

Northern Rush County Schools

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

August 21, 2024 6:00 p.m.

Mays Community Academy

Present: Nansi Custer, President; Deanna Disney, Vice President; Marcia Schwering, Treasurer; Shannon Dawson, Secretary; Jason Dwenger, Member-at-Large; Lauren Yoke, Principal; Kevin Davis, Indiana Charters; Kathy Foreman, Transportation Director; Trish Mastin, Lil' Tigers; Heather England, teacher; Donita Davis, Tiger Time; Lisa Isaacs, teacher; Alicia Weatherly, teacher; Jeff Light, SRO; Greg Richardson, Facilities; Steve Schwering; Brittany Fry, Administrative Assistant; Francie Patterson, teacher; Angela Richardson; Rosemary Noah, Cafeteria Services

Absent: Amy Hufford, Health Services

- I. President Nansi Custer called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence
- II. Deanna Disney moved to accept the Minutes of the July 17, 2024 regular meeting, seconded by Jason Dwenger; passed on voice vote
- III. Acceptance of Transactions List/Approval of Claims & Payroll- motion by Jason Dwenger, seconded by Deanna Disney; passed on voice vote
- IV. Principal's report – Lauren Yoke
 - a. i-Ready diagnostics should be done by Friday
 - b. A new Tiny Eye therapist is on board for OT
 - c. Speech therapy starts soon
 - d. Alicia was on hand for our most recent Dairy Queen night (this past Monday)
 - e. Mum and Pampered Chef fundraisers are underway
 - f. Our team spoke to many people at Knightstown Jubilee Days
 - g. Carthage Freedom Days is 9/7
 - h. Reporting work for Grace College; Cognia still in progress
 - i. Enrollment is 101
 - j. Fire drill on Tuesday went well
- V. Directors' Reports –
 - a. Kathy Foreman, Transportation – evacuation drills turned into the state
 - b. Donita Davis, Tiger Time
 - Averaging 12 students/day, many small children
 - Still awaiting a decision on pursuing one outstanding balance
 - c. Rosemary Noah, Cafeteria Services
 - Anita McDaniel's last day is Aug 30
 - New hire is Shannon Isaacs; training under Rosemary for director duties
 - \$10k+ for fresh fruit and vegetable program
 - d. Greg Richardson, Facilities – nothing to report
 - e. Trish Mastin, Lil' Tigers
 - 15 students, two pending vouchers, eight with OMWPK or vouchers
 - State is prepping for their surprise visit
 - Brittany Fry has passed for our new substitute

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- RCCF gave scholarships to two children in PreK
- A family donation of \$500 allowed us to renew the ESGI assessment
- f. Jeff Light, SRO – forwarded his log to the Board
- VI. Unfinished Business –
 - a. Alicia – The Rushville Elementary gym is out of use right now; RCS is asking to utilize other gyms, including ours, in its place. Alicia will communicate this request to Coach Gray. This also presents concession/fundraising opportunities for us
 - b. Marcia – it's okay to go ahead and sign up for Spell Bowl and Math Bowl
 - c. Truancy/Absenteeism legislative review is needed with Kevin Davis, Indiana Charters
- VII. New Business
 - a. Deanna moved to accept Anita McDaniel's resignation, seconded by Jason; passed on voice vote
 - b. Deanna moved to accept the new hire of Shannon Isaacs to the kitchen staff, seconded by Marcia; passed on voice vote
 - c. Budget/Finances –
 - NRCS is currently 10+ students under budget (approximately \$210K underfunded), forcing the board to review the budget. We also have to answer to Grace College in terms of where we are looking at cost-savings
 - Thank you to all faculty and staff for their recommendations
 - NRCS can no longer afford to provide insurance, nor did we have enough staff to partake in a group plan this year
 - While other cuts may additionally be necessary, our mandate is to meet educational requirements
 - Kevin Davis: MCA is down from its peak enrollment, additionally emergency monies are always temporary
 - Nansi: NRCS needs to double down on what has always made us special, quality customer service
 - Employees, please let the board know if a lack of employer-provided insurance means you'll have to leave us; we can keep you insured through Sept 30 to give you time to make a determination. McGowan Insurance will help anyone who needs assistance making a decision and finding other options
 - Comments:
 - A. Alicia Weatherly – after almost ten years, people don't know us anymore; we need to be more public about our school and get back to having community events
 - B. Angela Richardson – need to get "community" back in our school; families need reasons to talk about us
 - C. Jeff Light – our charter battle took the focus off gaining scholars
 - D. Deanna – suggests giving different dens months in which they can hold or help with events (some that already exist)
 - E. Kevin Davis – it's about entrepreneurial spirit, have to "own" your own business. Three dates to focus on: Oct 1 – first count day; Dec 1 Special Education count day; Feb 1 – second count day
 - F. Nansi – NRCS will never get to 225 students again, and won't be re-adding junior high grades. 20 students in each of seven classes = 140 students is our sweet spot for enrollment

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- G. Deanna – be sure to check the Healthy Indiana Plan
- Deanna Disney moved to drop NRCS employee health insurance provision (will last until 9/30/2024), seconded by Jason Dwenger; passed on voice vote
 - Alicia wanted to bring back Staff Member of the Month. Chose Ms. Whitfield for August for making connections with her students. Those awarded will receive a gift card and Jeans Day.

VIII. Adjournment 7:34 p.m.

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Maria Schwenig 9-18-24

Deanna Disney, VP 9/18/2024

Shannon Dawson, Secy 9/18/24

Northern Rush County Schools

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2024 6:00 p.m.

Mays Community Academy

Present: Nansi Custer, President; Deanna Disney, Vice President; Marcia Schwering, Treasurer; Shannon Dawson, Secretary; Jason Dwenger, Member-at-Large; Lauren Yoke, Principal; Kevin Davis, Indiana Charters; Kathy Foreman, Transportation Director; Donita Davis, Tiger Time; Alicia Weatherly, teacher; Brittany Fry, Administrative Assistant; Francie Patterson, teacher; Rosemary Noah, Cafeteria Services

Absent: Amy Hufford, Health Services; Trish Mastin, Lil' Tigers; Jeff Light, SRO; Greg Richardson, Facilities

- I. President Nansi Custer called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence
- II. Deanna Disney moved to accept the Minutes of the August 21, 2024 regular meeting, seconded by Marcia Schwering; passed on voice vote
- III. Acceptance of Transactions List/Approval of Claims & Payroll- motion by Deanna Disney, seconded by Shannon Dawson; passed on voice vote
- IV. Principal's report – Lauren Yoke
 - a. Test security training was today
 - b. October 7 starts new i-LEARN pilot test
 - c. Bright Arrow test on Tuesday, new messaging system; staff learns new system next week. Brittany told families about new text source number
 - d. Book Fair underway
 - e. Breakfast Buddies is this week
 - f. Cub Council is back – applications for representation are due next week for 5th/6th
 - g. Marcia: Do we know what happened to our August DQ fundraised money? Brittany has reached out but no contact
 - h. Next DQ night is October 29; Paige will be in attendance
 - i. Enrollment is 102
 - j. Carthage Freedom Days had a good turnout; one family expressed interest. Several of our students stopped by. Alicia will request a better spot for 2025
 - k. Nansi asked about fire drills; there have been none
 - l. Lauren says we're still working to figure out Moodle/IDOE health & safety
- V. Director Reports
 - a. Donita Davis, Tiger Time
 - One account remains in arrears and is no longer paying back. Family will have to pay back in full before being allowed back
 - Averaging 16 kids; Tuesdays and Thursdays include basketball teams and their siblings. Working to schedule more coverage on those days
 - b. Rosemary Noah, Cafeteria Services
 - Shannon Isaacs is doing great
 - Approved by USDA for commodities
 - Working with Alicia on a fundraising dinner/bake sale for November

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- c. Kathy Foreman, Transportation – reminder from NC that registration/inspection for Bus 7 is coming up
- d. Trish Mastin, Lil' Tigers via email
 - 17 students currently enrolled; another pending voucher approval
 - Ready for State visit
 - Getting a new PTQ4 yard sign
- VI. Unfinished Business
 - a. Marcia paid Math/Spell Bowl fees
 - b. Truancy/Absenteeism/Cell phone legislation – Kevin will send a clarifying email
 - c. Monthly reports to Grace College sometimes require different documents; Lauren will email a new request to Nansi
 - d. Motion to approve revised Student Handbook by Marcia Schwering, seconded by Shannon Dawson; passed on voice vote (Staff handbook will be approved at a later date)
 - e. We sold 509 mums for the fundraiser
- VII. New Business
 - a. Nansi: Handbook language needs to be changed to read "disruptive" instead of "disrespectful"
 - b. Alicia: Turkey dinner fundraiser for Saturday November 16
 - Class themes for auction baskets
 - Bake sale
 - Thinking \$12 or \$15 per ticket
 - c. Francie: Her Den's event is Pumpkinpalooza, painting donated pumpkins in October
 - d. Alicia: Den Movie Night will be in December, a drop-off event so parents may Christmas shop
 - e. Other Den events to come
 - f. Alicia: MCA helping at two Willkie Days 5(4) in 50 stops: Gowdy Church and Sampler on 9/21
 - g. Nansi: Board needs to hold an ^{work} ~~executive~~ _{class} session/consult with Kevin 9/24 5pm MCA
- VIII. Public comment – none
- IX. Adjourned 7:05 p.m.

Maria Schwering 10-16-24
 Shannon Dawson 10/16/24
 Jason D. Dunge 10/16/24
 Nansi Costa 10/16/24
 Deanna Diney 10/16/24