

North Judson-San Pierre Board of School Trustees
Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting
Central Office Board Meeting Room
Tuesday, October 17, 2017

The North Judson-San Pierre Board of School Trustees met for a Regular Session on Tuesday, October 17, 2017, at 7:00 P.M. in the Central Office Board Meeting Room. Board President Sheila Akers called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. The Board members present were President Sheila Akers, Secretary Jim Menis and members Susan McCormack and Gerald Bacon. Vice President Derrick Stalbaum was absent. Others present were Superintendent Dr. Annette Zupin, Business Manager/Treasurer Guy Richie. There were a few patrons in attendance for the meeting. A list of patrons that attended the meeting is on file at the Central Administrative Office.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Items

Mr. Menis made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 19, 2017 Public Hearing, Budget Adoption, and Regular Board Meeting as presented. Mrs. McCormack seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Bacon made a motion to approve the personnel actions as presented. Mr. Menis seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0. Mrs. McCormack made a motion to approve the financial reports & claims as presented. Mr. Menis seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

Approved personnel:

NAME	POSITION	RECOMMENDATION
Maggie Hochstedler	Special Needs paraprofessional jr-sr high /recess aide-elem.	Resignation
Lauren Berry	Special Needs paraprofessional jr-sr high /recess aide-elem.	Recommended to hire
Asta Garigan	Full-time custodian	Recommended to hire
Lorie Simons	Café aide- elem.	Recommended to hire
Connie Walker	Sub. custodian	Recommended to hire

Wonder Kind Project

Mrs. JoAnn Gappa and student Hailey Wright were present to discuss a recent activity that was inspired by the book *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio. As a design challenge, Hailey Wright designed a t-shirt to create a visual representation of kindness and inclusion. Hailey’s design was one of eight chosen by the Choose Kind Challenge started by GAP Kids. Mrs. Gappa said that 100 percent of the proceeds from the sales of the shirts will be donated to a non-profit organization that specializes in craniofacial differences. Additionally, Hailey won a GAP gift card, shirts with her design for the entire 6th grade class and an opportunity for her and her classmates to view an advanced screening of the *Wonder* movie. Mrs. Gappa said if all goes according to plan, they will also be able to participate in a “live chat” with some of the actors from the movie prior to the screening.

Approval of Teachers’ Master Contract

Dr. Zupin gave a briefing of the recent negotiations stating that two sessions were held. Dr. Zupin reported an approximate two percent increase to the base pay with the first year starting salary at \$35,000. This is a two-year contract and salary increases will be retroactive from the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year. The extra-curricular schedule was also adjusted to correspond to the jr-sr high school structure. Dr. Zupin thanked the teachers for their patience and loyalty to NJ-SP School Corporation during this time and also thanked Mr. Menis & Mrs. McCormack for representing the Board during negotiations.

Mr. Menis made a motion to approve the Teachers’ Master Contract as presented. Mrs. McCormack seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

Approval of Certified Handbook modifications

This modification in the certified handbook clarified the teacher workday begins at 7:35 a.m. and ends at 2:40 p.m. Mrs. McCormack made a motion to approve the modification to the Certified Handbook stating the teacher workday is from 7:35 a.m. – 2:40 p.m. as presented. Mr. Menis seconded the motion; motion carried 4-0.

Approval of amendments to Non-Certified Handbook

The proposed amendments to the Non-Certified Handbook will align the language change in the certified staff contract. Regarding background checks, the amendment states NJ-SP School Corporation will pay for required background checks after five years of employment. Additionally, the bereavement language clarifies that bereavement days must be taken successively, any other arrangement must be approved by the Superintendent. Mr. Bacon made a motion to approve the amendments to the Non-Certified Handbook as presented. Mrs. McCormack seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

Approval to advertise for the Tax Anticipation Warrant

Mr. Richie asked for approval to advertise for Tax Anticipation Warrants (TAW) in the amount of \$230,000 for the Capital Projects Fund. The bids are due on December 5th and will be brought to the December meeting for approval. The TAW is paid off at the end of each calendar year and assistances with paying the bills while waiting for the tax draws. Mrs. McCormack made a motion to approve to advertise for the Tax Anticipation Warrant as presented. Mr. Menis seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

Acceptance of donation from Farm Bureau

Mrs. McCormack made a motion to accept two donations from Farm Bureau. The first is a \$500 donation for the 4th grade field trip to Fair Oaks, the second is a \$500 donation going to the FFA organization. Mr. Bacon seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0. The Board thanked Farm Bureau for their generous donations.

Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Zupin presented the quarterly enrollment report stating that enrollment has remained consistent with the ADM count. As of the beginning of the school year the elementary has had 46 student withdrawals with 35 of those due to moves out of the district. The jr-sr high has had 41 student withdrawals with 21 of those students moving out of district. The remainder of the student withdrawals are for various reasons; some of the students have transferred to other districts, some have changed to virtual schooling and a few have went on to be home-schooled. It is also important to note that 29 students have transferred in to NJ-SP School Corporation. Dr. Zupin said that she will continue to watch the trends and will work with the faculty to keep students at NJ-SP School.

Dr. Zupin went over updates for the Lease Rental Bond Project. Dr. Zupin stated that the money for the lease project will not be received until January although preliminary work is taking place. Dr. Zupin noted the following:

- Quotes are out for the bathroom partition replacement.
- Core drilling was conducted to assess the best location for the proposed tennis court.
- Principals and architects have discussed secure entrances.
- Crews will look at the roof to determine repairs and materials needed.
- Air ducts will be checked to see if they need to be cleaned.

Dr. Zupin also reported on the School Accountability Grades from the state. North Judson-San Pierre Elementary received a B, the junior-senior high received a B and the corporation overall received a B. Dr. Zupin stated that while this is good news, she reminded everyone that there would be changes to the way the A-F Accountability Grade would be calculated next year noting student improvement and growth should be the focus.

Other

None.

Recognition of Visitors

No comments were made.

Adjournment

Mr. Bacon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m. Mr. Menis seconded the motion; motion passed 4-0.

Sheila Akers, President

Jim Menis, Secretary

Susan McCormack, Member

Gerald Bacon, Member