

The Charles A. Beard Memorial School Corporation Board of School Trustees called a Regular Session to order at 7:16 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, Kevin Knott, Leah Kopp, Melissa Toth, Timothy Wehr
- **Central Office Staff:** Gary Storie, Superintendent; Michelle Swift, Treasurer
- **School Administrators:** Scott Ritchie, Don Scheumann, Shirley Heck
- **Classroom Teacher Association:** Jane Rodgers, President; Karen Gardner, Vice President
- **Media:** Knightstown Banner, New Castle Courier Times
- **Patrons:** Approximately 31 patrons

I. Call to Order

Steve Dalton called the meeting to order at 7:16 pm. Roll call was taken and all members were present.

II. Minutes

March 16, 2011 - Regular Session

Leah Kopp moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mark Fort gave the second, motion carried 7-0.

III. Claims

Mark Fort gave the report on behalf of the Finance Committee. He then moved to accept and approve claims in the amount of \$743,627.87 as presented. Timothy Wehr gave the second. Motion carried 7-0.

IV. Change in Agenda

Wade Beatty asked the Athletic Director to introduce the candidate for Physical Education/Health teacher and Varsity Football Coach. The Athletic Director informed the Board of Patrick Mallory's credentials. Wade Beatty moved to approve Patrick Mallory as Head Football Coach with a second by Leah Kopp. Motion carried 7-0.

V. KHS AYP Public Hearing

Scott Ritchie, Principal gave a presentation on the Annual Yearly Progress for the high school.

VI. Public Expression

- Lisa Cook, 130 E. North Street, Knightstown, IN – Gave a petition against the Solar Project to the Board. She collected 102 signatures from her work place and is currently collecting signatures from local businesses. She stated the community could not afford it and does not

need this project. She also informed the Board that the vast majority of the community she has spoken with is against it. She believes the best thing for this Board to do would be to hire an independent expert and not a salesman to examine the potential for such a project. She also stated she was offended when it was implied constituents could not understand the project. A Board member corrected her that the statement came from a patron and not the Board.

- John Swartz, 7704 Highland Meadows Dr., Knightstown, IN – Stated he was the patron who stated he believed constituents would not understand the project and not a Board member.
- Jim Hope, McCullum Street, Knightstown, IN – He also stated that his belief was that the Board should not vote for this project. He asked the Board to seek advice from the community. Two Board members stated they are still collecting information and learning more about the project. Another member stated the process and some specifics; the community was also encouraged to attend meetings to gather more information and to be present when the Board took action.

## VII. Old Business

- a. Board Policies – The Superintendent stated the committee is working through Neola draft #5722. He also mentioned that the faculty would have oversight before publishing any school sponsored material. Wade Beatty moved to approve policy #5722 on first reading with a second by Melissa Toth. After much discussion motion carried 7-0.
- b. Solar Project Update – The Superintendent stated Board Members are currently gathering signatures and should have them all turned in to the Central Office no later than April 29 to avoid delay of proposed Solar Project. He asked for a Special Session on May 4, 2011 to keep with the timeline presented by Counsel.

## VIII. New Business

- a. Technology Report – The Technology Director gave a very energetic technology presentation. There was some discussion between Board Members and the Technology Director regarding multiple projects and programs.
- b. SBA Report – The Superintendent presented the State Board of Accounts report. He went on to discuss the findings noted in this report and stressed the need to renew the bond for the Corporation Treasurer each year in lieu of a continuation bond. He also stated it was important that no fund balance fall below zero as this may indicate financial problems that should be investigated. Kevin Knott then moved to accept the audit report as well as the corrective action plan with a second by Mark Fort. Motion carried 7-0.
- c. Summer School 2011 – The Superintendent stated a discussion with the Classroom Teachers Association will need to take place prior to the application being sent to the Indiana Department of Education. Summer School will occur for remediation purposes in grades seven and eight and credit recovery at the high school level.
- d. Tax Warrants – The Superintendent presented details on the necessity of obtaining tax warrants due to cash flow issues. He stated we could obtain such a tax warrant from Mainsource Bank at an interest rate of 3.875%. Wade Beatty moved to approve the bid from Mainsource Bank with a second by Mark Fort. After some discussion motion carried 7-0.

- e. Overnight Field Trip – FFA requested attendance at the FFA State Convention. Melissa Toth moved to approve the overnight field trip with a second by Kevin Knott. Motion carried 7-0.
- f. School Calendar – Last Student Day – The Superintendent recommended the last student day to be June 6, 2011. Wade Beatty moved to approve as recommended with a second by Leah Kopp. Motion carried 7-0.
- g. School Board Scholarship – Leah Kopp informed the Board of the process and that 12 applications were received. The scholarship will be presented during the High School Awards Ceremony on May 31, 2011 beginning at 7:00 pm.

## IX. Personnel

- a. Resignations/Retirements – The Superintendent asked the Board to accept the following:
  - i. Retirements:
    - 1. Michael Byrnes – KHS Social Studies – 36 Years of Service
    - 2. Sandra Claghorn – KIS Science – 38 Years of Service
    - 3. Judith Dunsmore – KIS English – 28 Years of Service
    - 4. Susan Leonard – KHS Guidance Counselor – 29 Years of Service
    - 5. Melody Radford – Grade 6 – 37 Years of Service
    - 6. William Riehle – KHS Mathematics – 39 Years of Service
    - 7. Don Scheumann – KIS Principal – 39 Years of Service
    - 8. Edward Vincent – Elementary PE – 37 Years of Service
  - ii. Resignations
    - 1. Christine Jordan – KES Principal
    - 2. Robert Prescott – KHS PE
    - 3. Allison Conway – KHS Line Cook

Wade Beatty moved to approve all retirements and resignations with a second by Leah Kopp. The Board stated its gratitude for all the years of service represented by our retirees. With no further discussion, motion carried 7-0.

- b. Ratify Termination – The Superintendent asked the Board to ratify the termination of Israel Wilson. Wade Beatty moved to accept the recommendation with a second by Mark Fort. Motion carried 7-0. The Superintendent then stated D. Scott Fields had been suspended from duty with pay pending a Board decision on the proposed Separation Agreement. Mr. Fields will tender his resignation in exchange for a full contract pay-off. Wade Beatty moved to accept the recommendation with a second by Timothy Wehr. After some discussion, motion carried 7-0.
- c. Maternity Leave – Susan Logan, Social Worker, has requested a maternity leave beginning April 29, 2011 through first semester of the 2011-2012 school year. Leah Kopp moved to accept the request with a second by Melissa Toth. Motion carried 7-0.
- d. New Hires – The Superintendent made the recommendation to approve Christopher Bundy as Knightstown Intermediate Principal on a 215 day contract at a salary of \$71,000. Wade Beatty moved to approve the recommendation with a second by Leah Kopp. After some discussion, motion carried 6-1 with Mark Fort casting the negative vote.

The following recommendations were also given: Patrick Mallory as Physical Education/Health teacher and Varsity Track Coach. Melissa Toth moved to approve the recommendation with a second by Kevin Knott. Motion carried 7-0.

The Superintendent also recommended the following: Toni Mills, KHS Line Cook; Jack Barber, Maintenance Assistant; Travis VanOsdol, Summer Grounds. Kevin Knott moved to approve the recommendation with a second by Melissa Toth. Motion carried 7-0.

- e. ECA appointments – Scott Ritchie recommended approving Cynthia Neal as Sophomore Class Sponsor. Leah Kopp moved to approve with a second by Wade Beatty. Motion carried 7-0.

#### X. Superintendent Reports

- a. Financial Report – The Superintendent gave a financial status report and then recommended the use of \$200,000 of the Federal Jobs Bill to fund the retirement buy-out. Wade Beatty moved to approve the recommendation with a second by Kevin Knott. Motion carried 7-0.
- b. Other –
  - i. ISBA Regional Meetings will occur in May.

#### XI. Public Expression

- John Swartz, 7704 Highland Meadows Dr, Knightstown – Stated his frustration and believes the Board has an expert who is willing to pick up half the burden of the solar project. He wonders why people are questioning the expert's willingness to accept half the burden and therefore, reap some of the profits. He invited any community member to go to Johnson Melloh facility and tour, but so far has found no one willing to go. Melissa Toth then stated she has gathered lots of comments and opinions and cleared some misunderstanding and thanked Mr. Swartz for his comments. Steve Dalton then explained the number one goal was to reduce our dependence on the State of Indiana as well as lessen the tax burden.
- Dawn Wineman – 7410 W. 750 S., Knightstown – Stated our teachers are our most valuable asset and asked that the Superintendent not issue a reduction in force to any of our teaching staff. She also wanted to ensure the Board Members received her letter. Her main points of interest are a unified grading scale and the attendance policy. Kevin Knott asked the Superintendent to take the information under advisement and come back with more data.
- Shirley Heck – Carthage/Kennard Principal – Expressed her thanks to Don Scheumann for all his hard work and dedication to this corporation and also a big thank you to the Technology Director for taking the time and assisting with ISTEP.
- Richard Riggle – 516 N. 1<sup>st</sup> St, Shirley – Asked where the funding will come from for the Solar Project. The School Board President stated we haven't ground that into hard figures as you must first study before you engineer it. He also stated the pay back would come from energy and SREC credits. He said payoff will occur in 7 years and after that time all profits will occur and the total revenue will pay for 10-12 teachers. The worst case scenario would be SREC's are not available and five cents added to the tax rates. Melissa Toth stated a misconception she has encountered while speaking with the public is a question of who would be responsible for maintenance of the system. She stated Johnson Melloh would be responsible for all maintenance to the system. The Board President confirmed no maintenance fees or maintenance costs will be incurred by the corporation.

- Lisa Cook – 130 E. North Street, Knightstown - Asked where the information discussed this evening could be accessed. She was given that information.
- Jim Hope – McCullum Street, Knightstown – Asked if he could receive proof of someplace who had installed the panels and were seeing a profit. He believes the corporation is taking too big of a risk. There was some discussion from the board.
- Leah Kopp – Board Member – reminded each member of their responsibility of payment for their portion of the School Board Scholarship.
- Gerald Leonard – Grant City Road, Knightstown – Wanted to express his thanks to Susie for her 29 years of dedicated service to students.

XII. Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, Wade Beatty moved to adjourn at 9:45 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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