

**SHOALS COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES**

REGULAR SESSION

**CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
11741 IRONTON ROAD
SHOALS, INDIANA 47581**

December 14, 2023

6:00 P.M.

Board Minutes

The Shoals School Board meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. on December 14, 2023. Members in attendance were: President-Drexel Turpin, Vice President-Eva George, Secretary-Jerry Braun and Members Jenell Hoffman and Annette Taylor. Staff in attendance were Superintendent Kindra Hovis, Principals Josh Mullis, Bryson Abel, and Audrey Gibson, and Corporation Secretary, Darla Holt. There were no patrons in attendance.

The minutes of the November 9, 2023 meeting were approved with a 5-0 vote. Eva George made the motion, seconded by Annette Taylor.

Building Principal reports began with Mr. Bryson Abel thanking the Rox Center for talking to our 6th, 7th, & 8th graders about Child Abuse/Sexual Abuse. Ms. Reva Troutman and the HS Beta Club hosted the Hallway of Lights recently. Mr. Abel acknowledged all the students who participated in the Christmas Parade. Thanks to Mrs. Precious Rhea for putting on the Band Concert. Our Athletic Programs are playing and enjoying success early in their seasons. We would like to thank Mr. Cecil Ragsdale for driving to the sporting events and the many field trips for the students. He is a great ambassador for our school/community.

Middle school teacher, Mrs. Cassie Phillips, received a MCCF Classroom Grant. Middle School Robotics qualified for State. This is a great accomplishment for those students and coaches. Mr. Abel thanked Ms. Tammy Cooper and staff for all of their hard work around these holidays and for treating our students to Papa John's Pizza. Thanks to Mr. Ben Kent for Smoking the Barbeque for the whole school.

High School Principal, Mr. Josh Mullis, began his report concerning the monthly COSMOS meeting held at Shoals. It was a very productive meeting as we realized that our schedules at the end of the first semester were not the same. However, we were able to navigate through that and make sure everyone's Final Exam schedule worked for our shared courses. Thank you to Apryl Kidd for taking the lead. Miss Megan Hawkins led the College and Career Fair that was very successful. We had 41 total vendors from throughout the state of Indiana. This included 9 colleges. The students were well behaved and hopefully gained a great deal from this experience.

On November 20, Mr. Mullis was able to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony for H&H Hometown Hardware. This is a wonderful addition to our community. Good luck to Grant and his team!!

A job well done to Mrs. Precious Rhea and the band as they performed at the Shoals Community Christmas Parade. School-wide picture retakes were held recently. We appreciate the partnership

we have with Inter-State Studio. On December 8 and 9 the Beta Club put on a Light Show. Shoutout to Miss Reva Troutman for all of her efforts. She continuously goes above and beyond for our kids. Mrs. Rhea and the band students hosted their annual Winter Concert. It went very well and we appreciate their dedication to their craft.

The High School office hosted a Taco Bar to celebrate and show their appreciation for the office aides.

Mr. Ben Kent, Ms. Kindra Hovis, and Mr. Josh Mullis attended a County Safety Commission meeting at Loogootee High School to discuss school safety with representatives from Loogootee High School, local law enforcement, State Police, and representatives from the fire departments.

We recently had a state-mandated training for the high school students on the topic of Child Abuse and Child Sexual Abuse. Shoutout to Ms. Amanda Hannah, our school counselor, for leading the students through this topic in the gym.

Thank you to Mr. Kent and the Shop Class for providing fresh pulled pork for the cafeteria.

There was a Taco Bar for the high school staff Friday to show Mr. Mullis' appreciation to them. We are blessed with a tremendous staff.

Basketball Homecoming was Friday evening. Thanks to Cammie Sanders for taking the lead on organizing the festivities. There was a dance in the Auxiliary Gym following the game.

Prior to Thanksgiving, the Advanced Animal Science class butchered chickens in preparation for these to be available for sale.

Thanks to Ms. Tammy Cooper and her staff for bringing excitement to the cafeteria. The holiday themed meals help bring some cheer to the students. The Thanksgiving lunch was awesome. On Wednesday before break the students will be treated to Papa Johns Pizza.

Thanks to Cecil Ragsdale for driving students to field trips and ball games. It is greatly appreciated. There was a door decorating competition to be voted on through Facebook. It was a friendly competition between Rox Solid classes. The door with the most "likes" received a doughnut party.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to all. This was Mr. Mullis' last meeting and he thanked the board for allowing him to lead the Shoals students.

Elementary Principal, Mrs. Audrey Gibson, began her report recapping the November and December events. Elementary NWEA will continue in January 2024. Mrs. Gibson attended a virtual session with the IDOE in regards to the \$130,000 Science of Reading Grant the school was awarded. The Elementary will be partnering with Strobel Education to provide training to all K-3 staff on the Science of Reading. Coaching sessions will begin January 15th and complete ten in person sessions by the start of the 2024-2025 school year. Mrs. Gibson visited Mrs. Sandi Kidwell and students at New Day Village School. This partnership continues to thrive with each school

year. Mrs. Gibson was invited to attend an initial 2024 Eclipse Planning Meeting held at the Shoals Public Library. Several educational activities are being planned for students of all ages. Ms. Kim Hickman hosted the “We Need A Little Christmas” Music program for grades 1, 2 and 5.

The Elementary staff and students have enjoyed participating in the 12 Days Countdown! Thank you to the teachers and staff for transforming their classrooms and hallways! Teachers have hosted plays, special community field trips and even traveled around the world!

Our condolences to the family of Kyndale Qualkenbush. Kyndale was a 5th grade student here at Shoals Elementary and was such a light to everyone she met. Kyndale enjoyed reading, drawing, writing and just being with her friends at school. We will continue to keep her loved ones in our thoughts and prayers.

On behalf of the entire Elementary Mrs. Gibson expressed a sincere Thank you to our community and surrounding schools for their support and generosity. They have covered our students and staff with their prayers, time, and donations. Thank you to Redemption Church, Amanda Miller, Aric Wade, Matthew Sullivan, Jessica Hert, Jim Biehle, Martin Evans, Springs Valley Elementary, Barr-Reeve Community Schools, Orleans Community Schools, Hoosier Uplands, Shoals Community School Counseling Department, Myrna Greene, Kelley Wellman-Covey, Diana Turpin, Brittany Bushey, Bus Driver Mr. Gerald Montgomery, Brittney Fuhman, Shoals Athletic Department, and the Elementary Teachers and Staff.

Under old business, the School Library Material Review Request Procedure Policy was approved with a 5-0 vote. A motion to approve was made by Annette Taylor, seconded by Jenell Hoffman.

Under new business, the following resolutions were approved, 5-0, Transfer Appropriation Balances to close 2023 Books, Pre-Write claims to close 2023 books, and the Transfer of Funds. . Jerry Braun and Eva George led the motions. Also under new business was amendments to the First Reading of Middle school dress code and the First Reading of High School dress code.

Personnel hires were as follows: Tanner Doane as School Resource Office, Jordan English as JV Boys’ Basketball Coach Assistant, Chris Reed as JV Boys’ Assistant coach, Al Crutchfield as C-team coach, Krista Turner as Cafeteria substitute, Megan Hawkins as High School Student Council Sponsor, and Chris Boswell as Dungeons and Dragons Sponsor. The Resignation of Natasha Butler was approved. Megan Hawkins was approved as Assistant Girls’ Basketball Coach, and Danela McCarty as Elementary Girls’ Cheer Coach. The resignation of Rebecca Rollins from the Elementary Beta Sponsor was approved as well as Kindra Hovis as the new Elementary Beta Sponsor. Ms. Hovis will donate her Beta stipend to the Elementary Beta Club. Eva George led the motion with Jenell Hoffman, making the second. Motion passed 5-0. Other personnel actions approved were Drexel Turpin as ECA driver. Jenell Hoffman led the motion, with Eva George making the second passing 4-0-1, with Drexel Turpin abstaining. The resignation of High School Principal, Josh Mullis, effective January 2, 2024 approved 5-0, with Jerry Braun leading the motion and Eva George making the second. The board wished Mr. Mullis good luck on his new endeavors. Ava Smith was approved as substitute teacher for the remainder of the 2023-24 school year. A motion to approve was made by Jenell Hoffman seconded by Jerry Braun. The motions passed unanimously.

Stipends were approved for all Effective and Highly Effective teachers from the 2022-2023 school year. These stipends were paid from the Teacher Appreciation Grant. Jerry Braun led the motion with Annette Taylor seconding it. The motion passed 5-0. Also approved was an increase in substitute teachers' pay. Annette Taylor led the motion, with Eva George seconding it. Motion passed 5-0.

The following field trips were approved with Annette Taylor making a motion, seconded by Jerry Braun, and all passed with a 5-0 vote: 2nd Graders to Shoals businesses for Christmas caroling, Early College/STEM/Ag high school classes to Purdue University in February 2024, Young Women Lead group to VU Jasper Center in March 2024, FFA to the District X Contest in March 2024, and Varsity Girls' basketball team to IU Women's basketball game in December 2023. Additional field trips approved were for the Art students to the Eiteljorg Museum in Indianapolis in January 2024 and the Engineering Class to Oakland City University for the Southwest Indiana STEM Challenge in April 2024. Eva George made a motion, seconded by Jenell Hoffman, and all passed with a 5-0 vote.

The following fundraisers were approved: Middle School Student Council to sell Christmas Candy Grams in December, High School Beta Club for Pick-A-Date Calendar fundraiser December 2023-January 2024, Elementary Beta Club to sell Holiday suckers and treats, December 2023-February 2024, Softball Program to sell Shoals Logo tumblers February-March 2024, and High School Cheer squad to sell old uniforms and bows, December 2023-February 2024. Motion passed 5-0 with Jenell Hoffman and Jerry Braun making the motions.

Also approved was a donation from a Secret Santa for \$1500 to provide Papa John's Pizza for student lunches before Winter break and the remainder for students' lunch accounts. Eva George led the motion to approve, with Jerry Braun making the second motion, passing 5-0. The purchase of a second utility vehicle with a blade for both utility vehicles to assist with snow/ice removal to be paid with grant funds was approved unanimously. Annette Taylor led the motion with Jenell Hoffman making the second motion. Motion passed 5-0. The Elementary Outdoor Recess guidelines were approved with a 5-0 vote. Jerry Braun led the motion, with Annette Taylor making the second motion. Approval to dispose/discard library books was approved. Jenell Hoffman led the motion and Jerry Braun seconded it, passing unanimously.

Facility usage by Girl Scout troop 440 was approved 5-0 with Eva George making the first motion and Annette Taylor making the second motion.

Superintendent Hovis began by congratulating the BETA students as several students from all levels advanced to nationals next summer. She also congratulated all three middle school robotic teams for advancing from semi-state to state, which will be held in January. There were a total of thirty-nine teams who competed at semi-state, so this was quite the accomplishment for our robotics program. She thanked Dean & Lorna Troutman, along with Edward & Angela Cook, Sara Stoll, Jessica Sheetz, Lisa Greene, and all other volunteers who invest countless hours into this program. Wednesday was an exciting day for all students as they enjoyed fresh off-the-farm pulled barbecue pork for lunch. A huge thank you to the cafeteria staff and Mr. Kent for the collaboration on this project. This was a great learning experience for our advanced animal science and agriculture students. Christmas break is only a few days away and staff and students in all buildings have been enjoying a countdown to Christmas with themed dress-up days and giveaways. Ms. Hovis would like to thank local businesses for sponsoring giveaway prizes which have gone to teachers who have participated in these days. Superintendent Hovis offered

condolences to Mr. Jeff Gee for the recent passing of his mother. She also offered condolences to the Kyndale Qualkenbush family. Kyndale was a sweet soul with a bright smile who will be dearly missed by all here at school. She closed by wishing everyone a safe, relaxing holiday break. Winter break officially begins December 21st and runs through January 2nd. Students and staff will return on January 3rd.

Financial and other reports were approved with a motion made by Jerry Braun and seconded by Jenell Hoffman, passing 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 pm.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 6 P.M.