Frontier School Board of Trustees

School Board Meeting September 18, 2017

President JC Copas, Secretary Laura Bell, members Don Mills, and Andie Mears were present. Also present were Superintendent Dan Sichting, Attorney Bob Little, and Treasurer Jody Morgan. Vice President Steve Christopher was not present.

The pledge of allegiance was recited and the meeting started.

Mr. Sichting had some additions to the agenda. The additions were 7.9 Logisoft contract for Technology, 10.4.7 Technology Resources board policy, and 10.4.19 Food Service board policy. Laura Bell made a motion to approve the additions to the agenda. Don Mills seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Laura Bell made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 16<sup>th</sup> board meeting as they were presented. Andie Mears seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Laura Bell made a motion to approve the treasures revenue report. Don Mills seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Laura Bell made a motion to approve the bank reconciliation statements for August. Andie Mears seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Laura Bell to approve the balance of the August claims, APV numbers 9209 - 9227, and the September claims APV numbers 9228 – 9306. The motion also includes the August 22nd and September 6<sup>th</sup> payrolls. Andie Mears seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

## **TECHNOLOGY REPORT**

The Technology department has provided devices to  $5^{th}-12^{th}$  grades. We are working with ENA to upgrade the internet connections: We would like to take the Jr/Sr High from 100 mbps to 300 Mbps, the Elementary from 50 Mbps to 100

**School Board Meeting** 

OCT 1 6 2017

Mbps. This should help bandwidth-heavy times like testing. The new bandwidth rates will be 30x what they were when Mr. Hoover started with Frontier and it will only cost 5.5% more. Fifty-one Chromebooks are out for repairs. Eighteen of these were user damage and thirty-three were equipment problems. Student accounts were created for Vimme, GoMath, SRI, NWEA, and all new students received a Chromebook and an email.

### **ELEMENTARY REPORT**

Mrs. Bordner reported that the Elementary is finishing with NWEA testing. The White County Community Foundation has awarded the Elementary funds to help purchase the Accelerated Reader for  $\mathbf{1}^{st} - \mathbf{6}^{th}$  grades. The Elementary will use the Lilly Planning Grant to help gain C.L.A.S.S. instruction through Brain to Brain teaching. B2B teaching is an online portal designed to deliver professional development to teachers that is based on brain research. There have been several ECA clubs started. There will be a mentor meeting thanks to Jill Layton. We are still and always looking for mentors. Some staff members have attended Google Boot Camp training. There are several field trips coming up for each grade level.

## JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL REPORT

Mrs. Layton reported for Mr. Hettinger as he was involved in the Honor Flight and could not make the meeting. There are many activities this week for homecoming. All of the Jr/Sr High School activities are on the activity calendar. There are many upcoming events. October 10<sup>th</sup> is the end of the nine weeks.

# TRANSPORTATION/ATHLETIC REPORT

We have two new bus drivers and they are doing very well. We have added a mini-bus driver to take students to Twin Lakes for classes that they are taking over there. Athletic teams are doing very well. The Cross Country team is doing good with the girl's team usually at the top. The Volleyball team won the White County tourney for the seventh time in a row. Their record is 15-4. Football is doing well and their record is 4-1. All sectionals will be in October.

## **SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT**

Mr. Sichting reported that Friday is the official count day for our state funding. Last fall we had 671 students, last spring we had 666. Our count today was 674. We turned in an estimate of 647 so we will see an adjustment in our payment after the sign off period for the official count. The summer school report has been turned in, we will have to wait and see if they give us the full amount we requested. The formative assessment grant was turned in. The chiller is not working at the Elementary. Jeremy has been working on that. We will have all air handlers online by the end of October. Four to five classrooms have had all of their lights changed out. Brand has worked on the new light at the High School for the parking lot. The ECA audit took place last week and everything came out fine. IStep results have been released; Frontier has the highest in the county for Math, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest in Language Arts only missing 2-3%. Frontier is the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest in the area with West Lafayette being number one.

#### **BUDGET HEARING**

A budget hearing for the 2018 budget was held. Mr. Sichting went over all of the numbers for the proposed budget. There were no comments from the public, and the Budget hearing was closed.

## **BUDGET/FINANCIAL**

Andie Mears made a motion to adopt the Capital Projects 2018 budget. Laura Bell seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The 2018 Bus Replacement budget calls for purchasing one full size bus and one mini-bus. After that we are not scheduled to purchase another bus for three years. Laura Bell made a motion to approve this budget. Andie Mears seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The Bus Replacement plan also calls for using \$30,000 to pay the contracted driver out of the budgeted funds. Laura Bell made a motion to approve this expense in the Bus Replacement budget. Andie Mears seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sichting went over the tuition support payment that we have been seeing and what we will be seeing. There will be an increase due to the average daily membership but there will be a decrease in the Vocational Grant, Special Education Grant and the Complexity Grant.

The 2017-2018 Title I grant was approved and we will be receiving more funds this year than we did last year. The Title I grant is used to provide Title I programming for the Title I students at Frontier Elementary.

Mr. Sichting presented the board with an agreement with Maverick Sales Solutions, Inc. The board approved to continue to participate in the Northwest Indiana Educational Service Center natural Gas Supply program. Maverick Sales has been chosen as the consultant for this service. Since Frontier was a member of the Northwest IN Education Service Center we have saved \$19,155.04 in natural gas purchases. Laura Bell made a motion to approve this agreement. Andie Mears seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

There was an agreement with The Fountain Trust Company presented to the board. This agreement was to continue to do payroll through their bank. Andie Mears made a motion to approve this agreement. Don Mills seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Hoover presented the board with a license purchase order with Logisoft. This is an annual fee for their services. Don Mills made a motion to approve this purchase order. Andie Mears seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

## **PERSONNEL**

Mr. Sichting requested that the board terminate a bus driver effective Wednesday August 9, 2017. Don Mills made a motion to approve this recommendation. Andie Mears seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

There were two resignations presented to the board. Allison Marquis who was an Elementary paraprofessional, and Karson McHenry the Jr. High Cheer coach, both resigned their position. Laura Bell made a motion to approve these

resignations. Andie Mears seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Hettinger recommended to the board they hire Mr. Paul Brewer for High School Special Education. Andie Mears made a motion to approve this recommendation. Don Mills seconded the recommendation and the motion passed unanimously.

Laura Bell made a motion to approve the following ECA sponsors; Sherry Banes, half of the Elementary Recycling Club, Paula Bulla, half of the Elementary Student council, Michelle Culver, half of the Elementary Recycling Club, Stepheny Lemenager, Spell Bowl Sponsor, Gretchen Longfellow, half of Elementary Student Council and the Elementary Yearbook, Donald Short, Elementary Band, Cory Tonnsen, Disc Golf Club, Kate Jones, Volunteer Cross Country Coach. Andie Mears seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Hettinger recommended Melissa Gregorovic and Susan Burden share the mentor responsibilities for Mr. Paul Brewer. Laura Bell made the motion to approve this recommendation. Andie Mears seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Laura Bell made the recommendation to approve Michaela Benitez and Gavin Gordon to serve as tutors at the Elementary for study tables. Andie Mears seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

# **FIELD TRIPS**

Miss Pitts and the FFA presented the board with two overnight field trips for learning leadership skills. Andie Mears made a motion to approve both of these field trips. Laura Bell seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Sichting requested approval from the board to distribute Purdue University Tuition credits. These can be used by staff members that meet the criteria and are selected. Don Mills made a motion to approve the vouchers from Purdue

University. Andie Mears seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

There were three donations made to the schools. Elden and Mary Lee Gutwein donated \$250.00 to the Elementary Art department. Various individuals and businesses donated money to the Jr/Sr High Cheerleaders for tumbling mats. White County Pork Producers donated to the Jr/Sr High School FFA Chapter. Andie Mears made a motion to approve these donations. Don Mills seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the board appreciates all of the donations.

Mr. Hettinger presented the board with the Jr/Sr High School, School Improvement Plan. Laura Bell made a motion to approve this plan. Don Mills seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The board had the first reading of some new board policies. There will be a second reading and a vote at the next meeting.

Mr. Sichting presented the board with both schools ECA account summaries from the preface school year. Andie Mears made a motion to approve these finalized account records. Don Mills seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

There were no comments from the public

Andie Mears made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Don Mills seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

The next scheduled board meeting will be October 16th at the Elementary School.

President

Vice-President

Secretary

Member