

The New Castle Community School Board of Trustees met in the Boardroom at the Community Education Center located at 322 Elliott Avenue, New Castle, IN 47362 on December 10, 2018.

Board Members Present: Jamey Marcum, President; Nannette Polk, Member; Elizabeth Whitmer, Member; Kim Williamson, Secretary

Central Office Administrators Present: Dr. Matthew Shoemaker, Superintendent; Lisa Smith, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Greg Crider, Attorney; Megan Bell, Director of Finance; Sherri Bergum, Curriculum Director; Jena Schmidt, HR Specialist

Absent: Travis Callaway

Also Present: Approximately 62 staff, students and community members.

- I. Call to Order by President Marcum – the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
 - A. Roll Call – President Marcum stated four members were present. Travis Callaway was not in attendance.
 - B. Approval of Minutes: November 12, 2018 – Nannett Polk moved to approve the minutes as presented with a second by Kim Williamson. With no discussion, motion carried 4-0.
 - C. Approval of Agenda – Dr. Shoemaker amended the agenda to include items A- Acknowledge out-going Board Members & C-Acknowledge staff from Eastwood, Sunnyside and Wilbur Wright Elementary for improved student IDOE accountability performance. Both items were added under New Business. Kim Williamson moved to approve the agenda as amended with a second by Nannett Polk. With no discussion, motion carried 4-0.

- II Communications/Routine Consent Items/Regularly Recurring Reports/Other
 - A. Public Questions and Comments on Agenda Items - No comments
 - B. Routine Consent – Kim Williamson moved to approve as previously submitted with a second by Nannett Polk. With no discussion, motion carried 4-0.
 - C. Submission of Monthly Corporation Extra-Curricular Receipts and Disbursements and Fund Reports - no action necessary - no comments

- III. New Business
 - A. Acknowledge Out-Going School Board Members Jamey Marcum and Elizabeth Whitmer – Dr. Shoemaker wanted to express the corporation’s gratitude to Chris Lamb and Danielson Center for preparing the facility to use for this Board Meeting. He also thanked Karen Bell & Riley Elementary singers for providing music during the reception and Robin Rinehart and the culinary arts students for the snacks provided to all in attendance. Dr. Shoemaker then presented plaques to Jamey Marcum and Elizabeth Whitmer for their dedicated service to the students and school board for the last eight years.
 - B. Acknowledge 3A State Champion New Castle Girls’ Volleyball Team – Dr. Shoemaker and Athletic Director, Shane Osting recognized the volleyball team for their back to back state

- championships. Dr. Shoemaker then read all the players names and asked that they stand and be recognized.
- C. Acknowledge staff from Eastwood, Sunnyside and Wilbur Wright Elementary for improved student IDOE accountability performance – Dr. Shoemaker stated that New Castle schools moved to all online testing and eliminated the paper-pencil testing. This caused some schools to drop in letter grades across the state. He wanted to take this opportunity to recognize these three elementary schools for their achievement. The principal and a few staff from each building were presented with the Trojan Award of Excellence.
 - D. Presentation of Cenergetic Award – Kent Hess from Cenergetic presented Dave Pryor, Energy Coach and the New Castle School Corporation a Sustainability Award. He also stated that since 2010 the corporation has saved in excess of \$7,000,000 in utility costs. Dave Pryor then recognized William Pheffer, Dave McClure and Richie Broyles for their assistance in assisting with the reduction in energy consumption as well as a reduction in cost. He also wanted to state the savings could not have been attained without the assistance of all corporation employees.
 - E. Recommend Authorization to sign Agreement for Alternative Services and Private Residential School Placements – The Corporation is requesting authorization for the Special Services Director or the School Superintendent to provide necessary residential placement for students if it becomes needed. Nannett Polk moved to approve the authorization as presented with a second by Kim Williamson. With little discussion, motion carried 4-0.
 - F. Recommend Approval of 2019-2020 School Calendar – Dr. Shoemaker indicated that the Corporation will be utilizing E-Learning days in October and March of next school year. Snow days will become an E-Learning day as well. With little discussion, Kim Williamson moved to approve the 2019-2020 School Calendar with a second by Nannett Polk. Motion carried 4-0.
 - G. Recommend Appointment to Henry County Library Board – The Superintendent stated it was the responsibility of the School Board to appoint an individual to the Henry County Library Board. Ramona Hacker has served in this capacity and has requested to be appointed for another four year term. After a brief discussion, Nannett Polk moved to approve the appointment with a second by Kim Williamson. With no further discussion, motion carried 4-0.
 - H. Recommend Approval of Architect Services for Security Projects – The Superintendent informed the Board that the Corporation has five security projects to provide more secure entrances in our buildings. He also stated updates will be given to the Board of the options provided from Fanning & Howey. He also stated the Middle School is not included in this project as the scope of the project will exceed the amount of the current bond. This contract is solely for the architect fees and Dr. Shoemaker is requesting approval to engage in a contract for services with Fanning & Howey. There was some discussion regarding the contract and services for completion of the contract. Kim Williamson moved to engage with Fanning & Howey as presented with a second by Nannett Polk. Motion carried 4-0.
 - I. Recommend new course addition at the High School – Dr. Shoemaker requested approval to add AP Computer Science course to the high school curriculum for the 2019-2020 school

year. This is a STEM course and will help with the graduation pathways requirements. The course will also provide reimbursement to the corporation in the amount of \$680 per student. The course will be part of the Mathematics department. With no further discussion, Nannett Polk moved to approve the addition with a second by Kim Williamson. Motion carried 4-0.

IV. Buildings & Grounds

Lisa Smith, Assistant Superintendent gave a brief report. There were two new maintenance personnel members approved on the Personnel Report. A plumber and an electrician will begin within the next two weeks.

She also stated The Hope Initiative has partnered with the Corporation to purchase curriculum for the Pre-K program that was established at Parker Elementary. She also indicated an Instructor has been hired and will begin December 11, 2018. The Pre-K program currently has students and will start classes on February 4, 2019.

V. Superintendent Report

Matthew Shoemaker, Superintendent gave a brief report. He began by stating the Corporation currently has over 1000 followers on Facebook. He thanked Kim Nguyen and Dustin Chew for their efforts.

He stated he will be presenting a State of the Corporation Address on December 18, 2018 in Bundy Auditorium. He will hold this meeting on an annual basis to provide employees with information on what is happening in the district and give a financial impact statement.

The Long-Term Task Force will give a presentation to the School Board on February 11, 2019. He gave a brief overview of the upcoming events and discussions of the Task Force and encouraged community to come to the presentation.

Dr. Shoemaker updated the Board and community on the process that will take place in selecting a new member. He reminded the Board that any interested individual, who desired to be considered, should submit a letter of interest to Jena Schmidt no later than 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 8, 2019. An Executive Session will be necessary to narrow the field and a final decision and installation must take place during an open Special Session between January 14-26, 2019.

VI. Budget

- A. Recommends Approval of Rainy Day Transfer Resolution – Megan Bell stated this transfer of the cash balance to the rainy day fund is recommended. She indicated this transfer is to essentially reimburse ourselves. She is recommending transferring \$400,000 from the Transportation Fund and \$500,000 from Capitol Projects Fund. Rainy day funds were used to assist when the corporation experienced a financial shortfall in revenue. Nannett Polk moved to approve as presented with a second by Kim Williamson. After a brief discussion, motion carried. 4-0.
- B. Recommends Approval of Teacher Appreciation Grant (TAG) – Megan Bell stated the Corporation received \$90,000. There are strict guidelines for distribution of the funds and the money had to be disbursed to teachers within 20 days. She is requesting a ratification of this

decision. After a brief discussion Nannett Polk moved to ratify the disbursement of the Teacher Appreciation Grant. With no further discussion, Kim Williamson gave the second and the motion carried 4-0.

VII. Public Questions & Comments

Liz Whitmer, current Board Member - took a few moments to express her feelings about her time on the school board. She is very passionate about public education and her desire to be a part of the solution and contribute at a higher level was her motivation. She spoke about the board and administration. She feels New Castle is in good hands and looks forward to what the future holds for the corporation.

Susan Delay, teacher – informed all present the high school speech team received 4th place and a 5th place ranking in recent competitions. One of her speech team members received the Lilly Scholarship this year.

Nannett Polk, current Board Member – wanted to express her appreciation in the working relationship she has had with both Jamey Marcum and Elizabeth Whitmer.

Kim Williamson, current Board Member – expressed his appreciation and working relationship. He believes the board works well together and he is glad for Cory Bennett to join the board. He feels Cory will be a great addition.

Jamey Marcum, current Board Member – Jamey stated he wanted to thank administration, teachers and wishes further success for the corporation. He then stated that is why we are all here, is to serve students.

VIII. Adjournment - adjourn 8:03pm

President: _____

Vice President: _____

Secretary: _____