

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WABASH COUNTY

A meeting of the Board of Education (the "Board") of the Metropolitan School District of Wabash County, Indiana ("School District"), was held at the Administration Building, 204 N. 300 W., Wabash, IN, on April 28, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. (EST), pursuant to notice duly given to all members in accordance with I.C. 20-26-4-1, I.C. 20-26-4-3, I.C. 5-14-1.5 and the rules of the Board.

Due to the COVID-19 situation and recommendations from the Governor's office, the MSDWC School Board Meeting on Tuesday, April 28, 2020, continued with no audience in the School Board room. MSDWC continued to have the meeting streamed live on Facebook Live. The public was able to comment during the appropriate time in the agenda, on Facebook Live. (Executive Order 20-02 item #5 signed March 16, 2020, allowed for these procedural changes.)

Todd Dazey, President, called the meeting to order. Mike Keaffaber, Superintendent, Chris Kuhn, Assistant Superintendent (Zoom, and in the office), and Tim Drake, Assistant Superintendent were present. On call of the roll of members on the Board were shown to be present as follows: Kevin Bowman, Matt Driscoll, Todd Topliff (Zoom), and Gary Fadil (Zoom). Also present was: Cheryl Roser (Zoom) who took the minutes of the meeting.

The pledge to the flag was recited at the beginning of the Board of Finance Meeting.

The April 14, 2020 meeting was canceled.

Future Board meetings are scheduled for May 12, 2020, 6:00 p.m., at the Administration Building, May 26, 2020, 6:00 p.m., at the Administration Building, and June 9, 2020, 6:00 p.m., at the Administration Building.

Public Recognition:

The recommendation to approve the \$20.00 donation from Elizabeth Summerland to be used as needed for student lunches was approved upon a motion made by Gary Fadil, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

Schools Recognition:

Principal, Mike McDivitt, recognized Nick Perlich, Technology Assistant at White's Jr/Sr High School. With students having transitioned to working in their cottages for school, it put additional work on Mr. Perlich's normal load. He had additional duties to first take inventory of our Chromebooks and then make plans to collect and organize distribution efforts to get the devices to the cottages. It's hard to summarize all he has done but he has jumped right into the job feet first and is making sure we have met all the technology needs of our students working from the cottages.

It has been a challenge to provide library services for our students during the COVID crisis as students aren't allowed to enter our building. That hasn't stopped Mrs. Valerie Trail from communicating with students about their books requests and then collecting and preparing for pick-up of library books for campus to pick up and deliver to cottages. The students are appreciative of her extra efforts to provide reading material to all that want it.

Principal, Janette Moore, recognized Kindergarten teacher, Kami Ross, as she continues to meet with her students for writing conferences and writing celebrations using Zoom. Students send Mrs. Ross a picture of their writing, she shares their writing on the screen during their class Zoom meeting, and each student reads their writing aloud then receives feedback and compliments from Mrs. Ross and their peers. Mrs. Ross shared her experiences using Zoom for writing conferences and celebrations on the Lucy Calkins Units of Study for Kindergarten Teachers Facebook page. Lucy Calkins liked Kami's post on the Kindergarten Units of Study page! Lucy is the writer of the units and doesn't "like" everything, so this is a pretty big deal. Mrs. Ross' post was also liked by fellow MSD Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Lisa Fasil.

Our Metro North teachers continue to create engaging and enriching experiences during this unprecedented time. One way our Metro North Kindergarten team is achieving this is by mailing packages to students. Remember when you were five and six and would receive mail? So exciting! This week's kindergarten mailer included a variety of seeds for families to plant and observe. Mrs. Moore dropped off some materials to a kindergarten student earlier in the week, and she was able to see the little garden the student had planted.

Teachers are going above and beyond to meet the needs of students from differentiating instruction to conducting one-on-one and small group Zoom conferences. Teachers are meeting individually with families to help them navigate through accessing assignments and turning in assignments. Teachers are conducting read aloud live using Zoom while recording them for students not able to participate at the time of the Zoom meeting. We have teachers meeting with families that were new to our school over Zoom to help orient them with their first eLearning experiences. Each week, classes have a Zoom class meeting (some more than one) to check-in and meet with students, sometimes with an academic focus, but mostly just to socialize, catch-up and be together.

Metro North 3rd grader, Asa Dawes, son of Britni and Jason Dawes was one of our daily drawing winners on our Metro North Facebook announcements. When Mrs. Moore called Asa to talk to him about his prize, he graciously asked that his prize go to another Metro North student that may need something to brighten his/her day.

Ms. Stearley's 2nd grade class wrote letters to residents at our area nursing homes. The response from the residents and the staff was incredible. All of this stemmed from a student in her class, Hudson Hauptert who had written a letter to a resident.

Principals, Jay Snyder and Janette Moore would like to recognize and thank Lisa Bever, Technology Assistant, for being such a huge help getting parents and kids computers fixed / Zoom on / keeping connected with teachers and classes.

Mr. Snyder also recognized Northfield High School Student Jayden Goshert for his help getting Mr. Snyder and Mrs. Bever in touch with his little brother to help him with school work. Great Big Brother!

Principal, Andrew McDaniel, Southwood Jr/Sr High School gave a special thank you to State Senator Andy Zay for being a guest speaker for Mrs. Faust's Economics classes. Students were able to ask questions about a number of economic and governmental issues.

Principal, Phil Boone, Southwood Elementary. would like to recognize head custodian, Teresa Baker. She and her crew (Kim Miller & Dana Bosteter) have done a fantastic job of cleaning/disinfecting and moving ahead with other projects. Mrs. Baker has gone above and beyond to assist teachers by communicating with them about student belongings in the classroom. Once she knew what belonged to each student, she individually bagged and labeled all student belongings to have it ready for eventual pick-up.

Our Southwood Elementary staff are doing a great job of recognizing student's work with "virtual" Knight Notes. In school, Knight Notes are typically given to students who model our Knight Way of doing something that is Respectful, Responsible, or Safe. Thanks to Mr. Snyder, we stole Sharp Creek's idea of handing out some virtual Knight Notes to our students. Over 100 students from all grade levels have earned a virtual Knight Note since we started giving them out.

Mr. Boone would like to recognize Amy Schmidt, Technology Assistant at Southwood Elementary, as she has been a lifesaver during this time of virtual learning. She attends all staff check-in meetings to answer technology questions or give suggestions. She has worked individually with teachers and students to troubleshoot difficulties and find solutions. She has been a tremendous asset to our SES family during this time of virtual learning!

Principal, Paul Voigt, Northfield Jr/Sr High School, would like to say, we are proud of all our teachers! We feel they have been going above and beyond on a regular basis through these difficult times. We would just like to thank them for all they do!

Public Comment: (Agenda Items Only)

No comments.

Minutes of the Tuesday, March 24, 2020, Regular Meeting was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Kevin Bowman, and unanimously carried.

Claims were approved upon a motion made by Todd Topliff, a second by Gary Fadil, and unanimously carried.

Payroll was approved upon a motion made by Matt Driscoll, a second by Gary Fadil, and unanimously carried.

Chris Kuhn reviewed the Education Fund and the End of Month for March with the Board.

Personnel Recommendations:

The recommendation to approve the employment of Joe Gouvan, JV Softball Assistant, for Southwood High School, effective March 10, 2020; Jack Givens, Educational Diagnostician, WMAP, effective August 10, 2020, were approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the resignation of Joe Bockover, Cross Country Coach, Northfield High School, effective immediately; Tricia Dolby, Teacher, Southwood Elementary, effective the end of the 2019-2020 school year were approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the leave of #111 to begin approximately May 20, 2020, returning the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year; #112 to begin April 3, 2020 through May 8, 2020, were approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

Heartland Career Center Report:

No report.

Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Keaffaber reported that the last day of school is May 8, 2020. Summer school start date has not yet been determined. The Northfield and Southwood project pictures were shared. He praised the teachers and staff for the dedicated work during the school closure. Zoom meetings by staff include the following: songs, presentations, videos, individual conferences, IEP meetings, and even having our State Senator Andy Zay as a guest speaker have provided excellent engagement for the students. Graduation options continue to be discussed.

Curriculum Report:

No report.

New Business:

The recommendation to approve the mowing and spraying bids for 2020; Corey's Lawn Care for mowing and Hoffman's Nursery for spraying were approved upon a motion made by Todd Topliff, a second by Gary Fadil, and unanimously carried

The recommendation to approve the extended overnight field trip for Southwood's 8th and 9th Grade classes to Washington D.C. May 12-14, 2021 was approved upon a motion made by Gary Fadil, a second by Todd Topliff, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the Resolution: Authorizing Flexibility from Existing Policies was approved upon a motion made by Kevin Bowman, a second by Todd Topliff, and unanimously carried.

The recommendation to approve the Resolution: Donations of Supplies and Materials was approved upon a motion made by Todd Topliff, Matt Driscoll, and unanimously carried.

Unfinished Business:

None.

Board Policy:

None.

Items from Board Members:

President, Todd Dazey, thanked all of MSD's employees for everything they are doing for students and each other.

Public Comment (All Agenda Items):

No comments.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:41p.m.

THE METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT
OF WABASH COUNTY, INDIANA

TODD DAZEY, PRESIDENT

KEVIN BOWMAN, VICE PRESIDENT

MATT DRISCOLL, BOARD MEMBER

GARY FADIL, BOARD MEMBER

ATTEST: _____
TODD TOPLIFF, SECRETARY