

The Charles A. Beard Memorial School Corporation Board of School Trustees called a Regular Session to order at 7:05 pm. The meeting was held at Knightstown High School located at 8149 W. US 40, Knightstown, IN 46148. Those in attendance were:

Attendance:

- **Board Members:** Wade Beatty, Steve Dalton, Mark Fort, Leah Kopp, Kevin Knott, Melissa Toth, Timothy Wehr
- **Central Office Staff:** Jena Schmidt, Administrative Assistant; Stephanie Madison, Corporation Treasurer
- **School Board Attorney:** Jack Hittle, Church Church Hittle Antrim
- **Administrators:** Scott Ritchie, Jediah Behny, Christopher Bundy, Jane Rodgers, Shirley Heck
- **Media:** Knightstown Banner, New Castle Courier Times
- **Patrons:** Approximately 12 patrons

I. Call to Order

The Board President called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. All members were present. The Superintendent of schools was not in attendance. The Pledge to the American Flag and a moment of silence was observed.

II. Minutes

The minutes from December 15, 2011 were previously submitted for board approval. Leah Kopp moved to accept the minutes as presented with a second by Kevin Knott. With no corrections noted, motion carried 7-0.

III. Claims

Timothy Wehr gave the financial report and then moved to accept the claims as previously submitted. Steve Dalton gave the second and the motion carried 7-0.

IV. Public Expression

- There were no public comments.

V. Old Business –

- **Board Policies –** Policies were submitted for approval on second reading. After some discussion Melissa Toth moved to approve all listed below on second and final reading. Leah Kopp gave the second and the motion carried 7-0.
 - #0100 Bylaws – Definitions

- #0140 Bylaws – #0144.3 Conflict of Interest
 - #0140 Bylaws - #0144.4 Defense and Indemnification of Board Members
 - #0140 Bylaws - #0167.1 Voting
 - #1411 Required Reports and Protection of Whistleblowers
 - #1613 Student Supervision and Welfare
 - #1615 Use of Tobacco by Administrators
 - #2370 Educational Options
 - #2460 Child Find and Special Education
 - #3139 Staff Discipline
 - #3211 Required Reports and Protection of Whistleblowers
 - #3213 Student Supervision and Welfare
 - #3215 Use of Tobacco by Professional Staff
 - #4211 Required Reports and Protection of Whistleblowers
 - #4213 Student Supervision and Welfare
 - #4215 Use of Tobacco by Support Staff
 - #5120 Assignment Within the Corporation
 - #5320 Immunization
 - #5512 Use of Tobacco
 - #6460 Conflicts of Interest and Vendor Relations
 - #6550 Travel Payment and Reimbursement
 - #7434 Use of Tobacco on School Premises
- Wade Beatty moved to table the following proposed policies until February, at which time they will be considered for first reading. Melissa Toth gave the second and motion carried 7-0.
 - #8600 – Transportation
 - #9150 – School Visitors
 - #9160 – Public Attendance at School Events
 - Social Media – Melissa Toth moved to table Board Policy #7540 Computer Technology and Networks indefinitely. The policy will be discussed and evaluated when a new Superintendent has been appointed. Steve Dalton seconded the motion to table. After some discussion, the motion carried 7-0.

VI. New Business

- Tax Anticipation Warrants – The Board President stated the Board should be aware of the current financial situation of the corporation and a shortfall is possible. This is a result of the delayed arrival of county property taxes. Included in the packet was a resolution prepared by Jeff Qualkinbush, Bond Counsel, to issue tax anticipation warrants. There was much discussion regarding the terms as well as the possibility of getting a line of credit instead. The Board asked for more additional information from the State Board of Accounts regarding their stance on line of credit versus the tax anticipation warrants.

This information will be presented at the next meeting. In the meantime, to meet deadlines, Wade Beatty moved to advertise for bids for tax anticipation warrants with a second by Timothy Wehr. Motion carried 7-0.

- Maintenance Director – The Corporation has received a request from Michael McKillip’s attorney to be compensated for unused leave days. His request is for \$15 per day for 35 sick days and his daily rate for 3.5 personal days and 1 emergency day. Steve Dalton moved to approve as requested. Mark Fort gave the second. There was some discussion and motion carried 7-0.
- Records Request – The Board President stated the Board had received a request for public records from The Banner. The request has two items and the President stated they would be handled separately. The first item: “From the personnel file of Superintendent Gary Storie, full and complete, unredacted copies of all job performance evaluations he has received since becoming employed at CAB in July 2008, including any and all evaluation forms filled out by individual school board members”. The Board President stated his belief that these are confidential records. Steve Dalton stated the records are discretionary and has no problem releasing the records. Melissa Toth agreed with the chair stating these files are confidential and believes once released; all files become open and will deny the request. Melissa Toth also indicated that privacy and confidentiality does not mean immorality and people/employees are entitled to their privacy. Additionally, she stated she is not in favor of granting the local media access when an individual board member is not allowed access. After much discussion, Steve Dalton moved to approve the request and release the documents requested. Mark Fort gave the second. A roll call vote was taken and motion failed 3-4 with Wade Beatty, Kevin Knott, Leah Kopp and Melissa Toth casting the negative votes.
- The second item requested: “Full and complete, unredacted copies of all correspondence, including e-mails, that Superintendent Gary Storie has sent to or received from; since May 1, 2011, CAB’s regular legal counsel or other attorneys hired to provide legal services to CAB (including, but not limited to, Jeff Qualkinbush).” The Chair requested attorney review correspondence to seek advice on the release of these work products. Wade Beatty then moved to provide attorney with records for review with a second by Steve Dalton. After some discussion, motion carried 7-0.
- Fuel – The Chair reminded the Board that publication of advertisements was delayed and when publication occurred the local paper printed an incorrect quantity amount. He then stated, after looking closely, this item falls under the amount requiring a bid process. Therefore, the recommendation of the Transportation Coordinator is to purchase fuel as needed without the bid process. This is permitted per Board Policy as it is under the procurement threshold. Wade Beatty moved to receive quotes each time fuel was needed and proceed accordingly. Timothy Wehr gave the second. After some discussion, motion carried 7-0.

- Support Staff Stipend – The Chair received a recommendation from the Superintendent to award support staff a onetime stipend. He reminded the Board this had been approved for all certified staff. A listing was provided in the packet. Wade Beatty moved to approve the onetime stipend to support staff as outlined in the packet and based on hours worked per week. Melissa Toth gave the second and after some discussion, the motion carried 7-0.
- FFA to Farm Machinery Show, Louisville, KY – Melissa Toth moved to approve the trip with a second by Mark Fort. Motion carried 7-0.

VII. Personnel

- Jacquelyn Jones, Medical Leave – Melissa Toth moved to approve medical leave for second semester with a second by Leah Kopp. Motion carried 7-0.
- Maranda Locker, Resignation – Leah Kopp moved to approve the resignation from KIS Line Cook with a second by Mark Fort. Motion carried 7-0.
- Employment – Steve Dalton moved to approve the following new hires with a second from Timothy Wehr. Motion carried 7-0.
 - Jennifer Veach – Temporary Teacher for J. Jones at Knightstown Elementary
 - Joyce Ford – Knightstown Elementary Line Cook
 - Kathy Williams – Knightstown Elementary Kindergarten Aide
 - Jessica Vaughn – Full Time Bus Driver
 - Shannon Hancock – Substitute Bus Driver
- ECA Appointments – Melissa Toth moved to approve the following with a second by Kevin Knott. Motion carried 7-0.
 - Anthony Darling – Junior High Wrestling Coach - \$1137
 - Matthew Kennedy – Asst. Junior High Wrestling Coach - \$861
 - Adrian Darling – Volunteer Softball Coach
 - Hannah Smith – Volunteer Softball Coach

Interim Superintendent

- The Chair presented a recommendation to appoint Mr. Don Scheumann as Interim Superintendent until such time a permanent candidate can be chosen. Kevin Knott moved to approve the recommendation with a second by Mark Fort. After some discussion, Wade Beatty moved to amend motion to include a daily salary of \$350 for this position. Mark Fort gave the second and motion to approve amendment carried 7-0. The original motion to appoint Don Scheumann with a daily salary of \$350 per day was back on the table. With no further discussion, motion carried 7-0.
- The chair recognized Timothy Wehr for his achievement in reaching Level III in the School Board Association Education Program. He was congratulated on this accomplishment.

VIII. Superintendent Report -

- Financial Reports were presented to the Board for their review.
- The Corporation Treasurer provided a list of outstanding checks dated prior to 2009 and requested they be deemed worthless. She provided the state statute outlining the requirements for her request. Wade Beatty moved to approve the request with a second by Leah Kopp. After some discussion, motion carried 7-0.
- The chair informed the Board that the final 2012 Budget was received with minimal reductions.
- A transfer appropriations report was supplied to each Board Member. Steve Dalton moved to approve the report with a second by Wade Beatty. With no discussion, motion carried 7-0.
- A list of opportunities available the ISBA was presented. Each member was asked to contact Central Office if they planned to attend.

IX. Other Business – There was no further business to come before the Board.

X. Public Expression –

- Thomas Crawford – 6255 W US 40, Knightstown – Asked if the Corporation was in need of borrowing over \$1 million to meet payroll, why are they authorizing spending money for an attorney to review e-mails for several hours at a cost of \$200-\$300/hour.
- Jim Hope – 120 N. McCullum, Knightstown – Asked how the system was able to keep a teacher in order if no one can look at the records. The Board stated the superintendent can bring any employee record to the Board for review. There was discussion between patron and attorney.
- John Swartz – Highland Meadows Drive, Knightstown – Regarding social media, he stated he has a daughter who is a teacher and he thinks the corporation should caution all employees to be careful with social media and caution against corresponding with students and parents. He also stated regarding personnel files, this item was a concern. He said such files would contain personal stuff and if released, Mr. Storie could file a law suit and if not released, The Banner would come after you.

XI. Board Comments:

- Steve Dalton – Was concerned that a bank robbery occurred last Wednesday in Knightstown and our schools were not ordered to be locked down by our superintendent. He also stated this fact cannot be debated. He was concerned about his children as well our students, teachers and staff. He said he would work to get written procedures in place to make sure our students remain safe in the event this ever happened in the future. He was also upset the superintendent was not in the district that afternoon.
- Wade Beatty – Read a statement from Captain Anthony Lorton that was hand delivered to the central office regarding the robbery. He stated student safety is at the top of the

list and believes one should use common sense. He also stated that we should be able to trust the recommendation from local law enforcement. He informed the Board he had personally spoken with Knightstown Police Chief Baker as well as Henry County Sheriff, Butch Baker. He stated the corporation should heed law enforcement and abide by their recommendation. He added that he was meeting with the superintendent until after two the afternoon of the incident.

- Mark Fort – Stated he agreed with Steve Dalton as his son is his most valuable commodity. He understands law enforcement was on the scene but did not see an issue with additionally locking down schools. He also expressed his concern that the superintendent was not in the district.
- Melissa Toth – Wanted to make it clear the Superintendent was in the district until after six in the evening the night before this incident in various meetings with the Classroom Teachers Association as well as the policy committee.
- Kevin Knott – Said this may be a good opportunity to look at board policy regarding school lock-down procedures and ensure implementation. He asked this item be placed on the agenda soon. As questions were asked regarding job evaluations, he also informed the patrons the process for executive sessions and reasons the board may meet in these closed sessions and job evaluations was one of those items.
- Wade Beatty – Stated Dr. Storie has requested the use of 10 of his unused vacation days. Steve Dalton moved to have his retirement effective date be January 19, 2012 and not draw a salary but receive a lump sum for unused vacation days. Jack Hittle, attorney, cautioned against using language that may be construed as a termination. Motion was amended to consider Gary Storie's request for 10 days vacation and consider his resignation be effective tomorrow, January 19, 2012. Mark Fort gave the second. There was much discussion. Motion failed 3-4 with Wade Beatty, Kevin Knott, Leah Kopp and Melissa Toth casting the negative votes.

The attorney again cautioned the board not to do anything that can be construed as a termination. Wade Beatty then moved to approve Gary Storie use of 10 days vacation. Kevin Knott gave the second and motion carried 4-3 with Steve Dalton, Mark Fort and Timothy Wehr casting the negative votes.

- Don Scheumann asked to have time to get up to speed on things currently happening in the district. He requested some guidance. After much discussion, Wade Beatty moved to appoint Don Scheumann as Interim Superintendent effective January 19, 2012. Mark Fort gave the second and motion carried 7-0.

XII. Adjournment – With no further business to come before the Board, Melissa Toth moved to adjourn at 9:03 pm with a second by Leah Kopp. Motion carried 7-0.

PRESIDENT

MEMBER

VICE PRESIDENT

MEMBER

SECRETARY

MEMBER

MEMBER