

**EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS
SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 17, 2009**

At a meeting held in the Board Room at the Administration Building, 1240 State Road 930 East, New Haven, Indiana, the Board of School Trustees of East Allen County Schools met at approximately 6:30 p.m. on March 17, 2009, with the following members present:

Stephen L. Terry, Sr., President
Janice A. Kelly, Vice President (arrived at 6:37 p.m.)
Leland L. Etzler, Secretary
Terry Jo Lightfoot, Assistant Secretary
William D. Hartman (arrived at 6:39 p.m.)
Richard A. Allgeier (arrived at 6:38 p.m.)
Alyssa Lewandowski

The following EACS Administrators were in attendance: Dr. M. Kay Novotny, Superintendent; Dr. Janet MacLean, Deputy Superintendent; Mr. Kirby Stahly, Chief Financial Officer; Mr. J. Timothy McCaulay, General Counsel; Mrs. Connie DeLong, Executive Director of Special Services; Dr. Jeanne Zehr, Title I Area Administrator; Mr. Bob Rohrbacher, Executive Director of Student Services; Mr. Doug Roemer, Director of Facilities; Dr. James Hendrix, Title I Program Area Assistant Administrator; Mrs. Juanita Tolbert, Director of Early Intervention; Mrs. Natalie Drummond, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; and Mrs. Tamyra L. Kelly, Public Relations Liaison. Also present were Mr. Gregory M. Geise, President of EAEA; Mr. Pat Lortie, President of EACS Custodial Association; and approximately 50 people representing employees, students, patrons and the media.

President Stephen Terry called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the February 27, 2009 Executive Session were approved as presented.
The minutes of the March 3, 2009 Regular Board Meeting were approved as presented.
The minutes of the March 3, 2009 Executive Session were approved as presented.

The Agenda was approved with the addition of addendums to 6.4 Personnel Report; 6.5 Meetings and Conferences; and 6.6 Proposed School Calendar for 2009-10SY; and the addition of 4.2 Apply For and Receive Olin B. and Desta Schwab Foundation Funding; and 6.9 Leo Elementary School HVAC Project.

Recognitions:

- Cedarville students hopped, jumped, and twirled their way to raising over \$2,948 for Jump Rope for Heart! Our thanks to P.E. teacher Ms. Diane Schaper for coordinating this awesome event; to the CEEL students for their extraordinary efforts, and to the parents for their outstanding support.

- The EACS' Show Choir has had an awesome year. Earlier this month they earned the title "Grand Champions" in the Festival Division at the Chicagoland Showcase held earlier this month. The "Champions" include 29 singer/dancers, five instrumentalists and four stage crew. Other awards this year included: 3rd place

(small division) at the Northrop Show Choir Competition; 2nd place (small division) at the DeKalb High School Invitational; and Grand Champions (small division) at the Franklin Central Show Choir Competition.

- At the recent District 3 FFA Annual Convention, Woodlan Jr./Sr. High School Ag teacher and FFA Advisor Mr. Richard Grubaugh was nominated by his peers to represent District 3 as the “Outstanding Teacher”. He will be recognized at the Indiana Ag Teacher Workshop in June and will represent Indiana for the award.

Spotlights on Education:

“Building Feasibility Study Update”

Mr. Dana Wannemacher, of Barton-Coe-Vilamaa, presented the results of the feasibility study of East Allen County Schools’ buildings. The presentation focused on how the study was conducted, observations from the study, recommendations for each building, and possible building changes. Mr. Wannemacher fielded questions from the Board.

At the April 7th Work Session, the Board will discuss what the District’s priorities are and the next steps to take in light of the Feasibility Study results. Dr. Novotny will provide points of discussion to the Board before the next meeting.

“School Safety and Security”

Mr. Bob Rohrbacher, Executive Director of Student Services, presented an overview of the physical and behavioral practices that have been developed to protect the staff and students of East Allen County Schools.

Section 2.0 Discussion Items

Agenda Item 2.1 General Fund Cost Reductions 2009-10SY

For the audience’s sake, Dr. Novotny gave an overview of the 6-month process involved in determining the proposed cost reductions which the Board is considering. Board discussion followed.

Agenda Item 2.2 Open Discussion of Issues of Interest to the Board

Mrs. Lightfoot will contact The Crossing, an alternative education program, to see if they can give a presentation to the Board at the April 7th Work Session.

Section 3.0 Public Expressions

Mr. Don Rekeweg, a Woodburn patron and parent; former Woodlan Jr./Sr. High School teacher and FFA advisor Mr. Ron Hefty; and patron Mr. Jason Edwards and former WOHS student Chelsie Werling, expressed their concern and dismay for the proposed cuts for vocational extended contracts. Prince Chapman Academy parent Bernetta Mosely expressed her concern for any cuts that may affect the Harding attendance area schools.

Section 4.0 Information Items

Regarding the proposed school calendar for 2009-10, pending the review of information received from State Superintendent Tony Bennett this afternoon, the professional development days that have been built in the calendar may need to be amended at a later time.

Apply For and Receive Olin B. and Desta Schwab Foundation Funding – Given as information, formal action is recommended for the April 7th Board meeting.

The monthly Financial Status Report of the General Fund and Transportation Fund, along with the Financial Report, and the Food Service Activity Report were provided to the Board.

Section 5.0 Action Item

Agenda Item 5.1 General Fund Cost Reductions 2009-10SY

Mrs. Lightfoot moved to approve the proposed cost reductions as presented. Mr. Hartman seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Mr. Allgeier moved to amend the motion asking that the vocational extended contracts be tabled until the next regular meeting. Ms. Lewandowski seconded the motion. Further discussion followed. A vote was taken on the amended motion and it failed 2-5, with Mr. Allgeier and Ms. Lewandowski voting for the amended motion. The original motion was then voted on, and it passed 5-2, with Mr. Allgeier and Ms. Lewandowski opposed (see Exhibit A, incorporated herein).

Section 6.0 Consent Items

Vice President Kelly moved to approve the consent items with addendums as presented. Secretary Etzler seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The following consent items were approved:

- 6.1 Approval of payroll claims for the payroll period ending January 30, 2009 in the amount of \$2,071,301.49; for the payroll period ending February 13, 2009 in the amount of \$2,095,552.33; and for the payroll period ending February 27, 2009 in the amount of \$2,102,646.53.
- 6.2 Approval of vendor claims: 250508-250521, 250757-250769, 250826-251109; manual checks 5488-5495, 17601-17604; and electronic transfers, 020509, 021109, 021309, 021709, 022509, 000946-000965, 000967, and check #875126, totaling \$3,722,647.00.
- 6.3 Approval to the EACS Title I Department to accept a donation/gift of 300+ pairs of gloves, mittens, and scarves, with an approximate retail value of \$600.00, from Plymouth Congregational Church, for Southwick and Village Elementary School students.

Approval to Leo Elementary School to accept a donation in the amount of \$450.00 from Grabill Bank. As specified, these funds will be used for purchasing items for their Music and Art programs.

Approval to EACS to accept an anonymous donation in the amount of \$1,500.00. As specified, these funds will be used for the Bike Safety program in Title I Schools.

Approval to New Haven Middle School to accept a donation in the amount of \$36.19 from Target's "Take Charge of Education" program. Funds will be deposited in the Student Activities fund.

Approval to Leo Jr./Sr. High School to accept a donation in the amount of \$795.47 from Target's "Take Charge of Education" program.

- 6.4 Approval to extend offer of employment to Ms. Barbara Radebaugh, as a full-time ESL teacher at Paul Harding High School, effective April 6, 2009, for the remainder of the 2008-09 school year.

Acceptance of resignation of Mrs. G. Marlene Trabel, food service employee at New Haven Middle School, effective March 4, 2009.

Acceptance of retirement and termination of employment of Mrs. Christine Bultemeier, teacher at Heritage Jr./Sr. High School, effective at the end of the 2008-09 school year.

Acceptance of retirement and termination of employment of Mr. Daniel Shaw, teacher at Paul Harding High School, effective at the end of the 2008-09 school year.

Acceptance of retirement and termination of employment of Mr. Keith Guenin, head custodian at Heritage Jr./Sr. High School, effective August 31, 2009.

Acceptance of retirement and termination of employment of Mrs. Lynn Riley, secretary at Hoagland Elementary School, effective at the end of the 2008-09 school year.

Approval of FMLA leave of absence to Mrs. Cortney Kortenber, teacher at Southwick Elementary School, effective March 27, 2009 for the remainder of the 2008-09 school year.

Approval of extension to medical leave of absence to Mrs. Janice Alvarez, paraprofessional at New Haven High School, from March 24, 2009 through January 27, 2010.

Approval of extension of leave of absence to Ms. Deborah Kienzle, teacher at Woodlan Jr./Sr. High School, effective for the 2009-10 school year. Mrs. Kienzle is requesting the leave extension to teach an additional year on the island of Kwajalein.

- 6.5 Approval of Meetings and Conferences (see Exhibit B, incorporated herein).

- 6.6 Approval of Proposed School Calendar for 2009-10SY (see Exhibit C, incorporated herein).
- 6.7 Authorization Given for Superintendent to Appoint A Certain Building Administrative Position.
- 6.8 Approval of Revised Administrative Policy 4121 – Substitute Personnel (Section 6 only) (see Exhibit D, incorporated herein).
- 6.9 Approval of Leo Elementary School HVAC Project (see Exhibit E, incorporated herein).

Section 7.0 Reports and Comments

Dr. Novotny reported that the staffing process for next school year has begun.

Graduation for the first EACS Community Leadership Academy is tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. at Park Hill Learning Center.

Section 8.0 Public Expressions

Woodburn patron and parent Mr. Don Rekeweg offered a few final comments.

Mr. Mike Clendenen, Superintendent of New Haven Adams Township Park and Recreation, introduced himself to the Board. With increased demands on everyone’s services and declining revenues, he offered his partnership and help to the District for future projects. Mr. Clendenen is a member of EACS’ Wellness Committee as well as a participant in the EACS Community Leadership Academy.

Section 9.0 Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:15 p.m.

These minutes were approved and adopted by the East Allen County Schools Board of School Trustees on April 7, 2009.

EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

Secretary

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