NOTE: These are “proposed” minutes and will not be approved until the April 13, 2021 School Board Meeting

CALL TO ORDER-Vice President Gregg Eash called the March 16, 2021 meeting of the Board of School Trustees to order at 4:00 p.m. Board Members present were, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Hummel, and Mr. Varner. Others in attendance included Jane Allen, Superintendent, Dr. Robby Goodman, Assistant Superintendent, Josh Yoder, Director of Business Services, Jeff Palmer, Director of Buildings and Grounds and Melissa Deak, Director of Transportation. Not present was School Board President Mr. Gayler.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT-
3.1 Hear Report on Northridge High School Courses for 2021-22-
Principal Drew Wood and Counseling Coordinator Summer Runyan presented new courses and pathway options at Northridge High School. Mrs. Runyan shared multiple concentrators that are important to provide students a pathway to graduation without needing to be in the situation of taking one big test one time. We would like to continue to offer these diverse courses in order to fit all of the career needs that students have. These concentrators provide a unique way for students to graduate. At Northridge High School alone we have 15 different ways a student can graduate. We are working in depth with our workplace-learning program and think that is the best way our students are learning and experiencing these career opportunities. Mr. Wood thanked Mrs. Runyan and her counselor team for working so hard on these pathways and said it feels like it is opening up a new world to these students. It has been a lot of work and is paying off.

EXPRESSIONS FROM PATRONS-None

CONSENT AGENDA –
• Minutes from the March 16, 2021 School Board Meeting and Executive Sessions
• Claims
• 2021 February Financial Report
• Personnel

EMPLOYMENT:
Northridge High School
  CERTIFIED: Stephanie Priem, Temporary Counselor
  Replacing: Carly Meeker
  Start Date: March 8, 2021
  CERTIFIED: Samantha Baker, Freshman Volleyball Coach
  Start Date: July 1, 2020
  CERTIFIED: Chad Eppley, Head Football Coach
  Replacing: Tom Wogomon
  Start Date: March 17, 2021
CERTIFIED:  Ken Brewster, ¼ Flex Coach  
Start Date: March 17, 2021
CLASSIFIED:  Alicia Barber, Assistant Volleyball Coach  
Start Date: March 17, 2021  
CLASSIFIED:  Judy Pollock, Assistant Girls Tennis Coach  
Start Date: March 17, 2021

Northridge Middle School  
CLASSIFIED:  James Snyder, Custodian – 3rd Shift  
Replacing: Samantha Smith  Start Date: March 17, 2021

Administration  
CLASSIFIED:  Manda Kelley, Sub Bus Monitor and Bus Driver Trainee  
Start Date: March 17, 2021  
CLASSIFIED:  Stephanie Rinehart, Sub Bus Monitor and Bus Driver Trainee  
Start Date: March 17, 2021

RESIGNATION:  
Northridge High School  
CLASSIFIED:  Shira Moore, Autism Paraprofessional, 6.5 hrs/day  
Effective Date: March 31, 2021  
CLASSIFIED:  Kali Gross, Assistant Girls Tennis Coach  
Effective Date: March 5, 2021

Administration  
CLASSIFIED:  Shelly Garver, Driver Trainer  
Effective Date: March 12, 2021

TRANSFER:  
Northridge Middle School  
CLASSIFIED:  Amanda Zook, Cafeteria Worker, 3.5 hours, 5 days/wk, to:  
Cafeteria Worker, 3.5 hours, 2 days/wk  
Effective Date: April 12, 2021  
CLASSIFIED:  Jessica Lawrence, Cafeteria Worker, 3.75 hours, 3 days/wk, to:  
Cafeteria Worker, 3.5 hours, 3 days/wk  
Effective Date: April 14, 2021

EMERGENCY LEAVE:  
Northridge High School  
CLASSIFIED:  Derek Brunt, Building Manager  
March 16, 2021 – 8 hours  
March 17, 2021 – 8 hours

Northridge Middle School  
CLASSIFIED:  Christina Vollmer, Building Assistant, 5.5 hrs/day
March 10, 2021 – 5.5 hours

Heritage Intermediate School
CLASSIFIED: Richelle Culp, Building Assistant, 7.5 hrs/day
March 10, 2021 – 5.5 hours
CLASSIFIED: Dorothy Rose, Building Assistant, 7.5 hrs/day
March 10, 2021 – 7.5 hours
CLASSIFIED: Liz Phillips, Building Secretary
March 4, 2021 – 2 hours

Orchard View Elementary School
CLASSIFIED: Heather Cameron, Mixed Abilities Paraprofessional, 6.5 hrs/day
March 10, 2021 – 6.5 hours
March 31, 2021 – 6.5 hours
CLASSIFIED: Tanya Trick, Mixed Abilities Paraprofessional, 6.5 hrs/day
March 10, 2021 – 6.5 hours

York Elementary School
CLASSIFIED: Stephanie Myers, Special Education Assistant, 7 hrs/day
March 10, 2021 – 7 hours
March 31, 2021 – 7 hours
CLASSIFIED: Alissa McClane, Building Assistant, 7.5 hrs/day
March 10, 2021 – 7.5 hours
March 31, 2021 – 7.5 hours
CLASSIFIED: Katie Kalb, Building Assistant, 7.5 hrs/day
March 10, 2021 – 7.5 hours
March 31, 2021 – 7.5 hours

Administration
CLASSIFIED: Dana Clark, Director of Human Resources
March 22, 2021 – 1 day
CLASSIFIED: David Davis, District Technician 1:1 Coordinator
March 1, 2021 – 2.02 hours
CLASSIFIED: Kimberly Dahlman, Bus Driver
March 10, 2021 – 7.25 hours
CLASSIFIED: Jody Emerson, Bus Driver
March 2, 2021 - .37 hours
CLASSIFIED: Constance Whitlow, Bus Driver
March 10, 2021 – 8 hours
CLASSIFIED: Cheryl Yoder, Bus Driver
March 10, 2021 – 4.65 hours
CLASSIFIED: Monica Elliott, Bus Driver
March 10, 2021 – 5.75 hours
CLASSIFIED: Michelle Jarrett, Bus Driver
March 10, 2021 – 8 hours

Mrs. Hummel moved and Mr. Miller seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion approved 4-0.
CONSIDER APPROVAL OF NORTHRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL HEAD FOOTBALL COACH-
Mrs. Allen is pleased to request the board approve Mr. Chad Eppley for the head football coach at Northridge High School. Mr. Miller moved to approve Mr. Eppley for Northridge High School head football coach, Mrs. Hummel seconded the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CUSTODIAL/GROUNDS/MAINTENANCE PAY ADJUSTMENT PROPOSAL-
Mrs. Allen stated that Middlebury Community Schools has struggled to gain and keep custodians, grounds and maintenance employees. In doing some research, Mr. Yoder found that our pay scale is not comparable to most of the districts nearby. This adjustment would raise pay by fifty cents and raise the top salary so it is more comparable with others in the area. Mr. Miller moved and Mrs. Hummel seconded the motion to approve the custodial, grounds and maintenance pay adjustment as presented. Motion carries 4-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL K-5 COUNSELOR POSITIONS-
Mrs. Allen stated that Middlebury Community Schools has been struggling awhile with counseling, this year has made it more noticeable. We currently have 2 elementary counselors that serve 1350 students and one counselor at Heritage Intermediate that serves over 700 students. This proposal would ask the board to approve 3 additional K-5 counselors. This would allow each elementary to have their own counselor and not share a counselor between 2 schools. The Cares Act Fund will help fund these new counselors for 2 years. Mrs. Hummel moved and Mr. Varner seconded the motion to approve additional K-5 counselor positions as presented. Motion carries 4-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE CROSSING AGREEMENT FOR 2021-22-
Mrs. Allen stated that this is an annual process of setting aside 4 places at The Crossing in order for students to utilize throughout the year. Mr. Miller moved and Mrs. Hummel seconded the motion to approve The Crossing agreement for 2021-22. Motion carries 4-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL TO PROCESS AND RELEASE CLAIMS AS NEEDED-
Mrs. Allen stated that April only has one board meeting and because of that, there is a time span that we will need to process claims. We are asking to do an interim release of claims in order to process payment on time. Mr. Varner moved and Mrs. Hummel seconded the motion to process and release claims as needed. Motion carries 4-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ADVERTISING FOR NORTHRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL TRIP TO FRANCE-
Mrs. Allen introduced Mr. Bowen who provided the board with information on the trip to France in 2023. Mr. Bowen explained the agenda of the trip, which will be in summer 2023 and would like approval to advertise for the trip. Mr. Varner moved and Mrs. Hummel seconded the motion of approval of advertising for Northridge High School trip to France. Motion carries 4-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS-None

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FIELD TRIPS-
Dr. Goodman explained that all of the field trips are with the band for recruiting band members into high school band or middle school band.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE-Our Northridge Raider Dance Team placed first in the state in hip-hop and 4th in jazz and pom! Congratulations!

ANNOUNCEMENT OF TRAVEL—Dr. Goodman reviewed the list of travel with board members.

EXPRESSIONS FROM BOARD MEMBERS—
Mrs. Hummel—A lot of exciting things happening with the new courses. I cannot tell you how excited I am with the addition of the new counselors, it is just fantastic! To support the social and emotional health of all of our students is huge!
Mr. Varner—I was going to mention the counselors as well, seeing the number of students per counselor was a bit staggering. Happy to see the addition of a needed item.
Mr. Miller—Coach Wogoman left some pretty big shoes to fill and it appears that Coach Eppley is up to the challenge and I am looking forward to that!
Mr. Eash—Congratulations to our new coach, to the girls dance team. I agree with Mike that it was staggering to see the number of students per counselor. We addressed that big need tonight.

OTHER BUSINESS—Mrs. Allen announced that we will move on to the public hearing on the proposed renovation and improvement project.

PUBLIC HEARING-
Mrs. Allen explained the purpose of this meeting is pursuant to Indiana Code 20-26-7-37, before a school corporation may spend more than one million dollars to build, repair or alter a school building that will be financed by a lease or bond it must hold a public hearing at which explanations of the potential value of the project to the school corporation and community are given. The public hearing and adoption of resolutions are the beginning of the legal process. These resolutions establish the maximum financial terms for the proposed project. Mrs. Allen explained the process of determining and communicating the project to the community and the need for the project.
Mr. Palmer explained the details of the project and how the project meets the needs as described by Superintendent Jane Allen. There will be an addition of a wood shop, metal shop, manufacturing area for CTE classrooms, black box that is a large group instruction area and will seat 209 people. It will also allow added storage for band, a 3D printing lab, robotics and needs of the Science Olympiad. If funds are available, this will allow the addition of a cardio room, enlarge the weight room and move athletic offices. The projected cost of the project is $5.75 million.
Mr. Yoder explained how the proposed project would be financed as well as information about the effect on the typical property tax payer. A general obligation bond that would not exceed $5.75 million dollars would fund the project. With the current interest rate of .4% to .5% and projected closing date of mid-July, we have figured it at 1% to be safe. We are aiming to keep our tax rate below $1.33 and again, we project that conservatively and hope to keep it at $1.25 so the impact would be minimal to tax payers.
Mr. Hesser summarized the project resolution.
Mr. Miller moved and Mrs. Hummel seconded the motion to approve the project resolution for the Northridge High School classroom addition. Motion carries 4-0.
Mr. Hesser summarized the preliminary bond resolution.
Mrs. Hummel moved and Mr. Varner seconded the motion to approve the preliminary bond resolution for the NHS classroom addition. Motion carries 4-0.
Mr. Hesser summarized the declaration of official intent to reimburse expenditures resolution.
Mr. Varner moved and Mrs. Hummel seconded the approval of intent to reimburse expenditures resolution. Motion carries 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT –
Mr. Miller moved to adjourn the March 16, 2021 school board meeting and public hearing. Mrs. Hummel seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with a vote of 4-0 at 4:54 p.m. The next scheduled school board meeting will be on April 13, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. at the Administration Center.

Paul Gayler, President

Gregg Eash, Vice President

Mitch Miller, Secretary

Kate Hummel, Member

Michael Varner, Member