty seconded the motion.

On roll call:

AYE: House, Preble, Witty, Newman, Perigo

NAY: None
(motion unanimously carried)

Mr. Karazsia recommended the board approve the following as elementary boys' basketball coaches for the 2017/18 season or until their successor is appointed by the administration:

Jay Smith – 6th Grade
Ryan Sullivan – 5th Grade

Mr. Newman made a motion to approve the recommendation and Mr. Perigo seconded the motion.

On roll call:

AYE: House, Preble, Witty, Newman, Perigo

NAY: None
(motion unanimously carried)

Mr. Karazsia recommended the board approve the following as volunteer boys' basketball coaches for the 2017/18 school year:

Byron Goodman – Elementary

Brandon Daily – Elementary
Brent Robinson – Middle School/High School

Mr. House made a motion to approve the recommendation and Mr. Perigo seconded the motion.

On roll call:

AYE: House, Preble, Witty, Newman, Perigo

NAY: None
(motion unanimously carried)

Claims and Financial Report:

Mr. Karazsia recommended the board approve the financial report and claims #190; #22382-22388; #22394-22399; #22401-22477; #92017 as presented. Mr. Witty made a motion to approve the recommendation and Mr. House seconded the motion.

On roll call:

AYE: House, Preble, Witty, Newman, Perigo

NAY: None
(motion unanimously carried)

Other:

Mr. Karazsia recommended the board approve the 1st grade field trip request to Pumpkin Works, which is out of state, to be schedule sometime in October. Mr. Newman made a motion to approve the recommendation and Mr. Perigo seconded the motion.

On roll call:

AYE: House, Preble, Witty, Newman, Perigo

NAY: None
(motion unanimously carried)

Mr. Karazsia presented information to the board regarding the 2016/17 ECA Financial Report. It is required per law that the information be provided to the board for review only.

Mr. Karazsia recommended the board approve the purchase of real estate located at 120 I St NW, Linton, IN. Mr. Witty made a motion to approve the recommendation and Mr. Newman seconded the motion.

On roll call:

AYE: House, Preble, Witty, Newman, Perigo

NAY: None
(motion unanimously carried)

Patron Comments:

None

Principal/Superintendent/Board Comments:

Mr. Brewer thanked the teachers for coming to the board meeting and sharing their information. He thanked Jodie for her service in the elementary and said the students were excited to participate in the Eclipse activities today at school.

Mrs. Hollingsworth thanked the math teachers for their presentations. She is super excited to see the teachers working together at all grade levels. The Eclipse was exciting and she was able to hear how the students participated, even if they were at home. The ISTEP parent reports go home tomorrow and the Open House, for the middle school and high school, will be held on October 13th from 4:00-6:00. Mrs. Hollingsworth stated that everything is going well in the middle school and thanked the board for approving the new hires.

Mrs. Cornelius restated that the high school open house will be held the same evening as the middle school on October 13th from 4:00-6:00. The high school students participated in the Eclipse by going over safety steps, with some students being able to view it with safety glasses. She met with department heads and discussed what could be done to improve on things that are already in place. Mrs. Cornelius feels that a pathway, for students across all building, benefits the student's education.

Mr. House thanked everyone for their presentations, he enjoys hearing what is going on in the classrooms at all levels.

Mr. Preble thanked everyone for their presentations. He recognizes that math is not an easy subject to teach with the Chromebooks, but feels they are doing a great job. Mr. Preble told the teachers to let their needs be known to the board.

Mr. Newman thanked the math teachers for their presentations.

Mr. Perigo thanked the math teachers for their presentations. He understands the pressures that have been put on them from law makers and disagrees with the Department of Education regarding the general education diploma no longer being recognized. He applauds their efforts.

Mr. Karazsia thanked everyone for their presentations and feels that the school year is off

to a good start.

Mr. Witty thanked everyone for coming and sharing their information.

There being no further business, Mr. Witty adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

Ralph Witty

Leslie Newman

John Preble

Clint House

Mike Perigo