

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WABASH COUNTY

A meeting of the Board of Education (the "Board") of the Metropolitan School District of Wabash County, Indiana ("School District"), was held at the Administration Building, 204 N. 300 W., Wabash, IN, on September 8, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. (EST), pursuant to notice duly given to all members in accordance with I.C. 20-26-4-1, I.C. 20-26-4-3, I.C. 5-14-1.5 and the rules of the Board.

MSDWC School Board will meet in regular session on September 8, 2020, at 6:00 at Central Office. Seating will be limited, and attendance will be subject to social distancing guidelines. All members of the public attending to provide comment will be accommodated. We will continue to livestream the meeting on Facebook Live. The public may comment in person or on Facebook Live during the appropriate times.

Todd Dazey, President, called the meeting to order. Mike Keaffaber, Superintendent, Chris Kuhn, Assistant Superintendent, and Tim Drake, Chief Academic Officer, were present. A call of roll of members on the Board were shown to be present as follows: Kevin Bowman, Matt Driscoll, and Todd Topliff. Gary Fadil was absent. Also present were Brian Ridgeway and Sherry Ridgeway.

The pledge to the flag was recited.

Future Board meetings are scheduled for September 22, 2020, at the Administration Building, October 13, 2020, at the Administration Building, and October 27, 2020, at the Administration Building.

Public Recognition:

The recommendation to approve the donation of hand sanitizer from CIE (Central Indiana Ethanol) was approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the \$900.00 donation from an anonymous donor, \$600.00 for Northfield Girls Basketball and \$300.00 for Northfield Cheer was approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

Schools Recognition:

Mr. Keaffaber shared that Mr. Martin, Sharp Creek Principal, wished to recognize and thank Administrative Assistant, Monica Kuhn and Nurse, Kelly Taylor for keeping wonderful records and managing protocols with ill students, attendance and necessary follow-up. He also wanted to thank the cafeteria staff of Tricia Barton, Debbie Honeycutt, Julie Gogolewski, and cafeteria manager Amanda Rhoades who have done a great job or adjusting to some new "norms". They are much appreciated for their pleasant attitudes each day.

Mr. Boone shared the School Improvement Plan for Southwood Elementary. He also shared staff recognition for the school. He wanted to thank those who have made the start of school great. The custodial staff, Teresa Baker, Kim Miller, and Dana Bosteter for doing an amazing job over the summer and in the first weeks of school getting the building cleaned and looking great, adding to all of that the extra cleaning and disinfecting that now has become a part of their daily/weekly routine. They have had great attitudes about the additional responsibilities.

Mrs. Amy Schmidt, Technology Assistant, and the MSD tech team had student iPads ready and delivered on the first day of school. Mrs. Schmidt has made herself readily available for support and troubleshooting for all in-person and virtual students. She has gone into classrooms to do demonstrations on new features like Apple Classroom.

Mrs. Beth Whitesel, Director of Health Services, Mrs. Kim Weaver, & Mrs. Ashley Unger, Administrative Assistants, have done an amazing job keeping up with all of the added wrinkles involving attendance and health/safety protocols designed to keep our students/staff safe and our school operating as normal.

Big thanks to all of our students, teachers, and support staff for the great attitudes and effort on display to begin the new year. Everyone has had great attitudes with mask wearing and other new guidelines that are in place. Teachers are trying many new things in regards to technology. Students and staff are all doing what they can to keep us operating in person.

Mr. Snyder shared the School Improvement Plan for Northfield High School and also shared staff recognition. Thanks goes out to Ron Nordman, Head Custodian and custodial staff for all the extra cleaning and putting things back together after the remodel.

Tami Overman, Technology Assistant, had iPads in every 1st period classroom charged and ready to go on the first day of school and has also helped every staff member get files saved and transferred over to new MacBooks.

Thanks to all teachers and students for a great start to the year. Every teacher has set up Google Classroom and has used it with students. Teachers and students have also been learning and getting used to all students having iPads now. All the staff and students have been so understanding of new protocols and procedures to start the year with technology and COVID-19. They don't always like what we have to do in order to be in school, but they have been understanding and appreciate the work being done so that we can be in school in person.

Public Comment: (Agenda Items Only)

No comments.

Minutes of the Tuesday, August 25, 2020, Regular Meeting was approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Todd Topliff, and unanimously carried.

Claims were approved upon a motion made by Todd Topliff, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

Payroll was approved upon a motion made by Todd Topliff, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

Dr. Kuhn reviewed the end of the month for August 2020.

Dr. Kuhn then continued the 2021 Budget reviewing the tax rates.

Dr. Kuhn asked for a recommendation to approve advertising Form 3 in Gateway which was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Todd Topliff, and unanimously carried.

He then updated the Board on the Come Back Stronger Grant that was awarded to Metro North Elementary's Preschool. The grant was \$20,000 and given by Lilly Endowment. The grant was developed to reinforce Indiana's supply of high-quality early learning opportunities, especially for the state's most vulnerable children. The grant funds will support safety related expenses and challenges as we continue to serve families in the Wabash community. The grant will fund additional materials and manipulatives as well as a temporary paraprofessional position for the 2020-2021 school year to assist with group size, social distancing, and demands associated with preschool pandemic protocols.

Personnel Recommendations:

The recommendation to approve the employment of Katie Singleton, Temporary English Teacher, Southwood High School, effective September 17, 2020; Elisabeth Rehak, Paraprofessional, Metro North Elementary, effective August 31, 2020; Hannah Napier, Classroom Instructor, White's High School, effective August 31, 2020; Jennifer Miracle, Paraprofessional, Northfield High School, effective August 31, 2020; Jessika Krom, Paraprofessional, Metro North Elementary, effective September 9, 2020; Natalie Unger, Southwood High School, JH Cross Country Coach, effective immediately, were approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Kevin Bowman, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the transfer of Stacie Denniston, transferring to Substitute Bus Driver effective for the 2020-2021 school year, was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Kevin Bowman, and unanimously carried.

Heartland Career Center Report:

No report.

Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Keaffaber reported that 7th grade students from both Southwood and Northfield were invited by the River Defenders to travel down the river. A great time was enjoyed by students and staff.

He also discussed the Re-entry Plan Revision #4.

Curriculum Report:

Mr. Drake wanted to also talk about the great time the students and staff had learning about the area.

Currently we have 29 teachers who are teaching live and virtual. There have been approximately 30 students who were learning virtually that have returned to the classroom. Mr. Keaffaber and Mr. Drake talked about the process if a parent would like to return their child to the classroom from virtual learning; they only have to contact their building principal to make that happen.

New Business:

The recommendation to approve the 2020-2021 school fundraisers was approved upon a motion made by Todd Topliff, a second by Kevin Bowman, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the overnight field trip for Sharp Creek 4th grade to Camp Tecumseh, Brookston, IN, October 15-16, 2020, was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Todd Topliff, and unanimously carried.

Unfinished Business:

None.

Board Policy:

None.

Items from Board Members:

None.

Public Comment (All Agenda Items):

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

THE METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT
OF WABASH COUNTY, INDIANA

TODD DAZEY, PRESIDENT

KEVIN BOWMAN, VICE PRESIDENT

MATT DRISCOLL, BOARD MEMBER

GARY FADIL, BOARD MEMBER

ATTEST: _____
TODD TOPLIFF, SECRETARY