

SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART
REGULAR SESSION
August 19, 2004

The Board of School Trustees of the School City of Hobart met in regular session on August 19, 2004, in the Board Room at Hobart Middle School, 705 East 4th Street, Hobart, Indiana, with the following present or absent as noted:

Board Members

Michael J. Rogers
Jason Back
William David Bigler
Robert W. Marszalek
Stephen R. Turner
Terry D. Butler
Nancy J. Norris
HHS student representative

Staff Members

John A. Leach
Rich Edwards
Peggy Buffington
Ted Zembala
William J. Longer
Peter L. Goerges
Tony Skimehorn

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order around 7:38 p.m. by Michael J. Rogers, President of the Board.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mr. Rogers led everyone present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: As noted on the agenda, the Board met in executive session at 6:30 p.m. in accordance with I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(1) where authorized by federal or state statute; (2) for discussion of strategy with respect to: (A) collective bargaining; and (9) to discuss job performance evaluation of individual employees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: President Rogers entertained a motion for approval of the executive and regular session minutes of August 5, 2004. David Bigler so moved. Jason Back seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: The following were presented for the Board's consideration:

1. Vouchers for August 19, 2004:

The student representative, read the summary sheet of the August 19 accounts payable voucher register as follows:

General Fund - \$854,632.15,
Debt Service Fund - \$712,257.50,
Capital Projects Fund - \$67,375.26,
Transportation Operating Fund - \$41,049.97,
School Lunch Fund - \$7,017.50,
Hobart Educational Foundation Fund - \$2,372.93,
Technology Fund - \$1,265.00,
Title I Fund 2003-2004 - \$4,209.74,
Title V Fund 2003-2004 - \$298.00,
Drug Free Schools 2003-2004 - \$559.90,
Title II, Part A Fund 2003-2004 - \$1,571.24,
Title II, Part A Fund 2002-2003 - \$849.00,
Physical Education Program - \$50,093.21,
Clearing Accounts - \$496,542.35,
Clearing/Flexible Benefits - \$415.61, and
Clearing/Insurance Account - \$13,126.18

totaling \$2,253,635.54 with no transfers. The July 2004 payroll distribution by the corporation treasurer totaled \$979,931.30.

Nancy Norris moved to accept as presented. Seconded by Terry Butler seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Board members also received the following monthly financial reports dated, July 31, 2004, Summary of Balances by Account and Object, Estimated Revenue by Account, Summary of Receipts and Expenditures and Analysis by Object.

2. Safety and Asset Protection and HVAC Installation Projects at George Earle, Liberty, and Ridge View Elementary Schools and Hobart High School:
 - a. Applications for Payment:
 - 1) Continental Electric Co., Inc. - \$93,869.00
 - 2) The Lazzaro Companies, Inc. - \$72,698
 - 3) D.A. Dodd, Inc. - \$46,377
 - 4) The Pangere Corporation - \$29,072
 - 5) Lake Shore Floor Covering - \$10,158
 - 6) The Ross Group, Inc. - \$1,670

Robert Marszalek moved to approve the applications for payment as presented. Seconded by Stephen Turner. All ayes. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE: The following individuals were present in the audience:

Steve Euvino, *The Hobart Chronicle*
Karen Snelling, *Post Tribune*
Chris LaFollette, Envoy, Inc.

PERSONNEL: Ted Zembala, Business Manager, presented the following personnel items for the Board's consideration:

Retirement Resignation -

Sue Sheehy, Liberty Elementary School/3rd grade, effective August 20, 2004

Summer Service Agreements -

Hobart High School/Curriculum Development-Academy Meetings, June 22/29, 2004

Ty Artherhults, 7 hours, \$181.02; Mike James, 7 hours, \$181.02; and Ann Janda, 7 hours, \$181.02

Extra Duty Contracts -

Hobart High School:

Chris Drobac, assistant athletic trainer, August 2, 2004/March 1, 2005, \$3,225.20; Dan Merrill, assistant athletic trainer, August 2/November 1, 2004, \$580.00; Sue Berg, fall varsity cheerleading, August 2/November 27, 2004, \$768.00; Lyndsay Rosenbaum, 9th cheerleading, August 2/November 27, 2004, \$919.00; and Brett Goins, 9th football, August 2/November 27, 2004, \$1,305.00

2004-2005 Teacher Contract -

Rhiannon Jolliff, Joan Martin/1st grade, August 24, 2004/June 8, 2005, \$28,393.00

(approved at a previous meeting for a temporary contract)

Extra Duty Assignment -

Mike James, Hobart High School/assistant boys/girls cross country, effective for the 2004-2005 school year, \$1,200.00

Resignations -

Nancy Wojcik, Ridge Elementary School/Title I reading, effective August 19, 2004

Debbie Barbera, Hobart Middle School/food service, effective August 19, 2004

Maria Swelfer, George Earle School/food service, effective August 19, 2004

Mr. Zembala recommended approval and requested Board action.

Stephen Turner moved to approve. David Bigler seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Dr. Leach indicated that Mrs. Sheehy was retiring after many years of service in Hobart and that she will be invited to a meeting to be publicly recognized and presented with her gift from the Board. Also, he said that Nancy Wojcik was leaving the system because she had accepted a principalship in the Lake Ridge school district. He wished her well and indicated that she will be missed. Mr. Butler inquired whether the change in Rhiannon Jolliff's contract was because of the 3rd grade position at Liberty, and he was told that the Liberty position had been filled by a transfer of a teacher on staff from another school.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: There were no comments from the audience on the listed agenda items.

REQUEST PERMISSION TO ADVERTISE: YEAR 2005 BUDGET, CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND PLAN, AND SCHOOL BUS REPLACEMENT PLAN: Business Manager Zembala reviewed the proposed 2005 Budget with the Board as well as the Capital Projects Fund Plan and School Bus Replacement Plan. He indicated that this was the first of three meetings where the budget would be discussed. At this meeting he was seeking the Board's permission to advertise a 2005 Budget, Capital Projects Fund Plan and School Bus Replacement Plan. At the next meeting, the public hearing will be held, and at the September 16 meeting, adoption will be considered. Because of the reassessment process, there were many missing factors such as the state hasn't certified a budget, assessed valuation, tax rates, or levies for the 2004 calendar year. Another unknown was the amount of tax collections that the county has received. Board members received copies of Budget Form #3 which is the form that is advertised and includes a Notice for the establishment of a Capital Projects Fund Plan for the years, 2005-2007, and the Notice to Taxpayers for the School Bus Replacement Plan for the years--2005-2014. Mr. Zembala noted that it was imperative to advertise "a protected budget."

Using a PowerPoint presentation, he projected many "what if scenarios" for the budget and its different funds. One of the scenarios pertained to funds generated by increased enrollment. An increase of 108½ students in ADM from last year would only generate around \$2,000 more dollars, and an increase of 118 students would almost pay the salary and benefits of one new teacher. However, 177 more students would generate over \$600,000. But Mr. Zembala knew that was an unrealistic expectation. The total tax levies by fund as shown on Form #3, Notice to Taxpayers of Tax Levies, were as follows: General Fund - \$24,110,597, Debt Service Fund - \$5,391,894, Capital Projects Fund - \$1,991,547, Transportation Operating Fund - \$1,302,876, Bus Replacement Fund - \$258,000, Special Education Preschool - \$129,576, and Retirement/Severance Bond Debt Service Fund - \$336,000, which totaled \$33,520,490. Mr. Butler inquired about the rate of inflation, and Mr. Zembala responded that it's been around two percent. However, we have only seen revenues increase by about one percent. Mrs. Norris indicated that most people don't realize that there are caps for several funds such as the cap on the Capital Projects Fund and the levy amount in the General Fund, and Mr. Zembala said that the Transportation Fund has a six percent increase cap. Dr. Leach also noted that the cost of health insurance has increased around 11 percent. In his review of the budget information, Mr. Zembala indicated that the possible bond issue for retirement/severance was included due to the time lines for the budget process. Mr. Marszalek questioned the difference in the cost of substitutes in 2002 compared to 2003. Dr. Buffington noted that there was a long-time substitute who subbed for a staff member who passed away, and the substitute was not licensed in the same area as the regular teacher. Also, there were probably several long term subs used for teachers on approved leaves. Mr. Turner thanked Mr. Zembala for the graphs that he had requested and noted that the pie charts were very helpful.

Mr. Zembala requested permission to advertise.

Nancy Norris so moved. Stephen Turner seconded.

For clarification purposes, Mr. Butler asked if the motion was to approve the advertisement of the 2005 Budget, Capital Projects Fund Plan for the years 2005-2007, and School Bus Replacement Plan for the years 2005-2014, and Mrs. Norris indicated that it was. Also, Mr. Zembala reminded everyone that the public hearing will be held on September 2, and adoption of these items will be considered at the September 16 meeting.

Vote on the Motion: All ayes. Motion carried.

PROGRESS REPORT: SAFETY AND ASSET PROTECTION AND HVAC INSTALLATION

PROJECTS: Dr. Leach indicated that Chris LaFollette from Envoy, Inc. and Tony Skimehorn, Director of Support Services, were present to give the Board the final update report on phase II of the safety and asset protection and HVAC installation projects that were completed this summer. Mr. LaFollette indicated that the toilet partitions were delivered and had been installed. The metal shelving for the classrooms will not be delivered until September 7th, but installation will be done during the evenings. Johnson Control was finishing up, and the air conditioning units should be operational. Next Tuesday the architect will be working on a punch list.

In the discussion Mr. Butler indicated that he recently went on a mini-tour at the high school, and a highlight of the tour were the restrooms with the installed partitions. Mr. Skimehorn noted that a volleyball tournament was scheduled for Saturday. Mrs. Norris commented that the “open concept” of the washrooms were the cause of a large amount of complaints that Board members had received. Mr. Turner commented that from his personal past experience the restroom stalls and doors were damaged by students after they were repaired, but Mr. Skimehorn was hopeful that the new stalls would withstand any problems. Tongue in cheek, Mr. Turner asked for a report in about three months or so. Mr. Rogers asked whether the schools would be ready for teachers next Tuesday, and he was told that most everything was done. Mr. Butler noted that the renovations make the other areas stand out because of the differences. Dr. Leach indicated because of the new refurbishing those areas where ceilings and lighting weren't done are more noticeable. He complimented Mr. LaFollette and Mr. Skimehorn for all of the time and work they had done to get the projects completed. Also, Mr. Skimehorn noted that the Service Center had extensive work done this summer similar to the work done last summer in the business department at the Administration Office. Mr. Butler indicated that he noticed quite a bit of cooperation in the athletes area at the high school.

The Board thanked Mr. LaFollette and Mr. Skimehorn for their report.

RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT: INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, TITLE I

GRANT FOR 2004-2005: Dr. Edwards told the Board that the 2004-2005 Title I Grant was approved by the Indiana Department of Education. The grant totaled \$147,103.07, and he indicated that the monies will be used to continue the reading program. He noted that the Board had received detailed information about the 2004-2005 Title I grant when the Board approved the application for the grant. He indicated that many times between the grant application and its acceptance the total amount of the grant may increase. However, that was not the case this year.

Dr. Edwards requested the Board's acceptance of the grant.

Stephen Turner moved to accept the 2004-2005 Title I grant. Seconded by Robert Marszalek.

In the discussion, Mrs. Norris noted that the grant amount was less than last year's, and Dr. Edwards noted that it was about \$50,000 less and substantially less than the year before that.

Vote on the Motion: All ayes. Motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT: INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, EARLY

INTERVENTION GRANTS: The Board was told that the Indiana Department of Education had awarded the school district Early Interview Grants for each of our elementary schools totaling \$3,000. The breakdown by school was as follows: Liberty, \$500; Joan Martin, \$500; George Earle, \$1,000; and Ridge View, \$1,000. Dr. Edwards indicated that the monies would be used to pay the cost of the continuing contract for six teachers for the Reading Recovery program which costs \$500 per teacher.

Dr. Edwards recommended that the Board accept the early intervention grants totaling \$3,000.

Nancy Norris so moved. Stephen Turner seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS:

- Opening of School Information - Board members received copies of opening of school letters for the new teachers' meeting on August 24th and the all staff meeting on

August 25th. Dr. Leach invited Board members to attend either of the meetings. The first day of school for students was August 25th for ½ day in the morning.

- School Information - The Board received opening of school letters and information from George Earle and Liberty Elementary Schools and the fall sports schedule from the high school.

COMMENTS: From the administration, Dr. Leach thanked Dr. Buffington for the many hours of work she had done this past summer on several different projects and especially working with teachers in developing ISTEP packets for teachers and parents which "call attention to ISTEP testing" and its importance. He also thanked Mr. Zembala for all of his work with the budget. Dr. Edwards thanked Mr. Zembala for making the budget information "crystal clear." He extended his congratulations to Sue Sheehy on her retirement and to Nancy Wojcik on her new principalship. Dr. Buffington concurred with Dr. Edwards comments and congratulated Mr. Zembala on his PowerPoint presentation. She also extended her thanks to Chris LaFollette and Tony Skimehorn for all their work this past summer. She noted that the cardio lab looks great and that it was hard to remember that it was the old metals classroom. She also thanked the physical education department for their work with the new cardio equipment. She then invited the Board to opening day on August 24 for lunch and to see the performance of the Wavelengths who do a spoof of No Child Left Behind. Dr. Leach also extended his thanks to Mrs. Schoon and the other administration office secretaries for their efforts in assisting people in getting their children enrolled for school. Mrs. Schoon commented that almost everyone had been cordial, and it had been a nice experience even though it had been busy. Mr. Zembala indicated that he was "pleased that Dr. Edwards has seen the light."

From the Board, Mrs. Norris commented that she had seen a news article about a lawsuit that had been filed in Evansville questioning the constitutionality of book rental fees. Mr. Butler noted that he had seen that the new sign board had been installed. Mr. Skimehorn indicated that NIPSCO and Verizon have both been notified, and Continental will be hooking up the sign. Also, electricity will be added for the sign at Mundell. Once the downtown sign is operational, messages will be done from the Administration Office. Mr. Skimehorn indicated that this will save time for the maintenance person who used to change the sign as well as repair of the sign and replacing letters that were either taken off or blown off. Mr. Butler noted that the exteriors of the elementary schools looked great as did the work at the high school, and he commented that everyone had done a great job. The high school representative was looking forward to getting back to school. Mr. Marszalek extended his congratulations and appreciation to the custodial and maintenance staffs for all of their work in getting the schools cleaned and ready for the start of school. Mr. Skimehorn indicated that the custodians do a great job, and he cited an example of how the middle school custodians take care of their floors and the great shape that they are in. Mr. Rogers commended the Board and administration for the two year renovation project that was completed this summer and indicated that he was "looking forward to the next project." Even though there will be additional meetings to attend, he asked Board members to continue attending PTO meetings. He noted that the PTOs really support the schools with many adding equipment to the playground areas.

There were no comments from the audience.

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Stephen Turner and seconded by David Bigler to adjourn the meeting. President Rogers then adjourned the meeting around 8:48 p.m.

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART

BY _____
Michael J. Rogers, President

ATTEST:

BY _____
William David Bigler, Secretary

Submitted for Approval: September 2, 2004