

**Frontier School Corporation**

126 E Main St  
Chalmers, IN 47929

**School Board Meeting**

**Regular Meeting of the Board of School Trustees**  
Monday, September 21, 2020

**OCT 26 2020**

**APPROVED**

**Present:** President JC Copas, Vice President Steve Christopher, School Board Member Shelley Christopher and School Board Member Andie Mears.

**Absent:** Secretary Laura Bell

**Also Present:** Superintendent Dan Sighting, Attorney Robert Little, and Treasurer Cortney Parrish

President Copas called the Meeting to order at 7:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Routine Business**

Steve Christopher moved to approve the agenda with addition of 10.9 -Approve Indian Trails Career Cooperative Amended Vocational District 10 Agreement, the deletion of 7.6-Frontier School Corporation Solar Array Cost Increase, 8.2-Resignations, 9-Field trips, and tabling of 10.7.1-Policy 2266-Non Discrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities. Andie Mears seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Andie Mears moved to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Board of School Trustees held August 17, 2020. Steve Christopher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Andie Mears moved to approve the Revenue Report as presented. Shelley Christopher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Steve Christopher moved to approve the Appropriation Report as presented. Andie Mears seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Shelley Christopher moved to approve the Fund Report as presented. Andie Mears seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Shelley Christopher moved to approve the Bank Reconciliation Report as presented. Steve Christopher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Andie Mears moved to approve the 2017 G.O. Bond Report as presented. Shelley Christopher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Andie Mears moved to approve the 2020 Bond Report as presented. Shelley Christopher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Andie Mears moved to approve the September claims as presented. Shelley Christopher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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**Technology Report**

Mr. Hoover reported that the Technology team is very busy this school year. They have completed over 400 requests so far, which is 25% of the number of tickets completed last school year. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade student devices were reset. Patching continues to be one of the biggest tech issues to complete. We've held 389 Zoom meetings since the start of school. We've had great news concerning funding via the GEER Grant. Mr. Hoover has already begun meeting with the staff to determine possible courses of action.

**Elementary Report**

Mrs. Bordner was unable to attend, so Mr. Sichtung played a recorded presentation summarizing NWEA data for the Elementary students. Mrs. Bordner is encouraged because we knew there would be gaps in where the students should be vs. where they are, but gaps are not as large as we had feared. The staff is doing a great job remediating students.

**Jr-Sr High Report**

Mrs. Layton presented NWEA data for the Jr/Sr. High School students. Mr. Hettinger remarked that there is a lot of work that needs to be done to get our math scores where they need to be.

Mr. Hettinger reported that everyone is pulling their weight in Covid-19 mitigation. Students are, for the most part, adhering to mask wearing, social distancing, locker access schedules, and lunchroom assigned seating. Each teacher has a seating chart for contact tracing. The start and end of days have been altered to allow for the least amount of contact. Mr. Layton organized the Erin's Law Presentation via Zoom. Professional development has been focused on distance learning and technology instruction. Two teachers should be back from maternity leave soon, which will help with the substitute shortage. Frontier Jr/Sr. High has three new teachers, and Mr. Hettinger has heard good things about all of them. The new teachers have been assigned mentors. SRI testing is coming up to test reading growth and progress. Homecoming week is coming up as well. Mr. Hettinger hopes to make it as "normal" as possible taking Covid precautions into account. The Powderpuff game is on Wednesday, September 30, 2020.

**Athletics and Transportation Report**

Mr. Burgess was absent

**Counselor's Report**

Mrs. Bassett reported that there are 13 high school students in virtual school this year. We had an issue with attendance in the beginning, so an attendance policy has been put in place. There are 8 junior high students in virtual school this year. The 20 elementary students attending virtually had a rough start because the company we used did not want to start until after Labor Day. Seven of the elementary students will return to in person attendance at the beginning of the next nine weeks. October 14, 2020 is the PSAT. It is College GO Week, and Mrs. Bassett has been exploring different ways to get the students educated and involved in the college application process.

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**Maintenance Report**

Mr. Peterson thanked Benchmark Mechanical and his staff for helping to complete over 150 help desk tickets.

At the High School:

- All damaged entrance doors have been repaired
- Electricians have been repairing bad light fixtures
- Compressors in Jr High area have been replaced or repaired
- Awaiting a quote for boiler repair

At the Elementary School:

- Replaced garbage disposal
- Replaced sink heater
- East entrance door thresholds were replaced
- Chiller was repaired
- Reach-in freezer and refrigerator seals were replaced

**Superintendent Report**

Mr. Sighting reported starting next week the solar array will begin to ramp up quickly. There is an issue with pricing not being locked in due to White County shutting down during the permitting process. Both compressors in the rooftop unit have been replaced, and the bugs are being worked out of the system. The HVAC project is winding down as the punch list is being completed. The ballfield restroom project is close to being ready to bid out. Frontier School Corporation is going to need to buy a new maintenance truck fairly quickly because the current truck's engine is failing and not worth repairing. We are awaiting quotes from the State's QPA vendor.

**Budget/Finance**

Mr. Sighting presented the September FY 2021 state tuition support distribution. We are currently being overfunded by 21 students. The CTE grant is up significantly. The Special Education Grant is still up in the air. We should expect reconciliation at the end of November or December.

Mr. Sighting published our budget in Gateway, and presented his numbers for the upcoming budget. Mr. Sighting expects our tax rate to be similar, but maybe a little higher. The required budget hearing for 2021 was held. There was no public question or comment. President Copas called the hearing to a close.

Mr. Sighting presented the School Bus Replacement Plan and Resolution, and recommended that we replace a mini-bus this year. Andie Mears made a motion to approve the Bus Replacement Plan. Shelley Christopher seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Sighting presented the Capital Projects Plan and Resolution, and recommended that we purchase a maintenance truck, skid steer, and building projects. Andie Mears made a motion to approve the Capital Projects Plan. Shelley Christopher seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

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Mr. Sighting presented a board resolution for purchasing gift cards for Teacher Appreciation. Andie Mears made a motion to approve the purchase of gift cards for the teachers. Shelley Christopher seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Sighting presented the 2019-2020 Extra-Curricular Accounts from the Elementary and the Jr/Sr. High Schools. Steve Christopher made a motion to approve the ECA Accounts for 2019-2020. Andie Mears seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Sighting recommended the approval of Microsoft Windows and Office license renewal. Andie Mears made a motion to approve the renewal. Shelley Christopher seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**Personnel**

Mr. Sighting presented recommendations for hire:

- Chris Peterson-Frontier School Corporation Maintenance Director with a graded pay raise schedule
- Shawn High-Frontier School Corporation Maintenance Assistant with a graded pay raise schedule
- Deb Longfellow- Frontier Elementary Study Table Supervisor at \$8.86/hr.

Steve Christopher made a motion to approve the hires. Andie Mears seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Sighting presented the maternity leave for Amanda Szabela from on or about 08/05/20 to on or about 10/05/20. Steve Christopher made a motion to approve the maternity leave. Andie Mears seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Sighting presented the extra-curricular recommendations:

- Frontier Elementary ECA Activity A: Recycling Club- ½ Sherry Banes
- Girls' Varsity Volleyball Assistant-Isaac Chang
- Frontier Elementary ECA Activity A: Recycling Club- ½ Michelle Culver
- Fall Strength & Conditioning- Derek Dean
- Elementary School Choir-Maurice Plains
- Elementary Band-Donald Short
- Elementary Yearbook-Danielle Sighting
- Volunteer Assistant Wrestling Coach-Jac Sproles
- Frontier Elementary Activity B: Gardening Club- Brittany Yoder

Steve Christopher made a motion to approve the extra-curricular appointments. Andie Mears seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Sighting presented recommended that we change the workday for Larry Hughes from four to five hours per day, due to Covid, to allow for the receipt of life insurance. Andie Mears made a motion to approve the increase in workday hours. Shelley Christopher seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

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**Field Trips**

None.

**Other Business**

Mr. Sighting presented the September 2020 donations from IU Heath Arnett and free books for kindergarten students. Andie Mears made a motion to approve the donations. Shelley Christopher seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Sighting presented the FFY 2021 Frontier School Corporation Secured School Safety Grant for approval. Andie Mears made a motion to approve the grant. Steve Christopher seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Sighting presented the 2020-2021 Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund Grant. Component 1 allows us \$100,000 to spend on technology equipment. Component 2 allows for professional development and stipends for putting together an Educator Capacity Plan centered around distance learning as well as a Digital Leadership Culture training, and Social-Emotional Learning Training. Andie Mears made a motion to approve the grant. Shelley Christopher seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Sighting presented the Frontier Elementary School Improvement Plan. Andie Mears made a motion to approve the Improvement Plan. Shelley Christopher seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Sighting presented the re-adoption of the Teacher Appreciation Grant to provide highly effective teachers with 25% more stipend than effective teachers. Andie Mears made a motion to re-adopt the Teacher Appreciation Grant. Shellie Christopher seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Sighting commented that the Frontier School Corporation Report Card is currently embargoed.

Mr. Sighting presented the Board Policies for second reading and adoption

**TABLED:** Policy 2266-Non Discrimination on the basis of sex in Education Programs or Activities

Policy 2370.05-Virtual Education Program

Policy 8450.01-Protective Facial Coverings during Pandemic/Epidemic Events

Steve Christopher made a motion to adopt policies 2370.05 and 8450.01. Andie Mears seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Sighting asked for approval of the amendments to the 2020-2021 Frontier School Corporation Non-Certified Handbook. Several sections were inadvertently omitted. Steve Christopher made a motion to approve the amendments. Andie Mears seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Sighting presented the amended Vocational District 10 Agreement for Indian Trails Career Cooperative. Andie Mears made a motion to approve the amended agreement. Steve Christopher seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

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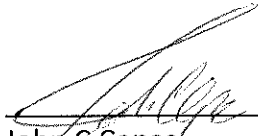
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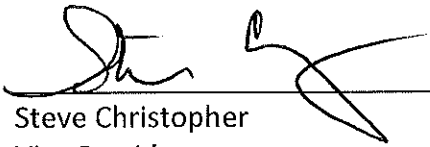
**Public Testimony**

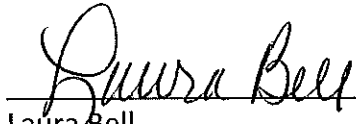
None given.


Steve Christopher made a motion to adjourn. Andie Mears seconded the motion.


The next Regular Meeting of the Board of School Trustees will be held on Monday, October 26, 2020 at 7:00 pm at the Frontier Elementary School Library.

  
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John C Copas  
President

  
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Steve Christopher  
Vice President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura Bell  
Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Mears  
Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Shelley Christopher  
Member