EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS

DREAM IT. DO IT.

EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS
MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
MINUTES
July 20, 2021 - 6:30 p.m.

Administration Building – Board Room
1240 State Road 930 East
New Haven, IN 46774

At a meeting (in person and Zoom) held at the Administration Building, 1240 State Road 930 East, New Haven, Indiana, the Board of School Trustees of East Allen County Schools met at approximately 6:30 p.m. on July 20, 2021.

Board members present:
Mr. Todd C. Buckmaster, President
Mr. Timothy E. Hines, Vice President
Mrs. Gayle C. Etzler, Secretary
Ms. Jennifer L. Blackburn
Mrs. Paulette Nellems
Mr. Steven M. Screeton
Mr. Ronald W. Turpin

Board members absent:
None.

EACS Administrators and Association Presidents also in attendance:
Mrs. Marilyn Hissong, Superintendent
Mrs. Teresa Knoblauch, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education
Mr. Kirby Stahly, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services
Ms. Deborah Watson, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education
Dr. Patrick McCann, Chief Financial Officer
Mrs. Tina Grady, Director of Human Resources
Mrs. Wendy Hoering, Director of Development and Title I
Mrs. Cassie Lepper, Director of Special Services
Mrs. Tamyra Kelly, Public Information Officer
Mr. Keith Madsen, Director of Technology
Mrs. Jennifer Mabee, Director of Title III
Mrs. Michelle Wenglikowski, Director of Student Services
Mr. Tim Wiegand, Executive Director of Alternative and Career and Technical Education
Dr. Brad Bakle, Principal, Cedarville Elementary School
Mr. Michael Chen, Principal, Woodlan Elementary School
Ms. Patricia Meadows, Principal, Leo Junior High School
Mrs. Renita Peters, Principal, Southwick Elementary School
Mrs. Andra Kosmoski, President, East Allen Educator's Association

1.0 ROUTINE ITEMS

1.1 Call to Order

President Todd Buckmaster called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Gayle Etzler led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3 Approval of Agenda

The agenda for July 20, 2021 was approved as presented with an addendum to Consent Item 3.1 - Human Resources Report, and the addition of Information Item 5.5 – Information Regarding the Non-English Speaking Program (NESP) Grant Funds.

1.4 Recognitions

Cedarville Elementary School teacher, Ms. Karen Augustine, and her 1st grade class were selected as finalists in the 2020-2021 National Book Challenge hosted by Studentreasures Publishing. For this honor, her class will receive a $50.00 gift card, plus a published author certificate for each student. Each of the 1st grade authors were also recognized for their individual contributions to their book, “Super Special Me!”. The subject of their published book "*Super Special Me!*", is how they see themselves now and what they want to be when they grow up. They even illustrated their book!

Ms. Augustine says, “Helping to build up my 1st graders’ self-confidence was an important part of this project, celebrating ways they are unique and special….The published book, “*Super Special Me!*” is a precious keepsake that they can open and enjoy again and again.”

2.0 PUBLIC EXPRESSIONS – AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Name	Topic
Amy Frecker	Banned Books
Desiree Koger-Gustufson, Jen Schumaker, Lisa Bobay Somers, Brian Thompson, Milinda Abel, Janelle Hicks, and Denita Meyers	Reopening Plan/Mask Choice
Renee Coleman	Enrollment Issue

PRESENTATIONS

2.1 Yearly Budget (Capital Projects and Bus Replacement)

Dr. McCann reviewed the budget changes, Capital Projects, and the Bus Replacement budget and answered the board members’ questions.

2.2 Return to School Plan for Fall 2021

Superintendent Hissong reviewed the district’s Return to School Plan for the 2021-22 school year with the Board. The Board voted 6-1 to implement the plan as presented. The Board reiterated that this is a fluid plan and data will be closely monitored to make any future changes. The plan is now posted on the EACS website.

3.0 CONSENT ITEMS

Superintendent Hissong requested the Board's approval for the Consent Items as presented as follows:

3.1 Human Resources Report and Addendum
3.2 Financial Reports
3.3 Meetings and Conferences
3.4 Minutes – Executive Session – June 15, 2021
3.5 Minutes – Regular Board Meeting – June 15, 2021
3.6 Minutes – Executive Session – July 6, 2021
3.7 Minutes – Special Board Meeting – July 6, 2021
3.8 Minutes – Executive Session (Board Retreat) – July 13, 2021

Motion: That Consent Items 3.1 through 3.5, and 3.8 be approved as presented.

Motion: Turpin Second: Hines

Discussion: None.

Vote:
3.1–3.5, 3.8 - Aye: Blackburn, Buckmaster, Etzler, Hines, Nellems, Screeton, Turpin (Motion carried 7-0)

Motion: That Consent Item 3.6 be approved as presented.

Motion: Turpin Second: Screeton

Discussion: None.

Vote:
3.6 - Aye: Blackburn, Buckmaster, Etzler, Hines, Screeton, Turpin;
Abstained: Nellems (Motion carried 6-0-1)

Motion: That Consent Item 3.7 be approved as presented.

Motion: Etzler Second: Turpin

Discussion: None.

Vote:
3.7 - Aye: Blackburn, Buckmaster, Etzler, Hines, Screeton, Turpin;
Abstained: Nellems (Motion carried 6-0-1)

4.0 ACTION ITEMS

Superintendent Hissong requested the Board's approval for the Action Items as presented as follows:

21-0720-4.1 Application and Receipt of Funds for Title II, Part A: Supporting Effective

Instruction Grant

21-0720-4.2 Application and Receipt of Funds for Title IV Allocation Grant

21-0720-4.3 East Allen Career Center Textbook and Course Fees for 2021-22SY

21-0720-4.4 East Allen University Textbook and Course Fees for 2021-22SY

21-0720-4.5 Contract with Soliant for Psychology Services

21-0720-4.6 Contract with The League for the Blind and Disabled

21-0720-4.7 Applied Courses and Fees for 2021-22SY

21-0720-4.8 Contract with Star Autism Support, Inc.

21-0720-4.9 Contract with Dr. Richard VanAcker for Behavior Supports

21-0720-4.10 Resolution to Transfer Funds From Debt Services to Curricular Materials Rental Fund

Motion: That Action Items 21-0720-4.1 through 21-0720-4.10 be approved as presented.

Motion: Hines Second: Etzler

Discussion: None.

Vote:
4.1- 4.10 - Aye: Blackburn, Buckmaster, Etzler, Hines, Nellems, Screeton, Turpin (Motion carried 7-0)

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

21-0720-4.11 Memorandum of Understanding with Vincennes University Early College for 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant

Mrs. Wendy Hoering presented information to the Board.

Motion: That Discussion/Action Item 21-0720-4.11 be approved as presented.

Motion: Blackburn Second: Hines

Discussion: None.

Vote:
4.11 - Aye: Blackburn, Buckmaster, Etzler, Hines, Nellems, Screeton, Turpin (Motion carried 7-0)

21-0720-4.12 Memorandum of Understanding with the Boys and Girls Club of Northeast Indiana (21st Century Community Learning Grant)

Mrs. Wendy Hoering presented information to the Board and answered Mr. Turpin's question.

Motion: That Discussion/Action Item 21-0720-4.12 be approved as presented.

Motion: Nellems Second: Etzler

Discussion: None.

Vote:
4.12 - Aye: Blackburn, Buckmaster, Etzler, Hines, Nellems, Screeton, Turpin (Motion carried 7-0)

21-0720-4.13 Return to School Plan for Fall 2021

Superintendent Marilyn Hissong presented information to the Board.

Motion: That Discussion/Action Item 21-0720-4.13 be approved as presented.

Motion: Turpin Second: Hines

Discussion: None.

Vote:
4.13 - Aye: Blackburn, Buckmaster, Etzler, Hines, Screeton, Turpin; Against: Nellems
(Motion carried 6-1)

5.0 INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1 Conflict of Interest Statements for the 2021-22SY

5.2 Grants and Allocations – 2nd Quarter 2021

5.3 Retention Report

5.4 Health Services Report for 2020-21SY

5.5A Information Regarding the Non-English Speaking Program (NESP) Grant Funds
(Added as an addendum)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.5B Application and Receipt of Funds for Secured School Safety Grant

Mr. Doug Goeglein, Safety Specialist, provided information to the board. Ms. Blackburn thanked Mr. Goeglein and the district for having SRO officers in our buildings.

5.6 Contract with Sorensen for Sign Language Interpreting

Mrs. Cassie Lepper provided information to the board and answered Mr. Turpin's question.

5.7 Upgrade of Licensing with IXL

Mr. Keith Madsen provided information to the board and answered Mr. Turpin's question.

5.8 Purchase of Red Cat Microphones for K-8 Classrooms

Mr. Keith Madsen provided information to the board and answered the board members' questions.

5.9 Purchase of Earbuds for K-12 Students

Mr. Keith Madsen provided information to the board and answered the board members' questions.

5.10 Application for the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) for Student iPads

Mr. Keith Madsen provided information to the board and answered Mr. Buckmaster's question.

5.11 Award School Bus Bid 2021

Dr. Pat McCann provided information to the board and answered Mr. Turpin's question.

5.12 Resolution: Transfer Hoagland Property

Mr. Kirby Stahly provided information to the board.

5.13 Resolution: Transfer Woodlan Property

Mr. Kirby Stahly provided information to the board.

6.0 SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Our teachers return on Monday, August 9; our students' first day is Wednesday, August 11.

A huge thank you to the Board for their work on the Return to School Plan.

We're looking forward to the 2021-22 school year!

7.0 BOARD COMMENTS

Name	Topic
Mrs. Gayle Etzler	Glad we have the plan in focus; Is anxious for the school year to start as it is such a fun time!
Mrs. Paulette Nellems	In person schooling is the best place for most students; commented on Public Expressions (enrollment issue).
Mr. Ron Turpin	We need to be good stewards concerning the books in our libraries.

Ms. Jenny Blackburn	Agrees with what's been said about banned books; Thanked the parents for coming out and for being advocates for their children.
Mr. Steve Screeton	Agrees with what's been said about banned books; The start of a new school year is an exciting time of year. We're ready for a good opening.
Mr. Tim Hines	Agrees with what's been said about banned books; Thanked parents for coming out.
Mr. Todd Buckmaster	Thanked the parents who attended and shared tonight; We have a solid plan that's a good starting point; Would never intentionally have banned books in our libraries.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Full audio minutes are available on the East Allen County Schools website, under the School Board tab, at www.eacs.k12.in.us.

The next special board meeting of the Board of School Trustees is scheduled for Thursday, July 29, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. The next regular board meeting of the Board of School Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, August 3, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. These meetings will be held at the EACS Administration Building, 1240 State Road 930 East, New Haven, Indiana.

These minutes were approved and adopted by the East Allen County Schools Board of School Trustees on July 20, 2021.

EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

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President Secretary