

EDINBURGH COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

Edinburgh, Indiana

May 18, 2009

The Board of School Trustees met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on this date at the Administration Building, 202 S. Keeley Street, Edinburgh, IN 46124 with Cathy Hamm presiding. All members were present.

Also attending were Richard Arkanoff, Jackie Crawhorn, Shelby Bryant, Josh Hines, Chad Swift, Traci Foltz, Heather McDonald, Paula Wright, Holly Pease, Nate Stowe, Micah Heath, Bob Straugh, Mike King, Nathan King, Josh Edwards, Kevin Rockey, Melanie Jones, Brandon Dayton, Hayley Bedee, Kyle Gentry, Danielle VanGordon, Katie VanGordon, Kristen Green, Tessa Burton, Sara Bills, Rick Bechtel, and Anna King.

Everyone present was led in prayer by Mr. Streeval and the Pledge of Allegiance by Mrs. Hamm.

PRESENTATIONS

A. "Difference Maker" Award

Mr. Straugh presented the "Difference Maker" award to Bob Conlon. Mr. Straugh stated this has been a very rough year, but Mr. Conlon has made it much less stressful. Mr. Conlon stated it has been a great experience working at ECSC, and he thoroughly enjoys working with Bob and Jodie Smith. Mr. Conlon thanked Mr. Straugh and the Board for his award.

B. Recognition of Middle School Students of the Month

Mr. Edwards recognized the Middle School Students of the Month: Bailey Downton for 6th grade, Samantha Bowman for 7th grade, and Nathan King for 8th grade. Mr. Edwards stated all three students represent the school in a positive way. Mr. Edwards recognized Nathan King for being one of two middle school students taking high school Geometry. Nathan also works in the office helping Ms. Libby, and you never see him in a bad mood. Nathan is a good role model for younger students and it has been a pleasure having him at the middle school. Mr. Edwards wished Nathan the best of luck the rest of this school year and next year when he moves to the high school.

C. Recognition of Middle School Band

Nate Stowe stated he had one middle school band representative, Melanie Jones, and introduced the high school band representatives. The middle and high school band recently attended the ISMA competition and both teams received gold in their levels. Mr. Stowe stated each year he sees the bands improve their technique and how well they are working together as a team. The middle school and high school bands represent the community in a positive way, and Mr. Stowe stated he is proud of their accomplishments. During the ISMA competition, the band received comments from the judges. Some of those comments included that they were well prepared, played well, and that the middle school band was off to a great start. At the high school level there were 18 bands competing with only 5 gold medals being awarded, with Edinburgh receiving one of those medals. Mr. Streeval stated during the Alumni Banquet he noticed how full the display case in front of the Band and Choir rooms were, and stated it would be nice to have to purchase another display case to hold more awards. Mr. Streeval heard that the judges

thought the bands were doing so well that they are considering putting them in a higher level of competition next year. Mr. Stowe stated yes, that bands can be bumped up a level due to the expectations of performance for the following year. Mr. Stowe stated he is very proud of both bands. The Board congratulated Mr. Stowe and the high school and middle school bands for their successes.

D. Technology Update (Bob Straugh)

Mr. Straugh gave a presentation on current technology at Edinburgh and informed the Board of all the great, free internet resources available to both staff and students. Mr. Streeval asked if teachers are using these resources in their classrooms. Mr. Straugh stated yes, and he would put together a list of resources that teachers, students or parents can download at home. Some of the software will allow collaboration for groups of students, which will be a good tool in the classroom. Mrs. Hamm stated Mr. Straugh's enthusiasm about the available technology is great and she wants to make sure it is made available to all teachers for their individual needs. Mr. Straugh stated he already has plans for getting the resources out there. Mrs. Taulman stated she appreciates all the time Mr. Straugh has put in. Mr. Arkanoff stated Mr. Straugh puts a lot of technology in the hands of students which encourages the teachers to work on projects with the students. Mr. Straugh stated if one student likes a program they will pass on their enthusiasm to other students and teachers. The Board thanked Mr. Straugh for his presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

Mrs. Hamm invited public comments regarding agenda items. There were no public comments.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Consent Agenda

1. *Minutes of the April 20, 2009 Meeting*
2. *Claims for Payment:* Claims #8298 – #8391 and payroll dates of 4/24/09 and 5/08/09
3. *Personnel:* The non-renewal of permanent contracts for Elizabeth Miller and Steve Todd; the contract change to add Master's Degree for Ken Jewell which he received on April 25, 2009; Driver's Education Instructor contracts for Rick Bechtel and Dave Marendt with Mr. Marendt teaching the class for 30 hours at \$25 per hour and Mr. Bechtel as the driving instructor for 21 students at \$25 per hour for 6 hours per student; retirement request from Paul Hornback as East Side custodian effective the end of the day July 1, 2009; the recommendation of Donna Belding as East Side Special Education Assistant effective April 24, 2009; the resignation of Donna Belding as East Side Special Education Assistant effective May 10, 2009; the recommendation of Richard McClain as Bus Driver retroactive to April 24, 2009; and the medical leave request from Elaine Burton effective June 8, 2009 for approximately 12 weeks.
4. *Out-of-State Field Trip Request:* Bob White is requesting approval to take the Girl's Basketball players, grades 8-11, to Hannibal, MO on June 18-21, 2009. The trip will be funded through the girl's basketball fund and individually.
5. *Revision of Support Staff Handbook:* Change President's Day holiday to Good Friday
6. *Transfer Resolution:* Loan money from the bus replacement fund to the retirement debt fund and capital projects fund. These loans will be paid back by December 31, 2009.
7. *Cancellation of Old Check*

Mrs. Weddle moved and Mr. Streeval seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Taulman moved to amend the motion to remove non-renewal of permanent contracts under “personnel” from the Consent Agenda. The amended motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Streeval moved and Mrs. Weddle seconded a motion to approve the nonrenewal of permanent contracts for Steve Todd and Elizabeth Miller. Mrs. Taulman stated she hates to see the school do away with business classes, and feels this will be detrimental especially for college bound students. Mrs. Taulman stated she spoke with someone from Hauser High School that stated they did away with their business class and it was not a good thing. They are now trying to get it back in their curriculum. Mr. Hoskinson stated he took business classes in high school and feels the classes are very important. The motion to approve the nonrenewal of permanent contracts for Steve Todd and Elizabeth Miller passed 3 yes, 2 no. Mr. Hoskinson and Mrs. Taulman cast the dissenting votes.

B. Approval of Accomplished Practitioner

Mr. Arkanoff stated through principal review of Rick Bechtel’s past evaluations, along with routine observations such as those conducted as part of the Classroom Walk-Through, he is recommending that Mr. Bechtel’s performance be rewarded with Track III placement making him an Accomplished Practitioner. Mrs. Weddle moved and Mrs. Taulman seconded a motion to approve Mr. Bechtel with Track III placement. Mr. Streeval stated the placement was well deserved. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Edwards presented Mr. Bechtel with a plaque. Mr. Bechtel thanked the Board and Mr. Edwards for presenting him with this award. Mr. Bechtel stated when he and his family came to Edinburgh he felt it was going to be one stop in advancing his coaching career. Over the years he has had offers to move on to bigger opportunities, but Edinburgh became his home and he and his family did not want to leave. Mr. Edwards recognized Mr. Bechtel for all the help he has given him and stated he is a very level-headed, successful teacher who cares about the students, corporation and town.

C. Approval of Middle School Professional Development Waiver

Mr. Arkanoff stated a unique opportunity has become available to the middle school staff for Professional Development next school year. The National Middle School Education Conference is being held in Indianapolis and the organization is offering special rates for complete staff to attend. A waiver will be submitted to the Department of Education that will allow the entire middle school staff to attend the conference. If approved, November 6th will be a “no school” day for middle school students only. Mr. Arkanoff recommended approval for the middle school to participate in this unique Professional Development opportunity pending state approval. Mr. Arkanoff stated some teachers may have the opportunity to attend on multiple days, but all teachers will attend November 6th if approved by the state. Mrs. Taulman moved and Mrs. Weddle seconded a motion to approve middle school participation pending state approval. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Discussion of Attendance Policy

Mr. Arkanoff presented revisions to Policy #7.3, Attendance and Absence Policy, which will help align all three buildings with the same procedures. Mr. Hoskinson asked if it should state “absence of five accumulative days or more may require a doctor’s excuse” to make it more clear. Mrs. Weddle moved

and Mr. Hoskinson seconded a motion to approve the revision of Policy #7.3, Attendance and Absence Policy with the stated change. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Set Work Session Dates to Develop New Corporation Vision

The Board agreed by consensus to reschedule the regular June Board meeting to the 8th at 6:00 p.m.

Mrs. Hamm asked for available dates to schedule an executive session to complete the Superintendent evaluation process. It was agreed by consensus to schedule an executive session on June 15th at 5:00 p.m.

Mrs. Hamm asked for available dates to schedule a work session to develop the corporation vision. Mr. Arkanoff stated if everyone can allow 3 to 4 hours and come prepared, the Board could possibly get the vision finished in one meeting. The Board agreed by consensus to schedule a work session on July 14th at 5:00 p.m.

Mrs. Hamm asked for available dates to schedule the summer Board Retreat. The Board agreed by consensus to schedule the Board Retreat on August 6th with the time and place to be determined later.

Mr. Arkanoff asked the Board to check the tentative Budget calendar to make sure the dates worked with them. The Board agreed by consensus that the tentative Budget calendar dates were good.

Mr. Arkanoff recommended approval of five board leave days (April 10, 2009 through April 16, 2009) for Susan Dowell. Mr. Hoskinson moved and Mrs. Taulman seconded a motion to approve the requested leave days. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Arkanoff recommended approval of medical leave for Susan Dowell from April 17, 2009 through June 11, 2009. Mr. Streeval moved and Mr. Hoskinson seconded a motion to approve the requested medical leave. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Arkanoff informed the Board the 2009-2010 corporation calendar was corrected to show the last student day as May 25th and the last teacher day as May 26th.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Rockey recognized Ashley Myers with Lancer Pride. Ashley is a freshman track member and was the conference champ in the 800 and also broke her own record. Mr. Rockey also recognized the successes of the Softball team and the Golf team who had two students, Josh Buchanan and Jake Burton, make the MHC All-Conference team. Mr. Rockey commended the Band and Choir who did a nice job at their recent concert. Mr. Rockey thanked the community for all their generous donations to Dollars for Scholars. It is amazing how much money is raised each year in this small community. Mr. Rockey thanked Curtis Rooks for the recent successful bus inspections. Mr. Rooks and the drivers maintain the buses throughout the year which makes inspections go much more smoothly. Mr. Rockey commended Carol Swanson who walked through the buildings with the Fire Marshall during recent inspection.

Mr. Edwards recognized the middle school Track team, Steve Todd and Crystal Meekins with Lancer Pride. Mr. Todd and Mrs. Meekins encourages participation of students on the track team, and there are

students on the team who do not participate in other extra-curricular activities. Mr. Edwards recognized the middle school teachers for curriculum mapping. When something new is brought to the teachers they all jump in and work well together as a team. They are doing an outstanding job and Mr. Edwards stated he appreciates all their hard work. Mr. Edwards commended the 6th grade teachers who are always willing to try new technology. These teachers have brought a lot of life and innovation back into the 6th grade. Mr. Edwards stated after the recent Band and Choir concert and Art Show he was amazed at how much talent our students have. Mr. Edwards commended Julie Gacsko, Nate Stowe and Dana Chandler and stated the art work was very impressive and he can see how hard the band and choir have worked. Mr. Edwards recognized Libby Burton for all she does for the school. Parents and other visitors comment on how welcome she makes them feel, and Mr. Edwards stated she helps keep him on track throughout the year. I try to tell her every day how helpful she is and what an excellent job she does.

Mrs. Wright commended the special areas teachers, Mrs. Pease, Mr. Walker, Mrs. Shonk and Mrs. Pilcher who have given up some of their class time, for the second year in a row, to assist in testing. Giving up any class time is not easy, but it is appreciated. Mrs. Wright stated the Art Show and Spring Program was excellent and commended Mrs. Pilcher and Mr. Walker for their hard work. Mrs. Wright recognized Gail Hoffman with Lancer Pride for always keeping the office running smoothly. Mrs. Phillips doesn't know what she would do without Gail.

Micah Heath thanked Bob Straugh for all his help with incorporating technology into his classroom. Mr. Heath stated he has learned more in the past three months working with Mr. Straugh than he did his first two years as a teacher. Mr. Heath commended Mr. Edwards for praising and acknowledging both students and staff. Staff members always try to recognize and praise students, but sometimes staff members are need to be acknowledged. Mr. Heath stated he is proud to be part of the 6th grade team.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Mr. Arkanoff commended Mrs. Phillips for doing a good job this year. One example is how she handled the stress of putting together and overseeing the East Side Carnival. Added to the normal stress of this type of event, Mrs. Phillips also had to keep watch for tornados that were said to be coming through Columbus. Thankfully there were no tornados. During this event Mrs. Phillips also had to deal with other difficult issues. Through it all, Mrs. Phillips stayed calm and organized. Mr. Arkanoff recognized Josie Streeval for providing great meals at the high school and during school events. Mrs. Streeval helped during the Dollars for Scholars banquet and it was great to have her there pulling everything together. Mr. Arkanoff commended the custodial staff for all their hard work during the Dollars for Scholars and Alumni banquets. It is quite a fete to get these events pulled together. Mr. Arkanoff commended Bob Straugh for all his hard work and enthusiasm. Mr. Arkanoff acknowledged Curt Chase for his role in the ERC program. The program is doing well and there are several Edinburgh students ready to graduate. Mr. Chase and Mr. Wheeler are taking things to the next level by putting together a presentation to take to other school corporations to encourage greater student participation. Mr. Rockey stated there will be six ECSC graduates this year.

Mrs. Taulman complimented the middle and high school band members for attending tonight's meeting and stated they put on a great performance at their concert. Mrs. Taulman stated it is good to see an 8th grade student, Nathan King, taking Geometry. Mrs. Taulman commended Mr. Straugh for always showing so much enthusiasm about technology and stated she's sure that enthusiasm rubs off on students and teachers. Technology is moving so fast and it is great to hear about all the free resources available for the students and teachers. Mrs. Taulman commended Mr. Bechtel on achieving the Track III, Accomplished Practitioner level. Mrs. Taulman stated it is great to see all the good things happening with our athletic programs and hopes to see continued improvement in academics.

Mrs. Weddle thanked the school staff for all they do and stated it is a great experience being part of the school. Mrs. Weddle stated the Alumni Banquet was great and made her wish she were an Edinburgh graduate.

Mr. Hoskinson commended Mr. Straugh for his presentation and stated keeping up with technology is very important to both the staff and students. Mr. Hoskinson thanked the teachers for everything they do and stated they deserve more than what they get. Mr. Hoskinson commended Mr. Stowe and the band members and stated it was great to see the students at the meeting.

Mr. Streeval asked if Mr. Rockey or Mr. Jordan received any feedback on the Football Combine that Edinburgh hosted. Mr. Rockey stated the combine went well and was a good way to showcase our facilities. Mr. Jordan is already making plans for next year. Mr. Streeval stated he works with a gentleman who has a son going to Columbus East. The son attended the combine and they were impressed with our facilities. Mr. Streeval stated the East Side parent/staff volleyball game was a lot of fun and he was impressed with the staff cheerleaders. At one point the students were cheering for the parents and there was a lot of spirit and enthusiasm. Mr. Streeval stated at the Alumni Banquet he spoke with Pastor Smith from the Assembly of God Church. Pastor Smith had never attended the Alumni Banquet before and kept saying how great it was. Mr. Streeval recognized Josh Lollar who did an excellent job as the Mystery Guest. Mr. Lollar stated that having a small school education doesn't make you any less valuable out in the world. Mr. Lollar graduated first in his class for the Secret Service. Mr. Streeval commended Mr. Straugh on his enthusiasm and excitement and the administrators for all the good comments they've made about their staff. In the future I see the same good things happening in academics that is happening this year in athletics. Our staff should be encouraged to believe in Pride through Excellence and to always try to find ways to improve.

Mrs. Hamm stated it has been a wonderful school year and congratulated everyone involved. Mrs. Hamm stated it is always good to showcase our school and thanked Tim Jordan for arranging the football combine. Mrs. Hamm stated as a member of the Alumni Association she would like to thank the volleyball girls for all their help serving the food. They did a fantastic job and the middle school girls especially were so polite and smiling and seemed to be having a good time. Mrs. Hamm stated Edinburgh's Alumni Banquet is unique in many ways, but she feels this would be the only Alumni Banquet where you will see the school superintendent and high school principal cleaning up afterwards. Mrs. Hamm thanked Mr. Arkanoff and Mr. Rockey for attending the banquet and lending a helping hand. Mrs. Hamm recognized Mr. Rooks and stated the Alumni Banquet couldn't get done without all his help. It is a community effort, but the school and school employees makes it possible.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Streeval moved and Mr. Hoskinson seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

CATHY HAMM, PRESIDENT

ALICE TAULMAN, MEMBER

RON STREEVAL, VICE-PRESIDENT

KIM WEDDLE, MEMBER

JOHN HOSKINSON, SECRETARY