

Regular Meeting of the Board of School Trustees
Monday, January 21, 2019

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 Sichting, Attorney Robert Little and Treasurer Melissa Summers.

President Copas called the meeting to order in the Frontier Elementary School library at 7:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Routine Business

Steve Christopher moved to approve the agenda and agenda changes as presented for the Monday, January 21st, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Andie Mears seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The board will review December 17, 2018 minutes, January 10, 2019 Reorganization minutes, and January 10, 2019 Board of Finance minutes at next month's board meeting.

Andie Mears moved to approve the Revenue report and Steve Christopher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Andie Mears moved to approve the Bank Reconciliation reports and JC Copas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The board will review the 2017 G.O. Bond Monthly record at next month's board meeting.

Andie Mears moved to approve the December claims from APV 10817 to 10962 totaling \$1,184,739.76 and January claims totaling \$152,766.36 with APV numbers 10975-10979. Steve Christopher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Technology Report

David Hoover stated that power outages destroyed server and will need to be permanently replaced. Windows 10 bids have been obtained and will be done in fall along with training the teachers. Mr. Hoover stated that wiring bids are expected within the next few months. Mr. Hoover explained that the security cameras that were installed can't all be seen, and he is looking at other options, like alternative software, so everyone can see the cameras.

Elementary Report

Carmen Bordner advised the board that Kindergarten Round is March 19 and testing days are April 3rd and 4th. Principal Bordner stated that Kindness week begins this week and Dr. Goodman will be visiting the school tomorrow and the Statewide Readiness test is also this week. The textbook adoption committee will be going to the textbook caravan on Wednesday, January 23rd, 2019. From Stephany Lemenager: Spell Bowl member

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Brayden Stevens, 6th grade, scored the highest cumulative score and was the first member of her class to do so.

Jr-Sr High Report

Jeff Hettinger shared that the PBL super challenge went well and the kids did a good job. Thank you to Laura Bell for judging. ISTEP boot camp starts on Wednesday, January 23, 2019. Activity period will be organized over a 5-week period with specific information and computer adaptive, that will prepare students for the test style. Mr. Hettinger stated that the appropriate staff will attend the textbook Caravan on Tuesday. Mrs. Newcom's personal finance class will begin spring break planning and her business class is learning about the Meyers-Briggs and using it to become better leaders. He also shared that Mrs. Culver-Pekny's Pre-Pak students had recently passed the Serve Safe Certification at a rate of 100%. Mr. Hettinger stated that Thursday is Senior night for girl's basketball and last Saturday was a conference meet for wrestling. All that competed in wrestling were conference champions. Wrestling sectionals are this weekend.

Athletics and Transportation Report

Supt. Sighting stated there is a shortage of bus drivers and he is having a hard time finding substitute bus drivers. Due to shortage, no bus drivers are available for field trips. He also stated 100% of fleet on road and on time. Transportation is also in good shape with budgets.

Jr./Sr. High Guidance Report:

Supt. Sighting shared that there are 13 individuals on the ISTEP board. Those students that are unable to pass the test will be going to boot camp. Preregistration will start with Juniors down to 6th grade.

Maintenance Report

Supt. Sighting (Jeremy Martin was not in attendance) stated that the heating and cooling is working with the locker room needing additional work. New condensing boilers and LED lighting were placed last year. The utility expenses have declined by approximately \$30,000. Last year the school spent \$100,000-120,000 and now it is down to \$70,000 due to improvements and the weather.

Superintendent Report

Supt. Dan Sighting stated that there was a faith-based leaders meeting to start conversation of Referendum, top ten tax payers and then phone survey. Mr. Sighting will be having a MASE trust meeting. He will be meeting tomorrow with Jill Woods about dyslexia. Next year the school will have to screen for dyslexia. Mr. Sighting stated that there is no funding for rapid fire. Jill Woods is training and will be a specialist for the school. Next Tuesday, there will be a meeting with area farmers and representatives from WHN for a grant discussion. There has been a sensor developed and placed in the ground to attempt to establish test beds with FFA plot to work with area farmers. The Wabash Heartland Innovation Network (WHIN) had received approximately forty eight (\$48) million dollars from the Eli Lilly Foundation. A Regional Cultivation Fund has been established with approximately nine (\$9) million dollars of the Eli Lilly Foundation grant. Frontier School Corporation is looking to apply for a Regional Cultivation Planning Grant. The Wabash Heartland Innovation Network had established a planning grant for area agencies.

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Budget/Finance

Mr. Sighting advised Melissa Summers to transfer \$1,875. 13 from Medicaid fund to the Educational Fund. No vote was required. Mr. Sighting reviewed 2018 tax settlements. He stated we didn't collect what was expected on property tax settlement. Mr. Sighting discussed that the total 2018 tax collections demonstrate a shortage of \$135, 818. 97. The overall loss was \$68,077.72 and he stated that the school can't spend full amount of revenue. He advises we will need to monitor tax collections. Mr. Sighting requests \$13,620 for the installation of the baseball and softball scoreboards. He recommends to move forward with the project and that it not exceed \$13,620. Andie Mears moved to approve the motion and Steve Christopher seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Personnel

Steve Christopher moved to approve the resignations from Lea Overman (Elementary Instructional Asst.), and Micaela Bushman (Elementary Study Table Supervisor). Andie Mears seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Steve Christopher moved to approve the hiring of Ciera White (Girl's Basketball head 9th grade coach-one half of stipend) and Deb Longfellow (Elementary Study Table Supervisor). Andie Mears seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Andie Mears moved to approve the contract extension of Supt. Dan Sighting and Steve Christopher seconded the motion.

Other Business

Steve Christopher moved to approve the disposal of Family and Consumer Science department's surplus equipment. The department received a grant and donation to replace the equipment. Andie Mears seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Andie Mears moved to approve the December Donations. Shelly Christopher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Steve Christopher moved to approve the North Central Health Services Resilient Youth Initiative Planning Grant of \$30,000. The grant must be used before the end of May. It can be used for after school services and substance abuse. Andie Mears seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Supt. Dan Sighting made board aware of LEA findings and stated that no Special Education funding will be cut for Frontier School Corporation.

Mr. Sighting recommended reading over revised policies twice before adoption. He reminded the board that revisions were due to changes in case law or Indiana statutes or codes. There was no discussion today and will be on February agenda.

Andie Mears moved to again approve the Transfer of LIT from education to rainy day fund. Steve Christopher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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Steve Christopher moved to again approve the transfer of funds from the operations to rainy day fund. Andie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Andie Mears moved to approve the board to authorize Frontier School Corp. Treasurer to pay additional claims for January prior to the end of January.


Supt. Dan Sighting gave a presentation on school funding and operating referendum. He stated he wanted to maintain a corporation with a graduation rate of 92.31 % (ours is up), over 60 % of our seniors graduated with academic honors diploma, IRead scores are >92 %, save money for parents by offering tuition assistance. Frontier is ranked 319th in the state and only receives \$5, 613 per student and there are 4 virtual charter schools that receive more money than Frontier. Frontier is unable to compete (both salaries and health insurance) to keep teachers. The referendum will be tax neutral due to debt coming off.

Mrs. Lindsay Zimmer who teaches Science at Frontier Jr.-Sr. High School indicated the prairie grass in an area behind the school had become too dense and needed to be thinned out. Mrs. Zimmer is looking to conduct a controlled burn of the prairie grass. Mrs. Zimmer inquired to the groups she needed to speak with about the controlled burn. Superintendent Sighting suggested Mrs. Zimmer speak to School Resource Officer Jim Davis and the Chalmers Volunteer Fire Department about assistance with the controlled burn. The Frontier School Corporation School Board thanked Mrs. Zimmer for her efforts.

Steve Christopher moved to adjourn the meeting. Andie Mears seconded the motion, and the motion passed.




John C Copas
President



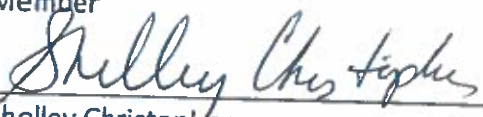
Steve Christopher
Vice President



Laura Bell
Secretary



Robert Mears
Member



Shelley Christopher
Member