

Minutes of Public Meeting

May 10, 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 May 10, 2021.

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

**Central Office Administrators Present:** Matthew Shoemaker, Superintendent; Jena Schmidt, Human Resource Director; Joel Harvey, Attorney – Virtually: Megan Bell, Chief Financial Officer; Sherri Bergum, Curriculum Director

**Also Present:** Approximately 7 in person and 24 virtual attendees.

- I. Call to Order-by President Travis Callaway at 7:00 pm
  - A. Roll Call - Four members present – Cory Bennett was not in attendance.
  - B. Approval of Minutes: April 12, 2021 – Nan Polk moved to approve the minutes as presented with a second by Jennifer Blackford. With no discussion, motion carried 4-0.
  - C. Approval of Agenda – Dr. Shoemaker stated there are two additions to the agenda. Jennifer Blackford moved to approve the agenda as amended with a second by Nan Polk. There was a discussion and clarification from Attorney, Joel Harvey regarding consent agenda items. Jaci Hadsell requested the Personnel Report be voted on separately. With no further 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 Items: Approval of Reports: Travel; Monthly Personnel; Bill Lists #68007 through #68178; Payroll Claims and Donations; and Field Trip Requests – Jaci Hadsell requested to pull the personnel report from the consent agenda. Nan Polk moved to approve the reports as presented with a second by Jaci Hadsell. Motion carried 4-0. Nan Polk then moved to approve the Personnel Report with a second by Jennifer Blackford. With no discussion, motion carried 4-0. Dr. Shoemaker then introduced Noah Brown, newly approved High School Agriculture Teacher. He was welcomed by the Corporation.
  - C. Submission of Monthly Corporation Extra-Curricular Receipts and Disbursements and Fund Reports - no action necessary.
- III. New Business
  - A. Fanning & Howey Report – Dr. Shoemaker stated a report will be presented in June.
  - B. Extended Work Day MOU with NCEA – The NCEA voted on Friday, May 7, 2021 on the proposed Memorandum of Understanding. The union passed the MOU by a vote of 98-5. Dr. Shoemaker stated that the longer teacher work day will allow for more instructional time at the elementary level and professional development time at the secondary level. He indicated that a longer elementary school day and professional development at the secondary were initiatives proposed during the Long Term Planning process. Dr. Shoemaker then asked Adam McDaniel

to also speak to the logistics of the secondary extension of time. Jaci Hadsell moved to approve as presented with a second by Jennifer Blackford. After a brief discussion, motion carried 4-0.

- C. Student School Hours for 2021/2022 – Dr. Shoemaker gave further information on school hours for the 2021/2022 school year as listed in the above MOU. Jennifer Blackford moved to approve as presented with a second by Jaci Hadsell. Motion carried 4-0.
- D. Approval of Secondary Handbooks – Dr. Shoemaker indicated the changes are highlighted. There was some discussion and corrections noted. Nan Polk moved to approve the secondary handbooks with corrections noted. Jennifer Blackford gave the second and motion carried 4-0.
- E. Approval of Secondary Course Additions – Nan Polk moved to approve the additions as presented with a second by Jaci Hadsell. Motion carried 4-0.
- F. American Reserve Plan Act of 2021: Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER): ESSER III – Dr. Shoemaker stated the Re-Entry Plan has been updated per requirements and is currently posted on the Corporation Web-site. This plan will be updated no less than every six months. He stated that 20% of the ESSER III funds must be allocated towards addressing learning loss. He indicated that ESSER III Funds would be used to support additional elementary instruction, secondary professional development through the development of the MOU. He also announced ESSER III dollars would be used to fund new positions such as a Graduation Coach at the High School and Instructional Coaches serving all schools in 2021/22 to support student learning.
- G. Configuration of Sunnyside Elementary School for 2021/2022 – Dr. Shoemaker requested approval to reconfigure Sunnyside Elementary for the next school year. He explained that by adding grade five, we will avoid students attending three different schools in three successive years. Jaci Hadsell moved to approve as requested with a second by Jennifer Blackford. Motion carried 4-0.
- H. Facilities Use Agreement: First Reading – Dr. Shoemaker stated no action is necessary on this policy. It is presented for first reading and discussion and he welcomed the Board to review it and suggest any changes needed for final approval. The policy will be voted on in final form in June for implementation.

IV. Buildings & Grounds – Dr. Shoemaker reported on behalf of Lisa Smith, Assistant Superintendent:

- A. Middle School Roof – delayed a month due to arrival of materials
- B. Elementary Gym Floors - in progress
- C. Cooling Towers – in multiple buildings
- D. Middle School Construction – on track for 7th/8th to move in to new building the second semester of 21/22
- E. MS Auxiliary Gym - completed in May
- F. Transfinder – working on route updates

V. Superintendent Report – Dr. Matthew Shoemaker reported:

- A. Congratulations to Middle School Academic Teams
- B. Congratulations to High School Choir Department on receiving All Music Award

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- C. Bundy Renovation Update
- D. Henry County currently in Yellow status for COVID
- E. Trojan of Excellence Award for Bravery, Professionalism, Resilience and Dedication to all Faculty and Staff of NCCSC. A certificate will be placed in the Boardroom as well as presented to each school building for display.
- F. High School Prom is Saturday, May 15, 2021
- G. High School Graduation is Sunday, June 6, 2021 – masks will be required

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

- A. Report on Transfer from Education Fund to Operations Fund for April Expenditures in the amount of \$336,000.00 – Jennifer Blackford moved to approve the transfer as recommended with a second by Jaci Hadsell. With no discussion, motion carried 4-0.

VI. Public Questions & Comments – The meeting was open for comments and the following individuals provided comments:

- A. Travis Callaway – Board President
- B. Jennifer McGowan – Middle School Teacher & NCEA President
- C. Sherri Bell – Community Member
- D. Jaci Hadsell – Board Member

VIII. Adjournment – With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.

President: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice President: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_