CALL TO ORDER- President Paul Gayler called the July 6, 2021 meeting of the Board of School Trustees to order at 4:00 p.m. Board Members present were, Mr. Eash, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Hummel, and Mr. Varner. Others in attendance included Dr. Jayson Snyder, 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.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT-
Dr. Goodman shared scores from IREAD summer school. After IREAD summer school we had a 89% passing rate. That results in 94% of our 3rd grade students have passed or have exemptions and do not need to re-take the IREAD test. That is a 2% drop from the 2018-19 school year. Testing was waved for the 2019-20 school year due to the COVID pandemic. We do not yet have the state averages to compare to. Those results are pending the July 14 state board of education meeting. Dr. Snyder stated that there has been a slide in other districts as well. He feels a 2% drop is relatively low compared to the slide that is expected across the state. We look forward to see the state averages and will be able to get that information out later this month.

EXPRESSIONS FROM PATRONS – The following patrons expressed concerns as noted:

Bethany Bedford-Several questions about the opening plan for Middlebury Community Schools this fall, specifically regarding Northridge Middle School. Mask procedures in classrooms, start times, band class meeting frequency, lunch time procedures, use of lockers and movement of students between classes.

Jenny Dibley-Welcome Dr. Snyder, your presence at the board meetings the last few months has been appreciated. Mrs. Dibley voiced concerns regarding the Elkhart Health Department mentioning Middlebury Community Schools host a traveling vaccine clinic in the future, concerns about children 5-17 years old receiving vaccines, concerns with the vaccine in that age group. Requesting Middlebury Community Schools reject the traveling vaccine clinic if asked to host.

Rebecca Yeater-Welcome Dr. Snyder. Rebecca voiced concerns about school board meeting times, implementing a no cell phone policy for Northridge High School, responses from school board members, not just the superintendent. Concerns about critical race theory, SEL, 1619 project and transgender classes being taught in our school system. Requests to know how each board member feels on all of these being taught in our classrooms.

Jim Bontrager- Welcome Dr. Snyder. Concerns about changing the time the board meets, vaccines in children 18 years of age and under, 1619 project, critical race theory and the view each board member has on this subject.
CONSENT AGENDA –

- Minutes from the June 15, 2021 School Board Meeting
- Claims
- Donations
- Personnel

EMPLOYMENT:

Northridge High School
CERTIFIED: Westin Hanson, Varsity Football Assistant Coach
Effective Date: July 7, 2021

Northridge Middle School
CLASSIFIED: Leah Vetere, Special Education Asst – Mixed Abilities, 7 hrs/day
Replacing: Amy Evans  Effective Date: August 6, 2021
CLASSIFIED: Jessica Miller, Building Assistant, 8 hrs/day
Replacing: Heather Stutzman  Effective Date: August 10, 2021

Jefferson Elementary School
CERTIFIED: Anna Davis, Temporary 1st Grade Teacher
Replacing: Jessica Graber  Effective Date: August 6, 2021
CERTIFIED: Angela Irwin, Temporary Kindergarten Teacher
Replacing: Cori Willems  Effective Date: August 6, 2021
CERTIFIED: Kaitlyn Banks, 1st Grade Teacher
Replacing: Beverly Hochstedler  Effective Date: August 6, 2021

Orchard View Elementary School
CERTIFIED: Heather Rusk, Art Teacher – 40% Contract
Replacing: Amee Click  Effective Date: August 6, 2021
CERTIFIED: Hannah Weaver, 2nd Grade Teacher
Replacing: Holly Miller/Alicia Hooley  Effective Date: August 6, 2021
CLASSIFIED: Elnora Yoder, Cafeteria Worker, 3.5 hrs/day, 3 days/week
Replacing: Leslie Weiderman  Effective Date: August 11, 2021
CLASSIFIED: Elyse Ostrega, Cafeteria Worker, 3.5 hrs/day, 2 days/week
Replacing: Leslie Weiderman  Effective Date: August 11, 2021

York Elementary School
CLASSIFIED: Sarah Miller, Noontime Assistant
Replacing: Elmina Lehman  Effective Date: August 6, 2021

Administration Center
CLASSIFIED: Randy Shriner, Bus Mechanic Assistant, 3 days/week
Effective Date: June 14, 2021

RESIGNATION:

Northridge High School
CLASSIFIED: Ben Skibbe, Cafeteria Worker, 2.5 hrs/day
Effective Date: May 26, 2021
CLASSIFIED: Janelle Walther, Concessions Manager
Effective Date: June 24, 2021
CLASSIFIED: Jenny Miller, Receptionist
Effective Date: July 6, 2021

Northridge Middle School
CLASSIFIED: Kiana Santos, Life Skills Paraprofessional, 6.5 hrs/day
Effective Date: June 29, 2021
CLASSIFIED: Leah Vetere, 1:1 Paraprofessional, 6.5 hrs/day
Effective Date: June 16, 2021
CLASSIFIED: Steve Merkle, Custodian – 2nd Shift
Effective Date: July 6, 2021

Jefferson Elementary School
CLASSIFIED: Angela Irwin, Special Education Assistant, 5.5 hrs/day
Effective Date: June 28, 2021

Orchard View Elementary School
CLASSIFIED: Andrea Henderson, Instructional Assistant, 3 hrs/day
Effective Date: July 6, 2021

TRANSFER:
Orchard View Elementary School
CERTIFIED: Alicia Hooley, 2nd Grade Teacher, to:
Kindergarten Teacher
Replacing: Tessa Zimmerly Effective: August 6, 2021

Heritage Intermediate School
CLASSIFIED: Bonita Miller, Cafeteria Worker, 3.5 hrs/day, 1 day/week, to:
3.5 hrs/day, 2 days/week Effective: August 11, 2021

EMERGENCY LEAVE:
Northridge Middle School
CLASSIFIED: Crystal Wolkins, Building Manager
June 22, 2021 – 10 hours

Mr. Eash moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, and Mrs. Hummel seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF TREASURERS’ BONDS-
Dr. Snyder stated this is an annual task that keeps us in compliance with the state board of accounts, Mr. Yoder will introduce this item. Mr. Yoder stated that this is a procedure we do annually to insure the people in our district who handle money.
Mr. Miller moved to approve the treasurers’ bonds as presented, Mr. Eash seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.
CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BUS MECHANIC ASSISTANT-
Dr. Snyder is recommending the approval of a bus mechanic assistant. This position will assist in the transportation department and the maintenance of our busses going forward. Creation of this position will allow us to hire a former mechanic as a part time employee as opposed to hiring him as a vendor which in turn saves the district money.
Mrs. Hummel moved to approve the bus mechanic assistant position as presented, Mr. Eash seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MIDDLEBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY APPOINTMENT-
Dr. Snyder stated that Juli Wald, Director of Middlebury Community Library, is requesting our board appoint Carolyn Manley to the library board.
Mr. Eash moved to approved to appoint Carolyn Manley to the Middlebury community library board of trustees, Mrs. Hummel seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF DONATIONS –
Dr. Snyder discussed the $3,360.42 to Northridge High School from Middlebury Raider National Football Inc., to cover football equipment at the high school.
Mr. Varner moved to approve the donation as presented, Mrs. Hummel seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS–None

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FIELD TRIPS–None

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE–
Dr. Snyder would like to thank all 5 of the board members, the administrators that work in this building, principals, assistant principals and many community members who have provided an incredibly warm welcome to my family. Sincerely thank you to everyone who has been incredibly welcoming. Thank you to Mrs. Allen, she has the heart of a teacher, a heart of gold actually. I am fortunate to have been able to work with her in the past few weeks to provide a smooth transition. I would like to recognize Josh Yoder and Lisa Stutsman for completing their Indiana Association of School Business Officials programming to become certified chief business officers. There are 99 hours of instruction of school business management that each of them went through. They are both fantastic at what they do and are both phenomenal leaders and this certification will make them even stronger professionals.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF TRAVEL –
Dr. Goodman reviewed the list of travel.

EXPRESSIONS FROM BOARD MEMBERS –
Mr. Varner-I’d like to thank everyone from the board and community members for attending the open house at Stable Grounds, it is going to be a great facility to serve kids. You may have noticed that there is about 10% left to finish, it always seems to go that way when finishing a project, let’s hope it isn’t that way with Dr. Snyder’s new house! It is going to be a great addition to the schools on this campus and the outlying schools as well.
Mr. Miller-I would like to welcome Dr. Snyder to the Middlebury community school cooperation. Thank you for bringing your skill set and people skills to Middlebury. Welcome

Mr. Eash-Welcome Dr. Snyder and your family. It has been great to get to know you guys in and out of the board room. Stable Grounds, Mike and the people involved, hats off! The grand opening was wonderful, it is an amazing facility that is going to do great things for our kids. It was neat to hear how the whole place came about and hear about the generous people in our community who put out a lot of money to make it happen. Excited and proud to be a part of that type of community. Jane has a legacy and she has left it. She will never be forgotten, however, I am excited to see where Dr. Snyder takes this school corporation. As we have talked, we don’t want him to be another Jane but want him to be Dr. Snyder. I am really excited to see what that means for this school system.

Mrs. Hummel-Not to sound like a broken record, but welcome Dr. Snyder. We are excited to have you. It is a bit bittersweet, missing Jane up here tonight. I do think that this is the start of something great. Welcome to you and your family. For those of you who were not able to attend the Stable Grounds open house, it was awesome. If you have not had a chance to see the benefits of equine therapy first hand, I encourage you to check it out sometime. It is just phenomenal what it can do to help kids of all backgrounds. Proud to be a part of that as far as our school corporation is concerned. Again, thank you for all of you who have taken an interest in your children’s education, especially with Mrs. Bedford. I think those are all really great questions as a parent. Those were things I had not even thought of yet. Thank you.

Mr. Gayler-Welcome Dr. Snyder. I am looking forward to working with you. I have already seen the energy you have brought to the school corporation already. You started day 1 working hard and I know you will continue working hard to keep this a great school corporation. I think it is important to address our relationship with patrons as a board, especially mine as the president. I have always tried to reach out to patrons who have questions and I would be able to have coffee, a phone conversation with anybody. What happens a lot of times with the board is that we hear things from patrons and we rely on our superintendent who, in this case, with a PhD, to answer those questions because they are the expert. I would always be open to take a phone call but I don’t always have the answers. We work together to come up with a plan and I think we have done a pretty good job the past 2 years that has been really difficult on everybody, the board, parents and kids. We try to do our best to do what is the best for kids and this community. I will always listen. We just cannot do it in a meeting setting because a lot of times these are issues we have to do research on. Really all of the patrons have given us a lot of great research that we were not aware of and we appreciate that. I would love to communicate with anybody. I will give anybody my cell phone number, and have. I want to discuss these issues. I think it is important to note that this is a great board with a great staff in a great school system.

OTHER BUSINESS— None

ADJOURNMENT –

Mrs. Hummel moved to adjourn the July 6, 2021 school board meeting and move to executive session. Mr. Eash seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with a vote of 5-0 at 4:40 p.m. The next scheduled school board meeting will be on July 20, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. at the Administration Center.
Paul Gayler, President

Mitch Miller, Secretary

Michael Varner, Member

Gregg Eash, Vice President

Kate Hummel, Member