

December 15, 2014

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Vincennes Community School Corporation met on Monday, December 15, 2014, at 7:01 p.m., at Vigo Elementary School. Those present were President Aaron Bauer, Vice President Pat Hutchison, Secretary Karla Smith, Members Lynne Bobe and Barbara Toole, and Superintendent Greg Parsley.

Aaron Bauer led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Ryan Clark, Principal of Clark Middle School, introduced Guidance Counselor Jill Lopez as the Peabody Energy "*Leadership Education*" award winner this past week. This award is given to educators that inspire, guide, continue to lead and transform lives in helping students reach their potential. Mrs. Lopez will receive \$1,000 for her own personal use thanks to Peabody Energy and will also be formally honored at their awards banquet during the Fall of 2015.

Two of Clark Middle School students gave testimonials for Mrs. Lopez, relating she has not only helped them with their personal problems, but has helped other students get through tough times. She is always there when you need her and has taught the entire school proper behavior. Mrs. Lopez will talk to students and their friends when they have personal issues and helps to work them out. If you are upset, Mrs. Lopez has created a safe, comfortable environment to talk about your feelings and is also good with contacting adults to help you out. She is a great person to talk to when you need it and will help you to control stress, very helpful in getting things taken care of and under control quickly. She offers alternate options to suit you when possible. She is understanding, a great listener and is very, very kind. She is an "all-around great person".

Mrs. Lopez thanked everyone that had a part in her receiving this award, stating it could not have happened unless she had all the wonderful, great teachers and Mr. Clark, and such wonderful students to work with. She was overwhelmed by the recognition and was truly honored.

Barry Stone, Curriculum Director, then presented plaques to the following students for "Perfect Scores" on their ISTEP+, IREAD, or ECA tests from the Spring of 2014:

Clark Middle School 6 th Grade ISTEP+ Math:	Trinity Noel Heath
Clark Middle School 8 th Grade Algebra I ECA:	Alexis Ann Edgin
	Gabriel Douglas McCarter
	Jordan Scott Soderling
Franklin Elementary Grade 3 IREAD:	Haleigh N. Batty
	Seth E. Baughn
	Isabella M. Lange
	Neveah Dawn Nelson
	Emma C. Schnepper
	Gabriel Christian Stroud
Riley Elementary Grade 3 IREAD:	Allison P. Bolger
Tecumseh-Harrison Elementary Grade 3 IREAD:	John N. Alderfer
	Haylee R. Sterchi
Vigo Elementary Grade 3 IREAD:	Rebeca A. Baldwin
	Josey Sue Cates
	Jaxon Miles Hunt
	Ariana Marie Patricio

In addition to students receiving a plaque, each school will also receive a plaque honoring all students that received these awards.

Kelley McCarty, Principal of Vigo Elementary School, introduced the Curriculum Topic for this evening's meeting. Her two Fourth Grade Teachers, Julie Blubaum and Meredith Dreiman, began collaborating with Jay and Ellen Bardole, former VU teachers, early in the school year to align hands-on activities to enhance the fourth grade science standards.

The Bardoles share these activities with the students on Friday mornings. Over the course of several work sessions the students have learned about the process of the scientific method of inquiry practicing predicting, observing and analyzing data to make connections to scientific concepts and skills.

Students have also participated in experiments and demonstrations regarding soluble and insoluble solutions, air pressure, and the properties of matter. It has been very inspiring to have individuals from the community willing to offer their time, talents and love of science to enhance the curriculum and spark student interest in the subject. The students are always excited to see what the next Friday will bring.

Several students from these two classes related examples of the work they have done.

Consent Agenda:

By unanimous vote the board approved Greg Parsley's recommendation for the following Consent Agenda items:

- A. Minutes of November 17, 2014 Meeting
- B. Claims 22619 – 22837
- C. Financial Statements
- D. Personnel

Resignations:

Haley D. Benefiel	Elementary Music Teacher – eff 11/25/14
Caryn D. Gerhart	Tec-Harrison Special Ed Aide – eff 12/2/14
Susan E. Meier	Tec-Harrison Media Aide – eff 12/19/14
Katheryn L. Pargin	Franklin Special Ed Aide – eff 1/9/15
Wendy L. Mullins	Tec-Harrison Title 1 Aide – eff 1/9/15

Recommendations:

Tasa Jean Martinez	Riley Special Ed Aide – eff 12/16/14
Nicholas A. Combs	Tec-Harrison Special Ed Aide – replace C. Gerhart
Pamela J. Smith	Tec-Harrison Media Aide – replace S. Meier (pending passing of Para Pro test)
Tiffany G. Mathias	Tec-Harrison Title 1 Aide – eff 1/12/15 – replace W. Mullins (pending background clearance)
Linda France	VCSC Special Ed Bus Aide – eff 11/24/14 - replace N. Navejar
Bryce Buchanan	LHS Asst. Swim Coach – replace Bailey Hacker
David Bruner	LHS Head Girls Tennis Coach – replace Shea Duke (pending background clearance)
Jake Beaman	LHS Volunteer Asst. Baseball Coach

Leaves: All Leave Requests were approved as submitted

- E. Donations

United Way of Knox County	\$6,800.00	For VCSC Tutoring Program
St. Thomas Altar Society	\$ 50.00	For CMS student that may be in need at Christmas time

F. Fundraiser Requests

Amy Lane and LHS National Art Honor Society request permission to conduct *Face Painting* and selling *Handmade Ornaments* at basketball games on November 22nd, December 5th and 12th, 2014. Proceeds will all be given to the family of LHS student *Taylor Pinkstaff* to cover cancer expenses. Taylor is a member of the LHS's NAHS.

Erika Shepard and LHS Interact Club request permission to conduct *DVD Sales* and a *Dress Drive* during December 2014. All proceeds will be used for club expenses and service projects.

LHS Student Council requests permission to conduct "*Santa Grams*" Tuesday through Friday, December 16 through 19, 2014. All proceeds will go to the Riley Dance Marathon.

Vigo Elementary Student Council requests permission to conduct a "*Hat Day*" for "Kids Sharing and Caring" for Riley Children's Hospital on Thursday, January 15, 2015. Students would pay/donate \$1.00 to wear a hat all day on "National Hat Day".

LHS Student Council requests permission to conduct a "*Riley Dance Marathon*" on Saturday, January 31, 2015. All proceeds will be donated to Riley Children's Hospital.

Vigo Elementary Student Council requests permission to conduct "*Valentine Song Dedications*" Monday through Friday, February 9th through 13th, 2015. All proceeds will go towards purchase of pencil machine for the school.

Discussion Items:

There are no Discussion Items for this meeting.

Decision Items:

By unanimous vote the board approved Greg Parsley's request for Second and Final Reading of the following current Policy and Guideline Revisions as recommended by NEOLA. Most of the changes and/or revisions are simply a matter of generalization of verbiage of a particular policy or guideline to reflect current law or an addition to comply with law.

<u>POLICY #</u>	<u>CHANGE TYPE</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
0131.1 thru 0133	Update	"Bylaws and Policies" – to update current policy with new legal verbiage and local policy
1220	Update	"Employment of the Superintendent" – to update with new legal verbiage and local policy
1240	Revision	"Evaluation of the Superintendent" – to revise with current legal statute and verbiage
1241	New	"Non-Reemployment of the Superintendent" – to add policy
1543	Revision	"Non-Renewal of Administrative Contracts" – to bring current with legal statute and verbiage
2221	Revision	"Mandatory Curriculum" – to revise with current legal statute and verbiage
2461	Reject	"Suspension and Expulsion of Disabled Students" – renumbered to 5605 – will retain current VCSC policy
2700	Revision	"Annual Performance Report" – to bring current with legal statute and verbiage
3124	Reject	"Employment Contracts with Professional Employees" – will retain current VCSC policy
3131	Revision	"Reduction in Staff" – to bring current with master contract with education association and VCSC

<u>POLICY #</u>	<u>CHANGE TYPE</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
5114	Revision	"Foreign and Foreign Exchange Students" to "Nonimmigrant Students and Foreign Exchange Programs" – to comply with current legal statute
5320	Revision	"Immunization" – to comply with current legal statute and requirements
5605	Reject	"Suspension and Expulsion of Students with Disabilities" – will retain current VCSC policy
5830	Revision	"Student Fund-Raising" – to comply with current law
8311	New	"Public Access to Employee Contracts" – to comply with current law
8432	Revision	"Pest Control and Use of Pesticides" – to comply with current law
8500	Revision	"Food Services" – to comply with current law
8510	Revision	"Wellness on Physical Activity and Nutrition" - to comply with current law and VCSC policy
8540	Revision	"Vending Machines" – to comply with current law
9210	Reject	"Parent Organizations" – duplication of several items
9211	Reject	"Corporation-Support Organizations" – duplication of several items
9270	Revision	"Equivalent Instruction for Compulsory Attendance Compliance Purposes (Home Schooling and Non-Accredited Schools)" – revision of policy name and verbiage

<u>ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINE</u>	<u>CHANGE TYPE</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
2461A	Delete	"Disciplining Special Education Students" – renumbered to 5605A
2461B	Reject	"Disciplining a 504 Student" – duplication of item
5114	Revision	"Foreign Exchange Students" – renamed "Student and Exchange Visitor Program" – to comply with current law and verbiage
5320	Revision	"Immunization of Students in School" – to comply with current legal statute and requirements
5605A	Reject	"Disciplining Special Education Students" – do not need
5605B	Reject	"Disciplining a Section 504 Student" – do not need
9211	Reject	"Corporation Support Organizations" – duplication of several items

By unanimous vote the board approved Greg Parsley's recommendation for reappointment for of Yvette Kirchoff to the Knox County Public Library Board. This will be Mrs. Kirchoff's second four-year term.

By unanimous vote the board approved Greg Parsley's recommendation to execute the *Indiana Secured School Safety Grant Application for 2015* with the Indiana Homeland Security Office. This grant is the second \$50,000 match grant for which the VCSC has received. The grant pays for equipment and personnel. Presently, the VCSC employs two SROs (School Resource Officers). At present, VCSC pays the City of Vincennes for the use of a second SRO for our elementary schools. Equipment is also addressed in the grant and this includes the addition of security cameras on VCSC properties.

By unanimous vote the board approved Greg Parsley's recommendation to enter into a *Memorandum of Understanding* with the VEA (Vincennes Education Association) to disburse our portion of the Performance Grant Award from Indiana Department of Education to qualified certificated staff. VCSC received \$99,631.06 and is to reward teachers on performance for the 2013-2014 school year. After monies are deducted for FICA, TRF, etc., the total amount for disbursement will be \$83,690.06, or approximately \$570 to each teacher rated Highly Effective or Effective for the 2013-2014 school year, as well as satisfying other requirements.

By unanimous vote the board approved Greg Parsley's recommendation to enter into agreement with ESCRF, a public school trust for only Indiana schools, for the Property and Casualty Insurance and the Workers' Compensation for the 2015 calendar year at a rate of \$187,578.

Bids were taken from four carriers, but one (Wright Risk Management [Brown and Brown]) was eliminated for consideration from the beginning as they submitted a late quote and also did not include the Worker's Compensation.

After spending several weeks comparing the quotes (including limits of coverage, deductibles, coverage, etc.), seeking guidance and advise from others, it is decided that the ESCRFT quote is by far the most advantageous to the VCSC. Not only does it come with a lower price, but also includes higher limits, lower deductibles, and greater amounts of coverage (includes Flood, Terrorism, Earthquake) etc.

ESCRFT only insures schools, therefore, the risk is minimal as it is a known commodity for which is insured and further, our risks are risks that we are aware of as being partnered with others in the school business. This is different from Liberty Mutual (current carrier), who is a commercial insurer of not only school and other public entities but also private business, large and small.

If approved, the fixed quote that is coming from ESCRFT will lower our property insurance, in addition to our Worker's Compensation, by \$64,251.00.

The move to ESCRFT comes as a difficult decision as J.M. Vieck, as the agent with German-American and using Liberty Mutual, has been the agent to the VCSC for many, many years. J.M. has represented the VCSC to the fullest and as a person and as an agent, the VCSC could not have asked for a better person. With this stated, the VCSC is indebted to J.M. and German-American.

Mr. Bauer extended his appreciation to Mr. Parsley for his very thorough and time consuming task in his in-depth comparisons of the bids submitted and reaching out to others for guidance and review.

By unanimous vote the board approved Greg Parsley's recommendation for a traditional hybrid calendar for the 2015-2016 school year. Two calendars were presented to the VEA for discussion and a third calendar choice came from those meetings. The calendars were put out to all VCSC employees for a vote and the balanced calendar finished ahead by one vote, but also had several strong "no" votes when tallying across the board.

Mr. Parsley stated that consideration needs to be taken with regard to the balanced calendar, and more so for the 2016-2017 school year, and that parents and members of the community be given the opportunity to weigh in with voting. He would spend some time with the different PTOs next fall to help educate them on the school calendar and ask that they be included in an online voting process.

The 2015-2016 School Calendar will start with an organization day on Wednesday, August 5th, with Thursday, August 6, 2015, being first day for students. There would be Early Release days for Homecoming, Parent/Teacher Conferences, and Professional Development (second Tuesday of the month). There would be a full two weeks off for Christmas break and eight built-in make-up days due to inclement weather. We would end on Wednesday, May 25, 2016, with graduation on Friday, May 27th. However, Thursday and Friday, May 26 and 27, 2016 could be utilized as additional make-up days if needed.

By unanimous vote the board approved Greg Parsley's request to run a Second Claims Docket for December with the 2014 calendar year coming to a close so that bills can be paid and vendors can close out their books with our payments.

By unanimous vote the board approved Greg Parsley's request to transfer funds from accounts as needed to keep all funds in the "black" as we close out the 2014 calendar year.

Mr. Bauer thanked Mrs. McCarty for hosting tonight's meeting and expressed his appreciation and amazement of students being so enthusiastic about technology. He stated that although he was only able to visit a few classrooms, he came away from each knowing that with the help of Barry Stone our technology curriculum is a hit with the students.

All board members congratulated Vigo Elementary for their "A" grade and the celebration they held tonight, and for hosting the meeting. They extended their congratulations and thanks to Mrs. Lopez on her award and her compassion for our students. Congratulations were also extended to all the "Perfect Score" students recognized tonight. It is such an honor to see the tremendous work our students are doing and it is just awesome. They thanked the Bardoles for their scientific assistance in educating our children. They thanked Steve Combs and the high school for providing the "rails and valet" for giving community members help to attend various activities at the school. They also thanked Mr. Combs and high school staff in their fundraising activities for the two students who are battling cancer.

Mr. Bauer stated he is looking forward to the renovation completion of Adams Coliseum, which is slated to be approximately the middle of January. Mr. Parsley stated he also did a tour with the Project Engineer of Clark's Crossing and it is just amazing to see how it looks now and knowing what it looked like before. It is truly a wonderful sight.

All board members wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

The next board meeting will be the Reorganization meeting on Monday, January 12, 2015, at 7:30 a.m.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Aaron M. Bauer, President

Karla A. Smith, Secretary