

TIPPECANOE VALLEY SCHOOL CORPORATION

November 12, 2007
Mentone Elementary School
Public Meeting Room
7:30 p.m.

Minutes

Prior to calling the meeting to order, Troy Eaton, Fellowship Community Church, led devotions.

The meeting was called to order by President Mark Wise and revealed all members present; along with Brett Boggs, Assistant Superintendent; Sherri Adamson, recording secretary; and Robert Bitting, Student Representative.

Mr. Wise announced the upcoming meetings: December 10, 2007, regular meeting, Mentone Elementary School, 7:30 p.m. and January 21, 2008, regular meeting, Burket Educational Center, 7:30 p.m.; and February 12, 2007, regular meeting, Tippecanoe Valley Middle School, 7: 30 p.m.

Mr. Wise read the consent agenda, Bryan Murphy asked to pull one item, then made a motion to approve the following: approved minutes of October 8, 2007, regular meeting & executive session; approved hiring the following personnel: Teresa Banghart, Part Time Custodian, TVHS; Linda Duncan, Part Time Custodian, TVMS; Terra Kohler, Instructional Assistant, Mentone; and Matthew Loobert, Part Time Custodian, TVMS; accepted the resignation of Toni Gillman, Instructional Assistant and Lifeguard; Janelle Riggs, Instructional Assistant, TVMS; and Pam Mort, Instructional Assistant, Mentone; approved request for medical leave for Gary Morgan, Custodian, TVMS; approved donation of card catalog to Mentone Museum; approved out-of-state conference to National Council of Teacher of English for Kristen Horrell and June Yazel, New York City, New York. Hal Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Upon discussion, Mr. Eaton made a motion to approve the appointment of Rebecca Dike, Grade 6 Girls' Basketball Coach, TVMS and Shaun Shepherd, Grade 7 Boys' Basketball Coach, TVMS. Mr. Hoffman seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Dave O'Brien made a motion to table the appointment of Tyler Fisher, Assistant Baseball Coach, TVHS, and John Strong, Head Softball Coach, TVHS, until the December meeting pending additional information. The Board cited the need for job duties and responsibilities of Tyler Fisher due to his young age and inexperience as a coach. The Board also commented on the proven history of a coaching parent is not always in the best interest of the corporation or the sport in tabling the appointment of John Strong. The Board asked for other candidates to be interview for the Head Softball coaching position. Mr. Eaton seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Boggs reviewed claims and payroll (Exhibit A) and asked for approval. Mr. O'Brien made a motion to approve the claims and payroll, as presented. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion.

Mr. Boggs reviewed the Financial Report for the Board. Sherri Adamson, Treasurer, reported both Fulton and Kosciusko County collecting taxes this month and anticipating an advanced draw from one or both counties by the end of the week. Mrs. Adamson also commented she foresees the payoff of the Tax Anticipation Warrant loan by the end of the week, therefore reducing the amount of interest to be paid on the outstanding loan.

Being no items from the visitors, Mr. Hoffman made a motion to approve the Tippecanoe Valley High School Handbook with the addition of language addressing the expectation of appropriate language at all times. Mr. O'Brien seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Eaton made a motion to approve the revisions to the School Board Policy regarding Salary and Fringe benefits. Mr. Boggs indicated the changes were made to align with Internal Revenue Services regulation in regard to universal availability of non-matching 403B plans to all eligible employees. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Kirk Robinson and Oliver Grimm, Pike Lumber Company, were present at the meeting. Mr. Grimm presented information regarding the long term management program available through Pike for the corporation-owned forestland area located south of main campus. He explained much of the plan is designed around the objectives, functions, and activities of the school corporation with regard to the forest area. He indicated the initial logging would probably be done with horses to eliminate damage to young seedlings because of the denseness of the area. This would allow for an educational opportunity for the entire corporation. Girdling of invaluable trees and cutting of grape vine would follow in order to allow optimal growth environment for more favorable trees. Additional logging and girdling would follow in seven to ten years.

The Board asked Mr. Grimm to return with a contract and an estimate of costs for a Timberland Improvement Program along with any cost share programs which would be available for educational facilities.

Mr. Hoffman would like Pike Lumber Company to erect a sign identifying the area, as has been done in other forest projects in the areas. He recognized all the commendable activities Pike Lumber has provided to the students of the corporation along with being a major taxpayer in the corporation.

Mr. Boggs presented to the Board for first reading the Financial Goals as required by Public Law 191-2006. The goals address the desire of the corporation to make efforts to control nonacademic spending, continuously monitor revenues and expenditures, and seek programs to curve spending by outsourcing and cooperative purchasing. Mrs. Adamson added she and Dr. Kramer had collaborated on goal ideas beginning back in July, when they were notified of the need for the financial goal. She also added the goal may be advertised with the Annual Performance Report in January.

Lora Harp, Testing Coordinator, and Angie Miller, Curriculum Coordinator, presented information concerning NWEA testing and the reaching of standards in most grade levels. They also presented information on Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI) that was implemented last year district-wide. Both programs are also used to evaluate new students who enter the corporation in order for teachers to align curriculum for achievement. Mrs. Miller shared teachers rely on the testing tools heavily due to the result response time compared to ISTEP testing and also to assess student growth over the course of a school year.

In other new business, Mr. Hoffman made a motion to approve Dax Snyder as Grade 5 Boys' Basketball Coach at Mentone, approve Jenny Bays as a cook at the middle school, and approve out-of-state conference for Reading Recovery and Early Literacy Teachers to Chicago, Illinois. Mr. O'Brien seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robert Bitting, Student Representative, recognized the TVHS Cross Country team for being the first Cross Country team to qualify for Regionals.

Mr. Wise recognized the Board Members for their recognition in the Certification Award Program (CAP) sponsored by the Indiana School Boards Association.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Mark Wise, President

Hal Hoffman, Vice President

Dave O'Brien, Secretary

Rod L. Eaton, Member

Bryan D. Murphy, Member