

Minutes of Public Meeting

April 12, 2021

The New Castle Community School Board of Trustees met in the Boardroom at Community Education Center located at 322 Elliott Avenue, New Castle, IN 47362 on April 12, 2021.

Board Members Present: Cory Bennett, Member; Jennifer Blackford, Vice President; Travis Callaway, President; Jaci Hadsell, Member; and Nan Polk, Secretary

Central Office Administrators Present: Matthew Shoemaker, Superintendent; Lisa Smith, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Greg Crider, Attorney; Jena Schmidt, Human Resource Director – Virtually: Megan Bell, Chief Financial Officer; Sherri Bergum, Curriculum Director

Also Present: Approximately 26 community members both in person and virtual.

- I. Call to Order-by President Travis Callaway at 7:00 pm
 - A. Roll Call - All members present
 - B. Approval of Minutes: March 8, 2021 – Nan Polk moved to approve the minutes as presented with a second by Jennifer Blackford. With no discussion, motion carried 5-0.
 - C. Approval of Agenda – Dr. Shoemaker indicated there are two additions to the agenda under New Business. Nan Polk moved to approve the agenda as presented with a second by Cory Bennett. With no discussion, motion carried 5-0.

- II. Communications/Routine Consent Items/Regularly Recurring Reports/Other
 - A. Public Questions and Comments on Agenda Items – No comments
 - B. Routine Consent Items: Approval of Reports: Travel; Monthly Personnel; Bill Lists #67869 through #68006; Payroll Claims and Donations; and Field Trip Requests – Nan Polk moved to approve reports as presented with a second by Jennifer Blackford. With no further discussion motion carried 4-1 with Jaci Hadsell casting the negative vote.
 - C. Submission of Monthly Corporation Extra-Curricular Receipts and Disbursements and Fund Reports - no action necessary.

- III. New Business
 - A. Dr. Shoemaker congratulated the new administrative appointments. Congratulations to Lisa Smith on her upcoming retirement and congratulations to Adam McDaniel, Assistant to the Superintendent; Jacob White, Middle School Principal; and D. Christopher York, Eastwood Principal. Dr. Shoemaker expressed his eagerness to work with this leadership.
 - B. Fanning & Howey Report – Lara Blankenburg gave an update of current and future building projects. She also indicated the Middle School renovations may be completed by the end of this calendar year. It was also reiterated all projects are tax neutral.
 - C. Trojan Award of Excellence – Dr. Shoemaker presented Dee Orick the award for her recent recognition from the USDA for keeping children fed throughout the pandemic. New Castle Community School Corporation was one of four schools in Indiana recognized for this service of excellence.

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- D. E-Rate Category 2 – Dustin Chew stated this request provides equipment for the internal connections into classrooms. The corporation receives a 90% discounted rate. Jaci Hadsell moved to approve as presented with a second by Cory Bennett. With no discussion, motion carried 5-0.
- E. Resolution #04122021 – Opposing the Establishment of Education Savings Accounts – Nan Polk gave a report describing the resolution with is to oppose House Bill #1005. Nan Polk moved to approve as presented with a second by Jaci Hadsell. With no further discussion, motion carried 5-0.
- F. 2021/2022 Textbook Rental Waiver – Dr. Shoemaker stated that due to the receipt of ESSER dollars, the Corporation could waive textbook rental costs for all corporation students for the 2021/2022 school year. Jaci Hadsell moved to provide a waiver of textbook rental for all students as presented with a second by Nan Polk. After a brief discussion Cory Bennett, Jennifer Blackford and Travis Callaway acknowledged their families will benefit from this vote and indicated they would make a contribution to a school program in lieu of textbook rental. Motion carried 5-0. *Superintendent's Note: The 2021/22 waiver of textbook rental costs does not waive class/course fees or Career Center program fees. Class/Course and Career Center program fees will remain the responsibility of parents/guardians.*

IV. Buildings & Grounds – Lisa Smith, Assistant Superintendent gave a report on the following:

- A. Welcome the new administrative team
- B. Upcoming Bids
- C. Roofing projects at Middle School and Bundy Auditorium
- D. Transportation Department updates
- E. Progress meetings and a thank you to Lara Blankenburg, Fanning & Howey and the Construction Leader for their hard work and dedication
- F. April 28, 2021 meeting for Bundy Auditorium stakeholders

V. Superintendent Report – Updates presented by Superintendent, Dr. Matthew Shoemaker.

- A. Thank you Board and NCEA
- B. Thank you to teachers for in person classes
- C. Thank you to Holly Flesher, Riley Elementary for a quick response to a student
- D. Thank you to Food Service Department for providing for families in recent survey
- E. Earn/Learn Certificate to Career Center

VI. Budget – Megan Bell, Chief Financial Officer, gave information relating to budget items.

- A. Report on Transfer from Education Fund to Operations Fund for March Expenditures in the amount of \$336,300 which includes three payrolls in March. Jennifer Blackford moved to approve the transfer as recommended with a second by Jaci Hadsell. With no discussion, motion carried 5-0.
- B. Chromebook Purchase – Megan Bell requested approval for the purchase of chromebooks for kindergarten classes in the amount of \$69,500 – Nan Polk moved to approve as presented with a second by Cory Bennett. With no discussion, motion carried 5-0.

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VII. Public Questions & Comments – The meeting is open for comments and the following spoke.

A. Forrest Plank – Community Member

VIII. Adjournment – With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 pm.

President: _____

Vice President: _____

Secretary: _____