

TIPPECANOE VALLEY SCHOOL CORPORATION

January 21, 2008
Burket Educational Center
Burket, Indiana
7:30 p.m.

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Mark Wise and revealed all members present with the exception of Bryan Murphy along with Brett Boggs, Assistant Superintendent; Sherri Adamson, recording secretary and Stacie Hoffman, Student Representative.

Mr. Wise announced the upcoming meetings: February 11, 2008, regular meeting, Tippecanoe Valley Middle School, 7:30 p.m.; March 10, 2008, regular meeting, Tippecanoe Valley High School, 7:30 p.m.; and April 21, 2008, regular meeting, Akron Elementary School, 7:30 p.m.

After Mr. Wise read the consent agenda, Dave O'Brien made a motion to approve the following: approved minutes of December 10, 2007, regular meeting and executive session; approved hiring Elisabeth Davidson and Patricia Weitzel, Instructional Assistant, Akron and Mentone, respectively; approved Forestland Management Agreement with Pike Lumber Company (Exhibit A); and approve Out-of-State Conference for TVSC Literacy Coaches to Michigan Reading Association, Detroit, Michigan. Hal Hoffman seconded the motion. Being no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Boggs reviewed claims and payroll (Exhibit B) and asked for approval. Mr. Hoffman made a motion to approve the claims and payroll, as presented. Rod Eaton seconded the motion. Being no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Boggs reviewed the Financial Report for the Board.

There being no items from the visitors or old business to discuss, Lora Harp, Testing Coordinator, and Angie Miller, Director of Curriculum, presented results of the recent ISTEP testing citing their pleasure with growth in some areas, but the need for improvement in others, such as reading. Mrs. Miller reviewed the grade level results with the Board and discussed strategies either in place or planning to address the areas in need of improvement. She indicated that Readers Workshop is only partially implemented at the Corporation due to additional staff training. Planned training for the future should begin to show improvement in the reading portion of the test. The weakness in math results may be due to inadequacies in Saxon Math which will begin to be supplemented until the time of adoption for that curriculum.

Mr. Wise shared his feelings as to not putting much emphasis on high ISTEP scores but is disappointed to not see more gains from year to year due to changes and improvements in curriculum throughout the corporation. Mrs. Miller responded that other assessment tools used within the corporation are very encouraging in indicating growth in student achievement.

Mrs. Harp shared the Department of Education has indicated during the 2008-09 school year the test will be given in the fall and spring and beginning in 2009-2010 there will only be a spring test. Student in grade 10 will be testing at the end of their Biology 1, Algebra 1, and English 11 courses.

Mr. Boggs informed the Board that the Corporation gathers a variety of data on students and all the data concludes that students are learning. The ISTEP is just one of many tools used to measure student progress. He also thanked Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Harp for the time they spend on analyzing student data and determining why students are not improving and how can the Corporation address the lack of improvement.

Alan Stewart, A. Hattersley & Sons, presented to the Board the results of Guaranteed Energy Savings Facility Study for Burket Educational Center. In the study, Mr. Stewart addressed many ways for improvements that would be beneficial in cutting costs at Burket. He indicated there are Pollution Reduction Grants available in Indiana as matching grants that may be able to be applied for and utilized for a portion of the program. Mr. Stewart estimated a timeline for 60-90 days to develop the RPF (Request for Proposal) to Board approval of the contract followed by a six month construction process. Capital Projects Fund is currently paying for the GES project completed at Akron Elementary with the final payment due in January 2011. Mr. Wise thanked Mr. Stewart for his time and effort in developing the study and indicated it will be the charge of the Board to determine the next steps as they look at the future of the building at Burket.

Mr. Boggs reported to the Board the status of the 2008-09 School Calendar. He shared the calendar is much like the current calendar with the exception of a two week Christmas Break. Mr. Wise asked about the past need for a lengthened school year due to make up days in order to move graduation up a week from June 7, 2009. Mrs. Adamson indicated in the past the Indiana Department of Education has frowned upon the Corporation not scheduling ample emergency make up days prior to graduation in order for seniors to attend 180 days of school which is required by Indiana Statute. Mr. Boggs indicated the calendar will be brought to the next Board meeting for approval.

Mr. O'Brien made a motion for the Board of Finance to remain as: Mark Wise, President, and Dave O'Brien, Secretary. Mr. Eaton seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The Investment Register for 2007 was presented in order to submit into the official minutes of the Board, as required by statute. (Exhibit C)

Mr. Boggs read a Resolution to Transfer Year-End Appropriations (Exhibit D). Mr. Hoffman motion to approve the Resolution, as read. Mr. O'Brien seconded the motion. Being no further discussion, motion carried unanimously.

In closing, Stacie Hoffman, Student Representative, announced donations were being accepted at the high school to fund the SHOP Program for next December. Also, a benefit supper will be before the basketball game on Friday night for Rick Shoemaker.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Mark Wise, President

Hal Hoffman, Vice President

Dave O'Brien, Secretary

Rod Eaton, Member