

NOTE: These are “proposed” minutes and will not be approved until the December 11, 2018 School Board Meeting

4:00 p.m.
Administration Center

Tuesday
November 20, 2018

School Board Minutes

Current Board President David Black recently moved out of the Middlebury Community School district. Due to that fact, he resigned his position on the board on Tuesday, November 13. His York Township position was advertised by the school district. Mitch Miller was recently elected to be the future York Township School Board member to begin his term on January 8. However, he was willing to be appointed to fill the York Township Board vacancy and complete Mr. Black’s term.

CALL TO ORDER – President Joanna King called the November 20, 2018 School Board Meeting of the Board of School Trustees to order at 4:00 p.m. Paul Gayler, Robert Souder and Scott Miller were present. Others in attendance included Jane Allen, Superintendent, Robby Goodman, Assistant Superintendent, Mark Snyder, Director of Business Services, Melissa Deak, Director of Transportation and Jeff Palmer, Director of Buildings and Grounds.

BOARD REORGANIZATION – Mrs. Allen indicated the board needs to do a temporary board reorganization due to Dave Black’s resignation. Mr. Souder moved and Mr. Miller seconded a motion to elect Paul Gayler as Vice President. The motion was approved with a vote of 3-0, with Mr. Gayler abstaining.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BOARD VACANCY APPOINTMENT - Due to Dave Black’s resignation, MCS needs to appoint someone to fill his spot until December 31, 2018. Mr. Scott Miller moved and Mr. Souder seconded a motion appoint Mitch Miller to fill Dave Black’s board vacancy. The motion was approved with a vote of 4-0. Mitch Miller read the Oath of Office.

CONDUCT PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION HEARING –

- Call to Order – President Joanna King called the Preliminary Determination Hearing to order. All board members were present. Others in attendance included Jane Allen, Superintendent, Robby Goodman, Assistant Superintendent, Mark Snyder, Director of Business Services, Melissa Deak, Director of Transportation and Jeff Palmer, Director of Buildings and Grounds.
- Mrs. King: “The first item on the agenda is for the Board to hold a preliminary hearing on the proposed construction project. If you are interested in speaking at the hearing, please make sure you have signed the sign-in sheet at the back of the room, which should include your name and address. After a presentation by the administration and its advisors, there will be an opportunity for the public to make comments about the project. At the hearing, we will ask that each person limit their comments to 3 minutes and that the topic be limited to the proposed project under consideration. The Notice of this Preliminary Determination Hearing was published as legally required on November 7, 2018 in the Goshen News and the Middlebury Independent. At this time, I will ask that Jane Allen explain the purpose of this hearing.”
- Mrs. Allen: “Pursuant to Indiana Code §6-1.1-20-3.1, a school corporation must hold two public hearings and adopt a resolution to preliminarily determine to issue bonds or enter a lease for a project which has a total project cost in excess of a non-controlled project. These public hearings and the adoption of resolutions are the very beginning of the legal process. These resolutions establish the maximum financial terms for the proposed project.”

- Mrs. King: “We will now hear from Mrs. Allen about the process of determining and communication the project to the community and the need for the project.”
- Mrs. Allen: “In 2015, central office administration began discussion concerning the need for Northridge High School outdoor athletic facilities. When the current Northridge High School was constructed, there were no plans presented to build athletic facilities for football, track and field, baseball or softball. The high school athletic teams and all physical education classes have to use the outdoor facilities at the middle school for the past 10 years. It was also determined that the current facilities at the middle school were constructed 30 years ago and no major upgrades have taken place except track and bleacher upgrades at the football stadium. The NHS football team practices on the lawn of the high school and all home games are played on the current football field. All track and field, baseball and softball athletes must travel to the middle school for all practices and games. Junior varsity baseball and softball games must be played at the Middlebury Little League diamonds. The athletic department must transport teams to the diamonds and pay Middlebury Little League for the use of the diamonds for each game. All NHS physical education classes must walk to the middle school to use the track and outdoor baseball and softball fields. The NHS Marching Band practices on the high school parking lot and only uses the football field during football halftimes and for a community performance. Educational need for this project is seen as providing over 700 student facilities for physical education (331), athletics (265) and marching band (127).”

“Central office administrators determined that the land directly north of the teacher parking lot could possibly house outdoor athletic facilities for NHS. Middlebury Community Schools owns the land. A feasibility study of the land determined that it was feasible to construct facilities in that space. Knowing that debt would be falling off the current debt structure, the administration noted that constructing a football stadium with track and field facilities, baseball field, and softball field could be managed without increasing the school tax rate above the 2014 certified tax rate. At that time, the administration released talking points to the community, media, and special interest groups for public input.”

“We have attempted to put together a project that will cost approximately \$15,000,000 that can be completed by the fall of 2020. We have proposed to raise the funds through the sale of bonds and structuring the debt to reflect the debt falling off due to payment of current debt.”

- Mrs. King: “We will now hear from Jeff Palmer about how the projected project meets the needs, as described by the Superintendent.”
- Mr. Palmer showed the land space without facilities and then with the facilities and explained how the football, baseball and softball fields will fit into this space.
- Mrs. King: “We will now hear from Mark Snyder about how the proposed project will be financed, as well as information about the effect on the typical property taxpayer.”
- Mr. Snyder: “Estimated Debt Service/Tax Impact with 2019 Bond”
 - Approximate \$15,000,000
 - Debt will be structured for repayment over 5 years beginning 2020
 - Commitment not to exceed 2014 certified tax rate
 - Will replace some of the debt falling off
 - Still allows flexibility in the future.

- Mrs. King: “We will now open the public hearing. Remember, if you would like to speak, please sign in on the sheet that is located on the table near the door. As I mentioned earlier, we ask that you state your name and address, limit your comments to the proposed project and financing, keep any comments to 3 minutes. If anyone would like to speak, please come forward. “

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

Mrs. King: “Thank you to all who participated in the hearing. We appreciate your time and interest in the project and the future of our community. Please note that this is just the first step in the legal process. No Board action is legally required at this hearing. Rather, this hearing is solely to hear public comment. The Board will continue to work with the administration and its professionals to look for efficiencies to conserve tax dollars while meeting our educational needs. The Board will hold a second public hearing in this Board room on December 11, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.”

ADJOURNMENT - Mr. Souder moved and Scott Miller seconded a motion to adjourn the Preliminary Determination Hearing. The motion was approved with a vote of 4-0, with Mitch Miller abstaining from voting per his request.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT- None.

EXPRESSIONS FROM PATRONS – None.

CONSENT AGENDA –

- Minutes and Executive Minutes from the November 6, 2018 School Board Meeting
- Claims
- Personnel
- 2018 October Financial Statement

EMPLOYMENT:

Northridge High School

Certified: Andrea Kerr, Blended Learning Teacher, Math
Start Date: November 21, 2018

Classified: Zachary Henderson, Head Boys Golf Coach
Replacing: Ken Brewster, Start Date: November 21, 2018

Northridge Middle School

Classified: Bobbi Derr, 12 Month Custodian, Replacing: Paul Young
Start Date: November 21, 2018

Jefferson Elementary School

Classified: Janet Glick, 3.5 Hour Cafeteria Worker
Replacing: Carole Trotter, Start Date: November 26, 2018

Orchard View Elementary School

Certified: Rachel Cason, Temporary Art Teacher, Replacing: Jennifer Zimmer
Start Date: November 26, 2018

York Elementary School

Certified: Cathy Brandenberger, Art Teacher, Replacing: Laura Chapman
Start Date: January 7, 2019

RESIGNATION:

York Elementary School

Classified: Kimberly Nielson-Yoder, 5 Hour Cafeteria Worker
Effective Date: December 11, 2018

Jefferson Elementary School

Classified: Carol Trotter, 3.5 Hour Cafeteria Worker, Effective Date: November 7, 2018

Northridge High School

Classified: Kathryn Case, 4 Hour Special Needs One-to-One Para
Effective Date: November 12, 2018

TRANSFER:

Northridge Middle School

Classified: Matthew Smith, 9 Month 8 Hour, 2nd Shift Custodian, to
12 Month, 8 Hour, 2nd Shift Custodian
Replacing: Julia Ahumada, Start Date: November 17, 2018

EMERGENCY LEAVE:

Middlebury Elementary School

Certified: Annette Mast, 2nd Grade Teacher, 2 Days: February 14, 15, 2019

Mr. Gayler moved and Mr. Souder seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was approved with a vote of 4-0, with Mitch Miller abstaining.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF DONATIONS FOR NORTHRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL – Mrs. Allen asked for approval of the following donations to Northridge High School.

- Arbor Industries, for Raider Motor Sports Car \$1,000
- L & W Engineering, Inc., for Raider Motor Sports Car \$ 500
- Coulter, Inc., for Raider Motor Sports Car Sponsorship \$2,000
- Akins Excavating, Inc., for Raider Motor Sports Car \$ 500
- Taylor Physical Therapy, for Raider Motor Sports Car \$ 500
- Crystal Valley Exchange Club, for Parent Council \$ 500
- Crystal Valley Exchange Club, for Science Olympiad \$ 400
- Crystal Valley Exchange Club, for Weight Room \$ 400
- Crystal Valley Exchange Club, for Raider Motor Sports \$ 200

Mr. Gayler moved and. Scott Miller seconded a motion to approve the donations to Northridge High School as presented. The motion approved with a vote of 4-0, with Mitch Miller abstaining.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF DONATION FOR ORCHARD VIEW ELEMENTARY – Mrs. Allen asked for approval of donations for Orchard View Elementary School. Mr. Yoder (Principal at OVE) said they have recently received a generous donation of \$10,000 from their PTO and an additional \$15,000 from the members of the Bontrager Foundation. These funds will add an additional playground structure that includes elements that are more accessible to the schools pre-school students and students with special mobility needs. This should present great opportunities for their students with mobility needs to play on the same structure with their peers. A copy of the project plan was presented to board members for review. Scott Miller moved and Mr. Souder seconded a motion to approve the donations as presented. The motion was approved with a vote of 4-0, with Mitch Miller abstaining.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF 2019-2020 SCHOOL CALENDAR - Mr. Souder moved and Mr. Gayler seconded a motion to approve the 2019-2020 school calendar as presented. Mrs. King questioned the E-learning days, is that part of the thought of not having snow days built in. Mrs. Allen said yes, the K-5 building teachers have already had practice runs with the students. This year we do not have any snow make-up days built in and hopefully we won't have any this year. Mrs. Allen said we are going to try E-learning days this year and see how it goes. The motion was approved with a vote of 4-0, with Mitch Miller abstaining. This calendar will be on the Middlebury Community Schools website on November 21, 2018 (www.mcsin-k12.org)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

FIELD TRIPS – Dr. Goodman reviewed the list of field trips with board members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE –

- Accepting Applications for Jefferson Township School Board Vacancy. Applications are available at the MCS Administration Center and must be submitted by December 3, 2018. Applications can be emailed if requested.
- Mrs. Allen sincerely thanked Dave Black for his 10 years of service on the school board. He served as President for quite a few years, was instrumental in training new board members, and in providing us with very clear expectations in consideration with MCS rules and laws. He also helped us do the right thing with the taxpayers and was always showing appreciation to our staff and students. He will be greatly missed.
- NHS Boys and Girls Basketball teams are starting their seasons!

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TRAVEL – Dr. Goodman reviewed the list of travel requests with board members.

EXPRESSIONS FROM BOARD MEMBERS –

- Scott Miller said it was great to have another “Miller” in the room...”Welcome, Mitch!”.
- Mr. Souder welcomed Mitch also.
- Mr. Gayler wanted to thank Dave Black - he was a great friend and mentor on the board and really was a champion for this school district. He really cared a lot and will be missed. He also welcomed Mitch to the board.
- Mitch said he was glad to be here, it's a beginning of a new adventure for him. He thanked the board for being so receiving to him.
- Mrs. King reflected back on Dave - he has made great leadership decisions for us as a school board. He has been a great board member and she appreciates his leadership as President. He has made decisions that have been for our kids, teachers and our community. She appreciated that very much. She welcomed Mitch Miller on the board and looks forward to working along beside him.

OTHER BUSINESS – None.

ADJOURNMENT – Mr. Gayler moved and Scott Miller seconded a motion to adjourn the November 20, 2018 school board meeting at 4:34 p.m. The motion was approved with a vote of 4-0, with Mitch Miller abstaining. The next school board meeting will be on December 11, 2018 at the Administration Center.

Joanna King, President

Paul Gayler, Vice President

Robert Souder, Secretary

Scott Miller, Member

Mitch Miller, Member