

LANESVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

FEBRUARY 20, 2024

The monthly meeting of the Lanesville Community School Board of Trustees was held February 20, 2024 at the high school cafeteria, 2725 Crestview Avenue, NE, Lanesville Indiana. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by board President, Robert Schickel.

Robert Schickel, President
Jaycen Abell, Vice President
Sharon Rothrock, Secretary
Tara Smith, Member
Ryan Lind, Member
Dr. Ryan Apple, Superintendent

Tara Smith made the motion to approve the minutes from the January 16, 2024 board meeting. Sharon Rothrock seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Ryan Lind made the motion to approve the claims for the month of February. Sharon Rothrock seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Jeff Smitley, Elementary Principal. Proceeded with this report.

Mr. Smitley discussed his and Dr. Apple's trip to Indianapolis for IREAD-3 recognition for our outstanding scores. He said that only 242 elementary schools out of 1,333 achieved 95% or higher. He said that Lanesville received a shout out from the podium regarding our second graders and that 70% passed IREAD-3. He said that there would be retesting for the second graders on March 5th and 6th and third graders on March 12th and 13th.

Mr. Smitley said that the STEAM fair will be March 7th from 6:00-8:30 pm. He said that Mr. Kramer has the kids excited about his Robotics program.

Mr. Smitley said that Kindergarten roundup is March 14th. He said that the current kindergarten students will not be attending that day.

This concluded his report.

Joseph Voelker, Jr/Sr High Principal proceeded with his report

You may not have heard but we have a basketball game this weekend some of you may be interested in attending. Our school and community have done a great job of coming together and supporting all our teams.

We have some Agriculture awards to announce. Emma Simcoe received first place in Agriculture Education for her after school agriculture program, Kyler Handy received second place in Agriculture Mechanics for his work at Handy Construction and Excavation, and Margeaux Stewart received second place for Equine Science for her work with Yankeetown arena. These areas are very competitive and they represented Lanesville extremely well! Congratulations to Ms. Hoevener and her students. This week is FFA week. The Farmer's Breakfast on Thursday morning from 7:00-9:00 AM. Here is theme for each day:
MON: PJ DAY
TUES: FARMER DAY
WED: U.S.A
THURS: FFA/BLUE & GOLD
FRI: TOBY KEITH

We had 8 band kids perform at ISSMA on the first weekend of February. They all did amazing-all played harder pieces and 4 of them were first timers. Delaney Kramer, Carly Hannel, Gillian Kramer, Gracy Irvin, Lena Jacobi, all received silver rating and Addy Simcoe, Josh Oberdieck, and Teagan McLane got a gold rating. It was awesome, they all started talking about next year and what they want to take and wanting to start working on it all now. Proud of all these students.

At the girls' swim sectional, Emilee Snyder was 16th in the 50 yard freestyle, Kassie Zurschmiede was 12th in the 100 yard freestyle and 4th in the 100 yd breast stroke, Maisey Zurschmiede was 4th in the 100 yard backstroke, the 400 yd relay team was 11th, and the team tied for 9th place.

At the boys' swim sectional, our lone swimmer, Emerson Kaiser, was 4th in the 50 yd freestyle and 10th in the 100 yd freestyle,

The boys' basketball team will play in the sectional on Tuesday, February 27th, at 7:30 vs. South Central.

We took mock AP exams in English Literature, Environmental Science, and English Composition in the beginning of February. Hopefully these will help these students when they take the exams in the beginning of May.

We had the Bluegrass Band come to perform on February 9th and the 7th graders participated in Tell the World your Story in the Library program where a local artist came in and worked with the students on creating a book.

I am out attending a budgeting workshop in Indianapolis over the next two days.

We will start the testing season the week of March 4th with our juniors taking the SAT. ILEARN will start in April.

This concluded his report.

Dr. Apple proceeded with the Superintendent's report.

The girls' high school basketball team will play at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday for a chance to be back-to-back 1A state champions. The girls will play Marquette Catholic (Michigan City), who is the last 1A team to win back-to-back state titles in 2018 & 2019.

In the coming weeks, I will have conversations with several local HVAC businesses to get assistance in judging the quality of our system and the nature of the issues that we have been having. Since July of 2023, we have spent \$30,000+ in repairs and \$39,000+ in our service agreement. We currently have nearly \$18,000 encumbered for repairs to one of our boilers that is scheduled to take place in the coming days.

Legislative update:

I will be going to Indianapolis on Tuesday, February 27 to take part in the Indiana Small and Rural Schools Association legislative breakfast. I have invited Senator Gary Byrne and Representative Karen Engleman to join me at this event, but have not heard back from them.

Legislation to watch:

HB 1376: Would limit controlled project referendums to November general elections only. This bill started out limiting all referendum items in the house, then dropped operational and safety referendums from the bill. The bill barely got out of the house and is yet to be called in the senate.

SB 1: Reading retention: There is a lot of movement and pushback on this one. We will have to see what the final bill looks like.

SB 6: We have advocated that schools need some tools to hold students accountable if they move in from another state or return from homeschooling in grades 4-5. SB 6 has some ability to create lexiles from I Learn to compare student reading growth. SB 6 gives DOE permission to do something they already have the power to do. This appears to document DOE does not want to do this unless they have the support of the IGA. This was discussed as a sidebar at the Committee.

SB 185: Cell phone/electronic device ban bill. Requires local policy.

The legislative session is scheduled to end on March 14, 2024.

Mr. Smitley and I went to the Indiana State House on Thursday, February 15, 2024 to accept recognition on behalf of Lanesville Elementary School for IREAD-3 scores of 95%+ for 2023 (LES had 09/1% of students pass). On this trip, we had a chance to speak with Indiana State Secretary of Education, Katie Jenner and Bob Behning, House Education Committee chair. During her address to the crowd, Dr. Jenner mentioned LES as a great example of schools utilizing the 2nd grade IREAD-3 testing option to achieve early passing and allowing efforts to be focused on a smaller group of 3rd grade students.

I have been appointed to the Harrison County Board of Health, so I will be representing the interest of the three school corporations in regards to decisions made by the county board of health.

The annual FFA farmers breakfast will be on Thursday, February 22, 2024 in the high school gym. Time for breakfast is set for 7:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. and the public is welcome.

Lanesville Community School Corporation will be dismissing at 1:15 p.m. on Monday, April 8, 2024 for the eclipse that is coming through our area. Many corporations are going to be completely out on that day, we at Lanesville believe that we can better serve our students by having them here for a majority of the day and then having them home before the start of the eclipse.

This concluded his report

The PTSO proceeded with their report.

Jessica Baird, President, said that they had their paint night and they had a huge turnout. She said that they will be sponsoring donut with a grown up on March 9th in the HS gym. She discussed that Spring Festival is in full swing and they are collecting things for the silent auction. She said elections will be taking place at the regular March meeting.

This concluded her report

Robert Schickel opened the floor to public comments. With no one speaking, they proceeded with agenda business.

Dr. Apple opened the meeting with a presentation from BAM weather services to give an overview of the services they provide.

Dr. Apple introduced Michael Sizemore with Pro Media. Mr. Sizemore discussed several options regarding the expansion of our school website.

Dr. Apple made the recommendation to approve the disposal of the teacher's lounge refrigerator, elementary library table and Nurse Cassie's desk. Jaycen Abell made the motion to accept and Tara Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Dr. Apple made the recommendation to approve the "conflict of interest" form for himself with regard to the hiring of his wife, Megan Apple, as our special education teacher. Tara Smith made the motion to accept and Ryan Lind seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Dr. Apple made the recommendation to approve hiring Megan Apple as a special education teacher for grades 9-12. Jaycen Abell made a motion to approve and Tara Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Dr. Apple made the recommendation to approve hiring Dustin Crawhorn as corporation treasurer. Sharon Rothrock made a motion to approve and Ryan Lind seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Dr. Apple made the recommendation to approve the resignation of David Henke as Art teacher effective at the end of the school year. Tara Smith made a motion to approve and Sharon Rothrock seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Dr. Apple made the recommendation to approve the Literacy Achievement Grant distribution. Sharon Rothrock made a motion to approve and Ryan Lind seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Dr. Apple made the recommendation to approve all the senior week activities and King's Island trip. Tara Smith made a motion to approve the activities and Ryan Lind seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Dr. Apple made the recommendation to approve the signage fundraiser for the elementary student council to improve the playground and add a gaga pit. Jaycen Abell made a motion to approve and Sharon Rothrock seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Dr. Apple made the recommendation to approve the resignation of Jennifer Phelps as aid for the third grade. Ryan Lind made a motion to approve and Tara Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Dr. Apple made the recommendation to approve hiring Rebecca Perkins as band director assistant. Jaycen Abell made a motion to approve and Ryan Lind seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Dr. Apple made the recommendation to approve the following coaches for the 2024-2025 school year:

Emily Callam as assistant softball coach

Trey Benz as baseball assistant coach

Bill Pierce as JV softball coach

Jody Jones a volunteer softball coach

Wesley Messick as volunteer HS track coach

Tara Smith made a motion to approve and Sharon Rothrock seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Dr. Apple made the recommendation to approve a fundraiser for the music department to sell Domino's pizza cards. Jaycen Abell made a motion to approve and Tara Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Sharon Rothrock proceeded with the legislative liaison report. She reported that the INSB Association is tracking 42 bills. She discussed Senate Bill 1376 which references the Referendum and when it would be filed. This will be voted on in the November general election and would not be good for schools. She mentioned Senate Bill 185 which discussed banning the use of electronic devices and cell phones in the schools. She discussed Senate Bill 1 regarding reading retention for grades 4-8. She said that there will be base line established and these numbers will be tracked and summer school may be enforced for those not scoring at this base line number.

With no further business, Sharon Rothrock made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Tara Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Robert Schickel, President

Sharon Rothrock, Secretary