

# Regular Board Meeting

## SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

EASTERN HANCOCK HS CAFE - 10320 E. 250 N., Charlottesville, IN 46117 (317-936-5444)

Monday, June 14, 2021

7:00pm - 8:30pm

### 1 Public Notice

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This meeting is a meeting of the School Board held in public for the purpose of conducting the School Corporation's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. The Board will permit fair and orderly public expression as indicated by the Agenda Item Public Comment. Procedures to govern such participation are available upon request. The Board's meeting site is fully accessible to all persons. Any person requiring further accommodation should contact the Superintendent with the School Corporation's Administrative Office at 317-936-5444.

### 2 Call To Order

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**Minutes:**

Mr. James R. Jackson, Jr., Board President, called the regular Board Meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Present: James R. Jackson, Jr., Scott Johnson, Tammy Stunda, Steve Brock, Tammy Settergren

Absent: none

### 3 Pledge of Allegiance

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### 4 Success Stories/Recognition

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**Minutes:**

-Mrs. Amanda Pyle, Elementary Principal, invited 5th grade teacher Mrs. Ellen Halcomb and a couple students to share about a project they undertook this spring. The 5th Graders were challenged last fall with a lesson on creative problem solving and asked what is something at school they could improve upon. Matt Hunt & Maverick Burke, both 5th Graders last year, shared about the decision to clean up the courtyard space outside of their classrooms since they would be spending more time on breaks and for lunch outdoors. They described the process of pulling weeds, planting flowers, laying mulch, acquiring picnic tables and painting rocks with encouraging messages for decoration.

-Mr. Adam Barton, MS/HS Principal, introduced Coach Terry Stephens and the 2021 Girls Softball Team and asked him to share the successes of the season. Coach Stephens told how this team broke 17 official school records along with 1 unofficial record in longest winning streak. Formerly the streak was 10 wins; this year they had 27 wins in a row. They were Sectional and Conference Champions and made it to Regionals. Coach also expressed how proud he is of not only how these girls excel on the field, but also how they excel in the classroom too.

-Mr. David Pfaff, Superintendent, spent some time thanking the many individuals and groups that were a part of making this 2020-21 school year the success that it was. (See attachment.)

-Mr. Jim Jackson, Jr., Board President, also acknowledged Mr. Pfaff for his role of leading and guiding the school through this past year and stated what an outstanding job he did.

-Mr. Pfaff explained that this part of the meeting was designed to close the chapter on this last school year and

begin to think about the next one. He then shared the following:

"In the Governor of Indiana's most recent Executive Order 21-15 (May 28), local school boards were charged with developing back-to-school plans for addressing COVID in their respective school corporations, effective July 2. I know that many people in the community have very strong feelings about these back-to-school plans and the measures that should or should not be put in place. I have heard from some of you, and I know some of our constituents have also communicated with members of our School Board. The administration of Eastern Hancock Schools will develop a back-to-school plan as directed. The plan will be made public on the Eastern Hancock website well in advance of the July Board Meeting so that the School Board and the community may read it and voice support or concerns. The plan will be voted on by our School Board at the July meeting. Based on the concerns that are raised and any changes in State or County requirements for schools, the plan may undergo revisions prior to being voted on by the Board, but these changes will be publicly available in advance. Dr. Philhower, our new superintendent, Mrs. Pyle, Mr. Barton and I are all in agreement that we want to see the schools return to "normal" as much as possible. Masking, social distancing, quarantining and some other of the COVID mitigation strategies schools have had to put in place were appropriate at the time but are not long-term approaches."

-Mr. Pfaff then asked the Board members to share their own concerns and what they have been hearing from community members thus far.

## 5 Public Comment

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### Minutes:

-Mrs. Susan Collins of Wilkinson, an EH graduate, parent & community member, spoke on behalf of a group of concerned parents, staff members & students to express their desire to the Board in preparing for next year that the school return to a pre-COVID learning and extracurricular environment. They request that vaccinated and unvaccinated students and staff alike be given the choice of whether to mask. They also ask that the Board eliminate social distancing and quarantining in their entirety in order for students to go back to the focus of learning rather than worrying about masks and the anxiety caused by contact tracing. Understanding that the Board has not yet been given full authority on these decisions until July 2, the group asks that the requests be considered during the decision-making and that the Board's decision for next school year be presented as soon as possible.

-Mrs. Dana Allen, 5th grade teacher, parent, and President of the Educator's Association at EH, took a moment to thank Mr. David Pfaff for his years of dedication and service to the students and community of Eastern Hancock as a coach, mentor, teacher, principal, superintendent and friend. The number of lives that have been touched is immeasurable and will continue on for years to come.

-Mrs. Jennifer Ebert, HS teacher & parent, shared the difficulties of this past year regarding high school students pushing back on the policy regarding masks. Mrs. Ebert & her husband have chosen to vaccinate their daughters to not only protect them, but to allow them to participate uninterrupted by close-contact quarantines in school and activities. She also advised the school board to consider the guidance of the Indiana Department of Health when setting policy for the new school year and encouraged the community to consult with their family physician if they have questions regarding the vaccine.

-Mr. Philip Ebert of Greenfield, a parent & community member, works in COVID research and stated that COVID is a long way from being gone, so he is concerned about a rush to return to pre-COVID ways. He encouraged the trusting of science in decision-making for school policies regarding COVID.

## 6 Consent Agenda

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### 6.1 Minutes of May 10, 2021

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## 6.2 Donations

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**Minutes:**

- ProCut Lawn - \$250 to Leadership Academy
- Dee & Jeanette Wickard - \$100 to Football
- TOTAL for June: \$350

## 6.3 Transfer Students

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**Minutes:**

- 31 for June (21 returning & 10 new)

## 6.4 Field Trips

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**Minutes:**

- Overnight - HS Boys Basketball - Indiana Wesleyan - June 25-27, 2021
- Overnight - MS Boys Basketball - Indiana Wesleyan - July 9-11, 2021
- Out of state & Overnight - FFA - World Beef Expo, Wis. - Sept. 24-26, 2021

## 6.5 ECA

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**Minutes:**

- Open Gym summer stipends to: Shari Doud, Phil Morris, Cory Rainbolt, Aaron Spaulding
- School Year night athletic stipends to: Cory Rainbolt (1.5), Brett Bechtel (1), Stacey Jones (.5)

## 6.6 Certified Staff

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**Minutes:**

- Resignation - Brandi Hinen - HS Biology - Effective June 30, 2021
- Resignation - Heather Toney - MS English Teacher - Effective June 30, 2021
- Resignation - Shelby McCullum - HS Essential Skills Teacher - Effective June 30, 2021
- New Hire - Aimee Rodeghero - SLP - Effective August 2, 2021
- New Hire - Bailey Grandstaff - ES Essential Skills Teacher - Effective August 2, 2021
- New Hire - Jeremy Fewell - HS Essential Skills Teacher - Effective August 2, 2021
- New Hire - Kylie Powell - Kindergarten Teacher - Effective 2021-22 school year
- Permanent Position - Angela Clark - 4th Grade Teacher - Effective 2021-22 school year
- New Hire - Ryan Haler - KG Teacher - Effective 2021-22 school year
- Temp Teacher – Carrie Womack – 1<sup>st</sup> grade – Effective 2021-22 year

## 6.7 Support Staff

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**Minutes:**

- Retirement - Diane Burns - HS Cafe - Effective May 27, 2021
- Resignation - T Glen Davis - ES IA - Effective May 28, 2021
- Resignation - Evelyn Wallace - ES IA - Effective May 28, 2021
- Resignation - Olivia Harvey - ES IA - Effective June 4, 2021
- Permanent Position - Shelley Bricker - ES IA - Effective August 3, 2021
- Permanent Position - Sydney Smith - Clinic Asst - Effective 2021-22 school year
- Job Reclassification - ES Art Instructor

- Job Description - ES Art Instructor
- Reassignment - Amber Griffin - ES Art Instructor - Effective August 2, 2021
- Job Reclassification - ES Music Instructor
- Job Description - ES Music Instructor
- Reassignment - Kellie Wood - ES Music Instructor - Effective August 2, 2021
- Job Description ES IA-Title
- Job Description - HS Graduation Coach
- Construction Stipend – Adam Kinder
- Waived Bus Driver Days

## 6.8 Claims

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**Minutes:**

Prewritten: \$257,822.12  
 Regular: \$905,721.34  
 Payroll: \$765,320.18  
 TOTAL: \$1,928,863.64

Mrs. Settergren moved and Mr. Brock seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

## 7 COVID-19 Federal Grant Stipend for Staff Resolution

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**Minutes:**

-Mr. David Pfaff, Superintendent, notified the Board that the government has provided a stimulus and COVID relief funding Federal ESSER II grant to school corporations. Mr. Pfaff recommended part of that grant be used towards staff who finished second semester with the corporation. This stipend would not be able to compensate, but at least to thank EH staff members for the extra duties they performed due to the pandemic this past year. The stipends would be awarded based on number of hours worked per week:  
 31 or more hours per week - \$1000  
 11-30 hours per week - \$500  
 10 hours or less per week - \$250  
 EH would also pay FICA and TERF/PERF deductions for employees receiving this stipend.

Mr. Johnson moved and Mrs. Stunda seconded a motion to approve the Resolution to Provide an Employee Stipend for Certain Extra Duties Caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic through Esser II federal funding. Motion carried 5-0.

## 8 High School ECA Audit Results

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**Minutes:**

-Mr. Adam Kinder, Director of Business & Operations, presented the results of the State Board of Accounts High School ECA audit. This was the first time in the 12 years that Mrs. Stacey Jones has been ECA Treasurer that an audit has occurred, and the State had no major findings. One item that did need Board approval was a \$713.04 balance difference that was inherited by Mrs. Jones when she began the position and continued to carry over. That amount needs to be subtracted from the book balance to equal the bank balance.

Mr. Brock moved and Mr. Johnson seconded a motion to authorize a cash adjustment of \$713.04 to reconcile the High School ECA fund. Motion carried 5-0.

## 9 Bus Purchase Approval

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**Minutes:**

-Mr. Kinder presented the proposal for a single bus trade-in and purchase of a single IC/Collins bus for 2021.

Mr. Johnson moved and Mrs. Settergren seconded a motion to approve purchasing a single IC/Collins bus and trading in Bus #11 through CIESC. Motion carried 5-0.

## 10 Food Service Group Purchasing Organization Proposal Award

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**Minutes:**

-Mrs. Tracy Wilson, Food Services Director, reminded the Board of the school's participation with ECESC and NIESC, allowing us opportunity for group purchasing at better pricing and service. This year the availability to include produce, dairy and bakery as a part of the purchasing was included.

Mrs. Settergren moved and Mr. Brock seconded a motion to approve the recommendation that we award our Produce RFP to Piazza Produce, our Dairy RFP to Prairie Farms, and our Bakery RFP to Aunt Millie's. Motion carried 5-0.

## 11 Revised 2021-22 Adult Meal Price Recommendation

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**Minutes:**

-Mrs. Wilson shared that the original calculations for school meal pricing presented last month were based on the National School Lunch Program reimbursement rates. New state guidance uses the Seamless Summer Option reimbursement rates which will change the prior approved adult meal prices.

Mr. Johnson moved and Mr. Brock seconded a motion to approve the price change for adult school meals to \$4.60 for lunch and \$2.50 for breakfast for the 2021-22 school year. Motion carried 5-0.

## 12 Year End Attendance & Discipline Reports

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**Minutes:**

-Mr. Pfaff explained that each summer the building principals/assistant principals are tasked with preparing attendance and discipline reports for the recently finished school year to compare with the prior year. Due to the interruptions and changes caused by COVID since March 2020, these reports are not nearly as beneficial as in the past. This is a non-voting item.

## 13 Student Handbooks 2021-22

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**Minutes:**

-Mrs. Amanda Pyle, ES Principal, shared that only small changes were made to the updated Elementary student handbook, including removing the offering of fluoride rinse and updating the head lice policy.

-Mr. Adam Barton, MS/HS Principal, indicated similarly small changes with the Middle School and High School handbooks. These include changing the E-Learning section to Virtual School Days, updating the USDA meal waiver for next year and adding the updated schedule.

Mr. Johnson moved and Mrs. Stunda seconded a motion to approve the 2021-22 Student Handbooks as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

## 14 Textbook Rental 2021-22

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**Minutes:**

-Mrs. Pyle explained that the primary change for next year's textbook rental prices will be the inclusion of optional Chromebook insurance for 3rd graders based on the number of breakage for that age-group this past year.

-Mr. Barton also had very few changes in textbook rental for next year. Those classes changing are for updated books or are brand new classes. Spanish will no longer be dual-credit, so Spanish 3 & 4 fees will be reduced.

Mr. Johnson moved and Mrs. Settergren seconded a motion to approve the 2021-22 Textbook Rental fees as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

## 15 Administrative Contract Renewal

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**Minutes:**

-Mr. Pfaff requested that the Administrative contracts for Kelly McKeeman, Adam Kinder, Amanda Pyle, Adam Barton, Aaron Spaulding, Marcus Redick and Brian Bowen be extended through June 30, 2023 with no changes to salary at this time.

Mr. Brock moved and Mr. Johnson seconded a motion to approve the extension of administrative contracts for Kelly McKeeman, Adam Kinder, Amanda Pyle, Adam Barton, Aaron Spaulding, Marcus Redick and Brian Bowen through June 30, 2023. Motion carried 5-0.

## 16 Informational

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**Minutes:**

-None.

## 17 Other Items Allowed by the Board

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**Minutes:**

-None.

## 18 Around the Table for Positive Comments

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**Minutes:**

-Mr. Brock expressed his thanks to all those involved in the preparation for the 2021 graduation ceremony and stated how very well done it all was.

-Mrs. Settergren was pleased at how well attended the end-of-year staff appreciation breakfast was and how excited everyone seemed to get to spend some time together celebrating the completion of the year. She also reiterated her own thank you to the students, parents & staff for a successful year even with all the COVID restrictions.

-Mr. Jackson reminisced about the hiring of Mr. Pfaff in 2019 to help the school out of a bind and how much of an incredible thing it ended up being to have Mr. Pfaff at the helm to guide us through these new and uncertain times.

## 19 Adjournment

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**Minutes:**

Mrs. Settergren moved and Mr. Brock seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0.

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James R. Jackson, Jr., Board President

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Scott Johnson, Board Secretary

## **COVID Recognition-June 14, 2021**

### ***Students:***

Our students were patient and flexible this past year and rose to the occasion as they always do. They are incredible and are the reason we adults choose to spend our lives working with them.

### ***Parents:***

They gave us grace and were patient and flexible as well, staying with us and being supportive in new situations they never had to deal with before. The school recognizes and appreciates you.

### ***Hancock Health and Hancock Regional Hospital, Dr. Julia Compton, President of Hancock Physician Network, Steve Long, President and CEO of Hancock Health:***

They offered support and guidance to the schools as well as the community and provided top-notch medical care to the area as needed.

### ***Hancock County Health Dept-Crystal Baker, Office Manager and Preparedness Coordinator, Dr. Gary Sharp Hancock County Health Officer, Dr. Sandra Aspy retired County Health Officer:***

Crystal was our connection to the Health Department throughout the year, helping us communicate back and forth as to guidelines and suggestions.

### ***April Mattox-School Nurse and Sydney Smith-MS Health Clinic:***

This is a challenging position in normal times let alone during a pandemic. April was the connection day-in and day-out to those in the Hancock County Health Department. They cared for students and staff, helped the administration team in decision-making and contact tracing, and assisted in the interpretation of CDC and Health Dept. guidelines.

### ***Technology Staff-Vickie Osborne and Mike Spangler:***

They did a tremendous job with all the needs of virtual learning, training teachers for virtual education, providing & updating student hardware, and being available as a help desk for students/parents with technical difficulties. They handled everything in an even-keeled fashion, including the ransomware attack the last couple weeks of school.

### ***Transportation Department- Greg Turner, Chris Knoblock and all the bus drivers & monitors:***

Thanks to Greg for driving routes when needed, Greg and Chris for securing sub bus drivers to keep us open (including drivers from Knightstown when they were closed) and to all our drivers and monitors for the masking and cleaning regulations you had to manage and for even driving two routes when it was necessary.

### ***Food Services Department - Tracy Wilson and Cafeteria staff:***

Not only did this group feed all of our kids every day when we were open, they continued to feed our students when we were not open or when kids were home learning virtually. They also had many extra cleaning precautions and worked extra hours to satisfy the government regulations to keep our students safe.

### ***Chris Wilson, Charles Young and maintenance and custodial staff:***

These men were responsible for cleaning up the entire school for deep cleaning as well as the day-to-day regular clean-ups that happen. Chris even worked in the lunchroom when we were short-staffed. They also kept the classrooms and buildings stocked with masks and cleaning supplies at all times.



***Teachers and EH Educator's Association:***

Our teachers worked extremely hard this past year for the sake of our students. Learning the art of virtual teaching on-the-fly, keeping two classrooms going at once, dealing with changing rules and expectations almost daily, helping with classroom sanitation protocols, assisting with students masking and cleanliness expectations, and assisting the administration with contact tracing when needed are just a few of the ways they went above and beyond.

***Instructional Assistants:***

Many of the extra duties incurred by the teachers were also added to the plates of our Instructional Assistants. They were especially essential in student support, providing that extra help and nurturing that some of our students need, whether doing this in-person or virtually.

***School Secretaries- Kim Grant, Carrie Sutton, Shanna Sharp, Cathy Reynolds, Megan Whisman:***

These ladies are the piece that keeps everyone glued together and going in the right direction. They are in the middle of all the mess and are incredible in what they do. Adding in hybrid, virtual and block scheduling this year made things like attendance and classroom coverage a massive challenge, but they rose to the occasion beautifully.

***Athletic Dept-Aaron Spaulding, Cory Rainbolt, and Stacey Jones:***

This group worked tirelessly to reschedule so many of the events that were cancelled throughout the entire year. It would have been easier to just miss them, but they know how important these events are to our students. They worked with ticketing limitations for solutions on how to get as many people as possible safely to our events as well, working with all the other schools who had different ways of doing this from us.

***Joe Paxton and Michael Galyan:***

We have by-far the finest streaming of athletic events of anyone around. Streaming of EH events allowed people to follow student activities when attendance limitations and health concerns made in-person attendance impossible. They provided a service that generated sponsorships to help support the athletic department during loss of gate revenue. Their dedication to providing an incredible quality product through sometimes difficult surroundings make them stand-outs.

***School Administrators:***

They had the task of taking unpopular and unpleasant information to the staff and students to keep everyone safe. They had to deal with positive cases and contact tracing. They were tremendous leaders, excellent role models and courageous people during this time.

***Central Office Staff:***

We were a little bit insulated from the front lines within the school buildings, but instead dealt with all the new rules and guidelines, supporting the staff, answering questions, thinking outside the box and problem-solving along the journey.

***School Board:***

They have been tremendous to work with and have willingly stepped back to allow the administrators the ability to direct our path. Their love of the school district and their judgement is well appreciated.