

Minutes of Meeting Wednesday, November 8, 2000



The Board of School Trustees of the North Knox School Corporation conducted a special meeting at the Administration Building which is located on Highway 159, Bicknell, Indiana, on Wednesday, November 8, 2000, at 8:00 p.m. The following members of the board were present:

Mr. Mike Held, President
Mr. Gary Byrer, Vice-President
Mr. Frank Hall, Secretary
Mr. Rowe Sargent, Member
Mr. Dave Anderson, Member

Mr. Held welcomed everyone and stated he had received requests from several North Knox citizens to speak. The first person to speak was Bill Skipper. Mr. Skipper stated kids today have enough negative situations to deal with and shouldn't have to deal with some of the things that are going on now. Kids should not be pre-judged. He continued by stating his son wanted to try out for the basketball team, but Mr. Halliwell told him he wasn't good enough to try out. Mr. Skipper stated he didn't think his son should have been told that and he would like to see Mr. Halliwell gone.

Becky McCammon spoke next. She said she is a freshman parent and there are seven on the freshman basketball team. The basketball shorts given to her son did not fit. They are too tight and show his privates. Her son was told that is all there is and he would have to wear them. He was to wear them or not play. Mrs. McCammon said her husband stopped at Mr. Halliwell's house to see if their son could wear his warm-up shorts, but was told no. He cannot wear warm-ups. She said they called Gae Gatewood and she said she would check into it. The shorts were given back to her son and he was told to wear spandex under them. She said they were also told to bring them back and they would see if they could let the seams out. She said her son has received no encouragement from Mr. Halliwell even though he says he wants her son to play. Still, no one has offered to get him another pair of shorts. The superintendent stated he would check into the situation.

The next to speak was Max Nickless. Mr. Nickless stated he is concerned about the boys being treated fair. He thinks Mr. Halliwell does not always make fair decisions. "Why cut one boy from the team?" He was told not to try out and then told he was cut from the team due to problems from last year. Assistant coaches are not given a chance to be a part of the decision making.

Mr. Held asked Mr. Nickless if he always did everything the coach asked him to do. Mr. Nickless paused and said yes.

Paul Anderson spoke next. He stated he has seen Mr. Halliwell interact with his family and respects his family values. Mr. Halliwell was hired to motivate, teach and challenge our youth and be a good teacher first. Mr. Anderson stated he has heard about problems with his teaching and ridicule of students and players at camps. He stated he has seen discipline and respect built by Coach Busick torn apart. He stated he feels the Board needs to do something to keep the pool of talent we have together and use this pool of talent wisely.

The next person to speak was Tony Cabello. Mr. Cabello stated he came to the Superintendent and Board two years ago to see about making coaches accountable for their decisions. He said I know now that replacing coaches is not always the answer. Other things are more important. He continued by stating Mr. Halliwell had told my daughter, who is the cross country coach, that he would liked to have had that coaching job and could have it because it is offered to teachers first, but he could see she really wanted to coach and enjoyed coaching cross country. Mr. Cabello said I am feeding the basketball team at the restaurant and sometimes he would show up and sometimes not. I told him that wouldn't work and he said I can see where you are coming from and I will

do better. Mr. Cabello continued by stating I feel that with some direction and direct comments, things can be worked out. We need to pool together, get the kids together and not point fingers.

Brenda Skipper spoke next. She stated she agrees with Tony Cabello's statements. She feels that a coach should not put down another coach. I have heard from good sources that he has put down the golf team. They have a good record, how can he put them down and disrespect them? Ms. Skipper stated she has played a lot of sports and golf is the hardest one to play. I don't think he should disrespect another sport.

The last person to speak was Daniel Trabant. Daniel stated he is a senior. Coach Halliwell is the first coach that ever cared or tried to make me a better person, not just a better athlete. I hurt my ankle last year and he was always willing to help me with my ankle when it was a good time for me, not him. He is willing to work with us anytime, not just open gym. I want to go to college, but my SAT scores were not high enough. Mr. Halliwell is an English teacher and he helped me and worked with me. I have raised my SAT score 100 points. About the shorts, Daniel stated, they don't matter, I'll wear them. Basketball is not about shorts, it's in your heart. We don't have any problems getting along. Everyone gets along fine on the team. I think Mr. Halliwell is a good guy.

Mr. Held thanked everyone for their comments. He stated he had been on the board for six years and has not had one year without problems from a parent. He continued by stating he wished all of the people present would get as excited about their kids education as they do sports. He further stated Mr. Halliwell is the coach for the 2000-01 season at North Knox.

Volunteer Assistant Girls Basketball Coach - Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lavery and a motion of Mr. Byrer, seconded by Mr. Hall, the board voted and the motion carried to approve Kathy Elliott as Volunteer Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach.

Resignation of School Nurse - Mr. Lavery read a letter of resignation from Teresa Stephens as nurse effective November 15, 2000. Upon the recommendation of Mr. Byrer, seconded by Mr. Hall, Superintendent Lavery was instructed to offer Ms. Stephens more hours and still remain part-time. If she declines the offer, then advertise the opening and accept her resignation.

Employment of Substitute for Elementary Teacher on Medical Leave - Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lavery and a motion of Mr. Sargent, seconded by Mr. Anderson, the board voted and the motion carried to employ Kendra Carroll as a substitute teacher for Susan Becher until Christmas break. If Susan Becher cannot return to work in January, then another substitute should be employed to fill in for the remainder of the absence.

Request to Donate Sick Leave to Susan Becher - Superintendent Lavery stated he had been approached by Beth Holt, NKCTA President, to make provisions to allow all employees the opportunity to give a sick leave day to Susan Becher. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Lavery and a motion of Mr. Byrer, seconded by Mr. Sargent, the board voted and the motion carried to allow teachers to donate a sick leave day to Susan Becher. It was noted details will be worked out with a report given to the Board at a later date.

Next Meeting Date - Mr. Held stated the next meeting would be held on November 20, 2000, at 7:30 p.m.

Adjournment - Mr. Held adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m., with an announcement that an executive session would immediately follow.

NORTH KNOX SCHOOL CORPORATION
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

The Board of School Trustees of the North Knox School Corporation conducted an executive session, prior to the public meeting, at the Administration Building which is located on Highway 159, Bicknell, Indiana, on Wednesday, November 8, 2000 at 6:30 p.m. The following members of the board were present:

Mr. Mike Held, President
Mr. Gary Byrer, Vice-President
Mr. Frank Hall, Secretary
Mr. Rowe Sargent, Member
Mr. Dave Anderson, Member

This executive session was held to discuss the job performance evaluation of individual employees in accordance with Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-6 (a) (8) and adjourned at :7:55 p.m.

An executive session was also held immediately following the public meeting at 9:00 p.m., to discuss the job performance evaluation of individual employees in accordance with Indiana Code 5-14-1.5-6 (a) (8) and adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

The Board of School Trustees did not discuss any subject matter in these executive sessions other than the subject matter above set forth which was specified in the public notice of these executive sessions.

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