

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Board of Education
of the
Metropolitan School District of North Posey County, Indiana**

Held on November 9, 1998

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the M.S.D. of North Posey County, Poseyville, Indiana, was held in the Board Room at the Office of the Superintendent of Schools on the 9th day of November 1998. The meeting began at the hour of 5:30 p.m. The following Board members were present: Michael Baehl, Timothy Buecher, Larry Lewis, Kathy Mauck and Mark Seibert. Also present were Ernest W. Rapp, Superintendent, and John D. Wood, Administrative Assistant.

At 5:30 p.m., it was the decision of the Board to convene in Executive Session for the purpose of IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(2-B) for discussion of strategy with respect to initiation of litigation or litigation which is either pending or has been threatened specifically in writing; and/or; IC 5-14-1.5-6.1 (8) to discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees. The Board adjourned from Executive Session at 6:15 p.m.

The Board of Education reconvened for the regular meeting at 6:20 p.m. The meeting was called to order by President Baehl. Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday, October 12, 1998 were submitted to the Board and approved on a motion by Mr. Seibert, seconded by Mrs. Mauck, and unanimously carried.

CLAIM DOCKET

A copy of the current claim docket was presented to the Board for consideration. Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Seibert, and unanimously carried, the claim docket was approved by the Board. A copy of the claim docket, as approved by the Board, shall be made a part of the official minutes by incorporation.

AGENDA

Bus Route Concerns

President Baehl opened the meeting by giving the floor to Mrs. Angela Biggs, a parent from South Terrace Elementary School, who had asked to be placed on the agenda. Mrs. Biggs expressed a serious concern about the problems on bus #3. She felt the many discipline problems are the result of students riding the bus too long on the morning and afternoon routes. She also complained about the students having to ride all the way to the high school to transfer to another bus to end up at South Terrace Elementary School. She voiced that she had complained to school officials numerous times regarding her complaints and had received no satisfaction. A second parent from South Terrace requested an opportunity to be heard. Mrs. Sherrie Johnson expressed a concern about the time the children spend on the bus and did not like the fact the bus traveled all the way to North Posey High School before going to South Terrace. She also stated that her children do not ride the bus for that reason. Mr. Rob Johnson suggested the route

was in desperate need of changing to better meet the needs of the population currently living in the area. Mr. Roy Boettcher read a prepared statement expressing the concerns for the safety of his children on the bus. Mr. Boettcher agreed with the other presenters as to the transporting of the students to the high school to transfer to another bus and return to South Terrace. He requested a commitment be made to the development of a plan to satisfactorily address the problems on the bus route. Mrs. Cheryl Boettcher also spoke to support the comments made by her husband and the other parents. Mr. Rapp assured the group the problems would be thoroughly investigated in a timely manner by Mr. Wood. He told the parents a meeting with eight of the bus drivers with routes in the area affected had been scheduled for Thursday, November 12, 1998, to work to develop a solution to the problem. Mr. Wood stated he would report on the progress at the December meeting. President Baehl thanked the parents for expressing their concerns and assured them the matter would be investigated by Mr. Wood.

1999 Budget

Mr. Rapp reported to the Board on the breakdown of the tax rate for the 1999 Budget. On October 13 and 14, he attended the Budget hearing before the State Board of Accounts at the Hovey House in Mt. Vernon. The total predicted tax rate for 1999 is \$4.49. This is an increase of approximately \$.07 in the General Fund over 1998. This increase is due to the excessive levy in the amount of \$45,924 for opening the new addition at North Posey Junior High School. The 1999 actual tax rate based on the assessed valuation of \$76,469,533 is General Fund - \$2.60; Debt Service \$0.69; Transportation - \$0.69; Capital Projects - \$0.50; and Special Ed/Pre-School - \$0.01; totaling the overall tax rate at \$4.44916. Mr. Rapp also reported on the hearing on October 22 before the Indiana State Property Tax Control Board in Indianapolis to justify the need for the excessive levy. Mr. Rapp appeared for less than ten minutes and received full approval.

Recommendation of Girls' Elementary Basketball Coaches for 1998-99 School Year

Mr. Rapp recommended to the Board the employment of Robin Tepool as 5th and 6th grade girls' basketball coach at North Elementary School and Staci Voegel as 5th and 6th grade girls' basketball coach at South Terrace Elementary School for the 1998-99 season. On a motion by Mrs. Mauck, seconded by Mr. Lewis, the motion unanimously carried.

Academic Honors

Mr. Rapp publicly recognized the academic honors recently earned by students in the District. The North Posey High School Spell Bowl Team finished first in their class and first overall at the District competition earning the chance to compete in the State Spell Bowl. The North Posey Junior High Spell Bowl Team also finished in first place with a perfect score in their District competition and earned a chance to defend their State Championship at the State Spell Bowl. Both teams will travel to Indianapolis on Friday, November 13, 1998 to compete at Warren Central High School on Saturday, November 14, 1998, for the title of State Champion. The junior high team will be going for their ninth State title. Mr. Rapp wished both teams the very best of luck at the competition.

North Posey High School Marching Viking Band

Mr. Rapp praised the success of the 1998 North Posey High School Marching Viking Band. This year the band earned a Division I rating at the District competition at Jasper, and a Division I rating at the Regional competition at Jeffersonville. Their overall scores at the Regional earned the band a fourth place, which qualified them to go to the State Marching Band Contest at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis on Saturday, October 24, 1998. In their first appearance ever at the State contest, the band finished eighth out of ten bands in their class. Mr. Rapp commended the band, the Band Boosters, and Mrs. Palmer for a job well done.

Recognition of Student Athletes

Mr. Rapp applauded the success of the student athletes at North Posey High School during the fall season. He recognized the efforts of the girls' cross country team in winning the PAC Championship, the IHSAA Sectional Championship, and the Regional Championship. The girls' team also competed in the Semi-State and finished 11th. The boys' cross country team had a strong individual effort by junior Isaac Eisterhold. Isaac earned the opportunity to compete at the IHSAA State Cross Country Meet held at Indiana University on Saturday, November 7, 1998. Isaac is the first cross country runner from North Posey High School to qualify to run in the State meet. Mr. Rapp also paid tribute to the 1998 football team for finishing the season with a fine 8-4 record and a runner-up finish in the Sectional. Mr. Rapp praised the outstanding effort of these student athletes and their coaches and thanked them for the super way they represented the North Posey school/community.

Veteran's Day Programs

Mr. Rapp shared the plans formed by each school for Veteran's Day programs. He emphasized the programs were developed to help inform and educate all students to the importance of Veteran's Day. All of the schools will attempt to involve students and local veterans in the observance activities. Congressman John Hostettler will speak at two of the schools. The high school will include a 21-gun salute with 105-mm cannons to be conducted by the Indiana National Guard from Evansville. All of the programs were to be very impressive.

DTN Weather Center

Mr. Wood gave a brief demonstration on the DTN Weather Center recently placed in the office on a 30-day trial basis. The DTN Weather Center is a satellite system providing unlimited access to comprehensive weather information for the national, state and local area. The system updates the radar summary every 15 minutes, thus enabling the tracing of storms and weather systems. The NOAA warning and alerts also appear on the system. Mr. Wood showed the Board how to zoom in on a storm front in our local area. This service will provide accurate weather information for the immediate safety of the operation of the school district.

State Board of Accounts Audit

Mr. Rapp informed the Board that on Tuesday, October 27, 1998, Mrs. Barbara Matthews, of the State Board of Accounts, walked into the office at 8:00 a.m. to begin the process of auditing Corporation financial records. This process takes place every two years. Mrs. Matthews will probably be here until the first of the new year.

Professional Leave Requests

Kelly Stone – Attend the Indiana School Counselor Assoc. Conference in Indianapolis November 19,20 (Thurs/Fri)

Nick Eckert – Attend seminar on strengthening physical education programs in Indianapolis on December 15 (Tues)

Terri Palmer and Jennifer Schroeder – Attend Midwest Band Directors Conference in Chicago on December 16-18 (Wed-Fri)

Spell Bowl and Academic Coach Resignation – Linda Reising

Mr. Rapp regretfully informed the Board he had received a letter from Linda Reising resigning as Spell Bowl and Academic Coach at North Posey Junior High School, effective at the close of the 1998-99 school year. On a motion by Mr. Buecher, seconded by Mr. Seibert, the motion unanimously passed.

Next Board Meeting

Mr. Rapp set the next regular Board meeting for Monday, December 14, 1998. There will be an Executive Session at 5:30 p.m., followed by the regular meeting at 6:15 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further school business to come before the Board at this time, President Baehl entertained a motion to adjourn. Said motion was made by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Buecher, and unanimously carried. The meeting was officially adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Michael A. Baehl
Michael A. Baehl

Timothy K. Buecher
Timothy K. Buecher

Larry O. Lewis
Larry O. Lewis

Mark J. Seibert
Mark J. Seibert

Kathy A. Mauck
Kathy A. Mauck

**Board of Education
MSD of North Posey County**