

**EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL BOARD  
MINUTES OF WORK SESSION  
MARCH 3, 2009**

At a work session meeting held in the Board Room at the Administration Building, 1240 State Road 930 East, New Haven, Indiana, the Board of School Trustees of East Allen County Schools met at approximately 6:30 p.m. on March 3, 2009, with the following members present:

Stephen L. Terry, Sr., President  
Leland L. Etzler, Secretary  
Terry Jo Lightfoot, Assistant Secretary  
William D. Hartman  
Richard A. Allgeier  
Alyssa Lewandowski

The following EACS Administrators were in attendance: Dr. M. Kay Novotny, Superintendent; Dr. Janet MacLean, Deputy Superintendent; Mr. Kirby Stahly, Chief Financial Officer; Mr. J. Timothy McCaulay, General Counsel; Mrs. Connie DeLong, Executive Director of Special Services; Dr. Jeanne Zehr, Title I Area Administrator; Mrs. Peggy J. Rohrbacher, Director of Human Resources; Mrs. Juanita Tolbert, Director of Early Intervention; Mrs. Lisa Holsinger, Manager of Professional Development; and Mrs. Tamyra L. Kelly, Public Relations Liaison. Also present were Mr. Chris Hissong, Principal, Heritage Jr./Sr. High School; Mr. William Diehl, Principal, Leo Elementary School; Dr. Neal Brown III, Principal, Paul Harding High School; Ms. Alicia Russell, Assistant Principal, Paul Harding High School; Mr. Gregory M. Geise, President of EAEA; Mr. Pat Lortie, President of EACS Custodial Association; and approximately 19 people representing employees, students, patrons and the media.

President Stephen Terry called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the February 12, 2009 Executive Session were approved as presented.  
The minutes of the February 17, 2009 Regular Board Meeting were approved as presented.  
The minutes of the February 18, 2009 Executive Session were approved as presented.  
The minutes of the February 19, 2009 Executive Session were approved as presented.  
The minutes of the February 20, 2009 Executive Session were approved as presented.

The Agenda was approved with the addition of addendums to 3.2 Incidental Information - Proposed School Calendar for 2009-10SY, 4.2 Personnel Report, and 4.3 Meetings and Conferences, and the addition of 3.2 Incidental Information - Apply For and Receive Project Lead the Way/Tech Prep Funding, and 4.6 EACS and National Urban Alliance Agreement, 5.0 Action Items, and 5.1 Selection of New Superintendent Pending Agreed Upon Negotiated Contract.

Spotlight on Education:

Information was presented to the Board by Deputy Superintendent Jan MacLean which offered yet another reconfiguration option for discussion purposes that will provide appropriate middle level educational learning environments for all 6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> grade students.

**Section 2.0 Discussion Items**

2.1 Review of Annual Report

Review/open discussion occurred regarding the annual Demographic Report requested by the Board. It is interesting to note that without the recent influx of Burmese students, EACS' enrollment would be under projections. Mr. Kirby Stahly, Chief Financial Officer, was on hand to answer the Board's questions.

2.2 Proposed Budget Reductions & Programming for 2009-10SY (Presentation)

In light of an anticipated shortfall of close to \$2.4 million dollars in the General Fund by the end of the 2009 school year, Dr. Novotny presented some proposed reductions for the 2009-10 school year. Programming, policies, and personnel were included for the Board's review and discussion. Dr. Novotny will compile a finalized list to bring back to the Board for final approval at the March 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

2.3 Open Discussion of Issues of Interest to the Board

Mr. Allgeier recognized New Haven Middle School Principal Mr. Pete Downey and his staff, who are celebrating Disability Awareness Month this week at their school. NHMS special needs teacher Mrs. Beth Bixby has been instrumental in the planning of events and guest speakers, including Ms. Barb Horner (from Indianapolis), parent Shannon Clark, and EACS Board Member Rick Allgeier, to name a few. An essay contest is being held, with a winner picked from each grade. Mr. Allgeier also passed out posters and pamphlets.

High praise was given by President Terry to Paul Harding High School's African-American Club who hosted their 1<sup>st</sup> annual Black History Month program entitled "A Change in America." Held last Friday, a panel of community leaders discussed their role in the community/organization they represented. They also shared their perspective on the Civil Right's Movement and changes that they have witnessed in our country. Board President Rev. Terry was a member of the panel. Board member Leland Etzler also attended the program.

President Terry paid tribute to Dr. Novotny for being a Champion and bringing healing to the district over the last three years.

Currently, the last day of school this year is Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, barring any other school closings.

## **Section 3.0 Information Items**

### **3.2 Incidental Information**

Mrs. Lightfoot asked for more information regarding Administrators' Meet and Confer. She will contact Dr. Novotny.

The Indiana Cares Youth Suicide Prevention Project abstract was given to the Board as information only.

The following information was given to the Board as information, with formal action recommended for the March 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting:

-Apply For and Receive Project Lead the Way/Tech Prep Funding

-Proposed School Calendar for 2009-10SY

Changes in the calendar from last year include changing to all late arrival days versus some early dismissal/some late arrival days, and ISTEP testing dates will be highlighted to help parents schedule around those days. Mr. Allgeier and Mrs. Lightfoot would like to see more snow days built in to our school calendar in future years. Dr. Novotny strongly recommends that consideration be given to adopting a two-year calendar in 2010 to aid people in planning.

## **Section 4.0 Consent Items**

Secretary Etzler moved to approve the consent items with addendums as presented. Mr. Allgeier seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The following consent items were approved:

4.1 Approval of vendor claims: 250543-250756 totaling \$305,210.24.

4.2 Acceptance of resignation of Ms. Ruth White, teacher at New Haven Middle School, effective at the end of the 2008-09 school year.

Acceptance of resignation of Mr. Saul Fields, assistant to the Neighborhood Action Center Coordinator, effective January 29, 2009.

Acceptance of resignation of Mrs. Jenifer Reinking-Coyle, teacher at Paul Harding High School, effective at the end of the 2008-09 school year.

Acceptance of retirement and termination of employment of Ms. Susan Wagner, teacher at Hoagland Elementary School, effective at the end of the 2008-09 school year.

Acceptance of retirement and termination of employment of Mr. William Schlosser, teacher at New Haven High School, effective at the end of the 2008-09 school year.

Approval of FMLA and medical leave of absence to Ms. Janice Alvarez, paraprofessional at New Haven High School, effective March 23, 2009 for the remainder of the 2008-09 school year.

Approval of FMLA leave of absence to Ms. Kim Faley, teacher at New Haven High School, effective March 3, 2009 through April 3, 2009.

Approval of termination of Mrs. Barbara Waikel, food service employee at New Haven High School, effective February 27, 2009.

- 4.3 Approval of Meetings and Conferences (see Exhibit A, incorporated herein).
- 4.4 Approval of EACS and Mullinax Associates (see Exhibit B, incorporated herein).
- 4.5 Approval to Apply For and Receive Revised Community Development Block Grant and Resolution (see Exhibit C, incorporated herein).
- 4.6 Approval of EACS and National Urban Alliance Agreement (see Exhibit D, incorporated herein).

**Section 5.0 Action Items**

5.1 Selection of New Superintendent Pending Agreed Upon Negotiated Contract

Mr. Allgeier moved to approve the selection of Dr. Karyle M. Green as the new Superintendent pending an agreed upon negotiated contract. Mr. Etzler seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Section 6.0 Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:48 p.m.

These minutes were approved and adopted by the East Allen County Schools Board of School Trustees on March 17, 2009.

EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

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Secretary

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