

Minutes of Public Meeting

July 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 July 12, 2021.

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

Central Office Administrators Present: Matthew Shoemaker, Superintendent; Adam McDaniel, Assistant to the Superintendent; Megan Bell, Chief Financial Officer; Sherri Bergum, Curriculum Director; Dr. Greg Crider, Attorney and Jena Schmidt, Human Resource Director

Also Present: Approximately 16 in person and 14 virtual attendees community members both in person and virtual.

- I. Call to Order-by President Travis Callaway at 7:00 pm
 - A. Roll Call - Four members were present – Nan Polk was not in attendance.
 - B. Approval of Minutes: June 14, 2021 – There was some discussion regarding the public comments section and Dr. Shoemaker stated the guidance from Indiana School Board Association recommends that board minutes should be brief and concise and provide a record of business items. Cory Bennett moved to approve the minutes as presented with a second by Jennifer Blackford. With no more discussion, motion carried 4-0.
 - C. Approval of Agenda – Dr. Shoemaker amended the agenda to include an additional item under New Business. Jennifer Blackford moved to approve the agenda as amended with a second by Cory Bennett. With no discussion, motion carried 4-0.
- II. Communications/Routine Consent Items/Regularly Recurring Reports/Other
 - A. Public Questions and Comments on Agenda Items – There were no comments.
 - B. Routine Consent Items: Approval of Reports: Travel; Monthly Personnel; Bill Lists; Payroll Claims and Donations; and Field Trip Requests – Jennifer Blackford moved to approve all reports as presented with a second by Cory Bennett. With no discussion motion carried 4-0.
 - C. Submission of Monthly Corporation Extra-Curricular Receipts and Disbursements and Fund Reports - no action necessary.
- III. New Business
 - A. Fanning & Howey Report – No report was given.
 - B. Food Service Contracts – Dee Orick indicated there will be a small increase in food costs and explained requirements for PEBT cards as well as the importance of completing the free and reduced application. Jennifer Blackford moved to approve the contracts as presented with a second by Jaci Hadsell. Motion carried 4-0.
 - C. Food Service Handbooks – Dee Orick indicated there were minimal changes. Jaci Hadsell moved to approve as presented with a second by Cory Bennett. Motion carried 4-0.
 - D. Elementary Handbook – Jaci Hadsell moved to approve the handbook as presented with a second by Cory Bennett. After a brief discussion, motion carried 4-0.

- E. Textbook Rental & Fee Agreement – Megan Bell explained the rental and fee agreement. She indicated a slight increase due to the purchase of student Chromebooks. She also indicated the textbook rental has been waived for the 2021/2022 school year. However fees will still be the responsibility of the parent/guardian. Cory Bennett moved to approve as presented with a second by Jaci Hadsell. Motion carried 4-0.
- F. McKinney Vento/Foster Care Plan – There are no significant changes to the plan. Jaci Hadsell moved to approve as presented with a second by Jennifer Blackford. Motion carried 4-0.
- G. After-School Programming (Latch Key) – There is no significant change to the contract. Cory Bennett moved to approve as presented with a second by Jaci Hadsell. Motion carried 4-0.
- H. 2021-2022 Student Device Insurance Repair Plan – Megan Bell gave a brief description of the plan. Jennifer Blackford moved to approve the plan as presented with a second by Jaci Hadsell. Motion carried 4-0.
- I. Re-Entry Protocol Update – Dr. Shoemaker read an updated mask and vaccination protocol for the beginning of the 2021/2022 school year. The update will be included in the re-entry plan on the corporation website. Facial masks will be optional for students and staff unless otherwise mandated by State or Federal guidelines. CDC currently requires facial coverings on all public transportation, including a school bus. Vaccinations will be encouraged but not required. The corporations will follow quarantine guidelines as required by the Henry County Health Department.

IV. Buildings & Grounds – Updates present by Adam McDaniel, Assistant to the Superintendent:

- A. Middle School Renovations
- B. Upgrades to Middle School Entry Plaza
- C. Tennis Complex
- D. Field House Door Project
- E. Bundy Auditorium currently in pre design phase
- F. Roofing Project at Middle School and Bundy Auditorium
- G. Facilities Maintenance - Cooling towers at Parker and Eastwood
- H. North Parking Lot – installation of sprinkler system lines
- I. Huge Thank You to Maintenance and Custodians for their hard work

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

- A. Field House Picture Update
- B. Tennis Court Bids closing July 13, 2021
- C. Special Session scheduled for Tuesday, July 27, 2021
- D. New Castle Newsletter – distributed to approximately 13,000

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

- A. Report on Transfer from Education Fund to Operations Fund for June Expenditures - \$151,000 to finish the fiscal year.

VII. Public Questions & Comments – The meeting is open for comments.

- A. Leann Mays, parent – Complimented pandemic procedures and protocols.

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- B. Jaci Hadsell, Board Member – Back to School Festival on Monday, July 26, 2021
- C. Russ Johnson, Community – Social Emotional Learning and Critical Race Theory
- D. Linda Burch, Retired Teacher – Parent Bill of Rights from Attorney General, Todd Rokita

VIII. Adjournment – With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

President: _____

Vice President: _____

Secretary: _____

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