

LANESVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

March 15, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Lanesville Community Schools Board of Trustees was held on March 15, 2011 at the Carl Uessler Corporation Office located at 2725 Crestview Avenue, NE, Lanesville, Indiana 47136. Board President, Donald Hussung, called the meeting to order at 7:26 p.m. The meeting was delayed due to the late adjournment of the executive session.

Board members who were present at the meeting were as follows:

Donald Hussung, President
Ron Wolfe, Vice-President
Robert Schickel, Secretary
Denzil McKim, member
Kenneth Acton, member
Steve Morris, Superintendent

Donald Hussung presented the minutes from the February 15 meeting for approval. Robert Schickel asked for clarification on page one concerning the FFA Breakfast. The minutes were written to read that the 40 cents represents the Farmers profit. He asked that the minutes be amended to read that the 40 cents represents the farmer's share. With that change noted, Robert Schickel made the motion to approve the minutes. Ron Wolfe seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0. The minutes will be revised to indicate the needed change.

Steve Morris presented the Board with the claims for the month of March. Robert Schickel made the motion to approve the claims. Ron Wolfe seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Donald Hussung called for any changes in the agenda. Mr. Morris cited no changes in the agenda and Mr. Hussung called for public comments. There were no public comments.

Mr. Morris proceeded with the Superintendent's report.

He began by stating that plans for the upcoming renovations to the school building are moving along. Federal guidelines will help keep the labor cost low due to more favorable labor rates.

Mr. Morris had met with the other local superintendents and Bev Garrison from the Special Education Department earlier in the week. The Department of Education has ordered an external audit for Lanesville Community Schools. He will be meeting with a representative about the audit and will keep the Board informed as to what is discussed at that meeting. The school corporation had passed a recent internal audit.

Mr. Morris will be in Indianapolis on Friday, March 18 for another budget meeting. It will be interesting to see how the results of tweaking the funding formula have changed the budget amount. Currently the corporation is expecting a cut of \$187,000.00, however, the formula for determining that amount is not finalized. The Senate will begin this discussion.

He announced to the Board that the Harrison County Community Foundation awarded the school corporation \$87,000.00 in grants last week.

- \$28,000.00 Fitness center upgrades and equipment
- \$19,000.00 Math Lab and software
- \$ 5,000.00 Destination Imagination team
- \$24,000.00 K-2 reading initiative
- \$ 9,000.00 Success Center to fund tutors

He wanted to publicly thank the Foundation for their support of the school corporation. The corporation has been awarded \$513,000.00 in grant money since 1998.

Mr. Morris is working with the other superintendents and Mr. Joe Wayne from Ivy Tech Community College in order to formulate a plan for dual credit. Currently Lanesville uses a professor on loan from Ivy Tech to teach a speech class. Plans are to begin a horticulture class for dual credit with Ivy Tech. Currently, the Ag Department has a dual credit agreement with Purdue University in which students must pay tuition and pass a test to earn the dual credit.

Robert Schickel and Steve Morris attended a legislative breakfast. Representative Rhonda Rhodes and Richard Young both spoke on education.

Since the House is still lacking a quorum, the Senate plans to take testimony on the charter school issue later in the week.

The ISTEP writing prompt for the 7-8 graders was compromised due to a leak of a question on Face book. The question had to deal with, if given a scholarship, would the student choose to attend a private or public school. The result is that approximately 87,000 students writing scores will be thrown out.

He reminded the board that discussions' concerning the fuel oil bids and the elementary school steps would be necessary at some point in time. Fuel bids have been received and are on the agenda for tonight's meeting, however, the process and guidelines of the bidding process will warrant discussion. The steps leading to the elementary building are falling apart. Discussion followed as to whether or not the replacement of those steps was included in the water/sewer plans to the parking lot.

This concluded the Superintendent's report.

Marsha Himmelhaver proceeded with the Elementary Principal's report. She explained the upcoming reading plan for Kindergarten through 3rd grade. House Bill 1367 ensures that students read proficiently before moving on the 4th grade. As a result of the bill, the Department of Education began work on a Reading Framework. Kindergarten teacher, Liz Schigur, 3rd grade teacher, Nathan Barnickle and Mrs. Himmelhaver attended a workshop about how to implement the Reading Framework. The Framework presently has six chapters.

1. Reading Goals are meant to drive instruction and determine appropriate assessments. Specific goals in grades K-3 focus on how to read and goals in grades 4-6 include reading to learn in regards to contest knowledge.
2. Instruction-revolves around effective scientifically based methods throughout grades k-6.
3. Assessment-is used to be certain instruction meets the needs of every student and to determine that students are reading proficiently for their grade level. The system for assessment must include screening measures to identify students at risk, a way to monitor progress to ensure students are on track, and a final assessment to determine mastery.
4. Professional development-provides teachers with the support, knowledge, and skills necessary to deliver effective reading instruction.
5. Leadership-makes grade level reading goals a priority through support, planning time, and regular observation of the reading program.
6. Commitment-requires motivating the entire school community, including staff, board members and parents to get the job done.

Beginning this June, each school is required to submit a Reading Plan that includes designating a leadership team, identifying a core reading program (Tier I), establishing a required 90 minute reading block that is uninterrupted (Tier I), identifying an intervention plan for students who have been identified

as at risk of being a proficient reader by the end of the year. (This includes providing additional reading instruction outside the 90 minutes), an assessment plan and goals (Lanesville Elementary currently uses Wireless Generation's Mclass tools for formative purposes and ISTEP+ as the summative assessment, professional development plans for all areas (Core reading, interventions, and assessment), and parent/guardian communications.

All grade 3 students will be required to take IREAD-3 in March of 2012 along with regular ISTEP+. We will be asking to also participate in IREAD-K, IREAD-1 and IREAD-2.

The Harrison County Community Foundation grant awarded to the corporation will finance Smart Tables and other technological support for our reading program.

Mrs. Himmelhaver informed the board that the Math Bowl Team, coached by Rebecca Uessler, recently had their first competition. Out of five teams in their division, the team came in second. They scored 21 points out of a possible 28.

Mr. Morris gave the Jr-Sr High School Principal's report. He began by informing the Board members that the High School academic bowl was competing in the Madison Invitational during the evening. Another invitational is scheduled at Crawford County next week. The actual competition will be held next month.

The Destination Imagination Team participated in competition last weekend at Indiana University Southeast. They were the only team in their class, and therefore they move on to state competition at Noblesville on April 16th. Even though they had no competition, Mr. Morris stated that the students have put a lot of work into this project and that they did a good job presenting their problem.

He reported that last week, the final GQE exam was given at school. This exam is no longer given to students in Indiana. There were a few students who had not passed the exam and therefore, it was administered to those students. The ECA exams will be given in the spring to those students in Algebra 1 and English 10.

There will be a breakfast on Sunday, March 20, at the Lanesville Heritage Building to benefit Shelby Richert from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Proceeds from the free will offering will help offset medical expenses for Shelby. Shelby, a senior at Lanesville High School, was involved in a car accident on Super Bowl Sunday, and is currently receiving treatment at Frazier Rehab in Louisville. She is making great progress and hopes to return to her home in about 3 weeks.

A position for a Business teacher for the Jr-Sr high school has been posted. Mr. Morris stated that he already had received several applications.

This concluded the Jr-Sr high school principal's report.

The next item on the agenda was the transfer of funds from the Capital projects fund to the Rainy Day Fund. Mr. Morris asked the Board to approve the resolution to transfer \$200,000.00 to the Rainy Day Fund. In the past the monies in the Rainy Day Fund have been used to pay insurance premiums for the employees of the school corporation. After discussion, Ron Wolfe made the motion to transfer the funds. Robert Schickel seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Morris asked the Board to approve the Debt Service reduction agreement with the Harrison County Commissioners. The County Commissioners are increasing their contribution to the township to \$275,000.00 from \$183,900.00. This is a benefit to the taxpayers of all three school districts. Kenny Acton made the motion to approve the agreement. Denzil McKim seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0. Mr. Morris stated that the Superintendent's of the three school districts will be meeting in April to give a report on how the riverboat monies have been spent in their school districts, and what plans are for any future contributions.

The Wilson Center donated equipment for the distance-learning program at Lanesville Community Schools. Denzil McKim made the motion to accept the donation. Robert Schickel seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The Harrison County Farm Bureau, on behalf of the Franklin Township Farm Bureau, made a donation to the Lanesville Elementary School for student awards. Ron Wolfe made the motion to accept the donation. Denzil McKim seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

A request from the cafeteria manager, Sandy Denny, for additional funds in the daily cash fund was presented for approval. She was asking that the funds available for change for cash purchases be increased from \$50.00 to \$100.00. Kenneth Acton made the motion. Robert Schickel seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The fuel oil bids were the next item on the agenda. Questions about the bidding process, rack price, and the fact that the school corporation will soon be installing an electric boiler, led the board to the conclusion that the bids would not be accepted, and that Jacobi Oil Service would be contacted to see if they would be willing to extend the current contract to approximately September or October, 2011, or until further notice. Donald Hussung called for a motion. Kenneth Acton made the motion. Ron Wolfe seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

With no further business, Ron Wolfe made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Robert Schickel seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Donald Hussung
President

Robert Schickel
Secretary