

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF  
CLAY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

A regular session of the Clay Community Schools Board of Trustees was held at the Central Administrative Office, 1013 S. Forest Avenue, Brazil, IN 47834, on Thursday, December 10, 2015. Tom Reberger, Kevin Kumpf, Scott Hill, Fred Froderman, Ron Scherb, and Shane Wiram were present. Amy Burke Adams was absent.

Prior to the Call to Order, bids for school bus bodies and chassis were opened. Bids were received from the following:

	78-Passenger	66-Passenger	Trade-In Valuations
<b>McALLISTER</b>	\$86,125.00	\$84,250.00	\$13,000
<b>MIDWEST TRANSIT</b>	\$87,472.00	\$85,772.00	\$9,500-\$10,300
<b>KERLIN</b>	\$91,575.00	\$89,396.00	\$16,000 each

Following the opening of bids, Mr. Scherb requested that a copy of the specifications be sent via email to each board member. A recommendation for the purchase of buses will be brought back to the school board meeting in January.

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m. Board President Ron Scherb led those in attendance in the pledge and offered the prayer.

**II. Consent Agenda**

**A. Claims**

**B. Board Meetings**

- Regular Session Minutes for November 12, 2015
- Special Public Work Session: November 19, 2015
- Executive Session Certification for November 12, 2015

**C. Field Trips**

- 1) Clay City Junior/Senior High School BPA Club members to BPA State Conference competition, Indianapolis Marriott Downtown, March 6-8, 2016, requiring overnight stay
- 2) Northview High School wrestling team members to Jeffersonville High School, December 18 and 19, 2015, for wrestling competition, requiring overnight stay
- 3) Northview High School wrestling team members to Brown County High School, January 8 and 9, 2016, for wrestling competition, requiring overnight stay
- 4) Northview High School wrestling team members to Evansville, Indiana, February 12 and 13, 2016, for wrestling competition, requiring overnight stay
- 5) Northview High School wrestling team members to Bankers Life Fieldhouse, Indianapolis, Indiana, February 19 and 20, 2016, for wrestling competition, requiring overnight stay
- 6) Clay City Elementary sixth grade students to McCormick's Creek State Park, Spencer, Indiana, May 23-25, 2016, requiring overnight stay.

**D. Personnel**

**A. LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

1. Certified

a. FMLA	NHS	Shannon Nevins
b. FMLA	Corporation	Lynn Stoelting
c. FMLA	NCMS	Lynn Wise
d. FMLA	Sp Serv	Beverly Farnsworth
e. FMLA	ESE	Lisa Hughes

2. Non-Certified

a. FMLA	TRANS	Garry Miller
b. FMLA	TRANS	Mark McIntire
c. Medical Leave of Absence	TRANS	Julia Maurey
d. FMLA	NHS	Roberta McCullough
e. FMLA	JTE	Valerie Linton

**B. RETIREMENTS**

1. Certified

None

2. Non-Certified

a. Bus Driver (end of 1 <sup>st</sup> semester)	TRANS	Jean McMichael
b. Food Services	JTE	Patti Thomas

3. Place on Retirement Index

None

**C. RESIGNATIONS**

1. Certified

None

2. Non-Certified

a. Food Services	CCE	Lisa Shouse
b. 29-hour Instructional Assistant	NHS	Sara Muñoz
c. 29-hour Instructional Assistant	NCMS	Molly Tipton
d. Secondary Secretary	NHS	Tenna Keiser
e. Occupational Therapist	Sp Serv	Julia Cruse

3. ECA Resignations

a. 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Volleyball Coach	CCHS	Rachel Kiefer
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4. ECA Lay Coaches

None

**D. TRANSFERS**

1. Certified

None

2. Non-Certified

None

**E. EMPLOYMENT**

1. Certified

None

2. Non-Certified

a. 5 hours/day Food Services	NHS	Katlyn Wells
b. 29-hour Instructional Assistant	NCMS	Brad Haring
c. 29-hour Instructional Assistant	NHS	Roberta Sutherlin

**F. EXTRA-CURRICULAR**

1. Extra-Curricular Certified

None

2. Extra-Curricular Non-Certified

None

- |  |      |              |
|--|------|--------------|
| 3. Extra-Curricular Lay Coach                    |      |              |
| a. 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls' Basketball Coach | NCMS | Kim White    |
| b. Head Wrestling Coach                          | NHS  | Dan Mikesell |
| 4. Supplemental                                  | None |              |

G. CHANGES

- |   |      |                   |
|---|------|-------------------|
| 1. Certified  |      |                   |
| a. 60% contract to 100% contract<br>(Ruth Ann Medworth will be picking up the classes left vacant by Jon Crooks' December retirement) | NHS  | Ruth Ann Medworth |
| 2. Non-Certified  | None |                   |
| 3. ECA-Lay Coaches  | None |                   |

H. VOLUNTEERS

1. CLASSROOM

East Side Elementary

- a. Krista Peterson
- b. Misty Kennedy

North Clay Middle School

- a. Jessica Jackson
- b. Lindsay Frye

2. ATHLETICS/ECA

Northview High School

- a. Becki Michele McFadden (Drama)

North Clay Middle School

- a. Elizabeth Timberman (6<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Basketball)

I. TERMINATIONS

- |                                    |     |               |
|------------------------------------|-----|---------------|
| a. 29-hour Instructional Assistant | NHS | Haley Wagoner |
|------------------------------------|-----|---------------|

J. ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE WITHOUT PAY

- |                                    |    |                 |
|------------------------------------|----|-----------------|
| a. 29-hour Instructional Assistant | SE | Heather Hardman |
|------------------------------------|----|-----------------|

Mr. Kumpf moved to approve the consent agenda items as read. Mr. Wiram seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

**III. Comments from Patrons**

None at this meeting

**IV. Old Business**

None at this meeting

**V. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Fritz noted the following:

- New hires Katlyn Wells - Northview High School, Brad Haring - North Clay Middle School, and Roberta Sutherlin - Northview High School were welcomed to the Clay Community Schools family.

- Congratulations were extended to the following at Clay City Junior/Senior High School:
  - ❖ Elissa Daniel, BPA sponsor, and eight students who competed in the BPA District Leadership Conference; all eight students advanced to the state contest
  - ❖ Scott Stucky and Ben Thomas for their Robotics/STEM team placing first overall out of 23 schools in competition for Area 30 in Greencastle
- Thanks were offered to school corporation employees making everything run smoothly during Superintendent Fritz's first semester as superintendent
- Thanks were also offered to newspaper reporters Ivy Jacobs of *The Brazil Times* and Suzanne Crabb of *The Clay City News* for giving the school corporation such positive coverage
- A wish for a very Merry Christmas and all the blessings this season offers was extended to all in the school family.

## **VI. New Business**

### **A. Open the 1028/Preliminary Determination Public Hearing**

The 1028/Preliminary Determination Public Hearing was opened at 7:44 p.m. Mr. Jeffery Qualkinbush of the Barnes & Thornburg law firm explained that a 1028/Preliminary Determination Public Hearing was required by Indiana law whenever a school corporation embarked upon a project of any significance over \$2 million regarding the construction, renovation, or additions to an existing facility. In connection with this, a school corporation must publish notice in local newspapers, wait at least ten days after that notice is published, and then hold the 1028/Preliminary Determination Public Hearing. Mr. Qualkinbush noted that, following presentations about the project and the financial impact by Superintendent Fritz and Mr. Shayotovich, anyone from the public who had signed up to speak would be given an opportunity to give any comments or ask questions regarding the presentations.

Superintendent Fritz and Mr. Shayotovich repeated presentations that had been offered during the November 12 regular session school board meeting. Following their presentations, the 1028/Preliminary Determination Public Hearing was opened to public comment.

First to speak was Chris Mauk, Northview High School Principal. Mr. Mauk spoke of his responsibility to the Northview students and parents, the community, the teachers, and staff, with the first responsibility being safety and security. He noted that the current entryways at Northview provide security risks, and he believes the proposed renovations would address those issues. The second area of responsibility noted by Mr. Mauk was the academic well-being of the students, and it was his opinion that the renovation project would definitely address that, through additional teacher space, additional classrooms, and additional lab space. The last area of responsibility mentioned by Mr. Mauk was for the students' social well-being, and as he sees it, the proposed plan with the student activity center would provide a great opportunity for extra-curricular activities. Mr. Mauk concluded his comments by thanking the Board for their vision in looking at these areas in a pro-active way instead of being re-active.

Next was Jeff Bell, Clay City Junior/Senior High School Principal. Mr. Bell noted that he had been very happy with the way this project had proceeded and the respect that had been shown. He mentioned three groups that he believed should always be taken care of that don't always get their just due and are the foundation of this country's greatness, and he referenced the following quote: "If you like to eat, thank a farmer; if you like to read, thank a teacher, and if you like your freedom, thank a veteran." The next point made by Mr. Bell: Going forward with this project sets a good example to students to think ahead and plan ahead. His third point was that the renovation project would set a good tone and let students know that the community wants them to stay around here as adults and is thinking ahead for future generations. Mr. Bell's final comment was that he was very happy and proud to be a part of Clay Community Schools.

Ms. Sherree Fell, English Department Chair, Clay City Junior/Senior High School, was the last to speak. She noted that about 29 years ago a commitment had been made to these buildings and for the kids. To not do anything now could mean starting all over again in 20 years. She deemed this a great opportunity. Ms. Fell shared a recent experience she had with a former student, which had reminded her of just how proud she was of the kids who have come out of Clay Community Schools. As she sees it, it would behoove the community to prepare these kids and have buildings that will allow them to go to that next level. Ms. Fell expressed her appreciation to the Board for their forethought in preparing for the future.

**B. Close the 1028/Preliminary Determination Public Hearing**

The 1028/Preliminary Determination Public Hearing was closed at 8:08 p.m.

**C. Consider Approval of the 1028/Preliminary Determination Reimbursement Resolution**

Mr. Qualkinbush explained that this resolution would preliminarily determine to proceed with the project as presented at the cost presented, which was a maximum principal amount of bond of \$32,995,000 with a maximum repayment period not to exceed 21 years. The total interest cost listed in the resolution was \$17,465,207, assuming a 19-year repayment period. The annual payment maximum listed in the resolution was \$3,344,000, on the 15-year repayment period at the higher interest rate. Mr. Qualkinbush noted that, if the funds were to be borrowed today, payments would come down dramatically from where they are in the resolution due to lower interest rates; however, the higher maximum interest rates are listed in the resolution so that there will not be a need to come back and repeat the public hearing. The resolution would also authorize the superintendent to publish a Notice of Preliminary Determination. If the resolution is adopted, the Notice will then be put in the newspapers as early as next week; it would run for a 30-day period during which people from the community could ask for a remonstrance. The resolution also authorizes a reimbursement of any expenditures that will be incurred prior to the time the bonds are issued because bonds will not be issued until construction bids are in hand. In addition, the resolution authorizes any member of the Board, the Superintendent, the Business Manager, and the Director of Facilities to take any and all actions that are necessary to fulfill the intents of this resolution.

At this point, Superintendent Fritz recommended approval of the Resolution, which would preliminarily approve the project and financing information presented during the public hearing and would authorize the Superintendent, Chief Financial Officer and their designees to take any and all actions related to these approvals.

Mr. Wiram moved to approve the Resolution, and Mr. Hill seconded.

Under discussion, Mr. Scherb stated that he had been told by others that Ron Scherb was against this project. He explained that he had been very vocal about the proposal to move the principal's office into the social studies classrooms at Northview, and he thanked whomever had been responsible for coming up with a better plan. He also agreed that the two-story library at Northview had to be changed because it was not handicapped accessible, and he noted that it would no longer receive an exemption from the Americans with Disabilities Act if the building went through a renovation. Mr. Scherb commented that he doesn't like to spend money that isn't necessary. Overall, he believed the proposal to be very good.

Mr. Wiram shared his thoughts about the proposed project by stating that he wanted to make sure the Board took care of this opportunity and did it right the first time and did not depend on Capital Projects funding to furnish new equipment. He felt very confident that needs would be covered. Mr. Wiram appreciated the openness; he felt it made the whole process a lot easier on everyone.

Dr. Froderman expressed his thanks for a good team that had been leading in a very positive way, and he stated that he had all the confidence in the world in that team.

Mr. Hill observed that the staff members in the buildings know what they need to move forward; it's their project. He is really excited to see it.

Mr. Kumpf noted that he had heard no negatives whatsoever about the building project. He believed it to be a good idea to upgrade, fix, repair, and add on what is needed for students, and it is even better to not increase taxes in order to do that. He believed the public was satisfied with what was going on. Mr. Kumpf has been very satisfied with all the work the management team and central office staff have put into it. He also is looking forward to the project being finished.

Mr. Reberger stated that he was thrilled. He noted that the Board had told the community in 2006-2007 that the elementary schools were going to be renovated because those buildings were older than the secondary buildings. Once those buildings were paid for, it would be the secondary buildings' turn; it is now their turn.

Prior to a vote on the motion, Mr. Scherb referred to a time eight years ago when there had been a proposal to renovate every building in the corporation at the same time, at a cost of \$53 million with interest costs totaling \$45 million over 33 years. Mr. Scherb and others had spoken against that project; the project was cut in half. The result was a savings in interest costs of about \$25 million and a reduction in the number of years it would take for taxpayers to pay that back. He believes there has not been anyone

coming forward to say this is not a good idea because most people understand that good schools are important.

The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

**D. Recommendation to Approve Secondary Course Changes**

Mr. Reberger moved to approve the secondary course changes as presented. Mr. Kumpf seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

**E. School Resource Officer Interagency Agreement**

Superintendent Fritz informed the Board that, because of information that had been provided to the administration related to the SROs and the county council, it was recommended that Item E be removed from this month's agenda. Approval to remove this item was recommended.

Mr. Wiram moved to remove Item E from this month's agenda. Dr. Froderman seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

**F. Northview High School Request to Accept Donation**

Mr. Kumpf moved to approve the request of Northview High School Principal Chris Mauk to accept a donation of two bench presses. Dr. Froderman seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

**G. Conflict of Interest Statement Annual Approval**

Mr. Hill moved to approve the Conflict of Interest Statement as presented. Mr. Kumpf seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

**VII. Board Member Comments**

**Shane Wiram** deemed this to be an exciting time to be on the school board and to be a part of Clay Community Schools. He referred to the building project as a great opportunity, and he believed they were going to get it right the first time. He thanked everyone for their involvement in putting the project together. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and thanked all for allowing him to share in this opportunity.

**Kevin Kumpf** also wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

**Scott Hill** added his "Happy Holidays" wish for everyone as well as a safe and wonderful holiday.

**Fred Froderman** shared his "Merry Christmas" wish with all.

**VIII. Future Agenda Items**

**Ron Scherb** asked when the Board would start seeing the actual drawings for the renovation project. He was told that, if there is no challenge to the process, the architects would ramp up in January, and the Board would start to see things in February and March of next year.

**IX. Adjournment**

Having exhausted all agenda items, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

The meeting was audio recorded and copies may be requested by contacting the Central Administration Office.