## LANESVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

July 20, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Lanesville Community School Board of Trustees was held on July 20, 2021 at the high school cafeteria, 2725 Crestview Avenue, NE, Lanesville Indiana. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by board president, Sharon Rothrock. Board members who were present at the meeting were as follows:

Sharon Rothrock, President Margaret Meyer, Vice President Jaycen Abell, Secretary Ron Wolfe, member Robert Schickel, member Steve Morris, Superintendent

Sharon Rothrock made a statement at the beginning of the meeting that the Board would not be voting on transgender bathroom usage this evening. She further added that there would not be a vote on this issue since the board is not adopting an official policy.

Margaret Meyer made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 15, 2021 board meeting and the claims for the month of July. Jaycen Abell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Jeff Smitley, Elementary Principal, presented the elementary school report.

The current enrollment at Lanesville Elementary is at 405 students. The numbers are as follows:

Kindergarten 65

First Grade 68

Second Grade 56

Third Grade 57

Fourth Grade 61

Fifth Grade 45

Sixth Grade 53

We have received our ILEARN scores. As a whole, the Elementary did very well. The third grade math scores were 9<sup>th</sup> in the area and the fourth grade math scores were 4<sup>th</sup> in the area. The fifth grade math scores were 7<sup>th</sup> in the area.

We have one handbook change. The following grade scale will be used for intermediate students (gr 1-6)

90% - 100%

Α

30% - 89%

В

70% - 79% C 60% - 69% D Below 60% Not Yet (NY) Incomplete I

This concluded his report.

Dr. Ryan Apple proceeded with the High School Principal Report.

Preparations for the 2021-2022 school year are underway. Dakota and his team are working hard and getting things ready for our students to return on Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup>.

Indiana ILEARN results are in and Lanesville Jr.-Sr. High School did well compared to the rest of the schools in the area. Eighth grade had the highest percentage pass rate in both English and Math in our area. Seventh grade was second in our area in Math and fourth in English. Both were above the state average in both areas.

New student orientation took place on Thursday July 15, 2021. There were roughly 30 new students present for this event. Presentations were conducted by Our Place on the harmfulness of vaping and the Harrison County Probation Office spoke with both students and parents on the importance of attendance at school.

Lanesville Jr-Sr High schools projected enrollment stands at 360 students, as of July 19, 2021. Eighth grade has reached capacity. There are currently 75 students enrolled in eighth grade and no further out of district students will be accepted at this grade level.

Open house will be on Tuesday August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Senior parent night is scheduled for August 10<sup>th</sup> and Junior parent night will be on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

This concluded his report.

Mr. Morris proceeded with the Superintendent Report.

We are very lucky to have such great teachers here at Lanesville. A group of teachers have taken a few days from the end of their break to take part in a special workshop being offered. The workshop was facilitated by Julie Estopinal, Meagan Love and Sherry Dour. This workshop was focused on project based learning. We would like to thank everyone involved for the extra effort put forth on the behalf of the students here at Lanesville Community Schools.

We will be receiving the third part of our Cares dollars in the amount of \$316,000. These funds will continue to pay for our Life Spring mental health counselor for the next two years. She has already been counseling 15 Lanesville students since November 2020. We plan to hire an extra elementary teacher so

we can keep the class room groups smaller over the next several years. We will be promoting a part time Math teacher to full time to ensure raising our ILEARN scores in Math. We will hire a permanent staff sub and a part time sub, which will certainly help in keeping classes covered. We will continue to provide new chrome books and lpads for our students. We will provide afterschool tutoring one day a week for the next several years. We will put these funds to good use for our school.

The week of July 26<sup>th</sup> will kick off the 2021-2022 school year. Mrs. Denny and the cafeteria ladies will provide the staff and board members with a "welcome back" lunch on Monday. Tuesday will consist of teachers only. There will be breakfast provided Tuesday morning before the teachers attend a day of professional development on writing. The students will begin on Wednesday, July 28<sup>th</sup>.

Just a reminder, we will have budget meetings on September 21, 2021 and October 19, 2021.

This concluded his report.

Mr. Morris made a recommendation to approve the School's Covid re-opening plan. Bob Schickel made the motion to accept the recommendation and Ron Wolfe seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0

Mr. Morris made a recommendation to transfer amounts quarterly from the education fund to the operations fund for the period of July 1—December 31, 2021. Margaret Meyer motioned to pass the resolution. Jaycen Abell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Morris made a recommendation to approve hiring the following personnel.

Heather Baker as Instructional Assistant and Sub Coordinator Ellen Murphy as Instructional Assistant Sarah Wheeler as Permanent Sub Kaycee Stiffey as Kindergarten Teacher

Ron Wolfe made the motion to accept the recommendation. Bob Schickel seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Morris made recommendation to accept the resignations of Emily Cottle as Special Education teacher and Tara Puckett as teacher's assistant. Ron Wolfe made a motion to accept the recommendation. Bob Schickel seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0

Mr. Morris made a recommendation to approve/accept the following coaching changes:

Resignation of Rusty McCubbins and JV Baseball Coach Joe Gowens and JV Bseball Coach Lucas Timberlake as Assistant Baseball Coach James Campbell as Head Coach for the Girl's Golf Team Jaycen Abell motioned for approval of these recommendations. Bob Schickel seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Morris asked for approval to sell or destroy old Science Books. Margaret Meyer motioned to approve and Bob Schickel seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0

Mr. Morris made the recommendation to approve the following fundraisers. Bob Schickel made the motion to approve the fundraisers and Jaycen Abell seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

- High school volleyball carwash
- Social media ad space for the Athletic Department

The board welcomed Sunny Sawtelle-Bush, legal representative of the school, to discuss the state's legal stance on transgender bathroom usage. Ms. Bush advised that there are three levels of the court system. This issue has been addressed in the District and Appellate Courts. The Supreme Court has refused to hear these cases at this point. Ms. Bush stated that the courts stance is "any individual can use which ever restroom they identify with". She further stated that any suggestion to use a neutral restroom or bring any attention to this individual would not be tolerated under the law. She concluded that until the Supreme Court hears these cases there will be no change. The decision of the Appellate Court stands.

There was much discussion regarding the legal aspects of transgender restroom usage. There were many parents and community members present that discussed the rights of all the children involved. It was discussed how we can proceed in the future and the possible consequences and/or changes necessary for our school. The community asked that there be further discussion in the future regarding this subject. The following is a list of those who spoke:

Joe Magner

Stephanie Wills

Matt Toole

Christina Sulter

William Frazier

Jason Thompson

Tom Weaver

Jeremy Albers

Natalie Crawford

Chan Bailey

Brian McIntyre

With no further business, Sharon Rothrock motioned to adjourn the meeting. Margaret Meyer seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0 The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Sharon Rothrock, President

Jayon Abell, Secretary