

April 20, 2015

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Vincennes Community School Corporation was held at 7:01 p.m., Monday, April 20, 2015, in the Gymnasium of Riley Elementary School. Those present were President Pat Hutchison, Vice President Karla Smith, Secretary Barbara Toole, Members Aaron Bauer and Lynne Bobe, and Superintendent Greg Parsley.

Trenton Farris, Riley Elementary Third Grade Student, led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Steve Combs introduced Mrs. Janet Boyle, Acting Director for the Center of Excellence in Leadership of Learning (CELL) with the University of Indianapolis. Mrs. Boyle gave a brief presentation on Indiana's application process of the *North Carolina New Schools Initiative*. She explained the process that was accomplished with the time restraints they were presented. She then introduced Mrs. Laurie Baker, the Out of State Project Leader for the initiative. Vincennes Lincoln High School will be participating in the project as the State of Indiana was recently named to the North Carolina New Schools. Joining Vincennes Lincoln will be Paoli, Hagerstown and Winchester.

The North Carolina New Schools Project is an innovative professional development/service initiative, which presents a creative way to provide professional development to educators. The goal behind the partnership is to be able to provide professional development and to also bring together key partnerships as LHS moves to that of an Early College in August of 2015. LHS is excited to be one of only four schools in the State of Indiana that will participate in this program.

Susan Marchino introduced Riley Special Education Teacher Amanda Orchard, whose Life Skills student demonstrated the use of technology in their classroom by using an iPad, the interactive board and Promethean Table in their classwork.

Ryan Clark, Principal of Clark Middle School, read and presented to the Board of School Trustees a Resolution for which was read and presented to CMS Math Teacher Andrea Hess before the General Assembly on Monday, March 9, 2015. Mrs. Hess was named the Indiana Small and Rural Schools Association *Teacher of the Year for 2014-2015*. Representative Bruce Borders and Senator Mark Messmer were the sponsors to the Resolution. The VCSC is honored that the Indiana General Assembly would choose to honor Mrs. Hess and the VSC joins the Indiana General Assembly in expressing gratitude and appreciated to Mrs. Hess. In addition to being a 6th Grade Math Teacher, Mrs. Hess is also the Math Department Chair for CMS. It should be noted that Mrs. Hess came in second in the nation for Small and Rural Schools Association Teacher of the Year for 2014-2015.

Mrs. Hess wanted to thank everyone at VCSC and Small and Rural Schools Association for this honor. She is very appreciative of the recognition.

Melissa Pancake, Principal of Franklin Elementary School, introduced Franklin Elementary Third Grade Teacher Amber Soderling as VCSC's most recent winner of WTHI-TV *Golden Apple Award* for the 2014-2015 School Year. Mrs. Soderling will be formally recognized on Friday, May 1st, during a reception for the five winners from throughout the Wabash Valley this year.

Mrs. Soderling thanked everyone for this honor, stating it wouldn't be possible without all the hard work and opportunities given to the teachers by VCSC.

Ryan Clark, Principal of Clark Middle School, announced that Mrs. Deborah Stidham has been named the *Certified Employee of the Month* from their building. Mrs. Stidham is an 8th Grade Language Arts teacher. Mr. Clark advised that fellow teachers and students all stated Mrs. Stidham was a very kind and thoughtful person, respectful of all those she meets and is always in a happy mood. She does not hold a grudge and is a pleasure to work with.

Mrs. Stidham thanked everyone for the recognition and is grateful to be working with such wonderful people.

Susan Marchino, Principal of Riley Elementary School, announced that Media Aide Mrs. Linda Swing has been named the *Non-Certified Employee of the Month* for their building. Mrs. Marchino stated that Mrs. Swing is a very dedicated and thoughtful person that can be counted on to help however she can. She is very much appreciated for all she does for VCSC.

Mrs. Swing thanked everyone for this honor.

Saundra Lange, Director of Knox County Special Education Cooperative, recognized Para Professional Mrs. Rosemarie "Rosie" Woolard as the 2014 Good "IDEA" Award Winner. Mrs. Woolard works in the Life Skills class for Mrs. Rebecca "Becki" Williams at Lincoln High School. Mrs. Woolard was the one-on-one aide to the recently deceased LHS Student Jamie Cox. She most exemplifies the criteria as one that goes above and beyond the intent of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. The award recognizes those individuals who demonstrate kids are kids first and who use creative solutions for working with children.

Mrs. Woolard thanked Saundra for this award, stating she loves her job and students.

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

- A. Minutes of March 9, April 2, April 6, April 8, April 9, & April 14, 2015 Meetings
- B. Claims 23373 – 23623
- C. Financial Statements
- D. Personnel

Retirements:

Saundra K. Lange	Knox County Special Education Director
Karen Query	LHS Foreign Language Teacher
Dolores J. Lane	CMS Grade 8 Math/Algebra Teacher

Resignations:

Cornelius Walker	LHS Special Ed Aide – eff 3/13/15
Brandi Clahan	CMS Media Aide – eff 4/7/15
Sandy Noble	Riley Title 1 Aide – eff 4/10/15
Kalee Britton	Franklin Day Care Aide – eff 2/25/15
Adryanne Noble	LHS/CMS Dance Coach – eff 3/23/15
Ashley M. Tolliver	CMS Cheerleading Coach – eff 4/7/15

Transfers:

Debbie Freeman	Vigo Cafeteria Worker to LHS Special Ed Aide – eff 4/13/15 at 6.75 hrs per day – to replace C. Walker
Candace Yochum	CMS FT Special Ed Aide to CMS PT Media Aide eff

2015-2016 School Year – from 6.5 hrs per day to 5.75 hrs per day – to replace B. Clahan

Recommendations:

Candace L. Grismore	Franklin Special Ed Aide – eff 4/27/15 – to replace K. Pargin
Wendy Mullins	Tec-Harrison Title 1 Aide – eff 4/21/15 – to replace T. Mathias – 5.5 hrs per day Tuesdays and Thursdays until 5/6/15 and then 5.5 hrs per day Monday through Friday
Adrienne Marie Kent	SWRYV Title 1 Aide – eff 4/27/15 – 29 hrs per wk – new position
Stephen D. Combs	LHS Summer School Administrator *
Levi Salters	LHS Summer School Algebra I *
Donna Kramer	LHS Summer School English 9-12 *
Kim Prout	LHS Summer School Credit Recovery *
Chad Tolliver	LHS Summer School Physical Education *
Matt Collins	LHS Summer School Physical Education *
Tod Held	LHS Summer School Physical Education *

* 4.75 hrs per day, 5 days per week, 6/1 through 6/26/15

Jono Connor	Elementary Grade 3 IREAD Summer School Administrator – 2 hrs per day, 5 days per week, 6/1 through 6/19/15, paid at highest teacher salary rate per Master Contract
Susan Marchino	Kindergarten Jump Start Administrator - 3 hrs per day, 5 days per week, 7/20-7/31/15, paid at highest teacher salary rate per Master Contract
Tatum Hovland	CMS Girls Assistant Track Coach
Kara Acino	VCSC General Athletics – Spring
Mitch Breidenbaugh	VCSC General Athletics – Spring
Erica Causey	VCSC General Athletics – Spring
Dave Dawson	VCSC General Athletics – Spring
Charles Ellis	VCSC General Athletics - Spring
Gary Hackney	VCSC General Athletics – Spring
Michelle Smith	VCSC General Athletics – Spring
Evan Stoll	VCSC General Athletics – Spring
Lindsey Willis	VCSC General Athletics – Spring

Leaves

Melissa Schroeder	Tec-Harrison Grade 5 Teacher requests Personal Leave of Absence for 2015-2016 School Year
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All other Leave Requests were approved as submitted.

E. Revision of 2014-2015 School Calendar

Per discussion with the Vincennes Education Association, and also discussing with Board Members in advance, the VCSC elected to hold school – or to be in session – on Friday, April 3, 2015. This day was originally to be an off day, or a holiday for VCSC staff and students as it was Good Friday. By holding classes, the VCSC has or will have met the 180-day student attendance rule, and barring any situation for which the VCSC would have to close between now and the end of the school year, will conclude on Friday, May 22nd.

F. Authority to Sign Agreement with Utilities Service Board

With the recent completion of different renovations for Inman Field, concrete was poured over existing sewer lines at the field. The cost for relocating the sewer lines was simply not cost feasible for the VCSC and instead we have elected to simply sign an agreement with the Utilities Service Board that should ever an issue come about the VCSC will allow the Utilities Service Board onto the VCSC property and the VCSC will incur the costs. Simply as a point of reference, the existing VCSC Maintenance/Transportation Building is also over a sewer line, as well is Rainbow Beach.

G. Field Trip Requests

CMS/LHS Musical Theater Department requests permission to sit in on a *Master Class* with an actress who has portrayed "Belle" on Broadway. This class will be held at Olney Central College (Illinois) on Tuesday, April 14, 2015, from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. Indiana time. (Board approval given March 30-31, 2015.)

H. Fundraiser Requests

LHS Student Council requests permission to conduct a *3-on-3 Basketball Tournament* Monday, March 30 through Friday, April 10, 2015 during Enrichment Classes at LHS. Proceeds will go to "Nathan's Courage (a Riley Elementary student battling cancer.)

Tecumseh-Harrison Elementary Student Council requests permission to conduct a "*Hat Day*" on Thursday and Friday, April 16 and 17, 2015. Proceeds raised will be donated to the Salvation Army.

Tecumseh-Harrison Elementary Student Council requests permission to conduct "*Penny Wars*" Monday through Friday, April 20 through 24, 2015. All proceeds raised will be donated to the Donald McDonald House.

Vigo PTO requests permission to conduct a *Casey's General Store Community Pizza Night for Vigo School* on Monday, April 27, 2015. Proceeds will be used for approved purchases through PTO requests.

CMS Girls Basketball Team requests permission to conduct a *Youth Basketball Clinic* Monday through Friday, July 13 through 17, 2015. Proceeds from registration fees will be used to cover clinic expenses – trophies, basketballs, shirts, etc.

I. Use of Facilities Request

Pocket City Basketball, LLC requests permission to use CMS Gymnasium twice per week (dates to be determined) from Tuesday, March 10 through Friday, July 24, 2015, from 6:45 to 8:45 p.m. This will be for the 15 and under AAU Youth Basketball for development and practice.

The Department of Child Services requests permission to use LHS Gymnasium and Main Floor of Alice Arena from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Friday, April 24, 2015, to conduct a *Child Abuse Program*.

Vincennes Police Department D.A.R.E. personnel request permission to use LHS Ader Auditorium on Tuesday, April 28, 2015, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. to conduct *D.A.R.E. Graduation* for all VCSC 5th Grade students.

CMS Girls Basketball Team requests permission to use CMS Gymnasium, Locker Room, Main Hallway and Restrooms, Monday through Friday, July 13 through 17, 2015, from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to conduct a *Girls Basketball Youth Clinic*.

Vincennes City Council requests permission to use LHS Ader Auditorium on Monday, May 18, 2015, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. to conduct a *Town Meeting*.

Discussion Items:

Barry Stone, VCSC Curriculum Director, provided discussion to the Board in regard to the *Rural and Low Income Grant Award* for the 2015-2016 school year in the amount of \$54,498.76.

Within the grant, we will utilize \$10,912.76 to fund the "Green Rooms", \$19,000 for Professional Development and Training for teachers, and \$24,586 for Educational Technology.

The "Green Rooms" money pays for a team of teachers, administrators, and other staff members to meet four times each month to discuss/monitor student achievement.

The Professional Development money will be utilized to offer stipends to fund eight eCoach positions in the district = two at the HS, two at the MS, and one each at the elementary buildings. Utilizing eCoaches will allow the teachers more support at the building level to incorporate blended learning activities in the classroom.

The Technology money will be used to purchase laptops for the teaching staff. These laptops will be the beginning of a replacement plan for the teacher machines in the MS and Elementary Schools.

For the 2014-2015 School Year, the VCSC was awarded \$52,070, which is an approximate \$2,500 increase.

Decision Items:

By unanimous vote, the board approved Saundra Lange's request to hold a Special Education Functional Skills Summer School this year. Classes would begin on Tuesday, May 26 and be held on Tuesdays through Thursdays, through Thursday, June 18, 2015. Program will run from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. and will be held at Clark Middle School.

By unanimous vote, the board approved Greg Parsley's request to hold Category I classes – reimbursed at the rate of 100% threshold, contingent upon the number of schools that apply. These classes would include Reading (Grades 1-3), Credit Recovery for the High School (Algebra, Mathematics Laboratory, English 9-12, and Language Arts Laboratory).

Reading for Grades 1-3 is being mandated by the state as all 3rd grade students must pass the IREAD exam in the spring, with those failing required to go to summer school. These classes would be held Monday through Friday, June 1 through 19, 2015 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at Tecumseh-Harrison Elementary School. Jono Connor would be the Administrator for the Reading Program.

High School classes will be held at Clark Middle School and will run from Monday through Friday, June 1 through 26, 2015 from 7:30 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. Steve Combs will be the

Administrator for these high school classes. We will continue to use the Alice Academy software and will offer the classes as an extension of Alice Academy. In addition, there will be a \$10 fee assessed to all students taking HS summer school classes. Additionally, students enrolled in credit recovery who are assigned MyFoundations Lab through Vincennes University will be charged \$25. This program remediates students who will take the Accuplacer test in order to qualify for college credit (Early College). Students will pay either \$10 or \$25, not both.

In addition to the regular summer school program for reading, or grades 1-3, we will offer a Kindergarten Jump Start program for those students deemed needing additional preparation prior to the 2015-2016 School Year starting. We will operate this during the two full weeks prior to the start of school, Monday through Friday, July 20 through 31, 2015, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Susan Marchino will serve as the Administrator for this program, which will be housed at Riley Elementary School. There will be two teachers and two para-professionals hired at a contracted rate of \$18 per hour for the program. (The number of teaches will be adjusted if enrollment is lower than anticipated.)

VCSC will provide transportation for both the Elementary Grades 1-3 Reading and the Kindergarten Jump Start program. We will also provide food service.

By unanimous vote the board approved Greg Parsley's request to pay for the following to exhaust all monies in the CMS Contingency Fund Account. Once this payment is made there will be a balance of \$0 in the fund:

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Chops	\$5,407.33	Band & Percussion Items

(Invoice balance of \$4,551.67 to be paid from General Fund)

By unanimous vote the board approved Greg Parsley's request to submit a Waiver to Offset Circuit Breaker Tax Credits. This is a result of legislation (HEA 1062) passed by the Indiana General Assembly for those schools most impacted by the circuit breaker. The waiver allows for 100% of monies to be receipted into the Debt Service Fund. The circuit breaker credits that would have been received to cover the debt service fund are now spread out into Transportation, Bus Replacement and Capital Projects Fund.

Without the Waiver, the loss would have impacted the various tax funds by 44% for each fund. With the Waiver, the VCSC will offset the reduction to 18.4% of the certified levy. This still translates to a significant loss. To put or place this into perspective, an 18% loss translates to nearly a \$550,000 cut, whereas a 44% reduction translates to a \$1,380,000 cut.

With declining AV (assessed valuation), a looming personal property tax credit coming and the possible annexation in the Vincennes area, the VCSC is gravely concerned with operating expenses in our property tax rated funds.

By unanimous vote the board approved Greg Parsley's recommendation to award the feasibility/assessment study to Myszak + Palmer of Vincennes in the amount of \$13,250.00. This includes \$12,000 to complete the assessment/feasibility study and also an additional \$1,250 for reimbursement costs.

Myszak + Palmer were one of three architects to submit for the feasibility/assessment. Also submitting proposals include Odle McGuire Shook (OMS) and Schmidt and Associates/Donovan and Donovan.

Other Business:

Susan Marchino wanted to remind everyone that Riley and Franklin Elementary Choirs would be singing at a St. Louis Cardinal baseball game versus the New York Mets on Sunday afternoon, July 19th, and she has tickets to sell. They are normally \$60 tickets and they are selling for \$30, in really good section in right field. You may contact her for tickets.

All board members congratulated the recognized teachers of the month and all they do for VCSC. They thanked all the retiring teachers for their dedication and service to the corporation. Mrs. Marchino was thanked for hosting this month's meeting and providing the curriculum topic with the special education students. All efforts by those honored tonight is very much appreciated.

Pat Hutchison wanted to extend congratulations to Brandon Pfoff on winning his 300th baseball game of his career with VCSC with a 16-6 win over visiting North Posey.

Pat also reminded everyone of "SHREK the Musical" to be held this weekend and encouraged everyone to attend. He also wanted to remind everyone of the 99th Anniversary of the Army JROTC 5K/1 Mile Walk this Sunday. We will be joining other 2700 JROTCs as they attempt to break the Guinness World Record for most runners. In addition, Tecumseh-Harrison will be sponsoring a costume obstacle relay on Sunday,, May 3rd, at Wabash Trails Park.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Patrick P. Hutchison, President

Barbara L. Toole, Secretary