

BROWN COUNTY SCHOOLS
Special Meeting: Board of School Trustees
Administration Building
Wednesday, December 1, 2010, at 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

The Board of School Trustees of Brown County Schools, Nashville, Indiana, met in a special meeting on Wednesday, December 1, 2010 at the Administration Building. Board members present: John Mills, Carol Bowden, Judy Hardwick, and Connie Weddle. Staff members present: David Shaffer, Dennis Goldberg, Susie Owens, Deborah Harman, and Chrissy Keefauver

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

A revised agenda was provided at this meeting – No Claims
No other modifications were made.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

PRESENTATIONS

DISCUSSION ITEMS

District AYP – Deborah Harman presented information regarding District AYP and explained that we are pleased with our progress, but still working hard. Our District made Adequate Yearly Progress, despite two of our six schools not making AYP. Adequate Yearly Progress is determined using a calculation taken from federal legislation known as the *No Child Left Behind Act*. David Shaffer expressed a concern with the requirements of “No Child Left Behind” legislation ultimately requiring a 100% pass rate on standardized achievement tests, which is an impossible goal. AYP results are as follows:

District: AYP=Yes	PL221-Exemplary Progress
BCHS: AYP=No	PL221-Academic Progress (capped due to AYP status)
BCJH: AYP=No	PL221-Exemplary Progress
HES: AYP=Yes	PL221-Academic Progress (capped due to School Improvement Status)
NES: AYP=Yes	PL221-Commendable Progress
SES: AYP=Yes	PL221-Exemplary Progress
VBS: AYP=Yes	PL221-Exemplary Progress

Helmsburg Elementary School was recognized by the Indiana Department of Education as one of the select group of schools to significantly increase their percentage passing rate as compared to other schools across the state. We want to thank all of our teacher, Principals, students and parents for their hard work accomplishing these goals.

District Drug Testing – Al Kosinski provided an overview of last year’s Drug Survey conducted on our JH and HS students by IU. The percentage of cigarette smoking is down, and other substance abuse is up slightly, but is consistent with State statistics. Connie Weddle stated that she would like more information regarding what other school districts similar to ours are doing. Matt Stark stated that he would contact various school’s to gather data on what they are doing and report back to the Board. Teresa Waltman is in favor of adding drug testing to our set of “tools” available. Carol Bowden wanted to know how results and costs compare between urinalysis and swab testing methods. John Mills opened further discussion regarding other ways of reducing drug use in the county. One example of which might be additional ECA and ECA shuttle services to outlying schools. Matt Stark commented that developing personal relationships is our greatest tool. Dennis Goldberg noted that “exclusionary policies,” particularly at the Junior High level have a direct correlation to the kids who develop drug problems in High School. Judy Hardwick stated that she is in support of sports programs that allow all students to participate.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 18, 2010

Connie Weddle motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Judy Hardwick seconded the motion, which passed 5 – 0.

ACTION NEEDED ITEMS

Mr. Shaffer recommended Brown County Schools transfer our VEBA program from Security Benefits Corporation to National Insurance Services and the VEBA vendor will be American United Life Insurance Company. Carol Bowden moved to approve the recommendation as presented. Connie Weddle seconded the motion.

Connie Weddle asked if/how the policy would change. Mr. Shaffer explained that the company providing the service would change; Fund options may be slightly different, but should be similar; and beneficiary designation would change (must be a spouse or dependent as defined by the IRS). The beneficiary designation would change anyway once ITSA removes itself from the policy contract. By changing vendors, we have the opportunity to gain better customer service by having a local agent located in Indianapolis.

The motion passed 5 – 0.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Personnel

- i. Separations
- ii. Appointments

- 1. Certified/Sprunica Elementary, 5th Grade Teacher – Casey J. McIlvain, to be hired at Bachelor + 0, effective December 6, 2010. (New Position

iii. Transfers

1. Non-Certified/Van Buren Elementary, Para-Professional – Alyse L. Crouch, will transfer to Certified/Sprunica Elementary, Temporary Title 1 Teacher at Bachelor + 0, effective November 29, 2010. (Filling vacancy of Brenda Krieger who has assumed Mr. Bowman’s 5th Grade Class, during his military leave.)

iv. Other Personnel Items for the Record

Judy Hardwick recommended the approval of the consent agenda beginning with the appointment of Certified/Sprunica Elementary, 5th Grade Teacher – Casey J. McIlvain, and ending with the transfer of Non-Certified/Van Buren Elementary, Para-Professional – Alyse L. Crouch to Certified/Sprunica Elementary, Temporary Title 1 Teacher. Connie Weddle seconded the motion, which passed 5 - 0.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dennis Goldberg discussed the possibility of using the NEOLA Company for upgrading our Board Policy Manual. NEOLA offers a product to develop, maintain and publish congruent policies and handbooks that support the most current laws. All Board members were in support of having a NEOLA representative come to present their service and answering our questions. Wayne O’Hara spoke in support of NEOLA as a community member and encouraged Brown County Schools to secure their service as it would provide the community greater access and connectivity to the schools.

David Shaffer reported that tonight was the first of the new “bus driver” class, and there were 17 individuals registered to attend. The School Board will postpone the School Board Retreat for the discussion of long-term planning to sometime in February.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business Judy Hardwick motioned to adjourn. Carol Bowden seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.