

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

**REGULAR SESSION**

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

**February 8, 2024**

**6:00 P.M.**

**Board Minutes**

The Shoals School Board was called to order at 6:15 pm on February 8, 2024. 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, Elementary Principal Audrey Gibson, Middle School Principal Bryson Abel, High School Principal Troy Zollars, and Corporation Secretary Darla Holt. The only patron in attendance was Etta Franklin.

Approval of Minutes of the Regular meeting on January 11, 2024 was motioned by Jerry Braun and seconded by Annette Taylor. The minutes were approved with a vote of 5-0.

There were no comments from patrons.

Building Principal Troy Zollars began his report with the Senior Awards Night which is scheduled for May 13, 2024. Mr. Zollars also reported on a new lockdown process that will prevent accidental lockdowns within the school. High school staff are continuing to contact parents and seniors to keep students on track to graduate. The counselor and college advisor are working with students for FASFA, college, trades, and scholarships. Mr. Zollars attended a RECN Early College meeting in Paoli, and is planning to use some of the ideas and recommendations from that meeting into our high school.

Audrey Gibson welcomed our new 3rd grade teacher, Miss Montanna Kocher. She thanked Mrs. Kallie Furhman and Mrs. Joyce Jones for assisting with the transition and welcoming Miss Kocher. Elementary athletes have completed their Winter sports season. Mrs. Gibson thanked the athletic department, coaches, parents, volunteers, and our students for their time and commitment to youth sports. She congratulated the Shoals Robotics program on their recent hardware. The Shoals Robotics program continues to excel and create opportunities for our students that will prepare them for their future roles as young adults. Activities Mrs. Gibson reported on were the Elementary teachers working with the Shoals Public Library on creating items and activities for the April 8th Eclipse Event, the Second grade students along with their teachers had a special visit from meteorologist Everett Lau. He spoke to the second grade about severe weather and the process of forecasting weather. Elementary students have been implementing the

February Character Trait: Kindness. Students in various grades are completing tasks that show kindness to their peers and family.

The 2nd and 3rd grade teachers have been preparing students for the upcoming IREAD assessment. The IREAD Assessment will be given March 4-15. Ms. Hovis and Mrs. Gibson attended the Vincennes University Educational Night and provided interview opportunities to upcoming graduates who will be seeking employment this Spring. Mrs. Gibson closed her report stating several intermediate teachers will be attending an ILEARN training next week at SIEC in Jasper, IN.

Middle School Principal, Bryson Abel, began his report recognizing Nathaniel White as student of the month. Class activities recognized were Mrs. Phillips' students continuing their hour-long code work in class, 7th and 8th grade students engineered night lights to remind them to get adequate sleep for overall health benefits, with Lillian Petry as the winner of the night light contest. Also 6th grade students who had completed all of their work were rewarded with extra gym time.

Old business addressed was the second reading of the High School Handbook addition regarding the APEX policy. The policy addition was approved with Jenell Hoffman leading the motion and Eva George making the second. The motion was approved with a 5-0 vote.

The first item under new business was the following personnel recommendations: Tiffany Wittmer as High School Special Education Aide, Lydia Cook as Elementary Substitute, Kirstie Lowry and Hannah Schlaegel as Preschool substitute teachers, and Karen Ray as the Whole Child Classroom Aide. A motion to approve was made by Annette Taylor seconded by Jerry Braun, approved with a 5-0 vote.

The following athletic recommendations were as follows: Rhonda Sanders as Varsity Girls' Track Assistant coach, Reva Troutman as Varsity Girls' Track coach, Eric Rasico as Varsity Boys' Track coach, Jeff Jones as Varsity Softball coach, Jim Potts and Mike Jones as Assistant Softball coaches, Aimee Harder as Assistant Softball Coach and Nick Gerkin as Volunteer Assistant Middle School Boys' Track coach. A motion to approve was made by Jenell Hoffman seconded by Jerry Braun, approved with a 5-0 vote. Additional Athletic coaches approved were: Hallie Wyman, Kaley Roush, Jayleigh Harger, Ann Stewart, Abbey Fuhrman as Spring/summer volleyball assistants. April Sutton as Middle School Girls' Track coach, Christin Johnson as Middle School Boys' Track coach, and Taylor Atkison as Varsity Volleyball coach. A motion to approve was made by Eva George, seconded by Annette Taylor, approved with a 5-0 vote.

The resignation of Samuel Dahlen from his Assistant IT position was approved with Jenell Hoffman leading the motion, and seconded by Annette Taylor, passing unanimously.

Also approved was Jace Walton for the IT Assistant position and the transfer of Beth Hembree from the cafeteria to High School Special Education Aide. Eva George made the motion with Jerry Braun making the second motion, passing 5-0.

Other personnel approved were Megan Benefiel as cafeteria dishwasher/cook. Motion to approve was led by Jenell Hoffman, seconded by Annette Taylor, passing with a 5-0 vote.

Requests for the following to receive stipends were Kristina Sullivan for Dyslexia Screening, and approval to distribute the IDOE Early Learning Literacy grant stipends. approved unanimously, with Jenell Hoffman leading the motion and Annette Taylor making the second.

Request to increase Principals Bryson Abel's and Audrey Gibson's salaries. Eva George led the motion to approve, followed by Jenell Hoffman. Motion passed unanimously.

Field trips approved were the High School JugRox Robotics to South Bend February 9 and 10 for the FTC qualifying tournament, The Ag Department to Louisville, Kentucky for the Farm Show on February 16, the Psychology class to IU-Bloomington March 1, 2024 and the First Grade to Wonderlab April 12, 2024. A motion was made by Jerry Braun, seconded by Eva George and passed with a 5-0 vote.

Facility usage requests were for the Martin County Sheriff's Office for active Shooter training during the evening of February 13, and the Indiana Conservation Officers to provide the DNR Hunter Education Course April 5th and 6th, 2024. Annette Taylor led the motion with Jerry Braun making the second. Motions were approved 5-0.

The following upcoming events were approved: Summer School May 20-24 and May 28-31, 2024, Kindergarten Round Up Friday, March 8 and Monday, March 11, 2024, Preschool Registration, Friday, April 19, Preschool Graduation, Friday, May 10, and the Class of 2024 Graduation to be Saturday, May 18, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. Eva George led the motion to approve with Jenell Hoffman seconding the motion, passing unanimously. Also approved was the Spring Beta Induction March 12, 2024. Annette Taylor led the motion and Jenell Hoffman seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Also approved was a Preschool Family Involvement Luau with Loved Ones. Jerry Braun led the motion, with Annette Taylor seconding it, passing 5-0.

Other items approved were to renew our liability insurance through German American Insurance and the appointment of Vernita Williams to a new 4 year term on the Shoals Public Library Board of Trustees. Motion was made by Annette Taylor and seconded by Jerry Braun. Motion passed 5-0.

Additional stipend approved from the Rox Center was for Reva Troutman for her work painting murals in the Rox Center. Donations from the Rox Center for the Art Department and the Shop class were also approved. Annette Taylor led the motion, it was seconded by Eva George. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Fundraisers approved were for the Early Rox Preschool to sell Krispy Kreme gift certificates February 9-March 9, 2024, the Class of 2024 to sell various meats and meat packages February 12-March 8, 2024, and the Elementary Student Council to sell candy grams February 9-February 16, 2024. Vote was 5-0 to approve with Jenell Hoffman leading the motion and Jerry Braun making the second motion.

Superintendent Hovis began her report acknowledging our younger robotics teams who recently competed at State. Out of approximately 40 teams only ten awards were given and our RoxStars, led by Dean and Lorna Troutman, was the recipient of the Motivate Award. Shoals was recently notified that our high school FTC robotics team is currently

ranked 3rd out of 75 teams in the state. Mrs. Gibson and Ms. Hovis were recently invited to Vincennes University for their education night. They were able to talk about what Shoals offers. They did several mock interviews and Shoals received several compliments from the VU students on all the great things happening at our school, which they have been following via our school's social media page. Spring student count was last week and Shoals is maintaining good numbers of enrollment. The school cafeteria will be hosting a "Candlelight Breakfast" on February 14 with heart shaped pancakes being served. Last week was National Counselors Week and Ms. Hovis thanked all of our counselors who serve our students. They have one of the hardest jobs here and we are grateful for their resources and for all they do. Ms. Hovis thanked Sam Dahlen for his years of service at the school and wished him all the best on his next adventure.

Approval of the Leave Accounting Reports for January 2024 was made by Jerry Braun, seconded by Eva George, passing with a 5-0 vote.

A motion to pay claims was made by Jenell Hoffman, seconded by Annette Taylor, passing 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm. *The next Regular Board Meeting will be March 14, 2024.*