

TRI-TOWNSHIP CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL
CORPORATION

02/18/21 6:00PM WANATAH SCHOOL

1. OPEN BOARD MEETING:

Board President, Tim Guse, opened the meeting followed by The Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of minutes from January 21 board meeting

Aaron Rust made a motion to approve the minutes. Chad Howell seconded the motion. ALL AYES!!

3. Personnel

- Nevin Miller- student teacher with Mrs. Shepherd for information only.
- Tori DeCock- student teacher with Mrs. Clemons for information only.
- Dave Amor- resignation from Varsity girls' softball coach- Aaron Rust made a motion to approve. Chad Howell seconded the motion. ALL AYES!!
- Alexandria MacMillion- Varsity girls' softball coach- Aaron Rust made a motion to approve. Chad Howell seconded the motion. ALL AYES!!

- Jackie Snyder- Varsity girls' assistant coach- Aaron Rust made a motion to approve. Chad Howell seconded the motion. ALL AYES!!
- Mike Welkie- Volunteer softball coach- Aaron Rust made a motion to approve. Chad Howell seconded the motion. ALL AYES!!
- Kim Husmann- resignation paraprofessional- Aaron Rust made a motion to approve. Chad Howell seconded the motion. ALL AYES!!

4. Claim Docket

After board review Aaron Rust made a motion to approve the claim docket. Chad Howell seconded the motion. ALL AYES!!

5. Balance Sheet

Information

6. Public Comments on Agenda Items

A concerned citizen would like more handicap parking spots available at Wanatah School. Superintendent Shepherd explained that we have several handicap spots available in the front of our school building which unfortunately were being taken by the visiting team

school bus. He has advised that he will let visiting teams know to pull the bus away from the building after drop off so those spots can be utilized.

A concerned citizen inquired about the recent news that South Central is discontinuing their Pre-K program. He would like to know if Tri-Township is number one equipped to handle an influx of Pre-K students and number two how has our program managed to stay solvent when South Central's has not?

Superintendent Shepherd responded that we are in fact equipped and excited to handle an influx of Pre-K students in the upcoming year. Our program is not solvent however we are committed to this program due to its importance. We currently have 34 names on a list that are interested in the program for next year with 19 of those having already put a deposit insuring a spot for next year. Our hope is to have at least 32 students in the program so that we are able to have a full morning session and a full afternoon session. If the need arises for another $\frac{1}{2}$ day session we will try to make that happen as well. This program was never created to be a money making program.

The same concerned citizen asked how much the program is losing the corporation per year. Superintendent

Shepherd said he did not have the figures with him but a ball park figure would be \$18,000 - \$20,000.

School board President Tim Guse explained that the intent the school board had behind creating this program was to begin educating our students prior to their enrollment in kindergarten. The hope is that those students enrolled in our Pre-K program will remain a Tri-Township student throughout their K-12 education.

The same concerned citizen asked if the teacher for the Pre-K program was certified and Superintendent Shepherd explained that yes, she is a certified teacher.

7. High School Heating Update

The school side seems solved at the moment but we continue trying to solve the inconsistency on the gym side. When the temp drops to 15 degrees or lower the temp on the gym side drops to the mid-fifties. A gas valve has been replaced which will hopefully correct this problem.

8. Wanatah School Heating Update

An electronic valve has been replaced at Wanatah. It has been calibrated correctly now so we are hopeful that both buildings are on track now.

9. Calendar

This is the first reading of the calendar. This calendar is the same as the other schools in LaPorte County. This item will be voted on next month.

10. Transfer Student Policy

This is the first reading of the update that is required on this policy. The update pertains to students of employees who transfer.

11. Student Discipline Policy

This is the first reading of the update that is required on this policy. The update pertains to giving suspended students credit for work completed.

12. Wanatah Public Library Board Appointment

Don Parker from the Wanatah Public library has requested that the school board appoint Mr. Gregory Benham to the Wanatah Public Library Board. Aaron Rust made a motion to approve. Chad Howell seconded the motion. ALL AYES!!

13. Principal Reports

- Mr. Gabriel- Wanatah School is staying very busy! MS volleyball is beginning. 5/6th and 7/8th grade girls' basketball is underway as well. We celebrated our 100th day of school on in the elementary which is always an exciting day at school! March is coming quickly- we are preparing for I-Read testing. We are now at 96% of our students in person learning at Wanatah School. We are very excited about the growth of our Pre-K program for next year!
- Mr. McMahan- Two of our HS teachers, Mrs. Gauer and Mrs. Kramer applied for the Cheryl Welter grant to help start an Art Club as well as the Tiger Store. The grant was received which we were very excited about! The Tiger Store will have items that students may need that they do not have at home. Donations have been accepted for the store as well. We are looking forward to both programs beginning very soon! Our Leo Club has been collecting plastic bags for the Sleep Cycle program located in the Indianapolis area. To date we have over 3,000 bags collected. The junior class is currently taking I-step testing. Homecoming was last weekend. It was nice to see the Tiger Den full again! The students did a great job participating in all of the homecoming festivities.

14. January SA-5 Reports

Aaron Rust made a motion to approve the reports. Chad Howell seconded the report. ALL AYES!!

15. Superintendent Report

Mr. Shepherd would like to add to the Principal reports by saying that with as rough as this school year has been with COVID restrictions and the weather challenges we have had he feels as if our school is posed to come out of this on an upward trend. He has a feeling that when the clouds clear we will be on an upward trend and he is very happy to report that.

16. Adjournment

Aaron Rust made a motion to adjourn. Chad Howell seconded the motion. ALL AYES!!

**NEXT BOARD MEETING 03/18/2021 AT LACROSSE,
6PM**

