

## TIPPECANOE VALLEY SCHOOL CORPORATION

February 10, 2014  
Tippecanoe Valley Middle School  
11303 W 800 S  
Akron, Indiana  
6:30 p.m.

### Minutes

Prior to calling the meeting to order, Mark Wise led devotions.

The meeting was called to order by President Bryan Murphy and revealed all members present along with Brett Boggs, Superintendent, Dr. Daniel Kramer, Assistant Superintendent, Jessica McFarland, recording secretary and Brandon Murphy, student representative.

Mr. Murphy announced the upcoming meetings: March 10, 2014 regular meeting, Tippecanoe Valley High School, 6:30 p.m.; April 14, 2014, regular meeting, Akron Elementary, 6:30 p.m.; May 12, 2014, regular meeting, Mentone Elementary, 6:30 p.m.

Spotlight on the Valley:

Mr. Blaine Conley recognized the following groups:

- ❖ Participants in ISSMA Solo and Ensemble Contest
- ❖ Participants in IMEA Area IV Circle the State with Song Choral Festival
- ❖ Rolanda Reichart-Participant in the District Vocal Solo/Ensemble Contest
- ❖ Honor Band
- ❖ TVMS Student Council
- ❖ TVMS Spelling Bee Champion & Runner-up
- ❖ Principal's Leadership Cabinet

Dave O'Brien also wanted to recognize Anne Secrest for being named the Area Player of the Year by the Warsaw Times Union. Anne is a freshman at TVHS.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

- ❖ Approval of the minutes of January 20, 2014 regular meeting and executive session
- ❖ Approval of minutes of January 20, 2014 Board of Finance meeting
- ❖ Accepted the hiring for the following personnel:
  - Kimberly Lewis, Cook, Akron Elementary
  - Wanetta Estep, Custodian, Mentone Elementary
  - Toni Gillman, Instructional Assistant, Mentone Elementary
- ❖ Approved the following extra-curricular assignments:
  - Paige Davis, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Basketball Coach, Mentone Elementary
- ❖ Approved extension of Jon Hutton's contract
- ❖ Approved reappointment of James Mitterling to the Akron Carnegie Public Library

Dave O'Brien made the motion to approve the above consent items. Tom Craft seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Boggs reviewed claims and payroll and asked for approval. Mark Wise made a motion to approve the claims and payroll, as presented. Rod Eaton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Boggs reviewed the Financial Report for the Board.

Items from Visitors: Joe Secrest raised the question regarding when the make-up days will be rescheduled. Mr. Boggs assured Mr. Secrest that TVSC will look at all options when determining the make-up days and will do what is best for students, parents and teachers. Mr. Boggs also reminded everyone that Presidents' Day, February 17, 2014, will be used for a snow make-up day.

Old Business: Mr. Boggs presented the Non-Resident Student Transfer Policy for approval. The policy was reviewed by the Board during last month's regular meeting. Dave O'Brien made a motion to approve the Non-Resident Student Transfer Policy as presented. Mark Wise seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Upon request from the Board, Jon Hutton provided an update on the Extracurricular Progressive F Policy at TVHS. Mr. Hutton reported that a total of eight students were suspended from athletics during some point in the first semester. A total of 17 students were suspended from extracurricular activities during some point in the first semester. Mr. Hutton noted that the new policy has started conversations with students that would not have normally happened. Mr. Boggs questioned what communication parents are receiving when their student is suspended or on probation. Mr. Hutton noted that communication with parents needs improvement and that will be the focus of the TVHS staff during the second semester. The Board requested Mr. Hutton report the results from the second semester in June and to also include a report comparing the current year results with the prior year policy.

New Business: Mr. Boggs presented for initial consideration an updated mileage reimbursement policy. The updated policy will require employees to submit mileage reimbursement quarterly. The policy will be brought back to the Board in March for final approval.

Mr. Boggs presented the report on the A-F Accountability Report Card that was released on December 20, 2013. After a lengthy discussion on how the grade is calculated, Mr. Boggs reported the results from each school. It was noted that Mentone Elementary missed being an A school by .01 point while TVHS missed the A letter grade by .10 point. Mr. Boggs explained that TVSC will not settle for anything less than an A letter grade and will strive to continuously improve identified areas within each school. After the comprehensive explanation of the grade calculation, the many flaws in the grading system were obvious. Mr. Boggs is hopeful that the State Superintendent of Public Instruction is attempting to make changes to the grading system.

Mr. Conley, Principal at TVMS, presented the School Improvement Plan for TVMS. After receiving a letter grade of F, TVMS was identified as a priority school by the IDOE. This classification required TVMS to publically present identified areas in need of improvement and a plan on how to raise the letter grade. Mr. Conley, along with Mr. Backus, identified eight turnaround principles in developing the plan. At the conclusion of the presentation, the flaws in the grading system were specifically identified using four student results. Teachers and staff at TVMS have been proactive in developing the improvement plan and realize the need for a change in instruction. The IDOE will visit the middle school twice to perform walk-through observations and provide feedback with the team regarding their observations. TVMS must earn a letter grade of C or better for the next two years to discontinue the "priority school" classification.

Mr. Boggs presented the second student count for the 2013-2014 school year. The count, which occurred on February 3, 2014, resulted in a total of 1,958 students. This number is down from the 1,986 students counted in September 2013. It should be noted that the decrease of 28 students this year, was much less than the decrease of 48 students last school year.

In closing, Brandon Murphy, student representative, reported that the high school students participated in QPR for Suicide Prevention training. He felt like it was extremely beneficial for everyone that participated and is now certified in QPR for Suicide Prevention. Mr. Boggs also noted that there will be a QPR for Suicide Prevention training, specifically for community members, held on March 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at TVMS.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Bryan Murphy, President

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Mark Wise, Vice President

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Dave O'Brien, Secretary

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Rod Eaton, Member

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Tom Craft, Member