



# New Castle Community School Corporation

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The New Castle Community School Board met in regular session at the Community Education Center on Monday, February 13, 2017. Those present were: Mrs. Nannett Polk, Mrs. Elizabeth Whitmer, Mr. Jamey Marcum, Mr. Travis Callaway, Mr. Kim Williamson, Mr. Stephen Fisher, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. William Pheffer, Assistant Superintendent; Mrs. Sherri Bergum, Curriculum Director; Mrs. Megan Bell, Director of Finance; and Dr. Greg Crider, Corporation Attorney.

Others present were Amy Blake, Nancy Dickerson, Susan Delay, Janet Maxwell, Chase Decker, Cannon Decker, Preslee Decker, Landon Decker, Natalea Decker, Travis Weik, Stefanie Eikenberry, Debby Raines, Stephanie Renfro, Corbin Mil, Peyton Baker, Naomi Baker, Katie Langer, Aimee Flynn, Kirk Amman, Dustin Chew, Chris Lamb, Jaci Hadsell, Teresa Cook, Warren Cook, John Doty, Debbie Palacios, Jacob White, John Johnson, Triston Clayson, Mike Broyles, Patty Broyles, Teresa Hosea, Beth Witham, Annette Goggin, and Chris Walker.

The minutes for the January 9, 2017 meeting were unanimously approved by the Board on a motion by Mrs. Polk and seconded by Mr. Williamson, as presented.

On a motion by Mr. Marcum and seconded by Mrs. Polk, the agenda was unanimously approved, as presented.

Janet Maxwell asked for an explanation of item A., under Budget, to recommend approval of administrative performance grant. Mr. Fisher stated it was the same as the Teachers received. Monies will be taken out of the general fund to reward administrators the same amount of money.

The Travel Report; Monthly Personnel Report; Bill List (Nos. 56858 through 57112); Payroll Claims and Donations; Field Trip Requests; Submitted Monthly Corporation Extra-Curricular Receipts and Disbursements; and Fund Reports were unanimously approved by the Board on a motion by Mr. Marcum and seconded by Mrs. Polk, as submitted. In response to a question on the personnel report by Mrs. Polk, Dr. Blake noted the turn-over of special education aides is a challenge. The wage increase has helped.

On a motion by Mr. Callaway and seconded by Mr. Marcum, the fall athletic coach roster was unanimously approved, as presented. Board members previously received a copy. To answer a question by Mrs. Polk, Mr. Fisher explained volunteer and lay coaches attend training, and compensation varies per position.

The Eastwood Elementary Eaglebots Team provided a presentation to the Board. Members of the team are Selena Paz, Peyton Baker, Triston Clayson, Landon Decker, and Corbin Mil. Eastwood received a grant to purchase the robot, named Lynk. Students began building the robot in October, completely on their own. Mrs. Renfro and Mrs. Raines led the team but were not allowed to help. They participated in a scrimmage with Shenandoah Elementary and two competitions over the last few months. They placed fourth out of 24 teams in their final competition at Liberty. The students demonstrated how Lynk operated and answered questions from the Board.

Board members previously received a copy of Board Policy Volume 28, Number 1. The first reading was held at the January meeting. On a motion by Mrs. Polk and seconded by Mr. Callaway, this recommendation was unanimously approved, as presented.

On a motion by Mr. Marcum and seconded by Mrs. Williamson, the physical therapy contract with Rewired Rehabilitation LLC was unanimously approved, as presented. Board member previously received a copy. Dr. Blake noted our physical therapist resigned and is currently trying to fill the position. This company provides a physical therapist when needed. Dr. Crider's office previously reviewed the contract.

On a motion by Mr. Marcum and seconded by Mr. Williamson the textbook adoption for Science, Grades 3 through 5, was unanimously approved, as presented. Board members previously received a copy. Mrs. Bergum explained the process, and noted Grades K through 2 will be the next phase.

Mr. Pheffer provided an update. The mild winter weather has been helpful in saving the corporation money. Lots of work orders have been completed. Monthly inspections of all facilities are conducted by John McClurg, which helps identify building issues. Discussion continues on the Middle School renovation. Meetings have been held with three architectural firms; a company that focuses on mechanical issues; a construction management firm; a bonding agent; and Jane Herndon, Attorney with Ice Miller. A meeting will be held in early March with a consultant to guide us through the process. Mr. Pheffer will provide an update following the meeting. Projects continue using the GEO Bond fund, with the focus on safety issues. He noted single projects under \$50,000.00 do not require Board approval. Projects estimated between \$50,000.00 and \$100,000.00 require three quotes to choose the best price. Mr. Pheffer answered questions from the Board.

Mr. Fisher provided an update. Personnel changes at the Middle School for the 2017-2018 school year include Kirk Amman, Assistant Principal to Principal. This fills the vacancy left by Jaci Hadsell's retirement. Also, Warren Cook will move from Health Teacher to Athletic Director and Dean of Students; and Aimee Flynn will move from Westwood Grade 3 Teacher to Assistant Principal at the Middle School. Student count day was February 1<sup>st</sup>. Since September we are down 29 students. The School Board will meet in a work session on Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M. Mr. Fisher reviewed topics being discussed in the legislature which includes raising the limit of project monies from 2 million to 10 million; moving negotiations from August 1<sup>st</sup> to the end of September, with the deadline in February. Another strategic planning meeting will be held in the Spring.

He noted boy's basketball; speech and debate team; chorus and band; gymnastics; swimming; and wrestling. High school Junior, Trevor Ragle, will compete in wrestling at state. The girl's basketball team competed last Saturday at regional. Mr. Fisher thanked all players, coaches and parents. He appreciates how well the students represent New Castle Schools and the community. He thanked Dee Orick for a perfect Food Service audit. He thanked Brad Catron, and City and State police for their help and cooperation during the bomb threat hoax last Monday. Beginning April 1<sup>st</sup> all Henry County medical facilities will be able to run all labs. A meeting was held with Iron Gate, a web designer from Hagerstown. They will rebuild the corporation website. The New Castle Career Center, REMC, and Henry County Library is also working with Iron Gate. Kim Williamson will serve on the Redevelopment Committee. Mrs. Polk noted the bowling team will be competing at state.

On a motion by Mrs. Polk and seconded by Mr. Marcum, the administrative performance grant was unanimously approved, as presented. Mr. Fisher explained this award is the same as the teachers received. He feels certificated administrators all do a great job and deserve to also receive \$435.00 each. Mr. Fisher thanked the Board.

On a motion by Mrs. Polk and seconded by Mr. Marcum the resolution authorizing the entry into an Inter-local agreement for the investment of public funds was unanimously approved, as presented. Board members previously received a copy. Mrs. Bell explained this is a group of municipalities that began in 2006. Becoming part of it will give us the opportunity to invest in their funds giving us a higher rate of return.

Dustin Chew, Director of Technology, reported 475 work tickets during February with 443 of those closed. The remainder are waiting on ordered parts.

Dr. Crider mentioned Gary Black, a New Castle graduate, who as a student was state finalist in wrestling and all conference in soccer, is currently the wrestling coach at Shenandoah. Under his direction, the wrestling team won their first sectional. They missed a regional win by one and one half points. Four team members made it to state finals.

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 P.M.