



EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS

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**EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS  
SPECIAL WORK SESSION OF THE  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
MINUTES**

**January 26, 2015 – 3:00 p.m.**

**Administration Building – Board Room  
1240 State Road 930 East  
New Haven, IN 46774**

At a Special Work Session 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 3:00 p.m. on January 26, 2015.

Board members present:

Christopher T. Baker, President  
Robert L. Nelson, Jr., Vice President  
Terry Jo Lightfoot, Secretary  
Leland L. Etzler  
Timothy E. Hines  
Arden L. Hoffman (arrived at 3:08 p.m.)  
Paulette Nellems (left at 8:23 p.m.)

Board members absent:

None

EACS Administrators and Association Presidents also in attendance:

Dr. Kenneth H. Folks, Superintendent  
Mr. Kirby Stahly, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services  
Mr. Melvin Falkner, Director of Transportation  
Mr. Roger Miller, Manager of Transportation  
Ms. Janet McEvoy, President, EACS Transportation Association

## **1.0 ROUTINE ITEMS**

### **1.1 Call to Order**

President Chris Baker called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

### **1.2 Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **1.3 Approval of Agenda**

The agenda for January 26, 2015 was approved as presented.

## **2.0 DISCUSSION ITEM - TRANSPORTATION**

### **2.1 Review Transportation Audit Report**

Mr. Chris Andrews, of Transportation Advisory Services (TAS), joined the first part of the meeting via SKYPE. He reviewed the Transportation Audit Report which his firm

conducted. He answered the Board members' questions. After disconnecting, Mr. Stahly reviewed Administration's response to TAS's recommendations.

The Transportation Department uses a set of metrics to determine their department's success in different areas. The Board would like a copy of these metrics. They would also like to see a data wall tracking these measures and were informed that one has already been started.

Mr. Stahly, Mr. Falkner, and Mr. Miller presented information to the Board regarding the following Discussion Items:

**2.2 Financial History**

**2.3 District Attendance Boundaries**

**2.4 District Routes & Tiers**

**2.5 District Choice Busing & ACLA**

**2.6 Redistricting Discussion**

**2.7 Private/Parochial Busing**

**2.8 Other Items of Discussion**

At this point in the meeting, Mrs. Nellems had to leave the meeting.

The Board made several recommendations which will be brought to the February 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting for formal action. These recommendations are as follows:

- 1) Discontinue the practice of bussing students to ACLA effective with the 2015-16SY. (Consensus 6-0)
- 2) That the rule of thumb would be that no student would ride the bus longer than 1 hour 10 minutes or board the bus prior to 6:10 a.m. on any school route and use some reverse routing. (Consensus 6-0)
- 3) Discontinue all inter-district Choice school transfer bussing, excluding Harding attendance area grades 9-12 students. (Consensus 6-0)
- 4) Transport only private school students on travelled roads during routes, per state statute, effective with the 2015-16SY. (Consensus 4-2, with Hines and Hoffman dissenting)

Other things for Dr. Folks and his staff to follow up on:

- 1) Dr. Folks will address principals regarding the enforcement of discontinuing the practice of holding students on busses in the mornings.
- 2) That the rate of pay for substitute bus drivers will be calculated at an hourly rate versus a daily rate.
- 3) Look into transporting students using less expensive modes other than using yellow buses and bus drivers (i.e. activity buses/ mini vans/coaches).
- 4) Review activity bus use at schools.

- 5) Compile figures for reconfiguring Harding attendance area into two areas versus five areas.
- 6) Compile figures regarding contracted transportation services.
- 7) Explore finding common drop off places for elementary students when parents are not home, and assessing a charge for this.
- 8) Action plan for following up on specifics/areas of concerns on Transportation Survey.

**4.0 BOARD COMMENTS**

All board members weighed in on the discussion and gave their final thoughts on tonight's meeting.

**5.0 ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Etzler moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Nelson seconded it, and it was unanimously approved. The meeting ended at 9:34 p.m.

Full audio minutes are available by contacting the Superintendent's office.

The next Special Work Session of the Board will be held on Monday, February 2, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. (building utilization). The next regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. These meetings will be held at the EACS Administration Building, 1240 State Road 930 East, New Haven, IN.

These minutes were approved and adopted by the East Allen County Schools Board of School Trustees on February 3, 2015.

EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

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President

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Secretary