

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE METROPOLITAN  
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NORTH POSEY COUNTY, INDIANA

Held February 10, 1975

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Metropolitan School District of North Posey County, Indiana, was held in the office of the Superintendent of Schools on the 10th day of February, 1975, at the hour of 4:30 o'clock p.m. with Board members Hall, Tenison, Fletchall, Eisterhold and Staples present. Also attending were Superintendent Hollen, Administrative Assistant Wilson and Attorney Schuler.

The meeting was called to order by President Fletchall, who presided. Minutes of the previous meeting of January 27, 1975 were read to the Board and approved as read.

Claims No. 45 through 87 in the amount of \$ were presented to the Board for consideration and upon motion duly made by Eisterhold, seconded by Hall and unanimously carried, were approved by the Board and ordered paid.

NEA-NPS Delegation

A delegation from the Teachers's Association headed by President Myron E. Westfall attended the meeting, together with several citizens of the District. Mr. Westfall stated that his purpose was to present to the Board a statement from NEA-PNC in regard to the recent Student Due Process hearings. This statement was read to the Board by Mr. Westfall. A discussion was had concerning the Due Process procedure, during which Mr. Wilson explained in detail the requirements of the laws of the State of Indiana in regard to Due Process, and pointed out that this law was adhered to in the recent expulsion of two students. Questions from NEA-NPC and from attending individuals were answered by Mr. Wilson, Mr. Hollen and Mr. Schuler.

Due Process Up-Date

Mr. Wilson stated to the Board that he felt that all required elements of the Due Process law had been adhered to in recent hearings, but that it might be possible to avoid dissension and to assist the principal who might be involved in a Due Process procedure if an administrative council were formed with whom the principal could discuss the particular problem and his possible solutions. Such a council might be composed of the principals of the district together with administrative staff members, and its purpose would be entirely advisory with the final decision to be left to the principal. He further recommended that in the event a Due Process hearing was to be held the principal should be relieved of his duties for sufficient period of time to allow him to prepare the case for hearing. This matter was discussed by the Board and taken under advisement.

Tax Rate for 1975

The Superintendent reported to the Board that the State Tax Commissioners had certified the tax rate for 1975 as follows:

General Fund	\$4.05
Debt Service	.88
Cummulative	.25
Building Fund	
Total	<u>\$5.18</u>

Superintendent Hollen distributed to the Board copies of the intitial proposal from NEA-NPC for a contract for the year 1975-1976. Negotiation matters were discussed briefly by Attorney Schuler, who advised the Board that the teacher's delegation had requested that Board members sit in on negotiation sessions in order that they might have some awareness of the various problems the teachers feel that they face and of the discussion which is a part of negotiation.

#### Miscellaneous Matters

The Superintendent reported to the Board that there was need for replacement of the hot water tank at the high school and that he had received one price quote and would attempt to secure others in order that a replacement could be secured prior to an actual break-down of the existing heater.

Following a further discussion of school matters, upon motion duly made and seconded the meeting adjourned at the hour of 6:45 p.m.

*P. C. Fletchall*

P. C. Fletchall

*Jack D. Hall*

Jack D. Hall

*Kenneth O. Eisterhold*

Kenneth O. Eisterhold

*Billy D. Staples*

Billy D. Staples

*Jesse Tenison, Jr.*

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BOARD OF EDUCATION

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SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NORTH POSEY COUNTY, INDIANA

Held February 17, 1975

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Metropolitan School District of North Posey County, Indiana was held on the 17th day of February, 1975 with Board members Eisterhold, Hall, Fletchall, Staples, and Tenison present. Also attending were Superintendent Hollen, Administrative Assistant Wilson and Attorney Schuler.

The meeting was called to order by President Fletchall who presided. Minutes of the previous meeting of February 10 were approved as written.

Public Meeting on Due Process

The President recognized the large number of people who were in attendance at the meeting and indicated he had been advised that the Student Council of North Posey High School and the NEA-NPC had requested permission to submit a statement to the Board at this meeting. Thereupon, David Wenderoth, president of the Student Council of North Posey High School, read a statement to the Board, outlining the request of the student body relative to the recent disruptions which had occurred in the educational process. Following a general period of questions and answers Mr. Myron Westfall, NEA-NPC President, read a statement outlining the position and requests of the NEA concerning implementation of the Indiana Student Due Process Code, Student Discipline, and Teacher's Rights. Following a further period of questions and answers, during which the president indicated that the Board would try to have some policy formulated for the District on or before March 24, 1975, the public meeting was ended.

Claims

Claims No. 88 through 97 in the total amount of \$15,148.05 and Title I Claim Number 19 in the amount of \$250.00 were presented to the Board for consideration and upon motion duly made by Tenison, seconded by Eisterhold and unanimously carried were approved by the Board and ordered paid.

Depository Acceptance

The Cynthiana State Bank and Farmers Bank & Trust Company submitted proposals to the Board that these institutions be public depositories for funds of the District. These proposals were adopted and signed by the Board.

School Calendar

There was submitted to the Board for its consideration two proposed school calendars, one identified as an early schedule, under which school would start August 21 and end May 21, and one designated as a late schedule, under which school would start August 28 and end May 28. Mr. Schuler indicated it was desired that some indication of preference be given by the Board in order that discussion could be had

with NEA-NPC at the next negotiation meeting. Following a discussion the Board indicated a preference for the late calendar.

<sup>ADVISORY</sup>  
Policy Committee

Mr. Eisterhold called the Board's attention to the fact that he believed it would be helpful in the current period of student and teacher unrest if a separate Board was appointed to formulate some policy. Thereupon, on motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the following committee was appointed by the Board to establish a policy relating to Student Due Process and Student Discipline for presentation to the Board for its consideration at the next meeting:

One principal to be selected by the four principals;  
One elementary, one junior high and one senior high teacher to be selected by NEA-NPS;  
Two student council members to be selected by the council;  
The Superintendent;  
Two parents, one from the elementary districts and one from the high school district, these to be selected by the first seven members.

Administrative Staff Recommendation

Following a discussion on the propriety and legality of the use of grade reduction as an element of student discipline or punishment for offenses not connected to scholastic work, the Superintendent submitted to the Board the following recommendation from the Administrators and Principals:

Because nothing in the Statutes of the State of Indiana authorizes the use of grade reduction as a form of punishment and as all authority of the school district comes from the statutes it must be assumed that no such power is vested in school authorities. Taking this into consideration the Board hereby revokes any rules or standards that may have been adopted by any school or teachers within the district that requires or establishes grade reduction as an element of punishment. This policy as it effects students shall take place immediately and be retroactive to the beginning of the 1974-75 school year.

Following a discussion, this recommendation was rejected four to zero, with the President abstaining.

Thereupon, following a further discussion, on motion duly made by Staples, seconded by Hall and unanimously carried, the following resolution was adopted: That for the first four grading periods of the year 1974-75 there shall be deducted from the grade of any student absent without excuse 3% for each day of such absence. Starting with the fifth grading period of the year 1974-75, the following rules shall be imposed:

F for an unexcused absence or suspension - no credit  
F for an expulsion for a semester - no credit  
F for an expulsion for six or twelve weeks - no credit

In all other respects, the rules as presently set forth in the handbook shall remain in effect.

Following a further general discussion of school matters, on motion duly made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at the hour of 1:15 a.m.

*P. C. Fletchall*

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*Jack D. Hall*

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BOARD OF EDUCATION