

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF  
CLAY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

A Regular Session of the Clay Community Schools Board of Trustees was held at the Central Administrative Office, 1013 S. Forest Avenue, Brazil, IN 47834, on Thursday, December 12, 2013. Tom Reberger, Kevin Kumpf, Rob Miller, Fred Froderman, Ron Scherb and Amy Burke Adams were present. Jennifer Kaelber arrived after the meeting had started, at 8:08 p.m.

Prior to the meeting, the 1028 hearing relative to the proposed energy projects at Northview High School was opened by board vice president Ron Scherb. Mr. Mike Howard, Director of Extended Services, provided a summary of the two projects. Mr. Mike Fowler provided financial information. The hearing was opened for patron comments at 7:55 p.m. With no patron comments, the hearing was closed at 7:56 p.m.

**I. Call to Order**

Mr. Scherb called the meeting to order at 7:56 p.m. He then led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Miller offered the prayer.

**II. Consent Agenda**

**A. Claims**

**B. Board Meetings**

Regular Session Minutes for November 14, 2013

Executive Session Certification for November 14, 2013

**C. Field Trips**

1) Clay City Jr/Sr High School BPA Club to Indianapolis, Indiana, on March 16, 17, and 18, 2014 for BPA competition requiring an overnight stay.

2) Van Buren Elementary fifth-grade class trip to Chicago, Illinois, on March 21, 2014 to visit the Museum of Science & Industry, Shedd Aquarium, and Beef House Restaurant.

3) Northview High School Choir to Chicago, Illinois, on May 3 and 4, 2014, to participate in the Heritage Festival Performance.

**D. Personnel (recommendations will be effective 1/6/2014)**

**A. LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

1. Certified

a. FMLA	CCE/SE	Cindy Gerber
b. FMLA	CCHS	Joe Gerber
c. FMLA	ME	Wendy Kreiger
d. FMLA	SE	Sheryl Jordan
e. FMLA	CCHS	Chandra Thatcher

2. Non-Certified

a. FMLA	ME	Delia Pierce
b. FMLA	NCMS	Christina Reberger
c. Medical	NHS	Lisa Riddell
d. Medical	SE	Linda Redifer

B. RETIREMENTS

- |                              |                            |  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| 1. Certified                 | See Agenda Item for Waiver |  |
| 2. Non-Certified             | None                       |  |
| 3. Place on Retirement Index | None                       |  |

C. RESIGNATIONS

- |                            |      |                 |
|----------------------------|------|-----------------|
| 1. Certified               | None |                 |
| 2. Non-Certified           |      |                 |
| a. Instructional Assistant | VBE  | Kimberly Parent |
| 3. ECA Resignations        | None |                 |
| 4. ECA Lay Coaches         | None |                 |

D. TRANSFERS

- |                  |      |  |
|------------------|------|--|
| 1. Certified     | None |  |
| 2. Non-Certified | None |  |

E. EMPLOYMENT

- |  |     |                |
|--|-----|----------------|
| 1. Certified                                   |     |                |
| a. Teacher – Agriculture                       | NHS | Ben Wegner     |
| b. Teacher – FACS                              | NHS | Whittney Rains |
| c. Teacher – Social Studies                    | NHS | Bradley Wilson |
| d. Teacher – Elementary                        | ESE | Valerie Clark  |
| e. Teacher – Elementary                        | ESE | Marisa Arthur  |
| 2. Non-Certified                               |     |                |
| a. Instructional Assistant (Sp Serv 33.75 hrs) | FPE | Susan Maesch   |
| b. Instructional Assistant (Sp Serv 33.75 hrs) | FPE | Pam McIntire   |

F. EXTRA-CURRICULAR

- |  |      |                      |
|--|------|----------------------|
| 1. Extra-Curricular Certified                              | None |                      |
| 2. Extra-Curricular Non-Certified                          | None |                      |
| 3. Extra-Curricular (Lay Coach)                            |      |                      |
| a. Elementary Sport (5 <sup>th</sup> Gr. Boys basketball)  | CCE  | Stephen Johnson      |
| b. Elementary Sport (5 <sup>th</sup> Gr. Girls basketball) | CCE  | Jeffrey Ryan Koehler |
| c. Cheerleader Sponsor (Jr. High)                          | CCHS | Ashley Waite         |
| d. Basketball – Varsity Asst Coach Girls                   | CCHS | Rodney Smith         |

G. CHANGES

- |   |             |                  |
|---|-------------|------------------|
| 1. Certified  | None        |                  |
| 2. Non-Certified                                    |             |                  |
| a. Advanced Technician from Intermediate Technician | Maintenance | Harland Todd     |
| b. Technician Trainee from Advanced Maintenance     | Maintenance | Matthew Reberger |
| 3. ECA-Lay Coaches                                  | None        |                  |

## H. VOLUNTEERS

1. Classroom
  - a. Brian Holt – CCHS
  - b. Julie Forster – NCMS
  - c. Mary Gottsche – NCMS
  - d. Angela Sattterfield – NCMS
  - e. Amanda Eldridge - SE
2. Athletic
  - a. Hope Torbert – NHS Softball
  - b. Ryan Camp - CCE
  - c. Douglas Dayhoff, Jr. – CCE
  - d. Morgan Dayhoff – CCE
  - e. Nathaniel Stoelting – CCE
  - f. Andrew Tucker - CCE
3. Other Volunteers
  - a. Angela Nicoson – Student Nursing

I. CONTRACTED SERVICES None

J. OTHER None

K. TERMINATION None

Dr. Froderman moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Kumpf seconded, and the motion was approved by a 5-0-1 vote, with Mr. Reberger abstaining.

### III. Comments from Patrons

**Andrew Thomas** stated that since the last meeting he had met with Rob Miller, talked with one of the owners of Crown Electric, and spoken with a representative from Musco, the expert lighting people for sports facilities. As Mr. Thomas sees it, there are three options: 1) New soccer field lights at a cost of approximately \$125,000 with a 25-year warranty for parts and labor; 2) new lights could be financed; and, 3) used lights could be purchased for \$3,000-\$4,000 and would come with a three-year warranty. McAllister Rental would donate \$2,200 worth of lift equipment to install the lights. Mr. Thomas requested that the school board bring in the experts to ask them questions, and then make an informed decision. Also, he suggested including lights for the baseball field at Clay City Jr/Sr High School.

**Ron Kiernicki**, the Northview High School boys' soccer coach, addressed the board regarding how the soccer lights would benefit the kids over the years. As he sees it, the main factor would be an increased understanding of the game. It would also provide an opportunity to enable soccer players to create a profile that would allow the players to pursue college scholarships. Also, lights on the soccer field would help coaches working to develop the program by providing opportunities to extend the day so that junior varsity soccer matches could be played.

Mrs. Kaelber arrived at this time and assumed the president's duties.

#### **IV. Old Business**

##### **A. School Bus Bids**

Director of Extended Services Mike Howard recommended accepting the bid for school buses from Midwest Transit Equipment for \$460,894.00. Approval was recommended.

Mr. Reberger moved to approve the recommendation. Dr. Froderman seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

Mr. Scherb requested the service records on the buses that were being traded.

##### **B. Fuel Bids**

Mr. Howard recommended rejecting all bids and continuing the practice of obtaining bids on the day fuel is needed from the following businesses: Ceres Solutions LLP, Terre Haute; Hunter Oil Company, Brazil; Spence/Banks Inc., Terre Haute; Luke Oil, Hobart; Petroleum Traders, Fort Wayne; and, R. W. Earhart, Troy, Ohio. Approval was recommended.

Mr. Scherb moved to reject the bids. Mr. Miller seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

##### **C. 2014-15 School Calendar**

This item had been tabled at the November 14, 2013, school board meeting. The 2014-15 school calendar as originally proposed was brought back to this meeting for approval.

Before a motion, Mr. Scherb commented that he was opposed to this calendar. It was his opinion that the school year would be starting too early. He suggested continuing with what had been done for this school year, keeping the calendar the same. He believed the inclusion of the parent/teacher conferences had been a big selling point for the calendar last year.

Mr. Reberger moved to approve the 2014-15 school calendar as presented. Dr. Froderman seconded, and the motion was approved by a 5-2 vote with Mr. Scherb and Mr. Kumpf opposed.

##### **D. Policy 3705 – General Indemnification – NEW: Second Reading**

Under advice of counsel, this General Indemnification policy was recommended. It also covers IRS stipulations and fines related to the Affordable Care Act. No changes were suggested during the first reading. Approval was recommended.

Mr. Kumpf moved to approve Policy 3705 – General Indemnification. Mrs. Adams seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**E. Policy 6433 – Seclusion and Restraint – REVISION and Appendix V – NEW: Second Reading**

State law requires a school corporation to have a seclusion and restraint policy. Revisions had been made to the existing policy in response to new legislation over the summer. Dr. Douglas Lunn, Director of Special Services, and Dr. Timothy Rayle, Assistant Superintendent, worked on the proposed new language. No changes were proposed during the first reading. Approval was recommended.

Mrs. Adams moved to approve the policy revision and new appendix. Mr. Kumpf seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**F. Job Description – District Music Director – NEW: Second Reading**

Through the bargaining agreement with teachers, one of the ECA positions that was described to put forth for compensation was the title of District Music Director, and a job description had been created for that position. No changes were proposed during the first reading. Approval was recommended.

Dr. Froderman moved to approve the job description. Mr. Kumpf seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**G. Auxiliary Gymnasium at Clay City Jr/Sr High School Public Survey Results**

Survey responses that had been mailed to central office had been sent to Amy Burke Adams. Also, Mr. Bill Milner, Director of Technology, had sent Mrs. Adams the results of the online survey. From the online survey, 200 people voted “No” for supporting the building of an auxiliary gymnasium at Clay City Jr/Sr High School; 125 people said they would support it. Of the mailed-in responses, 23 said “Yes” and 14 said “No”. The statistics showed 40% saying “Yes” and 60% saying “No” to an auxiliary gymnasium. Mrs. Adams commented that she was surprised by the responses from elderly grandparents on fixed incomes who said they support the increase in taxes; however, they were not in the majority. Mrs. Adams also read comments indicating that patrons wanted to see repairs made to Clay City Jr/Sr High School first, and she agreed with those comments. Mrs. Adams did not believe taxpayers were willing to look at exploring another gym at this time, but she suggested the possibility that the issue could be revisited next year to see if the community feels differently about it.

**V. Superintendent’s Report**

Superintendent Dr. Kimberly Tucker noted the following:

- Students, staff, and administration were commended for putting on a series of outstanding programs for the holiday season, despite the weather, which had been a bit troublesome.
- Due to the weather forecast, it was anticipated that sporting events and Christmas programs might have to be canceled over the weekend.
- The semester ended well for students and staff.
- Letter grades from the state were embargoed at this time, and Dr. Tucker is awaiting the release of those results.
- Everyone was wished a safe holiday.

## **VI. New Business**

### **A. Soccer Field Improvements**

Director of Extended Services Mike Howard presented information regarding potential enhancements to the Northview Soccer Field. He suggested the formation of a committee to develop a master plan for the area with priorities. For the committee, he proposed cross-functional membership, which could include the principal, the athletic director, coaches, a central office representative, a board representative, and a community representative. Mr. Howard's list of potential improvements: Lighting (\$50-90K); fencing (\$10-15K); player dugouts (\$5-12K); playing surface/field (\$5-20K); bleachers (\$10-50K); scoreboard (\$5-12K); press box (\$10-20K); and concessions/restrooms (\$10-25K). Mr. Howard provided the following timeline: Winterizing and fertilizing completed; some items could be done as early as spring 2014; and, higher value items should be prioritized over the next 3-5 years. He cautioned that other items on the list may not occur due to the school's administrative decisions. Mr. Howard pointed out that the committee could be formed over the holidays, meet in January and come back in February or March with recommendations as to how to spend approximately \$200,000, which has been budgeted in 2014 for athletic improvements in both ends of the county.

Mrs. Adams referred to a comment that had been made by Mr. Howard at last month's meeting regarding the fact that his staff did not have the training, ability or equipment to maintain the athletic fields at the same level as other area fields, and she asked if he had looked into that since last month. Mr. Howard replied that at the conference he had attended recently he had spoken with a landscaping company, and they had told him that they could provide the education and training necessary. They asserted that in-house maintenance staff could learn this within a week. He added that the school corporation does have some of the equipment but may not have the vehicle or tractor that can pull that equipment to use it properly. Mr. Howard believes that with a little education and training, the field maintenance can be pulled back in-house.

### **B. Health Clinic Presentation**

Mr. Howard presented a virtual tour of the newly-renovated WV/WCI Employee Health and Wellness Center for employees of Clay Community Schools who subscribe to the school corporation's benefits program.

### **C. Knightsville Property Discussion**

Mr. Howard listed the current activities at this building, which include corporation historical and archive storage; historical building and grounds documentation; retention of finance and academic records; furniture and equipment storage; and, record shredding accumulation point. As for the future of this location, Mr. Howard stated that there have been three parties interested in the property and/or building. Other options include being maintained by the school corporation for later use, being sold as real estate for revenue, being used by the Town of Knightsville as a possible site for a water tower, and being used as the location for a spring auction of obsolete items. As for record storage solutions, Mr. Howard suggested the following options: Construction of an extension to Central Office on the northwest side of the building; lease or rental of

space locally; cloud and electronic storage; and, modification of existing structures. These options would provide storage for archives and finance/academic documentation as well as storage of files currently at numerous schools, centralized storage of building Operations & Maintenance manuals and prints, and additional safety and security measures. The timeframe: Per Board direction, any of the solutions could be accomplished during the 2014 calendar year. Interested parties have stated that they may be prepared to move forward after spring or early summer. Real estate sale of asset would depend on the market for this type of property. Mr. Howard recommended disposing of this property at some time during the 2014 calendar year.

**D. Job Description – Title I Parent Liaison – NEW: First Reading**

This was a first reading, so no vote was required. The job description will be brought back to the January 2014 school board meeting for a vote. This is a job description for a person who would serve the Title I schools population (Meridian, Forest Park, East Side) to provide better communication between school and home with some of the more at-risk or needy students.

Mr. Scherb commented that there appears to be a need for a counselor, or a home/school advisor, a person who could go in and work with kids who have a need. Dr. Tucker replied that the main focus for this job would be parent communication and parent involvement that must be offered to remain in compliance with the Title I federal grant funding. She added that this person would be visiting homes, making contacts if kids don't come to school for a few days or don't complete homework, sort of like a social worker/counselor. Dr. Tucker cautioned that these are only temporary positions because funds to pay for these positions will come from carryover money that will be available through the end of September.

**E. Policy 6652 – Chaperones – REVISION: First Reading**

This was a first reading, so no vote was required. The policy will be brought back to the January, 2014, meeting for approval. This policy revision is intended to upgrade the original board policy where the school corporation requires expanded criminal background checks of any volunteer or chaperone that is working in close proximity with or supervising students. This includes activities such as chaperoning field trips with small groups of students or working with small groups of students in a hallway. The background checks are required by board policy #8600 – Criminal History Checks and Employee Reporting – for volunteer supervision that involves contact with, care of, or supervision over a student enrolled in the schools.

Mr. Scherb asked if there was a cost for the criminal history check. Dr. Tucker replied that the cost of the criminal history check is \$31. Mr. Scherb stated that he had heard loud and clear from some people who were not very happy about having to pay that to go on a field trip. Dr. Tucker explained that if they go on a field trip and they are going to ride on the bus and supervise students in small groups at the venue, they need to have the criminal background check: If they are just going along and drive their own car and supervise their own child, that's a different story. Dr. Tucker noted that it is extremely cost-prohibitive for the school to take on that cost for every parent who would

want to be involved in that kind of activity, so the cost must be the responsibility of the individual.

Mrs. Adams commented on the requirement of the background check for those who wish to help with classroom parties. Dr. Tucker clarified that a parent could go and participate in the classroom party, just as someone would during an open house; however, if the parent were to go in and supervise students, the Expanded Criminal History Check would be required. Mrs. Adams suggested that being “involved” needed to be clearly defined in the policy.

After Mrs. Adams read the current version of this policy and pointed out that it did not have language saying that parents had to pay for the Expanded Criminal History Check in order to be with their kids at a school party, Dr. Tucker stated the policy was being amended in order to add that language to the policy. In response to this, Mrs. Adams made the point that Policy 8600 – Criminal History Checks and Employee Reporting refers to volunteers who provide services and who have direct, ongoing contact with children. As she sees it, that does not include going to a party or going on a field trip.

Another point that was concerning to Mrs. Adams was the practice of taking parents on field trips and letting them go with groups of children. Her opinion: the parents are being utilized as staff, and they are not staff. Dr. Tucker responded by noting that practice had been involved in countless schools over countless years. That is why the policy is being revised: To add a layer of protection by requiring the individual who is going to be assigned a group of students under their supervision to have a criminal background check.

As for Mrs. Adams’ assertion that there would not be very many parents who could afford \$31 for the Expanded Criminal History Check to come to a party, Dr. Tucker pointed out that once individuals have gone through that process, they cannot be asked to go through that process again for at least five years.

Mrs. Adams shared her opinion that the school corporation might be going a little bit overboard when requiring a parent to do a background check for a party or a field trip. Mrs. Kaelber responded, stating that she agreed it might be a little overboard; however, she remembered having this conversation when the school corporation was required to go to the Expanded Criminal History Check process in 2009. The conversation was held with the former superintendent, and Mrs. Kaelber as well as other board members at that time had expressed their opinion that volunteers needed to go through the criminal background check if they were going to be volunteering with children. Mrs. Adams stated that it appears the school corporation reaches out and asks the community for more involvement, but this appears to be somewhat prohibitive financially.

Noting that there were several offenses listed under the Indiana Code referenced in Policy 8600, Mrs. Adams asked who decided what would limit a parent’s ability to go on a field trip. Without getting into an A-Z list, Dr. Tucker mentioned assault, battery, and



drugs. She also mentioned the fact that sometimes offenses are removed by a judge from a person's criminal history after a period of time. Dr. Tucker asserted that passing the criminal background check makes it a little less of a concern about having to make a choice on volunteers.

Mrs. Adams concluded discussion by noting that she would feel better if the policy revision was reworked as it relates to classroom parties and what the different definitions of involvement would be.

**F. Policy 7900 – School Assembly Programs – NEW: First Reading**

This was a first reading, so no vote was required. The policy will be brought back to the January, 2014 meeting for approval. This policy has to do with putting a little more preliminary detail into what kinds of school assemblies the school corporation allows participation.

**G. Policy 9500 – Student Fundraising – REVISION: First Reading**

This also was a first reading, so no vote was required. This policy will be brought back to the January, 2014 meeting for approval. This policy revision is intended to shore up what was considered to be a little outside of the lines of what was appropriate for student fundraising activities.

**H. Resolution to Issue General Obligation Bonds for Fire Alarm/Lighting Systems Project at Northview High School**

Mr. Reberger moved to accept both resolutions, Item VI. H. and Item VI. J. Mr. Kumpf seconded.

Under discussion, Mr. Scherb stated that although the projects need to be done and are good projects, he does not approve of the method of payment.

The motion was approved by a 5-2 vote with Mrs. Adams and Mr. Scherb opposed.

**I. Resolution to Spend Appropriations from 2014A General Obligation Bond Proceeds and Interest Earnings Thereon**

Mr. Kumpf moved to approve Item VI. I and Item VI. K together. Dr. Froderman seconded, and the motion was approved by a 5-2 vote with Mrs. Adams and Mr. Scherb opposed.

**J. Resolution to Issue General Obligation Bonds for Energy Savings Project at Northview High School**

Combined with Item VI. H.

**K. Resolution to Spend Appropriations from 2014B General Obligation Bond Proceeds and Interest Earnings Thereon**

Combined with Item VI. I.

**L. Authorization for ECA Spending for Clay City Jr/Sr High School**

A request to purchase supplies for the Clay City Jr/Sr High School training room was submitted by Principal Jeff Bell to Director of Business Affairs Mark Shayotovich. Approval to purchase these items using funds from the school's ECA Athletic account was recommended.

Mr. Kumpf moved to authorize the purchase of supplies. Mr. Scherb seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**M. Approval of Payment for Supplemental Coach for Clay City Jr/Sr High School**

Jeff Bell had submitted a request for approval of payment to Lauren Barnett in the amount of \$600 for her services as a supplemental coach. The payment is to come from the ECA Athletic account. Approval was recommended.

Mr. Scherb moved to approve payment to Lauren Barnett. Mr. Kumpf seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**N. Waiver of Notification Date for Retirement**

Director of Personnel, Data, and Food Services Carolyn Kumpf submitted a recommendation to allow a waiver of the notification date requirement for Mrs. Janet Grey who wished to retire effective at the end of the first semester of the 2013-2014 school year. Approval was recommended.

Mr. Kumpf moved to allow the waiver of the notification date requirement for Janet Grey. Mr. Reberger seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**O. Permission to Solicit Request for Proposals (RFP) for One-to-One Student Laptop Initiative**

Mr. Milner requested permission to solicit Requests for Proposals (RFP) for approximately 2,300 laptop computers for students in grades 6-12 beginning in the 2014-2015 school year.

Under discussion, Mr. Scherb asked how many students would be involved. Mr. Milner stated there would be just over 2,000 students. Laptops for teachers would be included in the purchase of 2,300 computers.

Mr. Scherb then asked if there would be an extra laptop available if a student destroys one. Mr. Milner replied that he anticipated having at least 15-20 extra laptop computers available per building in the library for check-out in case something happened to a student's laptop and it had to be repaired.

Mr. Reberger moved to grant permission to solicit a Request for Proposals for one-to-one student laptop computers. Mr. Miller seconded.

Under discussion, Mrs. Adams stated that, in good faith, she couldn't vote for technology at this point until she knows that kids in Clay City are learning in an environment where there are not leaks coming down through the roof, there is no mold, and their school is up to par.

Mr. Scherb commented that, although he believed the technology to be necessary and probably a good thing, the survey of the teachers regarding technology use in the classroom indicated several concerns. Until those concerns are answered to the best of the school corporation's ability, there is a need to slow down and make sure that everybody is on board as much as possible. He suggested an amendment to Mr. Reberger's motion: Conduct a series of meetings and a second survey before actually purchasing the laptops.

Responding to Mr. Scherb's comments, Dr. Tucker referred to the pie charts included with the survey results that showed 93% of teachers indicating that they used technology weekly, daily, and during every class hour. Dr. Tucker stated that she had met with all of the secondary English teachers at Northview High School for a day last week, and she had also spoken with the building reps. By the end of the day, the building rep had told Dr. Tucker that she would probably come to the board meeting and she felt that Dr. Tucker had answered all of her questions. As Dr. Tucker saw it, the issue is more about pedagogy than it is about technology. She believed financially the time is now. She felt that she had provided answers to teachers about how curricular training would be done, and she felt she had met the obligations for the concerns that were presented by the first group of teachers who would be asked to make the move toward a digital 2.0 curriculum.

Mr. Reberger's motion to solicit requests for proposals for 2,300 laptops from various companies was approved by a 5-1-1 vote with Mrs. Adams opposed and Mr. Scherb abstaining.

**P. Recommendation to Approve Secondary Course Changes**

Information had been provided to board members pertaining to course changes at the secondary level relative to new course proposals, course changes, and course cancellations. Additionally, a record of Central Curriculum Committee members who were present and had approved changes had been provided. Scheduling of high school courses will begin in January of 2014 for the 2014-15 school year. Approval was recommended.

Mrs. Adams moved to approve secondary course changes. Mr. Miller seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**Q. Two-Year Cooperative Agreement for Career and Technical Education Cosmetology**

Clay Community Schools completed a two-year cooperative agreement with Jocie's Beauty School to offer Cosmetology I and Cosmetology II vocational courses. Approval of this agreement was recommended.

Mr. Scherb moved to approve the two-year cooperative agreement with Jocie's Beauty School. Mr. Kumpf seconded.

Under discussion, Dr. Froderman asked, if a student finishes the program and passes the test, would the student would be a licensed cosmetologist. Dr. Tucker replied that it is a two-year course and there is a little summer work involved, but they would be a licensed cosmetologist at the end of the program. Mrs. Knust noted that students would start in their junior year, and they have to complete 1500 hours. She added that approximately 80 hours would be lacking through the school program, but those hours could be completed during the summer months. If students completed those hours between their junior and senior years, they could take the exam upon graduation. Students would pay tuition at a reduced rate due to a tuition credit through the school corporation. The tuition credit is a result of government monies received per student from count day numbers. The money is used to offset salaries for vocational teachers, so since the school corporation wouldn't employ a vocational teacher, that money would be used for tuition. It would save students \$2,250. That would bring the cost of tuition down to \$3,750, which would be less than the cost for a student who attended Jocie's post-high school.

The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

#### **VII. Board Member Comments**

**Amy Burke Adams** commented that she was still shocked with the field trip thing: If parents are going to be utilized in supervisory roles, Mrs. Adams suggested some kind of basic training for them. Mrs. Adams noted that during October's future agenda items, she had requested a written plan to be prepared and presented addressing the shortage of substitute bus drivers, to be presented no later than the December 2013 public school board meeting. She asked why the plan she requested had not been presented. Mr. Howard apologized for the oversight and stated that he would make the presentation at the January regular session school board meeting. Mrs. Adams thanked the people who participated in the survey. She wished everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

**Ron Scherb** wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

**Fred Froderman** congratulated Dr. Tucker on her accomplishment of completing her doctorate. He commented that he was thankful to live in a community where the pledge can be recited as "one nation under God" and prayers can be said at board meetings.

**Rob Miller** echoed Dr. Froderman's comments. He believed those to be important freedoms that we do enjoy. He thanked all of the patrons who attended tonight. He volunteered to be on the soccer committee. As for the auxiliary gym at Clay City, Mr. Miller noted that it was something that was not going to happen overnight. He talked about serving several years ago on a building committee whose proposal ended up being the elementary renovation project. Mr. Miller noted that the initial proposal from the committee would have included renovations at all of the schools in the corporation, and at one time it did include two auxiliary gyms, one at Northview and one at Clay City. However, the school board looked at the educational needs as well as the extra-

curricular needs and there was a need at that time at both places. The issue needs to be kept at the forefront, but obviously money is going to be the issue.

**Kevin Kumpf** wished everybody a happy holiday season and to be safe.

**Tom Reberger** commented that, based on his understanding of the 1:1 computer situation, there would be training. He believed the administration was putting together plans for extensive training of the staff, and the staff will be proficient and confident when they walk in the classroom. As he saw it, every day the school corporation waits to implement this, it is a day farther behind.

**Jennifer Kaelber** agreed with Mr. Reberger; she believed that moving forward with the 1:1 computers can only benefit students.

## **VII. Future Agenda Items**

**Tom Reberger** liked the idea of following through with forming a committee for the athletics proposals for expenditures from the Capital Projects Fund. He believed there should be a master plan on anything the school corporation does, whether it is facilities, curriculum, etc. Regarding the proposal on the Knightsville project, he believed it is not something that needed to be acted upon in the next 30 days. He thought Mike Howard had come up with a pretty logical approach of what could be done that would be efficient and not cost a lot of money and relieve some liability that the school corporation has with an old building. He would like to give that some thought in the next 90-120 days.

**Rob Miller** would like a soccer field update.

**Ron Scherb** would like to tie up some loose ends regarding the letter that he had requested to be written to the attorney general about the fuel taxes. Dr. Tucker stated that she had given that to the school corporation attorney, and he had not yet written the letter. As soon as he has drafted the letter, he is to send it to Dr. Tucker, and she will send it to the board members. Mr. Scherb asked about information in an e-mail that had been sent by Cori Moody, Deductions Clerk, which stated that insurance premium rates that the board had approved last month were incorrect. Mrs. Kumpf clarified that the only insurance rates the board approved were the classified rates, and they were fine; the incorrect rates were the rates for the teaching, and those were approved by the committee and did not have to be approved by the board. Those rates are determined by bargaining and committee. As for the soccer committee, Mr. Scherb suggested that a work session at some point might be more appropriate as a wrap-up to a committee discussion.

**Amy Burke Adams** had two future agenda items: 1) she would like a definitive answer about the concern of the possibility of mold in some of the elementary classrooms in Clay City. She would like to have it tested and confirmed by next month. Mr. Howard noted that he already had a contractor solicited to put that project together and would provide an answer by no later than the February school board regular session; 2) Mrs. Adams appreciated the concerns from Clay City parents regarding Clay City Jr/Sr High School and the condition it is in. She believes the board and administration need to show commitment to this. She would like to have Mr. Howard go down and take a look and come up with a plan of what needs to be done, and then prioritize the list and have a timeframe. She suggested the possibility of pulling the data specific to Clay City Jr/Sr High School from the five-year or ten-year maintenance plan to formulate a plan. Mr.

Howard noted that he had crossed the five- and ten-year maintenance plans with the list provided by the teachers at Clay City Jr/Sr High School and had prioritized that.

**VIII. Adjournment**

Having exhausted all agenda items, the meeting was adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

The meeting was audio recorded and copies may be requested by contacting the Central Administration Office.