

The Charles A. Beard Memorial School Corporation Board of School Trustees called their regular session to order at 7:05 pm. The meeting was held at the Knightstown Community 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, Thomas Schaetzle, and Timothy Wehr
- Central Office Staff: Gary Storie, Superintendent; Jena Schmidt, Administrative Assistant; Michelle Swift, Corporation Treasurer; Lori Swincher, Payroll Benefits Coordinator; Bruce Sowers, Technology Director; Mike McKillip, Facilities Director; Janet White, Transportation Director
- Building Principal: Scott Ritchie, Don Scheumann
- Classroom Teachers Association President: Tom Crawford
- Media: Jeff Eakins, Bethany Tabb
- Patrons: Approximately 50 patrons

**I. Call to Order**

Roll call was taken and all members were present. Kevin Knott requested all in attendance to stand for the Pledge to the American Flag followed by a moment of silence.

**II. Minutes**

The minutes of: April 21, 2009; April 28, 2009; and April 29, 2009 were presented to the board for approval. Thomas Schaetzle asked the minutes of April 21, 2009 reflect “approximate amounts” under refinancing. Wade Beatty moved to accept all minutes with correction noted. Leah Kopp gave the second. Motion carried 7-0.

**III. Claims**

Steve Dalton reported on behalf of the Finance Committee. He moved to approve claims as presented in the amount of \$746,636.95. Leah Kopp seconded the motion. Claims were approved 7-0.

**IV. Public Expression**

- Before opening the meeting for Public Expression, Kevin Knott addressed patrons with a prepared statement regarding Kennard Elementary School and the Athletic Director. He noted the Board had given due diligence to the issue of closing Kennard Elementary School. “At this point, we will not be moving forward on closing any school the coming school year.” He also informed the public, the Board would be moving forward on the Athletic Director. He asked the public to trust the board to handle the matter and understand the confidentiality involved while dealing with personnel issues. He also stated a hearing request has been received from the Athletic Director and will be scheduled in accordance with state law. He then reviewed the policy on public expression.
- Steve Dalton requested the floor. He stated three items to be important to him. One, he and the board in no way is interested in raising taxes. He went on to state his first priority is to air condition all elementary buildings. His second priority would be to keep the promise he made to keep Kennard Elementary School open. His third and final priority would be to complete the plans and “finish out the new high school.” His desire is to complete athletic facilities on the high

school campus. He gave statistics to support his position and informed the public the Athletic Boosters would be giving a presentation later in the meeting in support of building athletic fields. He reiterated his desire to build up the participation numbers in athletics which would make the corporation more appealing to families who desire to move into the area.

- James McDaniel, 7654 W. County Line Road, Knightstown, IN 46148 – Spoke in support of an all day kindergarten program for the upcoming school year. He also informed the board a deciding factor for his family, whether to stay in CAB schools or seek other programs, would be if the corporation could offer an all-day kindergarten program for his children.
- Don Scheumann, Principal at Knightstown Intermediate School – Stated his school offers many more educational opportunities and programs that were not available or possible when the corporation had K-6 buildings and a 7-12 building. He believes the corporation can and does provide quality education to all students who put forth the effort. This corporation has many success stories and many successful students. As a father he did not think having a seventh grade student in the same building as seniors in high school was an ideal situation. He also informed the board and public, since the creation of the Intermediate School; those grade levels have had opportunities and programs that would not have been possible before. The school has been able to offer the production of 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade musical performances, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade drama productions, a band concert consisting of over 80 students, just to name a few. KIS has six computer labs, a science lab, various clubs, etc. There are so many opportunities “it is unbelievable.” He also stated teachers in his building, which had wonderful experiences in a K-6 building, “without a doubt,” believe a 5-8 building has far and above more advantages than were previously offered. He also expressed his love for athletics, as a previous coach, it however cannot be a substitute for academics. He strongly believes this corporation would be “going backwards if you attempt to close the Intermediate School.” Steve Dalton rebutted and stated this is not an either or situation, it is strictly economics. Kevin Knott thanked him for his comments and passion for the students.
- Richard Riggle, 211 Illinois Street, Shirley, IN – Gave recognition to Steve Dalton for standing up for his beliefs under criticism. Then, regarding athletic facilities, “I am 100% for it and when it comes down to it, if you put a top of the line facilities you can generate dollars to help other activities.” He then asked how other board members felt and where they would like to see the money spent. Kevin Knott responded with a prepared statement regarding his views regarding the facilities. No other members spoke.
- Jim Hope, 120 N. McCullum St, Knightstown, IN – Stated lots of people in the community was not given an opportunity for input into the construction of the high school. He also stated the board has indeed increased taxes. He believes the taxpayer’s should decide where the money from refinancing should be spent. He also believes the board should concentrate more on education. He expressed his opinion that salary increases and insurance should be given back to the community to ensure schools stay open.
- Tom Crawford, teacher at Knightstown Intermediate School – Stated he taught at the high school level for 33 years and the Intermediate School for the last 6 years. He believes the board made a major step forward in education when they created KIS. He then told the board they would be taking a major step backward if they chose to close KIS. He also said the previous board made a mistake when athletic facilities were not built at the time of initial construction. He stated when CAB had grades 7-12 in the same building; there were numerous junior high pregnancies. In the last six years there has been one. “You are taking a step backward if you do that. I think you are making a mistake, a big one, if you close that building.”
- Ron Hammer – KHS Athletic Boosters – gave a power point presentation promoting athletic facilities to be constructed at KHS.

## V. Old Business

- Capital Projects, Improvements – Performance Services, Inc. has done research on our facilities. They will give insight into facilities including athletic. Bob Wede gave a power point presentation on Facilities Analysis Overview. There was much discussion between Bob Wede and the board regarding options that were presented and how to move forward. The Superintendent stated in order to refinance, the Board must have a list of projects. They do not need to be prioritized, just a compilation of possible projects. Kevin Knott thanked Performance Services for the presentation and the efforts to help the board move forward with the Strategic Planning Process. Thomas Schaetzle moved to accept the listing in the presentation to be the Board’s working list of projects and to move forward with the refinancing. Wade Beatty gave the second, motion carried 7-0.
- Common School Loan Fund – Technology Plan – The Superintendent explained a proposed budget for the Common School Loan Fund. There were some questions between the board and the Technology Director. The Director explained Thin Client and storage capacities. He stated the Corporation is currently out of available storage. He also stated his intention to replace a minimum of 250 desktops. Wade Beatty moved to accept the budget for expenditures. Thomas Schaetzle gave the second and motion carried 7-0.
- Computer Disposal – The Superintendent stated a listing of equipment is included in the packet and must be declared worthless. He also informed the Board some computers had been purchased as far back as 1996. State Board of Accounts requires this action. Leah Kopp moved to declare the list worthless with a second by Mark Fort. Motion carried 7-0.
- Planning Consultant – The Superintendent asked the Board to remove this item from the agenda. It was tabled from last meeting and stated the corporation is still interested, but felt the fee to be too expensive. He asked for time to work with companies and define the scope in an effort to reduce costs. Kevin Knott moved to remove the item from the agenda. Mark Fort gave the second, motion carried 6-1. Wade Beatty cast the negative vote.

## **VI. New Business**

- Textbook Adoption – Social Studies – The Superintendent presented a list of proposed textbooks. He then asked Don Scheumann and Nancy Newton to present information on a different approach his building is proposing for Social Studies curriculum. They discussed the advantages. This program will also include a Science component with Social Studies. Wade Beatty moved to accept with a second by Mark Fort. Motion carried 7-0.
- Fuel/Food Bids – A recommendation from the Food Service Director indicated the Board accept the bid for milk from Prairie Farms and for bread from Interstate Brands. Thomas Schaetzle moved to accept the recommendation with a second from Mark Fort. The motion carried 7-0. The Transportation Director summarized the fuel bids received from Harvestland Coop and VanHoy Oil. The Director recommended the escalating/de-escalating price for fuel and diesel from VanHoy Oil. The Director also recommended the Board explore the possibility of adding fuel tanks to the property before the next bidding cycle. She stated this would allow the corporation to be more competitive with future bidding. Mark Fort moved to approve the recommendation with a second from Kevin Knott. Motion carried 7-0.
- Tax Anticipation Warrants – The Superintendent stated a need to advertise for warrants may be necessary as spring tax payments may be arriving late. He asked the Board to approve advertising tax anticipation warrants in the amount of 675,000. Leah Kopp moved to accept his recommendation with a second by Tim Wehr. Motion carried 7-0.

- Field Trip in 2009-2010 for KHS History Club to go to Chicago with Blue River Valley High School. An itinerary and supervisory plan was included with the request. Leah Kopp moved to accept the request with a second by Wade Beatty. Motion carried 7-0.

## **VII. Personnel**

- Retirements – The Superintendent recommends the Board approve a one-time buy-out to assist teachers contemplating retirement. This would improve the severance package. Wade Beatty moved to approve with a second by Thomas Schaetzle. Motion carried 7-0.
- Gloria Means has indicated intent to retire at the end of this school year. Leah Kopp moved to approve the retirement with a second by Mark Fort. Motion carried 7-0. The Board expressed their well wishes to Mrs. Means in her retirement and thanked her for all her dedication. They expressed similar well wishes to Judy Sadler.
- Resignations – The Superintendent did not have any resignations.
- Bus Driver has asked for Leave of Absence – The Transportation Director recommended an approval for a Leave of Absence from her position as bus driver for Victoria Conley. Wade Beatty approved the recommendation with a second by Tim Wehr. Motion carried 7-0.
- Kitchen Manager – Food Service Director recommended approval to promote Christina Back from Head Cook to Kitchen Manager at Knightstown Community High School. Wade Beatty moved to approve the recommendation with a second from Mark Fort. Motion carried 7-0.
- ECA – Leah Kopp moved to approve the following ECA recommendations with a second from Tim Wehr. Motion carried 7-0.
  - Jenna Moore – Girls Varsity Softball Coach for remainder of season
  - Kevin Hiner – JV Softball Coach for remainder of season
  - Michelle Swift & Kelly Hall as Co-Sponsors for Jr. Class of 2010
  - Aaron Burton – Varsity Assistant Football Coach - \$3102
  - Todd Cleek – JV Football Coach - \$2412
  - Joe Patton – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Football Coach - \$1626
  - Joe Peggs – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Football Coach - \$1626
  - Darren Haines – Boys Tennis - \$2660
  - Cynthia Henry – Girls Golf - \$2868
  - Larry Loveall – Varsity Soccer - \$2481
  - Jana Burton – Varsity Cheerleading - \$947
  - Hannah Sparks Swindell – Asst. Varsity Coach - \$784
  - Melanie Newkirk – JH Cheerleading Coach - \$354
  - Tiffany Prange – Asst. JH Cheerleading Coach - \$354
  - John Howell – Varsity Boys Basketball Coach - \$7644
  - Darren Haines – JV Boys Basketball Coach - \$2214.50
  - Justin Linch – JV Boys Basketball Coach - \$2214.50
  - Mel Matlock – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball Coach - \$1218
  - Jeff Griggs – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball Coach - \$1228
  - Todd Roberts – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball Coach - \$2436
  - Dawn Basicker – Varsity Girls Basketball Coach - \$6745
  - Mark Simmermon – JV Girls Basketball Coach - \$2214.50
  - Joe Patton – JV Girls Basketball Coach - \$2214.50
  - JB Muncy – JH Wrestling Head Coach - \$1137

- Anthony Darling – JH Asst. Wrestling Coach - \$861
  - Volunteers: Ryan McCarty, Joe Kwisz, Tyler Edon, Todd Jones, Scott Morgan, John Heim, Jay McDaniel, Steve Bearhope, Tom Stingley, Josh Griggs, Tyler Bryant

### **VIII. Superintendent Reports**

- Superintendent Finance Report - the Superintendent presented and explained the Fund Report and cash flow projections. There was some discussion. The Superintendent informed the Board the total amount of senior awards/scholarships came to a minimum of \$434,578 up to \$500,000.
- The Superintendent presented an update on Strategic Planning. Thomas Schaetzle stated he would like to get a planning session on the calendar. The Board scheduled a planning session for May 27, 2009 from 6-8pm located at the Administration Building.
- End of year upcoming dates were included in the packet.
- The Superintendent stated he would like to change the date of the June Board Meeting. Wade Beatty moved to change the date from June 16, 2009 to June 9, 2009 located at 7:00pm at Knightstown Community High School. Leah Kopp gave the second and the motion carried 7-0.

### **IX. Other**

The Superintendent reminded the Board the Commencement Ceremony at Knightstown Community High School would begin at 2:00pm. He also stated the Board should gather at 1:30p prior to the ceremony

### **X. Public Expression**

- Larry Loveall, Optimist Club Member – Stated his support of athletic facilities at KHS. He stated the use of park facilities is causing a hardship on the optimist program due to the number of local children playing ball. He also stated a softball diamond is one facility not located on school property. He stated a girls softball field as well as a soccer field is needed.
- Joe Kortz, parent from Rush County – Stated his history and indicated he researched CAB for his children and desired a sports facilities as well as academics. Both items were equally important. He also believes sports and education go together. He did state that grades come first. He also stated his opinion that junior high students should be separated from high school students.
- Tony Ortman, Optimist Club Member – Began by stating he gave directions to a Triton Central Bus to go to KIS because the high school did not have facilities. He expressed he understands how things have to happen, but asked the Board to “keep an open mind”.
- Susie Leonard, KHS Guidance Counselor – She thanked the community for the scholarships awarded to KHS seniors. She appreciated the community generosity, particularly in the current economic times.
- Gina Miller, parent and coach – Stated her family was considering installing a softball diamond at their home due to the fact a facility does not exist at the high school for practice.
- Bob Prescott, KHS Physical Education Teacher – Stated he is also as passionate as Don Scheumann about the students. He also stated he was concerned about student life; He went on to say if facilities existed at KHS, participation numbers would increase. He believes the athletic department has problems and multiple reasons exist as to why our participation numbers are down. “We have an opportunity for parents and community to participate and view the contests.”
- Kevin Knott then stated a letter was received from Rachael Shepherd regarding the Special Education Cooperative.
- Kevin Knott also informed the Board a letter from Steve Wolfrom was received expressing his desire to assist with the Strategic Planning and Sports Facilities discussions.

- Steve Dalton – asked for the floor and again expressed his support and desire to build sports facilities at the high school.
- Kevin Knott thanked Steve Dalton and Mr. Scheumann for speaking about the sports facilities and Intermediate School, respectively. Their expressions demonstrate a desire to help students succeed. He also thanked the public who came to speak about athletics.

**XI. Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Board, Wade Beatty moved to adjourn at 10:15 pm.

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PRESIDENT

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MEMBER

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VICE PRESIDENT

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MEMBER

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SECRETARY

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MEMBER

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MEMBER