

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
VIGO COUNTY SCHOOL CORPORATION
WEST VIGO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-CONFERENCE CENTER
501 OLIVE STREET
MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 2020
6:05 P.M.

APPROVED
RETT

MINUTES

A meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Vigo County School Corporation was held at the West Vigo Conference Center, 501 Olive Street, West Terre Haute, Indiana on Monday, August 10, 2020.

The following Board Members were present: Dr. Susan Powers, Ms. Rosemarie Scott, Mrs. Joni Wise, Mr. Joseph Irwin, Mr. Paul Lockhart, Mr. Melvin Burks, and Ms. Jackie Lower.

Meeting Called to Order

Dr. Powers moved for approval to open the regular meeting. Mr. Burks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Vision, Mission, and Core Values

Mr. Irwin read the VCSC Vision, Mission, and Core Values which states: Our Vision is “Working together with our community, we inspire our students to discover their talents and rise to their greatest potential.” Our Mission is “Building on the strengths of our diverse community, we create an engaging, comprehensive educational environment that supports the growth of lifelong learners.” Our Values are: we are committed to always asking/answering: “What is in the best interest of each student?”; leading by example, we are committed to personal accountability and work habits, honesty, and respect; we are committed to a safe, secure, and welcoming environment; we are committed to practices of inclusive excellence that value differences; we are committed to respecting the voice of all district stakeholders through collaborative engagement; and we are committed to developing students who improve the quality of life for the Wabash Valley.

First Call for Citizens Comments

No comments were received.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Burks moved for approval of the Consent Agenda. Ms. Lockhart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The following Consent Agenda items were approved:

1. Minutes – Regular Meeting – August 10, 2020
2. Finance Reports
 - a. July Financial Report
 - b. July Encumbrance Report

- c. Financial Summary of ECA Activity January 1, 2020 – May 31, 2020
- d. In-Services/Committee Activities
- e. Stipends

Accounts Payable Docket

Mr. Irwin shared that the Finance Committee met on Friday to discuss claims and all questions were sufficiently answered by Ms. Wilson.

Mr. Lockhart moved for approval of the Accounts Payable Docket. Mrs. Wise seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Donations

Superintendent Haworth requested approval of the following donations:

- a. Backpack Fund - Vigo County Education Foundation
- b. Rio Grande School – Novelis Corporation
- c. United Way/Community Foundation Emergency COVID-19 Relief Fund

Dr. Powers moved for approval of the donations. Ms. Lower seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Irwin thanked everyone for their generous donations.

Personnel Report

Mr. Cox requested Board approval of the amended Personnel Report.

Mr. Burks moved for approval. Mrs. Wise seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Haworth shared that we took a step in completing our strategic plan and he introduced Mr. Matthew McClendon, VCSC first director of Civility, Diversity, and International Exchange Program. He also shared that Mr. McClendon is a native of Louisville, Kentucky, and holds a master's degree in educational and counseling psychology from the University of Louisville and is completing a PhD in educational leadership and organizational development, also at the University of Louisville.

Currently, McClendon develops and implements programming for first-generation, low-income, and/or disabled students at the University of Louisville. He has a strong background in counseling children with mental and behavioral health needs as well as experience in K-12 school settings.

He is married to Angelica McClendon, a Career/Technical Education teacher at the high and middle school levels in Louisville.

Resolution for COVID-19 Shutdown

Superintendent Haworth read a resolution and requested approval regarding payment of wages if school closure happens due to COVID-19.

Mr. Irwin shared that this resolution is a "IF" to protect our employee paychecks. Dr. Powers shared that this is to allow for fast action if needed.

Dr. Powers moved for approval. Mr. Burks seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Grant

Permission was requested for approval of the following grant:

10% CARES Set Aside Grant – Dr. Karen Goeller

Ms. Lowers moved for approval. Mrs. Wise seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Second Call for Citizens Comments

Ms. Jodi Buckallew, VCTA President, shared that last year VCSC supported the “Wear Red for Ed” for teacher compensation and wages. This year she asked that we support and declare “Red for Ed” on Wednesdays for the safety of staff and students. The Board thanked Ms. Buckallew for her comments.

Information from Board Members and Superintendent Haworth

Superintendent Haworth shared that there has been a great responsibility that has been given to local control on the safety of staff and students. This leads him to believe that the state has great confidence in us, and he would ask that this confidence be extended in other areas as well. He also presented a Dashboard for our district that shows our current enrollment and the number of staff that we have in the district. The Dashboard also would show the number of students and staff who test positive and the number of students and staff that are actively quarantined within 14 days of contact with our schools. He shared that we would like to use this information in the dashboard to let us know if we are able to move forward. He also shared that being quarantined does not mean that you are positive, it just means that you have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive. Our ability to continue face-to-face instruction depends upon the number of staff that test positive or are quarantined. Superintendent Haworth requests approval to put in place local systems to evaluate how we are doing on safety and security by providing a dashboard every Wednesday to the community.

Mr. Burks moved for approval. Dr. Powers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Haworth shared that our athletic department in Vigo County was flagged as hotspots, and in order to continue, we need help from the community. He asked that if you attend any events, inside or outside, please make sure you are masked and socially distanced, and when the event is over, to please leave the facility immediately. If we abide by these rules, the students may continue to have a season. He also shared that we have had multiple breakouts in some of our athletic teams and in some of our schools there has been none. In order to continue, we must make the right choices now.

Mr. Lockhart asked if we could pass a resolution for “Red for Ed”. Mr. Irwin and Superintendent Haworth shared that it will be on the agenda at our next Board meeting.

Mrs. Wise made a plea to parents and guardians asking them to not have big parties and sleepovers because this is where the large number of cases are coming from. This places everyone at risk and the possibility of the school year being altered.

Mr. Irwin shared that the next Board meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2020, at VCSC Conference Center.

Adjournment 6:27 P.M.

Approved:

Joseph H. O'Connell President

Sean O'Connell Vice. President

Jacpie Lower Secretary

Michael L. Burke Member

Rosemary Scott Member

Paul P. O'Connell Member

Kevin Member