

NORTH PUTNAM COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
MARCH 21, 2024 MINUTES

The members of the Board of School Trustees of the North Putnam Community School Corporation held a regular session meeting on Thursday, March 21, 2024, 7:00 P.M. at North Putnam High School, Large Group Instruction Room, 8869 N CR 250 E, Roachdale, Indiana.

Board members present in person: Joanie Knapp
 Mark Hoke
 Amber Greene
 Eric Oliver
 David McCollough
 Ron Spencer

Board members absent: Heather Lawson

Superintendent present: Dr. Dustin LeMay

Attorney present: Tyler Nichols

I. SUPPORT

A. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance

Amber Greene called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Joanie Knapp, Mark Hoke, Amber Greene, Eric Oliver, David McCollough, and Ron Spencer.

B. Approval of Agenda:

There were no changes to the agenda.

David McCollough motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

C. Public Comments:

There were no comments.

D. Consent Agenda:

Joanie Knapp motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented. Eric Oliver seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

E. Head Start Program Agreement:

Dr. LeMay is excited about this partnership and the great opportunity to support our families. Rodney Simpson is working with the elementary schools to get this going. This will start next school year and operates during school hours.

Ron Spencer motioned to approve the above Head Start Agreement as presented. David McCollough seconded the motion and it carried with a 6– 0 vote.

F. Roachdale Baseball Program Request to Install New Fence at Roachdale Elementary:

The diamond is not fenced in and the youth league is requesting to install a fence. Rodney Simpson provided a map of where the fence would be installed. The youth league would pay for the fence.

Eric Oliver motioned to approve the installation of a new fence at Roachdale Elementary as presented. Mark Hoke seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

G. Middle School After School Spring Advisor:

This is the same as what was approved last winter. This would pay \$75 per event.

Amber Greene motioned to approve the above middle school After School Spring Advisor. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

H. Approval of Boys’ Volleyball as a Spring Sport (NPHS):

The high school has requested to add boys’ volleyball as a spring sport. This would be for the 2024-2025 school year. The stipend for a coach will be discussed during negotiations.

Eric Oliver motioned to approve boys’ volleyball as a spring sport as presented. David McCollough seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

I. Technology Stipend for Business Manager and Administrative Assistant:

Dr. LeMay noted that both of these positions are required to use cell phones for business.

Joanie Knapp motioned to approve the above technology stipend as presented. Ron Spencer seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

J. Bus Driver Retention Stipend:

Dr. LeMay noted the importance of bus drivers. We need to recognize the work they do and retain our bus drivers. The first step would pay a stipend of \$500 for 180 days worked and the second step would pay \$250 twice for returning bus drivers and bus drivers finishing the school year.

Joanie Knapp motioned to approve the bus driver retention stipend as presented. Ron Spencer seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

II. PROTECT

A. Reauthorization of Back to School Plan:

We are required to have a plan in place every year and approved by the Board.

David McCollough motioned to approve the reauthorization of the Back to School Plan. Eric Oliver seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

B. Hendricks Regional Health (HRH) School Nurse Proposal:

We are excited about the potential to partner with Hendricks Regional Health. We currently have a school nurse and she was very involved in the conversations with HRH. This will help increase support in our buildings. They are HRH employees and would provide subs, professional development, and nurse orientation among other things. With this partnership, we would be adding another nurse to help in the buildings where needed.

Ron Spencer motioned to approve the above HRH School Nurse Proposal as presented. Eric Oliver seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

III. ENGAGE

There were no topics.

IV. EDUCATE

A. Job Description – Literacy Coach:

We have been approved to be a part of the literacy cadre #3. The salary is paid out of grants. We are excited for this opportunity. This will increase the quality and effectiveness of teaching. The coach will focus on K-3 grade literacy.

Joanie Knapp motioned to approve the job description for a Literacy Coach. David McCollough seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

B. Job Description – Dean of Students (MS):

This replaces the assistant principal position. This is not an administrative position, so it could be done by a teacher.

Joanie Knapp motioned to approve the job description for a Dean of Students at the middle school. Eric Oliver seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

C. Job Description – JAG Specialist:

We have a thriving JAG program currently and we are very excited to be able to advance this program. We have been approved for two positions, one for the middle school and one for the high school. This will help support our students in grades 7 through 12. This is funded through state funding.

Amber Greene motioned to approve the above job description for a JAG Specialist. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

D. Travel Program – Summer 2026 NPHS – Amsterdam and Paris (Mrs. Isaacs-Bailey)/Cuisine and Culture-Italy (Kate Skirvin):

The advance notice helps parents and students plan and pay ahead of the trip. These trips provide the best opportunities for our students.

Ron Spencer motioned to approve the above travel program for the high school. David McCollough seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

E. Travel Program – Summer 2026 NPMS – Japan and South Korea (Bucky Kramer):

This will be great for families and students to experience.

Joanie Knapp motioned to approve the above travel program for the middle school. David McCollough seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

V. DEVELOP

A. Appointment of Board Members as Representatives to the Building Improvement Committee:

Mark Hoke and David McCollough volunteered to be on the Building Improvement Committee.

B. Resolution Determining Need for Project – Exhibit A:

Mark Hoke motioned to approve Exhibit A as presented. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

C. Resolution Approving Form of Sixth Amendment to Lease – Exhibit B:

Amber Greene motioned to approve Exhibit B as presented. Joanie Knapp seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

D. Resolution Reapproving Building Corporation – Exhibit C:

Ron Spencer motioned to approve Exhibit C as presented. David McCollough seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote.

VI. REPORTS

A. Superintendent (Dr. LeMay):

We are excited about the partnership next school year with the Head Start Program. He thanked Rodney Simpson for his work on this. It will be great to have extra support from Hendricks Regional Health. Literacy coaches at the elementary schools will be great support for students. He thinks the bus driver retention stipend will help and hopes to have more discussion later on compensation. The Board has made a significant impact at this meeting.

B. Assistant Superintendent (Rodney Simpson):

We are hiring a summer crew to assist in removing furniture from classrooms. The new furniture will be here July 3, 2024. The new signs at the Administration Office and Transportation Office are amazing. The pool pipe was fixed this week. The Bainbridge cafeteria was painted and it looks nice. We need to think of a plan for the old furniture at the next Board meeting.

C. Business Manager (Tanya Pearson):

We had our exit audit. The report was sent to the Board. The audit went really well. The Board commended her for all the work on this.

D. Administrators:

Jason Chew commented that it has been a busy year and they are looking forward to the 2024-2025 school year. The two JAG positions will be huge for them and great support for students. They have a lot of students working to get college credits. He appreciates all the support.

VII. BOARD COMMENTS:

Joanie Knapp is excited about a job opportunities and she thanked Dr. LeMay and Jason Chew for taking care of this. She thanked them for the travel opportunities. She said the signs look great. Mark Hoke saw one of the new doors and thinks it looks great. The pictures of the cafeteria look amazing. It’s good to see things updated. Ron Spencer thanked Tanya Pearson for a great job on the audit. He appreciates everything that Dr. LeMay and Rodney Simpson have done. He hopes bus drivers are patient. David McCollough and Eric Oliver thanked everyone for all the hard work. Amber Greene said Tanya Pearson did a great job with the audit.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Joanie Knapp moved for adjournment of the meeting. Mark Hoke seconded the motion and it carried with a 6 – 0 vote. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on April 18, 2024 at the high school.

Amber Greene, President

Eric Oliver, Member

David McCollough, Vice President

Ron Spencer, Member

Heather Lawson, Secretary

Mark Hoke, Member

Joanie Knapp, Member