

The Board of School Trustees of Madison Consolidated Schools conducted a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, February 9, 2022, at the Administration Building, 2421 Wilson Avenue, Madison, Indiana, at 6:00 p.m.

The following members of the Board of School Trustees were present:

Mr. David Storie, President
Mrs. Jodi Yancey, Vice-President
Mrs. Lori Slygh, Secretary
Mr. Jay Roney, Member
Mr. Larry Henry, Member

The following Central Office Administrators were present:

Dr. Jeffery Studebaker, Superintendent
Mrs. Bonnie Hensler, Director of Finance and Human Resources
Mr. Kevin Yancey, Director of Facilities and Special Projects
Ms. Shelli Reetz, Director of Student Services
Mrs. Lindsay Black, Assistant Director of Student Services

Mr. Storie asked for a moment of silence in memory of the following former employees who passed away:

Hugh Garner – Former Girls Assistant Basketball Coach and IHSAA Official.

Mary Louise Eisenhardt – Teacher and Coach from 1953 – 1991. In 1990 she received a state award for outstanding achievement in women’s athletics. She was inducted in the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame in 2006. She was also honored in 2015 by the naming of the track at Madison Consolidated High School the “Mary Louise Eisenhardt Track.”

Carl Schaum – Began teaching at MCS in 1971. His 34-year tenure at Madison entailed numerous teaching, coaching and administrative positions. He coached football and wrestling. Mr. Schaum also served on the Madison Board of School Trustees and was president of the Board in 2012.

James Griffith – Began as a substitute bus driver in 1950, and in 1960 became a permanent bus driver for 43 years until his retirement.

John Adler – Began his teaching and coaching career in the 1964-65 school year teaching Health/PE and coaching football. Mr. Adler retired from teaching in 1991 after serving 27 years for Madison Consolidated Schools.

Mr. Storie asked everyone to please keep the families of **Janet McCreary** and **Judy Brooks** in our thoughts and prayers.

CALL TO ORDER

STUDENT RECOGNITION – GIRLS STATE WRESTLING PARTICIPANT

The Board recognized the following high school student for her accomplishment in Wrestling at the State level:

Indiana High School Girls Wrestling

7th Place

145 lbs.

Ally Zuckschwerdt

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon the recommendation of Dr. Stuebaker and a motion by Mr. Roney, seconded by Mr. Henry, the Board voted, 5-0, and the motion carried to approve the Consent Agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – FEBRUARY 9, 2022, REGULAR MEETING

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 6, 2022, WORK SESSION; AND JANUARY 12, 2022, STATUTORY, BOARD OF FINANCE AND REGULAR BOARD MEETING

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT

APPROVAL OF CONSTRUCTION PAYMENT(S)

1.	Johnson-Melloh Solutions, LLC	Pay App #5 (Phase VIII-AES)	\$4,052.00
2.	Johnson-Melloh Solutions, LLC	Pay App #5 (Phase VII-JHS)	\$19,754.00
3.	Johnson-Melloh Solutions, LLC	Pay App #3 (Phase VI – Anderson)	\$119,954.00
4.	Johnson-Melloh Solutions, LLC	Pay App #8 (Const. Mgt.)	\$12,873.00
5.	Poole Group, Inc.	Pay App #8 (MHS-Fitness)	\$174,705.00

APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL REPORT

Employment(s)

Madison Consolidated Schools

Gracie Gasaway – Student Worker - \$9.00 per hour – effective January 24, 2022

Anderson Elementary School

Patti Frazier - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022
Ashley Reardon - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022
Cherese Manns - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022
Tiffini Mundt - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022
Gretchen Smith - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022
Melissa Ommen - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022
Lydia Reardon - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022
Haley Owens - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022
Carrie Whitehead – Instructional Support (Sped) - \$13.00 per hour – effective January 10, 2022
Velvett Hill – Before/After School Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Deputy Elementary School

Kathy Stoner - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022
Kim Mahoney - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022
Meghan McVey - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022
Camille Crim - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022
Kristi Fulton - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022
Jennifer Amburgey - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Lydia Middleton Elementary School

Hailey Riley - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022
Lee Ann Cart - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Shelly Murphy-Smith - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Jackie Shaffer - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Trent Whaley – Administrator (Principal) - \$81,000.00 – effective July 1, 2022

Rykers' Ridge Elementary School

Hilary Scroggins - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Laurie Hatton - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Gretchen Manaugh - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Jodi Denton - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Ann Motenko - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Amanda Laufer - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Gretchen Manaugh – Science Bowl (1/2 stipend) - \$259.00 – effective January 1, 2022

Ann Motenko - Science Bowl (1/2 stipend) - \$259.00 – effective January 1, 2022

Tammy Ritz – Custodian (Full-time) - \$13.50 per hour – effective February 28, 2022

Anna Richards – Cafeteria Cook - \$11.00 – effective February 14, 2022

Madison Junior High School

Jennifer Hartman – High Ability Program Leader – ½ stipend - \$250.00 – effective August 5 2021

Ron Couch – Robotics - \$1,035.00 – effective January 10, 2022

Cameron Blackwell – Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Cynthia Vervae - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Jackie Thurston - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Kelli Schmidt - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Jennifer Hartman - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Mark Robinson – Head Custodian - \$17.00 per hour – effective January 31, 2022

Brenda Galliher – Science Teacher - \$62,600.00 – effective August 8, 2022

John Scott – 7th grade Girls Basketball Coach - \$2,416.00 – effective 21-22 school year

Madison Consolidated High School

Kelly Massie – Team Lead - ¼ stipend - \$345.25 – effective 2021 -2022 school year

Kelly Massie – Cub Mentor – ¼ stipend - \$345.25 – effective 2021-2022 school year

Kelly Massie – Senior Class Sponsor – ¼ stipend - \$690.50 – effective 2021-2022 school year

Hannah Johnston – Concert Band Director - \$1,381.00 – effective 2021-2022 school year

Helen Cope - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Amanda Briggs - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Shayla Shepherd - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Kristen Kozenski - Before/After School ESSER III Tutor - \$35.00 per hour – effective January 13, 2022

Chris Fisher – Assistant Girls Track Coach (50%) - \$1,208.00 – effective January 13, 2022

Ryan Lamb – Assistant Boys Track Coach (50%) - \$1,208.00 – effective January 13, 2022

Jaclyn Sprong – Cheer Coach (Interim) - \$506.00 (10%) – effective February 11, 2022

Julie Moore – Assistant Girls Track Coach (50%) - \$1,208.00 – effective January 13, 2022

Josh Wilber – Assistant Girls Track Coach (50%) - \$1,208.00 – effective January 13, 2022

John Payne – Assistant Boys Track Coach (50%) - \$1,208.00 – effective January 13, 2022

Kelsey Block – Assistant Girls Basketball Coach (9th Head) - \$3,797.00 – effective January 13, 2022

Tim Palmer – Assistant Boys Track Coach (50%) - \$1,208.00 – effective January 13, 2022

Mike White – Assistant Girls Track Coach (50%) - \$1,208.00 – effective January 13, 2022

Sarah Webster – Driver Education Instructional Support - \$14.00 per hour – effective February 10, 2022

Gary O'Neal – Driver Education Instructor - \$26.00 per hour – effective February 10, 2022

Steve Houchen - Driver Education Instructor - \$26.00 per hour – effective February 10, 2022

Tim Whitaker - Driver Education Instructor - \$26.00 per hour – effective February 10, 2022

Don Server - Driver Education Instructor - \$26.00 per hour – effective February 10, 2022

Resignation(s)

Anderson Elementary School

Bethany Stewart – Custodian – effective February 2, 2022

Madison Junior High School

Chad Ison – Boys Track Coach – effective January 12, 2022

Madison Consolidated High School

Hannah Oliver – Secondary Teacher – effective February 11, 2022

Hannah Oliver – Cheer Coach – effective February 11, 2022

E.O. Muncie Jr-Sr High School

Ray Denning – Instructional Support – effective January 14, 2022

Change of Position and Change of Rate

Bus Garage

Ed Hensley – from Bus Driver to Transportation/Custodial and to \$19.29 per hour – effective January 31, 2022

Anderson Elementary School

Christy Hay – from Cafeteria Aide to Cafeteria Cook and from \$10.50 per hour to \$11.00 per hour - effective January 17, 2022

Rykers' Ridge Elementary School

Shannon Konkle – from Custodian to Head Custodian and from \$13.50 per hour to \$15.00 per hour – effective February 28, 2022

Change of Position

Madison Consolidated High School

Kris Sandlin – from Assistant Boys and Girls Track Coach to Assistant Boys Track Coach - \$1,208.00 – effective January 13, 2022

Change of Rate

Madison Consolidated High School

Hannah Oliver – Cheer Coach – from 100% stipend to 90% stipend and from 5,056.00 to \$4,550 – effective February 11, 2022

Jaclyn Sprong – Interim Cheer Coach – from 10% to 16% and from \$506.00 to \$808.96 – effective February 11, 2022

Unpaid Leave of Absence

E.O. Muncie Jr-Sr High School

Carolyn Hawkins – Cafeteria Cook – requesting unpaid leave effective January 4, 2022 – January 21, 2022

APPROVAL OF DONATIONS/GRANTS

Madison Consolidated Schools

1. The Community Foundation donated \$1,750.00 to MCS to be used to help students and their families with lunch expenses.

Anderson Elementary School

1. Cox Tree Service donated \$200.00 to the Archery team to be used for team competition registrations and team expenses.

Lydia Middleton Elementary School

1. The Community Foundation: Canida/Knox Family Fund donated \$2,800.00 to be used for general expenses.

Madison Consolidated High School

1. John and Ashley Schutte donated \$3,519.92 to the Lady Cubs Swim team to be used for the purchase of TYR Women's Venzo Genesis Kneeskin Tech Suits.

APPROVAL OF OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP REQUEST(S)

1. We have a request from Amanda Briggs, FFA Advisor, to take 12 students to West Lafayette, IN on June 13-15, 2022 to attend the State FFA convention.
2. Request from Whitney Mathews, Cub Enterprises Coordinator, to take 6 diesel and welding students to Vincennes, IN on February 18-19, 2022, to compete at the Skills USA Skills competition.

Dr. Studebaker said the Junior High School hired a new Science teacher from Arkansas for the 2022-2023 school year. She was a finalist for Arkansas teacher of the year.

Dr. Studebaker introduced new Lydia Middleton Elementary Principal Mr. Trent Whaley:

- Has been the principal at Jac-Cen-Del Elementary School since 2019
- Husband and father of four, including twins born in May
- Prior to being the principal at Jac-Cen-Del, Mr. Whaley taught 2nd and 3rd grade at Switzerland County Elementary School for 5 years and 5th, 3rd, and 2nd grades at Southwest Elementary School in Greenwood, Indiana for four years prior to that.
- When his current superintendent was contacted, he said that Mr. Whaley is a principal who is involved with his staff and really listens and thinks about a situation or question before answering or making a decision.
- During the interview process he stated that his vision of a successful school is one in which the staff is "all about our students and our building will have a great kid atmosphere".
- Throughout the interview process it was clear that Mr. Whaley truly lives that world view...his answers were kid-focused and it was obvious when watching him interact with his student tour-guides at Lydia that he truly is a kid-focused educator who easily connects with students.
- When Mr. Whaley was asked why we should hire him, he responded with "I won't disappoint you."
- Welcome to Madison Consolidated Schools and to Lydia Middleton Elementary School.

The Lydia Middleton staff presented Mr. Whaley with a care package.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (ALL COMMENTS MUST ADDRESS LISTED ACTION ITEMS)

There were no public comments.

ACTION ITEMS

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS:

A. RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER APPROPRIATIONS 2021 EDUCATIONAL FUND

The Board moved to approve the four resolutions as one vote.

Upon the recommendation of Dr. Studebaker and a motion by Mr. Henry, seconded by Mrs. Slygh, the Board voted, 5-0, and the motion carried to approve the following resolution, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes:

Resolution to Transfer Appropriations
2021 Education Fund

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to transfer appropriations within various budget categories of the 2021 Education Fund for the budget year ending December 31, 2021,

WHEREAS, said transfer does not require the expenditure of more funds than the total amount set out in the budget as finally determined under Indiana Code 6-1.1-18, and,

WHEREAS, I.C. 6-1.1-18-6 authorizes a public-school corporation, by resolution, to transfer money from one major budget classification to another within the same fund,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of School Trustees of the Madison Consolidated Schools, Jefferson County, Indiana, that the following transfers be authorized. (See Attached Document)

B. RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER APPROPRIATIONS 2021 OPERATIONS FUND

Resolution to Transfer Appropriations
2021 Operations Fund

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to transfer appropriations within various budget categories of the 2021 Operations Fund for the budget year ending December 31, 2021, and,

WHEREAS, said transfer does not require the expenditure of more funds than the total amount set out in the budget as finally determined under Indiana code 6-1.1-18, and,

WHEREAS, I.C. 6-1.1-18-6 authorizes a public-school corporation, by resolution, to transfer money from one major budget classification to another within the same fund.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of School Trustees of the Madison Consolidated Schools, Jefferson County, Indiana, that the following transfers be authorized. (See Attached Document)

C. RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER APPROPRIATIONS 2021 DEBT SERVICE FUND

Resolution to Transfer Appropriations
2021 Debt Service Fund

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to transfer appropriations within various budget categories of the 2021 Debt Service Fund for the budget year ending December 31, 2021, and,

WHEREAS, said transfer does not require the expenditure of more funds than the total amount set out in the budget as finally determined under Indiana Code 6-1,1-18, and,

WHEREAS, I.C. 6-1.1-18-6 authorizes a public-school corporation, by resolution, to transfer money from one major budget classification to another within the same fund,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of School Trustees of the Madison Consolidated Schools, Jefferson County, Indiana, that the following transfers be authorized. (See Attached Document)

D. RESOLUTION TO DEPOSIT OR TRANSFER INTEREST TO THE 2022 EDUCATIONAL FUND

Resolution to Deposit or Transfer Interest
to the 2022 Education Fund

WHEREAS, I.C. 5-13-9-6 authorizes all interest earned from investments made under the authority of I.C. 5-13-9-3 to be deposited, except as otherwise provided by law, into the general fund of the investing agency, or in any other fund its governing body designates specifically or by rule, and,

WHEREAS, I.C. 21-2-15-12 authorizes the transfer of certain interest earned, including interest earned on the total money on deposit, to be transferred into the Educational Fund of a school corporation, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of School Trustees of the Madison Consolidated Schools, Jefferson County, Indiana, that all interest earned by the school corporation's investments which may be deposited into the Education Fund under the provisions of I.C. 5-13-9-6 shall be deposited into the Madison Consolidated Schools' 2021 Education Fund, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Board of School Trustees of the Madison Consolidated Schools, Jefferson County, Indiana that all interest earned by the school corporation's investments which may be transferred into the Educational Fund under the provisions of I.C. 21-2-15-12 shall be transferred into the Madison Consolidated Schools' 2022 Educational Fund, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Board of School Trustees of the Madison Consolidated Schools, Jefferson County, Indiana, that any resolution(s) adopted previously by the Board of School Trustees of the Madison Consolidated Schools, Jefferson County, Indiana, which may conflict with the provisions of this resolution are hereby repealed.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER AMOUNTS FROM EDUCATION FUND TO OPERATIONS FUND-MONTHLY

Upon the recommendation of Dr. Studebaker and a motion by Mrs. Yancey, seconded by Mrs. Slygh, the Board vote, 5-0, and the motion carried to transfer amounts from Education Fund to Operations Fund-Monthly at \$100,000, be transferred for 2022, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.

Resolution to Transfer Amounts from Education Fund to Operations Fund
(Recurring Basis: Monthly)
For the Period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022

WHEREAS, the Board of School Trustees is the governing body of Madison Consolidated Schools, Jefferson County, Indiana, and

WHEREAS, HB 1009 required the governing body of each school corporation to establish an education fund for the payment of expenses allocated to student instruction and learning under IC 20-42.5, and

WHEREAS, HB 1009 required the governing body of each school corporation to establish an operations fund for the payment of expenses that are not allocated to student instruction and learning under IC 20-42.5, and

WHEREAS, HB 1009 requires that distributions of tuition support be received in the education fund.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of School Trustees authorizes the Treasurer of Madison Consolidated Schools to transfer the amount of \$100,000 from the education fund to the operations fund, to reimburse the operations fund for expenses that are not allocated to student instruction and learning under IC 20-42.5 on a monthly basis.

This resolution was duly made, seconded and adopted this 9th day of February, 2022.

APPROVAL OF 2023 IMPACT AID SECTION 7002 APPLICATION

Upon the recommendation of Dr. Studebaker and a motion by Mrs. Slygh, seconded by Mr. Roney, the Board voted, 5-0, and the motion carried to approve the 2023 Impact Aid Section 7002 Application.

The Impact Aid program grants funds to school districts containing federally owned land in an attempt to supplement the funds lost in property not locally taxed.

APPROVAL TO PURCHASE ROUTING SOFTWARE FOR TRANSPORTATION

Upon the recommendation of Dr. Studebaker and a motion by Mrs. Slygh, seconded by Mrs. Yancey, the Board voted, 5-0, and the motion carried to purchase routing software for transportation from Transfinder in the amount of \$49,710.00 for the first year and \$18,250.00 for the following two years.

APPROVAL OF READING TEXTBOOK ADOPTION

Upon the recommendation of Dr. Studebaker and a motion by Mrs. Slygh, seconded by Mr. Henry, the Board voted, 5-0, and the motion carried to purchase Reading textbook adoption materials in the amount of \$333,238.50 from Benchmark Education Company.

REPORTS

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Miss Taylor Lynch gave the following report:

“Virtual is tough”

Elementary Schools

- Met with students that are a part of the House Council at Deputy on February 2
- Overall the school year is going well
 - Just wrapped up NWEA and had a celebration for those students that improved in both math and reading
- The archery team recently placed 1st at their competition in New Washington
- Science Bowl placed 11th in the state at their competition
- Nearly every student I met with had to go virtual at some point for either Covid or close-contact
 - Students are facing adversity and doing a great job

High School

- Currently Homecoming Week at the high school
- Students are facing adversity with the recent virtual week and weather struggles
 - The “White House Down” Plan has been very beneficial in the transition to virtual
- Positives
 - Wrestling: Danny Mack, Eli Stewart, Emmitt Willhite, Noah Burkhardt, Cameron Wall and Van Skinner advanced to Regionals. Van Skinner and Emmitt Willhite advanced to Semi-State
 - Girls Swimming: Avery Johnson, Mei Shibata, Emily Nay, and Reilly Kuppler set a new school record in the 200 Medley Relay

Junior High School

- Students are struggling in the virtual learning environment
 - Assignments stack up/less efficient with time in asking questions

- Difficult to teach new topics
- Art club is up and going and they created a new logo for Clifty Falls
 - Working on creating a new sensory garden out back
- MJHS cheerleaders won their first competition in the junior high division and were awarded the best jumps award

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no open public comments.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Roney thanked teachers for all they do. He said as a father of three he has a respect for educators.

Mr. Henry thanked Taylor for her report. He congratulated Taylor for becoming the Assist leader for the Lady Cubs.

Mr. Henry said the wrestling and swim teams have had a good season.

Mr. Henry thanked the teachers.

Mr. Henry asked everyone to be aware of what is happening with the legislators regarding public education.

Mrs. Slygh thanked Taylor for her report. She said she enjoys hearing about all schools.

Mrs. Slygh said virtual learning is hard for everyone.

Mrs. Slygh welcomed Mr. Whaley and said the staff at Lydia Middleton is excellent.

Mrs. Slygh congratulated Ally for her success in wrestling.

Mrs. Slygh commended all counselors stating this is National School Counselor Week!

Mrs. Yancey wished Mr. Henry a Happy Belated Birthday!

Mrs. Yancey congratulated Taylor for becoming the assist leader and said that Taylor would be participating in the East/West Basketball game. Taylor said she hopes to play basketball for the Coast Guard next year.

Mrs. Yancey also congratulated Ally, the boys wrestling team, girls swim team and wished the boys swim team good luck next week at the sectionals.

Mrs. Yancey thanked Mr. Storie for recognizing the former employees who had passed away and asked everyone to keep employees who lost family members and those who are having health issues in our thoughts and prayers.

Mr. Storie thanked Mrs. Mires and Mrs. Deuser for the tour of Rykers' Ridge Elementary School.

Mr. Storie reminded everyone of the following meetings:

Work Session – Thursday, March 3, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Board Meeting – Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Storie thanked all employees for all they do.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Stuebaker thanked the girls' basketball team for a great season. He said they fought hard and never gave up.

Dr. Stuebaker said it has been a good winter athletic season.

Dr. Stuebaker said there is a rumor going around that he and several teachers support HB 1134 which is about teachers posting their lesson plans online for an entire school year. He said this bill is wrong. Dr. Stuebaker said this bill is ridiculous and does not support the bill.

Dr. Stuebaker said several members of MTA would be going to Indianapolis next week to lobby against the bills that would adversely affect public education.

Dr. Stuebaker said he knows everyone is weary of Covid and all of its disruptions. He said in order to avoid putting every close contact of a Covid-positive student or staff member on quarantine, a school has to have and follow a mask mandate policy. Dr. Stuebaker said in classrooms or cafeteria situations where we can't mask, close contacts have to quarantine. He said the day the Governor changed to this policy we had over 200 students out of our buildings on close-contact quarantines and we were able to cut that number to less than 30 the very next day. Dr. Stuebaker said until the rule changes, we will have to have a mask mandate in place in order to keep as many students in face-to-face as possible.

Dr. Stuebaker said a district that chooses not to follow the minimum guidance from the CDC or the Health Department places itself in extreme liability risk. He said if a school were to disregard the CDC and Indiana Department of Health guidelines by not masking, by not doing the contact tracing, or by not reporting positive cases and a student or staff member contracts Covid, that District could be held liable for their medical costs and the insurance carrier could decide not to cover the incident. This simple issue would be an extreme financial disaster for a school.

Dr. Stuebaker said we will eventually reach a point where the State Department of Health will relax the masking and quarantine rules and it will be safer to do so.

Dr. Stuebaker thanked the Lydia Middleton staff for their part in the principal hiring process. He said they gave invaluable feedback.

Dr. Stuebaker welcomed Mr. Whaley to Madison.

Dr. Stuebaker thanked Mrs. Tracy Ahlbrand for being an outstanding mentor and leader.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Roney moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Mrs. Slygh, the Board voted, 5-0, and the Regular meeting was adjourned.

Secretary

ATTEST:
