

The Charles A. Beard Memorial School Corporation Board of School Trustees called their regular session to order at 7:13pm. 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: Steve Dalton, Mark Fort, Kevin Knott, Leah Kopp, Tim Wehr, and Ron Womack.
- Central Office Staff: Gary Storie, Superintendent; David Bundy, Business Manager; Jena Schmidt, Administrative Assistant to Superintendent; Michelle Swift, Treasurer; Andrea Sharp, Food Service Director; Janet White, Transportation Director; Bruce Sowers, Technology Director; Mike McKillip, Facilities Director
- CTA President: Tom Crawford
- Media: Jeff Eakins, Bethany Tabb
- Patrons: Approximately 26 patrons

The meeting was called to order by board president at 7:13 pm. Roll call was taken, a quorum was present.

Minutes & Claims:

Leah Kopp moved to approve the Board Minutes of June 17, 2008 as presented with a second by Ron Womack. Board President instructed only those board members seated at the time of the meeting should cast a vote. Therefore, motion carried 3-0.

Leah Kopp moved to approve the Board Minutes of July 1, 2008 as presented with a second by Mark Fort. Motion carried 6-0.

Leah Kopp presented the report on behalf of the Finance Committee. She then moved to approve the claims and report as presented. Steve Dalton made the second and motion carried 6-0.

Leah Kopp then moved to instruct Gary Storie to review the mileage policy and restructure as needed for reimbursement to employees. Mark Fort gave the second. There was some discussion of the importance of this restructure to improve cash flow and set policy for consistent reimbursement. With no further discussion, motion carried 6-0.

Commendation/Recognition:

A letter of recognition from Scott Ritchie on behalf of Ginny Lumpkin expressing gratitude for 15 years of dedicated service to students and faculty; also, to wish her well on her retirement.

A letter of recognition from Janet White on behalf of Nelson White expressing outstanding performance on achieving a great bus inspection.

Kevin Knott also expressed his appreciation to Mrs. Ginny Lumpkin and Mr. Nelson White on behalf of the school board for their accomplishments.

Facilities:

Transportation

Janet White, Transportation Director presented the board with a report from her department. She stated the Indiana State Police Officers were complimentary of the condition of each of our busses. The bus driver handbook has been reviewed and updated. A committee comprised of drivers and administrators worked on this revision. A restructure was also reviewed and approved for the bus drivers. This change will be cost effective in fuel costs as well as wear and tear on the busses. In addition, a software program entitled Transfinder has been purchased to help update routes to become more effective. This program has many advantages and produces several reports that will become useful during the school year. A bus driver roster was also provided for 2008-2009 to be approved. She also informed the board that each bus driver is required to complete a summer safety meeting online. A lab will be provided at the high school for any driver without computer internet access at their home. In addition, 72% of CAB bus drivers are CPR certified. New software will also allow the bus mechanic to track expenses per bus. This will help determine which bus should be replaced dependent upon cost of upkeep. A drug and alcohol test audit is completed on a regular basis with the assistance of Midwest Toxicology. CAB has continued to pass this audit each year performed.

Ron Womack asked about the procedure for closing or delaying school. The transportation director will determine if roads are safe with the use of three weather watcher bus drivers. After conferring with them she makes a call to the superintendent who will make the final decision based on information provided from various sources. The goal is to have a decision no later than 5:30-5:45 as drivers and teachers will begin travel early.

Steve Dalton asked if a goal had been set for a maximum amount of time an elementary student will remain on the bus. The director stated the new software will be helpful in managing routes and her hope is that no elementary student shall remain on the bus longer than 45 minutes.

Technology

Bruce Sowers, Technology Director presented a report on technology within CAB. He updated the board on the advances of implementation on wireless capabilities in school buildings and the telecommunications and improvements brought on by changing to fiber optics. The wide area network has been improved to provide CAB with faster service and a deeper security on student management systems. He also stated the wireless implementation and the implementation of a summer reading program at each elementary building was funded primarily through competitive grants received. He also informed the board he will continue to search for funding as revenue from the state has seen a steady decline over the past several years. He stated a digital surveillance system has been in place for the past three years and upgrades being made during the summer months. With the increasing cost of Microsoft Office licensing, CAB has moved to a free Open Source Software on all student machines. A CD of this program is also provided to each student that will allow for consistency between school and home. He touched on the many challenges his department faces as funding sources are declining and equipment is getting older. He continues to seek input and ways to increase use and flexibility of the corporation web site.

Steve Dalton asked about cost and availability of providing parents with a program that would allow web-grades and easier communication between parents and teachers. The Director stated this module is available to add to our current student management system. However he does not have a current cost of this product. Mr. Dalton also asked about procedures to create a listserv for parents wishing to establish open communication with the corporation. The Director stated he is already working toward that goal.

Mark Fort asked how many members were in his department. Mr. Sowers stated three.

Kevin Knott asked if the Technology Director could provide a quote for the additional module for presentation at the next board meeting. Mr. Sowers stated that was not a problem.

Old Business:

Gary Storie presented an amended policy on Public Expression for board consideration. He explained some changes included reducing individual expression time limits to 2 minutes each. The total time period for this part of the agenda will remain at twenty minutes. The policy also eliminates a sign up period. Kevin Knott stated the policy allows for two separate instances on the agenda that will be open for public expression. Jeff Eakins, The Knightstown Banner Editor asked if the twenty minutes was total or each instance on the agenda. Mr. Knott stated the twenty minutes was in totality. Steve Dalton moved to accept Policy 0167.3 Public Expression as presented as the first reading with a second by Leah Kopp. After some discussion, the motion carried 6-0. The policy will be presented next meeting for a second reading.

New Business:

Gary Storie recommended a spokesperson on behalf of the board be appointed for negotiation purposes. Kevin Knott opened for discussion. Ron Womack stated it has been a past practice of the corporation to allow the superintendent to be that spokesperson. Ron Womack moved to appoint Gary Storie, Superintendent to be the board spokesperson for negotiations with the Classroom Teacher Association. Mark Fort made the second and motion carried 6-0.

Gary Storie asked that each board member to declare any conflict of interest they may have. Mark Fort stated he does business with the school and also has relatives who work for the school corporation. Leah Kopp declared relatives who work for the school corporation. Ron Womack declared a daughter who works at the high school. Leah Kopp moved to acknowledge the declarations given by the board members with a second by Ron Womack. Motion carried 6-0.

Janet White, Transportation Director presented the Bus Driver Handbook for board approval. She stated the changes had been highlighted and were previously presented to the board. After some discussion and a few changes Ron Womack moved to approve the handbook with the amended changes. A second was provided by Leah Kopp and motion carried 6-0.

Gary Storie presented the following six board policies that had been previously discussed between Dr. Ray Pavy and the Classroom Teacher Association for proposed amendment.

- Policy 1130-Conflict of Interest-Private Practice - brief discussion and no questions.
- Policy 8310-Public Records – Much discussion regarding the proposed amendment. The Board requested this policy be revisited to clarify public record and disclosure.
- Policy 1230.01-Development of Administrative Guidelines – The Board instructed this be given to the Superintendent to develop Administrative Guidelines.
- Policy 3120.05-Employment of Personnel in Summer School – Some discussion and clarification of added language to clarify past practice.
- Policy 3132-Vacancies – The Board received clarification on how vacancies are posted.
- Policy 3130-Involuntary Transfer – Superintendent does not recommend this addition.

Gary Storie recommended passing the amendments as presented. Steve Dalton moved to accept Policy Amendments for 1130, 1230.01, 3120.05, and 3132 as a first reading. Mark Fort gave the second. The second and final reading will occur next month. With no further discussion, motion carried 6-0.

The Superintendent requested for clarification of hiring staff between board meetings. He requested some direction from the board in the form of a resolution. He requested the flexibility of hiring necessary staff pending board approval. Mark Fort moved to provide the superintendent authority to hire staff previous to a scheduled board meeting provided there is either an existing vacancy and/or a need clearly exists, and that there are sufficient appropriations in the budget to pay for the position(s). Such appointments shall be ratified at the next scheduled board meeting. Leah Kopp gave the second and after some discussion the motion carried 6-0.

The Superintendent recommended the board approve the Title I Grant and acceptance of participation for Carthage/Kennard Elementary for 2008-2009. Ron Womack moved to approve the recommendation with a second by Tim Wehr. With no discussion motion carried 6-0.

Personnel:

The Superintendent recommended approval to ratify employment of Dan Clevenger for Math remediation and Pre-Algebra credit classes for Summer School. Leah Kopp moved to approve the recommendation with a second by Mark Fort. With no discussion, motion carried 6-0.

The Superintendent presented information on a candidate for the Assistant Principal at Knightstown Community High School. Ron Womack moved to approve Mr. Steven Wherry as Assistant Principal on a two year 210 day contract at a salary of \$61,900. Leah Kopp made the second and the motion carried 6-0.

Steve Dalton requested each certified ECA recommendation from the Athletic Director be presented and voted on individually. Therefore the following ECA recommendations are:

- Robert Prescott-Varsity Football Head Coach (\$6890) and Varsity Boys Track Head Coach (\$4530) – Leah Kopp moved to approve with a second by Mark Fort. Motion carried 6-0.
- Scott Stanley-Varsity Assistant Football Coach (\$3102) – Ron Womack moved to approve with a second by Mark Fort. Motion carried 5-1 with negative voted cast by Steve Dalton.
- Kenneth Salter-Junior High Cross Country Coach (\$1182) – Leah Kopp moved to approve with a second by Mark Fort. Motion carried 6-0.
- James Jahrsdoerfer-Varsity Cross Country Head Coach (\$3448) – Mark Fort moved to approve with a second by Leah Kopp. Motion carried 6-0.
- Dawn Basicker-Varsity Girls Basketball Head Coach (\$6947) – Ron Womack moved to approve with a second by Leah Kopp. Motion carried 6-0.
- John Howell-Varsity Boys Basketball Head Coach (\$7873) – Leah Kopp moved to approve with a second by Mark Fort. Motion carried 6-0.
- Mike Byrnes-Junior High Boys Track Coach (\$1785) – Mark Fort moved to approve with a second by Tim Wehr. Motion carried 6-0.
- Dan Clevenger-Varsity Girls Track Head Coach (\$4530) – Ron Womack moved to approve with a second by Leah Kopp. Motion carried 6-0.

- Leah Kopp moved to approve Carol Zeilinga as Volunteer Cross Country Coach with a second by Tim Wehr. Motion carried 6-0.

The Superintendent requested approval of Transportation Director's recommendations for Bus Drivers for the 2008-2009 school year. Leah Kopp moved to approve the recommendation as presented with a second by Mark Fort. Motion carried 6-0.

The Superintendent recommended accepting the retirement of Ginny Lumpkin, Business Teacher at Knightstown Community High School. Tim Wehr moved to approve the recommendation with a second by Steve Dalton. After the board thanked her for her dedicated service and well wishes for her future retirement, the motion carried 6-0.

Superintendent Reports:

Mr. Storie presented a brief synopsis and statement that the Charles A. Beard Memorial School Corporation is facing financial challenges in the general fund. The corporation will be facing a deficit this year. The Superintendent and administrative staff will be looking and exploring ways to address these concerns and issues.

Mr. Storie expressed his experience at the recent ISBA Summer Academy in Indianapolis. He felt it very informative and grateful for the board's approval of his attendance. Kevin Knott also shared his attendance at the workshops were helpful and the training provided was valuable. Steve Dalton stated the sessions were very informative and challenging. It was also good to find out CAB is not alone in the many challenges the corporation is facing. Other districts are facing some the same challenges. Tim Wehr stated his agreement with the previous statements.

Mr. Storie recommended that ISBA be contacted to provide school board members training and consultation regarding roles and responsibilities of the school board. Dates have been given for possible training dates from ISBA. Steve Dalton moved to approve board training at a date to be scheduled with input for all members. Mark Fort gave the second and motion carried 6-0. Mr. Storie asked that he be e-mailed with available dates.

Other:

The school board was provided with a record request from The Knightstown Banner and a response from Gary Storie, whom they approved as Public Access Officer for CAB. Steve Dalton opened the discussion stating he has personally reviewed the financial records and in his opinion, financial records had not been kept satisfactorily in the past, but he believes the books have been reconciled to his satisfaction. He is aware of public speculation of missing money and he does not find where that is the case. He does believe the redaction of former and current employee names should not occur, however he agrees with other redactions. Steve Dalton then moved to accept the recommendation of the board appointed public access officer with the exception of releasing the redacted names of former and current employees from the records. Mark Fort gave the second. Ron Womack stated his desire is to follow the recommendation of the superintendent. He sees no purpose in releasing names. Mark Fort stated he feels as an elected official it would be totally wrong to deny records to The Knightstown Banner and he believes the names should be printed. Kevin Knott then expressed his desire is to understand the records and "as an elected official I feel

responsible to set the pace in a positive direction and being as such set the bar for open communication.” Gary Storie then stated his recommendation is not to disclose the names. Leah Kopp asked what benefit to our students would there be in releasing the names in the documents? Steve Dalton and Kevin Knott concur that an example that our children to be forthright and honest. The board president requested a roll call to cast their votes.

Tim Wehr-Yes; Mark Fort-Yes; Steve Dalton-Yes; Kevin Knott-Yes; Leah Kopp-Yes; Ron Womack-Abstain due to conflict with Superintendent recommendation. Motion carried 5-0-1.

Gary Storie requested permission to contact a financial advisor on behalf of the corporation to review our debt service fund. The initial consultation would be at no cost. Steve Dalton moved to approve the request with a second by Leah Kopp. Motion carried 6-0.

Board President read a statement from Ron Womack dated July 15, 2008. Due to changes in commitments and responsibilities, he is resigning his position on the Charles A. Beard School Board of Trustees effective July 31, 2008. Mark Fort moved to approve with a second by Leah Kopp. The board expressed their thanks and gratitude for his continued dedicated service to faculty and students. Motion carried 5-0.

With no further business to come before the board Mark Fort moved to adjourn at 9:49pm.

PRESIDENT

MEMBER

VICE PRESIDENT

MEMBER

SECRETARY

MEMBER

MEMBER