



New Castle Community School Corporation

January 9, 2017 Vol. 21~ Issue 6

The New Castle Community School Board met for a special Board of Finance meeting at the Community Education Center on Monday, January 9, 2017, just prior to the regular meeting. Those present were: Mrs. Nannett Polk, Mrs. Elizabeth Whitmer, Mr. Jamey Marcum, Mr. Travis Calloway, 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 Mr. Joel Harvey, Attorney with Hayes-Copenhaver-Crider-Harvey.

Others present were Nancy Dickerson, Susan Delay, Janet Maxwell, Travis Weik, Aimee Flynn, Annette Goggin, Jaci Hadsell, Ben Burris, Mike Broyles, Patty Broyles, Angie Jones, Dustin Chew, and Chris Walker.

President Polk called the special Board of Finance meeting to order. There were no changes or amendments to the agenda. On a motion by Mrs. Whitmer and seconded by Mr. Marcum, the agenda was unanimously approved, as presented.

Mr. Fisher recommended Mr. Marcum to serve as President of the Board of Finance for 2017; and Mrs. Whitmer to service as Secretary of the Board of Finance for 2017. On a motion by Mr. Marcum and seconded by Mr. Callaway, this was unanimously approved.

Mrs. Bell provided a summary report of investments for 2016. Board members received a copy. All monies are kept in interest-bearing accounts with interest receipted to the General Fund, Carmichael Scholarship Trust, and Robson Scholarship Trust accounts. All investments are fully guaranteed and certificate of deposits are fully insured. There are currently seven certificate of deposits. Interest rates range from .18% up to .45%. Interest on savings and checking accounts is .25 %. Mrs. Bell is checking into moving money into the Hoosier Fund which has an interest rate of .50%. Mrs. Bell answered questions from board members.

The special Board of Finance meeting was adjourned at 7:00 P.M.

Immediately following the special Board of Finance meeting, the Board met in regular session. Mr. Harvey called the meeting to order. The two new Board members, Travis Callaway and Kim Williamson, were sworn in by taking the oath of office.

Mr. Harvey called for nominations for offices of the Board of School Trustees for 2017. Mr. Marcum nominated Mrs. Whitmer as President. Mrs. Polk seconded. There were no other nominations for that office and all agreed. Nominations were closed. The newly elected President presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Mrs. Polk nominated Mr. Marcum as Vice President and Mr. Callaway as Secretary. Mr. Marcum seconded. There were no other nominations for that office and all agreed. Nominations were closed.

Mr. Fisher recommended for 2017 the re-appointment of Mrs. Megan Bell as Corporation Treasure; Mrs. Leah Melton as Deputy Treasurer; Dr. Amy Carter as Corporation Physician; to establish the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Education Center as the time and place for regularly scheduled School Board meetings; the re-appointment of Mr. Jamey Marcum to serve on the New Castle Area Career Programs Governing Board for 2017; the re-appointment of Mrs. Polk to serve as legislative liaison to ISBA for 2017; and Mrs. Whitmer, Mr. Marcum, and Mr. Williamson to serve on the Education Foundation Board for 2017. On a motion by Mr. Marcum and seconded by Mrs. Polk, these were all unanimously approved by the Board, as presented.

The minutes for the December 12, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved by the Board on a motion by Mrs. Polk and seconded by Mr. Marcum, as presented.

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

Janet Maxwell asked for a copy of the investment report. Mrs. Bell will provide that to her. Mrs. Maxwell asked about Item A. under Budget, Resolution to Transfer Appropriations. Mrs. Bell explained at year's end there are funds to adjust to reflect actual spending. Mrs. Maxwell asked about Item A. under Programs, Board Policy Volume 28, Number 1. Mr. Fisher explained these are updates provided by Neola, a legal company who provides updates with changes in the law. Mr. Fisher gave his copy of the policy to Mrs. Maxwell to review.

The Travel Report; Monthly Personnel Report; Bill List (Nos. 56679 through 56857); 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 Mrs. Polk and seconded by Mr. Marcum, as submitted.

Board members previously received a copy of Board Policy Volume 28, Number 1 to review. This is the first reading. Mr. Fisher will recommend approval during the February meeting.

Board members previously received a copy of the New Castle Area Exceptional Services Cooperative Joint Services and Supply Agreement. Amy Blake has made much needed updates to this agreement. Mr. Fisher also noted Ms. Blake has taken the Special Education Co-op to places he didn't think it could go. She has cut the budget in half without cutting programs. On a motion by Mrs. Polk and seconded by Mr. Williamson, this was unanimously approved, as presented. Participating school corporations are Charles A. Beard, Nettle Creek, New Castle, Shenandoah, South Henry, and Union. The agreement is for the purpose of continuing the Cooperative to provide special education and related services to eligible students with disabilities who are educated by a participating school corporation. Mr. Fisher noted there are two thousand students in the Special Education Programs.

Mr. Pheffer provided an update from the maintenance and transportation departments. Crews are keeping up with shoveling, salting, sanding and drying wet entry ways. The snow plows are ready when snowfall reaches two inches or more. Mr. Pheffer has been working with John McClurg to determine projects to complete using the General Obligation Bonds. Safety and security issues that could potentially shut down a building take top priority. Examples include roof work; heating, ventilation and air conditioning work; replacing hardware on doors; dangerous walkways; drainage issues; and possible demolition work of the old administration building on the hill. The list is constantly changing. Mr. Pheffer stated that each day something new is being considered related to the possibility of renovating the Middle School and moving sixth graders. Several architects have been contacted and a tour of the building is planned for Thursday. Contact has been made with a construction management group but no dates have been set. He will update the Board as the first phase moves forward. Mr. Pheffer answered Questions from the Board and noted public meetings will be held.

Mr. Fisher welcomed Mr. Callaway and Mr. Williamson to the School Board. Mr. Fisher complimented Shane Osting for outstanding success while hosting ESPN and the Hall of Fame Classic. Mr. Fisher talked about budget cuts to Title I monies; meeting with architects for the Middle School project; improvements made in school grades; being selected to be featured on the 2017 Motz Group calendar; Preschool; and state bills being considered. Mr. Marcum noted the importance of maintaining the parking lot at Neal Field.

On a motion by Mrs. Polk and seconded by Mr. Marcum, the annual Resolution to Transfer Appropriations was unanimously approved, as presented. Board members previously received a copy.

On a motion by Mr. Callaway and seconded by Mrs. Polk, the authorization to void outstanding and unpaid checks was unanimously approved, as presented. Board members previously received a copy.

Ben Burris thanked Metro Net for providing a line which was helpful during recent ESPN and Hall of Fame events at the Field House.

Dustin Chew provided an update from Technology. They have installed 50 new access points with over 20 of those at the High School for better coverage for students on the 1 to 1 program. Trouble tickets for last month totaled 158 open for teachers and staff, 63 open for students, making a total of 221. Tickets closed were 297 including carry overs. Total for the school year are 1659 open and 1751 closed. New equipment has been installed which takes and priorities traffic for applications the students use.

Mr. Pheffer recognized High School English Teacher, Annette Goggin, who has just published a book. Mrs. Goggin explained the book consists of three sections and are true stories. The title is "Home-Three Houses" which represents a farm house, a school house, and a church house. The stories are meant to be funny or uplifting. Congratulations to Mrs. Goggin.

Mr. Marcum asked what utility placed a new telephone pole at the south end of the Field House. Mr. Pheffer is already checking on that and to determine the purpose.

Mrs. Polk recognized the outstanding performance of the Madrigals. Mrs. Goggin also attended and agreed, and stated the janitors at the High School are awesome. The school is so clean.

Mr. Marcum noted he is hearing great things about the Speech Team.

Travis Weik asked if students in Vocational Programs are still helping with school maintenance. Mr. Fisher said they are.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.