

METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NORTH POSEY COUNTY
(Board of Education Meeting -- February 8th, 1960)

MINUTES

The Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, February 8, 1960, at 7:30 P.M., in the Administrative Office.

The following members were present: George Heckerman, Harold Kemmerling, Virgil Williams and Vertis Matz.

Also attending the meeting were: Eldon R. Crawford, Supt., Charles Roberts, Ass't. Supt., Ralph Schuler, School Attorney; Lloyd Hutchinson, High School Principal; William Wilson, Dir. of Elementary Education. Visitors present were: Lloyd DeFur, Keith Meredith, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Reynolds, Tom Price and Elwood Crawford.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the meeting of January 28th were discussed. Motion was made by Matz, seconded by Kemmerling, to accept the minutes as written. Motion carried.

BILLS & CLAIMS:

Claims Nos. 782 - 829 were presented for approval. Motion was made by Kemmerling, seconded by Williams, to authorize payment of the claims. Motion carried.

CALCULATOR:

Mr. Crawford explained the need for a machine calculator in the Administrative Office, due to the large number of computations to be made which involve multiplication and division. He stated that a machine had been left for demonstration and, subject to the approval of the Board, he recommended that it be purchased. He explained that the machine could be obtained for a net cost of \$381.50 after tax deduction, school discount and trade-in allowance on a used 10-key adding machine. Motion was made by Williams, seconded by Kemmerling, to authorize the purchase of the calculator. Motion carried.

FEDERAL TAX LEVY -- PEE WEE GULF:

A federal tax levy letter which had been issued to the administration by a representative of the Bureau of Internal Revenue was presented to the Board with explanations. The letter is an order to the school administration to pay over to the federal government monies owed to the Pee Wee Gulf Station by the school corporation until such time as the delinquent tax claim of the government on the station is satisfied. The amount involved is \$901.03.

Mr. Schuler advised that an order of this kind must be complied with under the law, and that refusal on the part of the school administration could result in action of the government against school officials.

It was suggested that Mr. Powers, operator of the Pee Wee Gulf Station, be fully informed of the school's position in the matter and that checks issued to satisfy his claims be made jointly to the Bureau of Internal Revenue and Pee Wee Gulf.

CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP:

It was pointed out that the main building in the Wadesville school and the smaller portable building would revert in ownership to parties controlling the land upon which they are located. It was suggested that either a certificate of ownership or a notification to the present owners of the land that the buildings will no longer be used for school purposes, and that the school administration is relinquishing all claim to said property, be issued. Mr. Schuler presented a resolution to this effect.

The motion was made by Matz, seconded by Williams, to approve the resolution and to send copies signed by the Secretary of the Board to the interested persons. Motion carried. (A copy of this resolution is attached.)

Mr. Roberts stated that an offer had been made to purchase the fuel oil tank at the small portable building, for \$15.00. The Board agreed to authorize the sale of this tank.

PARKER & BLAIRSVILLE SCHOOLS:

Mr. Heckerman stated that he had been informed that deeds for Parker & Blairsville Schools, which were sold in November 1958, have not yet been recorded. Mr. Schuler stated that he would notify the purchasers that they should take steps to record these deeds immediately.

WADESVILLE GYMNASIUM & ATHLETIC FIELD SALE:

Mr. Schuler read a proposed resolution which stipulates that the Board agrees to execute a deed to the purchasers of the Wadesville gymnasium and athletic field at such time as full payment of the purchase price of \$7,000.00 is made.

Motion was made by Mr. Matz, seconded by Mr. Kemmerling, to approve a resolution and to authorize a copy to be filed by the Secretary of the Board and sent to the purchaser. (A copy of the resolution is attached.)

Schuler stated that the School District was obligated to Mr. Elbert Allyn, who conducted the sale of the Wadesville gym and athletic field; also to certain newspapers for advertizing the sale. He stated that the customary fee for a sale of this kind was 2%; however, Mr. Allyn had done a considerable amount of promotion work and had stated that he felt 2½% would not be out of line.

Motion was made by Mr. Matz, seconded by Mr. Kemmerling, to pay Mr. Allyn 2% of \$7,000 (\$140.00) for his services. Motion carried.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE -- MRS. RUMBLE:

A letter from Mrs. Dorothy Rumble, requesting a leave of absence to attend the Evansville College Freshman Guidance Program on February 18th, without loss of pay, was presented. The letter stated that six freshman students were enrolled at Evansville College from the North Posey District.

Mr. Crawford recommended that the request be granted.

Motion was made by Mr. Matz, seconded by Mr. Kemmerling, to grant the request for leave of absence. Motion carried.

FUNDS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF HIGH SCHOOL GROUNDS:

There was some discussion in regard to the amount of money which would be available for covering additional space for parking lot and for grading, tiling and preparation of athletic fields at the high school.

It was pointed out that the 1960 budget had an appropriation of \$10,000 which money had been anticipated at that time from the sale of the Wadesville gym and athletic field. It was also pointed out that approximately \$2,000 of this money was spent in January to pay for additional stone on the parking lot; also, that only \$7,000 will be received from the sale of the Wadesville property. This would leave approximately \$5,000 from that source which has not yet been obligated. It was suggested that there might be some unobligated balance left in the Cumulative Building Fund and School Construction Fund for the South Terrace building after the additional needs for this building are met, and that this money might possibly be transferred into the Special School Fund and used to support the above-mentioned appropriation. It was also stated that there is a possibility that some Holding Company funds will be available.

It was stated that, whether or not anticipated receipts develop to cover the full \$10,000 appropriation, the full amount can still be expended, in which case the working balance would supply the rest of the funds. It was suggested that plans to grade and tile the athletic fields be developed at an early date and that prior to starting work, some decision would have to be made in regard to the amount of space to leave for future parking lot development.

USE OF BUILDINGS -- 4-H CLUB:

Mr. Lloyd DeFur stated that he was representing the County 4-H Club Council and would like to inquire if school facilities could be used for the County 4-H Club Achievement meeting, scheduled for March 11th. He also stated that he had been informed that there would be a charge for such use and would like to determine if this were true, and if so, how much. He stated further that school facilities in the south part of the county were available for 4-H Club activities without charge. Mr. Crawford stated that, to his knowledge, there had never been a charge made to 4-H organizations for the use of school facilities.

Mr. Hutchinson stated that the night custodian was assigned cleaning duties and that if he were taken from his duties to serve at such meetings, then it would interfere with his work; that when night school activities were held, he requested that one of the regular custodians return to be on duty.

It was the opinion of the Board that, since 4-H Club work is of an educational nature, no charge should be made to 4-H organizations for use of school facilities and that necessary custodial service at such functions be provided without charge.

Mr. DeFur also suggested that during the coming summer, facilities of the Home Ec. Department at the high school be made available to 4-H Clubs throughout the district; also that part-time services of one of the Home Ec. teachers or other qualified persons be made available to supervise the use of such facilities and to consult with volunteer 4-H Club leaders. It was Mr. DeFur's opinion that it would not be necessary to have Home Ec. teachers direct local clubs in each

separate community as has been done during the past two to three years. Mr. Crawford stated that during the past two or three years, Home Ec. teachers had been employed on 10-month contracts and had rendered part-time services during the summer as directors of local 4-H Club groups.

He stated that possibly one Home Ec. teacher could be employed during the 1960 season under special contract as a part of the summer education program. This contract could be prepared in accordance with agreement reached between teacher and the Board, based on the proposed work schedule and estimated time involved. Summer education contracts do not have to be in conformity to minimum teachers' salary schedules.

PROPOSED HIGH SCHOOL P.T.A. PROJECTS:

A letter which had been received by Mr. George Heckman from Mr. Hutchinson, was presented to the Board and discussed by Mrs. Jack Reynolds. This letter was addressed to the high school P.T.A. and proposed a list of needs for the high school which the P.T.A. might consider purchasing. the list follows:

Pictures -- Reference books -- Tumbling mats -- Record player -- Globes -- Overhead projector -- Trophy cases -- Asphalt tennis court -- Inter-com. system.

In the discussion that followed, Mr. Roberts suggested that the possibility of purchasing, or helping to purchase, band uniforms might be considered.

Mr. Meredith stated that only a few students would receive benefits from funds put into band uniforms. Mr. Crawford stated that the idea of P.T.A.'s purchasing supplies and/or equipment for public school use is not approved by P.T.A. objectives and policies; and that P.T.A. organizations should frown on this practice and should not expect to purchase these types of materials or be expected to by school officials. He stated further that these needs should be met and paid for from tax funds.

In further discussion, it was pointed out that perhaps some of the listed needs were not pressing as educational needs, and, while they might be eventually taken care of by the Board of Education, certain ones not considered pressing would be delayed longer than others. It was suggested that the Board indicate two to four of these items which might be delayed in purchase by the Board. It was also suggested that pictures, trophy cases and possibly tumbling mats would not be considered immediately as essential. It was pointed out that an overhead projector had been ordered within the past week and that this item perhaps should not be considered.

Mr. Crawford suggested that if the P.T.A. does move to purchase any of these materials, that school people should be consulted in the selection of such materials and have a voice in deciding.

COUNTY SCHOOL REORGANIZATION:

Virgil Williams discussed the County School Reorganization Committee and possible proposals being considered by that committee. He stated that the committee's proposal for school reorganization would probably be one of two possibilities as follows:

- A. A proposal to reorganize the entire county into one school system under one school administration; or
- B. A proposal to reorganize the North Posey District and the New Harmony District into one new district and leave the Mt. Vernon district as it is now.

The question was asked as to how the public feels about the merits of the two proposals. Mr. Williams stated that of the people with whom he had talked, he would estimate that four out of five favored two districts. The question was also asked: "Is the county going to work with a Citizens Advisory Committee as suggested by the State Commission in the development of a proposal and education of the public?"

Mr. Williams indicated that he did not think the Reorganization Committee was required to work with a Citizens Advisory Committee, but that when the proposal was completed, public hearings would be held in appropriate places in the county.

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PICTURES FOR YEARBOOK:

Mr. Crawford stated that he had a request from the high school to ask each of the Board members and the secretaries in the administrative office, as well as Mr. Roberts and himself, to furnish pictures for the high school yearbook. These pictures should be turned in within a week.

BASKETBALL PROBLEM:

Mr. Tom Price and Mr. Elwood Crawford appeared before the Board to raise the question concerning the dismissal of certain players from the basketball squad. They stated that they felt there was a great deal of misunderstanding and misinformation involved in this matter, and suggested that the parents of the boys who were dismissed should have an opportunity to meet with principal, the athletic manager, coaches and Board members to get at the bottom of the trouble. They stated that they felt that the boys have been "let down." Mr. Price stated that he felt the parents should have been contacted early to help straighten out the situation and that they, the parents, feel that the action must have been taken on the basis of hearsay rather than actual facts. Mr. Price also stated that two boys who were still on the team had broken training and nothing had been done about that.

Hutchinson stated that team discipline is up to the coaches and that the cut of players was due to general lack of cooperation. It was pointed out that coaches should not act on hearsay. Hutchinson also stated that he thought Mr. Mauck had been very fair to the boys involved in this matter. There was considerable discussion of the problem pro and con. Mr. Crawford suggested that perhaps the situation had reached a state where it was necessary to take such action although it may seem to be drastic, in order to preserve any kind of spirit in the school and on the team. However, it seems that the parents feel that, had they been aware of the development of the situation in its early stages and asked to work with coaches and school people to get their boys to cooperate, then the present state of affairs might have been avoided. In any case, the action would have been more acceptable to the involved parents had they been aware of developments from the start.

In view of these facts, it appears that the parents are not satisfied with the manner in which the affair was handled and are confused about a number of things including the reasons for dismissal. Therefore, it is recommended that a meeting be arranged so that the parents of the boys involved, coaches, athletic director and principal can sit down together and discuss the whole matter intelligently with the hope that everybody concerned can reach an understanding.

Mr. Hutchinson stated that he would be willing to meet with Mr. Elwood Crawford and Mr. Price to discuss the matter further.

MOTION WAS MADE BY WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY KEMMERLING, TO ADJOURN AT 10:15 P.M.

Signed:

George H. Heckerman
ChairmanVirgil B. Williams
Secretary

WHEREAS, attention of the Board was called to the fact that ownership of the real estate and buildings formerly constituting the classrooms of Wadesville High School, at Wadesville, Indiana, was conditional upon the continued use of the property for school purposes,

AND WHEREAS, that since this property had been abandoned following the construction of the new high school, it would be advisable to enter of record upon the minutes of the Board a resolution officially relinquishing all claim to said property.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the real estate and classroom buildings constituting the former Wadesville High School at Wadesville, Indiana, are hereby abandoned as a part of the school system of the Metropolitan School District of North Posey County, Indiana, the same being no longer used or useable for school purposes in the District, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this School District hereby waives and relinquishes all right, title, interest or claim to said property.

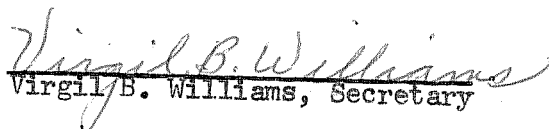
Virgil B. Williams
Virgil B. Williams, Secretary

WHEREAS, Virgil B. Williams, Secretary, reported to the Board that an auction sale was held on January 30, 1960, at the hour of 1:00 p.m., at which time the former Wadesville Gymnasium property was offered for sale, and which property is known and described as:

Beginning at a point 5 rods South of the Northwest corner of the Southeast quarter of the Southwest quarter of Section 8, Township 5 South, Range 12 West; thence South 36-3/4 rods; thence East to the West line of the public highway leading from Wadesville to Blairsville; thence North along the West line of said Highway to a point 5 rods South of the North line of said quarter quarter; thence West 16 rods to the place of beginning, containing 4 acres, more or less.

AND WHEREAS, that as a result of said offering, the property was sold off to Poseyville Post #6576, Inc., Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States for the sum of \$7,000.00, and that the said sale was conducted after giving due notice by posting and publication as required by law, and that the amount bid was more than the \$6,000.00 appraised value.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the sale of the Wadesville Gymnasium property having been held in conformity with law, and a bid having been received which is in excess of the full appraised value of said property, should be and is hereby confirmed and approved by the Board, and the Secretary and President are hereby authorized to execute a deed to said purchasers, conveying all of the interest of the Metropolitan School District of North Posey County, Indiana, in said property, to Poseyville Post #6576, Inc., Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, for the sum of \$7,000.00."


Virgil B. Williams, Secretary

METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NORTH POSEY COUNTY
(Board of Education Meeting --- February 22, 1960)

M I N U T E S

The Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, February 22, at 7:30 p.m., in the Administrative office.

The following members were present: George Heckerman, Harold Kemmerling, Virgil Williams and Vertis Matz.

Also attending the meeting were: Eldon R. Crawford, Supt.; Charles Roberts, Asst. Supt.; William Wilson, Director of Elementary Education; Lloyd Hutchinson, High School principal; and Ralph Schuler, Attorney.

MINUTES:

Motion was made by Kemmerling -- seconded by Matz -- to approve the minutes of the February 8 meeting as written. Motion carried.

BILLS AND CLAIMS:

Payroll claims Nos. 8 to 14 and regular claims Nos. 830 to 854 were presented for approval. Motion was made by Williams -- seconded by Matz -- to authorize payment of the claims. Motion carried.

WINDOW SHADES -- HIGH SCHOOL:

Mr. Crawford stated that the question of shades or drapes for light control on the high school windows had not yet been settled clearly enough that orders could be prepared. He stated that the Board of Education had, at an earlier date, indicated as a matter of record, that the members preferred plastic drapes for the high school building. However, he also stated that some members of the Holding Company preferred roller shades probably because they would be cheaper. It was pointed out that equipping the building with drapes as quoted by Allied, Inc., would cost approximately \$2600. This would be the same type of drapes and fixtures which have been purchased by the Board of Education for the South Terrace school. Estimates and quotations for equipping the high school building with regular-type shades indicate that the cost would be about \$1200.00 for a high-grade roller shade. It was pointed out, however, that these estimates had not been made on the basis of uniform specifications, but that the cost would not exceed that amount.

In regard to the matter of purchase and installation of roller shades, a number of questions need to be considered as follows:

- 1. Are double-roller shades appropriate for the size and type windows in the high school building?
- 2. Could such shades be installed on our windows in a satisfactory manner to properly control light, in view of the fact that the windows open and close by hinged sash swinging from the top in some cases; from the bottom in other cases; and, mid-way in still other cases?
- 3. Also the question as to what type of light-control device to use on the windows of the front wing and southern exposure which have only one clear pane with the rest colored.

It was suggested that the Board of Education decide whether they wanted to leave the problem to the Holding Company directors for a final decision or whether they wanted to meet jointly with the Holding Company to discuss the matter further, and possibly work out a plan which would be satisfactory to all. It was reported that there was some indication on the part of one or more Holding Company members that if the Board of Education wanted drapes in the building, then they should assume the cost. It was stated that since this cost had not been anticipated in the Board of Education budget, there did not seem to be any appropriation in the 1960 budget which would cover the project. Motion was made by Matz -- seconded by Kemmerling -- to leave the decision on purchasing shades or drapes up to the Holding Company. Motion carried.

ATHLETIC FIELD GRADING:

Mr. Crawford stated that the project of grading, tiling and developing the athletic field should be given considerable thought and discussion by the Board and that a plan and specifications drawn to scale should be developed to use as a basis on which to receive bids. It was suggested that decisions pertaining to the amount of space and shape to be left for development of parking area be considered in this matter.

Also, it was suggested that a new survey showing contour elevations be obtained as a first step in preparing a plan. It was stated that Mr. Harold Kracht, who is the Posey County Conservation officer, be contacted and asked if he would prepare such a survey. It was decided that the Board would meet at the high school site at 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, February 23, to look the situation over and an attempt would be made to get Mr. Kracht at this meeting if possible.

TEACHER EMPLOYMENT -- TENURE:

The question was asked as to when action must be taken concerning employment of teachers for the school year 1960-'61. Also, the question was raised concerning policy in regard to placing teachers on tenure. It was stated that decisions concerning replacement of teachers for 1960-'61 could be made at any time; however, teachers who are to be dismissed, must be notified in accordance with proper legal procedure on or before May 1.

In regard to tenure policy -- one suggested procedure was that this School Board reach an agreement with other school boards of adjoining or other corporations to exchange teachers at the end of the probationary period of service, in order to avoid the necessity of placing them on tenure, and agreeing that after one or more years of service in the exchange situation, to replace teachers in their former positions.

It was stated that this was the practice followed by township trustees when the tenure law was first enacted until the law was amended to be non-effective in township school systems.

Mr. Williams reported that it was his understanding that in the Indianapolis school district tenure teachers were graded or evaluated and retained or dismissed on the basis of such evaluation. Mr. Crawford suggested that a policy should be developed whereby teachers are evaluated by qualified people and on the basis of this evaluation placed on tenure, or released. He stated that tenure teachers can be dismissed only according to legal procedure for definite, specific reasons. Reasons stipulated in the law are: 1.) Incompetence; 2.) Insubordination; 3.) Immorality; and 4.) other just causes. He also stated that such dismissal must be submitted in writing and the teacher given an opportunity to appear before the Board in a special hearing before final action of the Board. Further, that in case the teacher still felt the dismissal was not justified, she had the right to take the matter to the court.

It was stated that teachers who are placed on tenure might have a tendency to relax and take things easy.

Mr. Crawford advised that a policy which did not permit teachers to gain tenure could result in lowering the quality of teaching services in general, due to the fact that teachers are interested in a reasonable amount of security in their positions, and will seek positions where it is possible to gain tenure status and the security which goes with it. On the other hand, teachers will reject jobs in systems where they cannot gain tenure; or if they do accept such jobs, they are apt to begin to look forward to moving as quickly as possible. Also, they naturally would not develop the interest and enthusiasm necessary for good teaching in what they would consider a temporary job. It was further suggested that the salary policy could be developed to encourage not only tenure teachers but all teachers to take additional training or other methods to improve their techniques and keep up to date professionally. This type of policy, which is in effect in a number of school systems, provides that teachers must take additional training according to a schedule or face the possibility of teaching for less than the adopted schedule. Also, such policies provide that when teachers take such additional training, they are given a stipend above the salary schedule for a limited time. This incorporates an incentive to teachers to improve themselves as well as a penalty for teachers who do have a tendency to stand still.

MISCELLANEOUS:

It was suggested that there is a need for additional steps at the end of the bleachers in each of the seating sections at the high school gymnasium. It was stated that Mr. Miller had been asked to get an estimate on the cost of material and labor from local firms to install such steps, but to date nothing had been submitted to this office.

Mr. Hutchinson stated that there was no fire siren in the shop and that people in that area could not hear the signal when the fire drills were staged. Mr. Roberts stated that he would check on this matter.

Mr. Heckerman stated that the owner of the property to the north of the Cynthiana school site had inquired if the Board would be interested in buying this property, an estimated 4-1/2 acres, at a cost of approximately \$4,500. No immediate need could be seen for acquiring this adjoining property.

There was some discussion pertaining to the offensive odor arising from the hog lot across the highway south of the Cynthiana school. It was suggested that the only way to approach this problem seemed to be possible action from some organized group to establish, if possible, that the hog lot is a menace to the health of the school children.

The question was asked as to whether reimbursement from federal funds could be obtained as a result of the purchase of audio-visual education equipment. Mr. Crawford explained that there was no program for providing federal funds as reimbursement for this type of equipment except as it might be used in the teaching of mathematics, science and modern foreign language. Further, that reimbursement under the above-named programs for such equipment would be in proportion to the time such equipment is used in these activities as compared to the total general use.

Motion was made by Williams -- seconded by Kemmerling -- to adjourn at 9:15 p.m.
Motion carried.

George H. Heckerman
Chairman

Virgil B. Williams
Secretary