

Minutes from March 12, 2009

Meeting was called to order at 7pm

5 board members present with a 6th (Bennett-Paul) arriving shortly after opening (Bedolli absent)

A motion was made by Marvin and seconded by Armintrout to go into closed session

5-0 vote

A motion was made by Armintrout and seconded by Bennett-Paul to exit closed session

6-0 vote

A motion was made by Armintrout and seconded by Thompson to approve the amended agenda as presented

6-0 vote

The seniors reported to the board their senior trip agenda and the board verbally approved this senior trip

The bus report consisted of the work being done to examine the lease program of our fleet instead of the yearly purchase of a bus. There have been two companies discuss the situation with Mr. Bruno to this point. The lease program will allow us to have a new fleet of busses each 3 year interval for less then the cost of buying 1 new bus each year (as past practice for Tri-City CUSD #1). Discussion centered on the financial cost and the idea of not owning our own fleet. Due to the road conditions and the service costs it was decided to continue to examine this possibility with a recommendation coming next month from the Superintendent.

The technology report consisted of an update on programs currently being used in the school system as well as an outlook at what is to come with the establishment of the new fiber-optic line. The possibilities include high school classes being brought in through the line as well as college credits and even the opening to send information or classes out to other schools. This is a new concept and one we are continually working on but the possibilities are limitless once the decision is made on how to peruse what is best for the district.

In the Superintendents report, Mr. Bruno's additional information included the soccer program and the likelihood of having our own program. The offer has been extended to Mt. Pulaski and Sangamon Valley to try and create a new coop or at least move the current one to Tri-City. The Athletic Director is continuing work on this topic and will have final information to the Superintendent for a recommendation next month on starting our own program or continuing the current program with Mr. Pulaski. The superintendent also discussed skyward and web based classes. How this process can work and the possibilities that come from such an expansion.

Mrs. Cummins reported the ISAT reward program for the students, the purchase of math manipulative as well as the pre-school numbers after screening. She also discussed upcoming work days for teachers and the focus of instruction in curriculum alignment as well as differentiated instruction. Mrs. Cummins, Mrs. Kindel and Mrs. Booker attended a tech seminar in the previous month. Mrs. Cummins also reported the gravel additions to the playground equipment and the donation of PE matt's from the RIFF program. The Riff program also donated money to be used in classrooms in the elementary.

Mr. Schupp reported the discipline summary for the month, the idea of beefing up the cell phone policy for next year, parking issues in our student lot as well as the addition of bulletin boards in the hallway to create an information center with all events posted in one area. He then discussed the RTI program the 15 point increase as a result of testing for our students (buckle down program). Mr. Schupp would like to look into off campus classes in the future as well. Mr. Schupp reported on a ROE workshop with Allen November, it was a staff driven presentation on how to use technology and the internet to enhance education. The textbook loan program was discussed with recommendations for purchase with letters of support from the teachers who would benefit from the texts. The staff took part in helping pick out the textbook to become familiar with new information to implement into their programs. On March 19, the musical appeared on WAND TV, Mr. Uptmor held a Nation Pie Day event, it was reported that no student athlete was on the ineligible list again as well as the Rel8 program presentation upcoming.

A motion was made by Marvin and seconded by Ostermeier to approve the amended district calendar

6-0 vote

A motion was made by Armintrout and seconded by Thompson to place student "C" in safe schools in place of expulsion. With the understanding that without safe-school the expulsion would become effective for the rest of this school year

6-0 vote

The board agreed to allow the superintendent to waive the 4th athletic fee for any students' participation in 4 Tri-City sports in one year

A motion was made by Bennett-Paul and seconded by Ostermeier to purchase the recommended textbooks from the textbook loan program

6-0 vote

An assistant coach for baseball and softball was discussed at length; no action was taken on the issue at this point

A consensus was reached on the proposed 09-10 calendar and the Superintendent was instructed to present it to the union for approval before the next board meeting where the Board will finalize next years calendar.

A resolution was read into open session dismissing Heather Friedrich, effective at the end of the current school year.

6-0 vote

A motion was made by Armintrout and seconded by Marvin to employ Nathan Ayers as the JH social studies teacher for the 09-10 school year.

6-0 vote

A motion was made by Ostermeier and seconded by Armintrout to accept the resignation of Amanda Stribling effective the end of the current school year

6-0 vote

A motion was made by Ostermeier and seconded by Thompson to grant 1 year leave of absence to Mrs. M for the 09-10 school year

6-0 vote

A motion was made by Armintrout and seconded by Ostermeier to accept the consent agenda

6-0 vote

A motion was made by Armintrout and seconded by Thompson to adjourn the meeting

6-0 vote

Board Secretary

Board President

Closed session for March 12, 2009

Discussion of Justin Leka and events that put the young man in an expulsion hearing

He threw a chlorine bomb at another student in the parking lot of school

Mr. Schupp discussed the personality of the students and his recommendations and lack of concern for him waking the hallways in the future

The administration recommends that the student be assigned to safe school or the remainder of the year in place of expulsion. With the understanding that if safe school does no work out for Justin, he would be expelled for the remainder of the school year. Justin and his parents discussed the situation with the board and came to an understanding and agreed to accept the offering of safe school for their child in place of expulsion.

Justin would be referred to as student "C" in the following proceedings

Mrs. M requested a year leave for personal reasons (family and child)

Discussion resulted from the request and a recommendation of allowing the leave was generated by the administration. The board agrees with the final recommendation

Contract goals were briefly reviewed for the upcoming administrative contract (Mr. Schupp and Mr. Bruno)

Mr. Schupp spoke about Mr. Ayers who was being recommended for hire for the JH social studies opening

The administration made recommendations on dismissal of a teacher as well as tenure of another and continued employment of current non-tenured staff.

Board Secretary

Board President