

Minutes of Public Meeting

April 11, 2022

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 11, 2022.

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

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

Also Present: Approximately 24 in attendance both in person and virtual.

- I. Call to Order-by President Jennifer Blackford at 7:00 pm
 - A. Roll Call - All members present
 - B. Approval of Minutes: Regular Session March 14, 2022
Nan Polk moved to approve the minutes as presented with a second by Cory Bennett. With no discussion, motion carried 5-0.
 - C. Approval of Agenda
Dr. Shoemaker stated the agenda has been amended to include an additional item under New Business. Jaci Hadsell then moved to approve the agenda as amended with a second by Travis Callaway. With no discussion, motion carried 5-0.
- II. Communications/Routine Consent Items/Regularly Recurring Reports/Other
 - A. Public Questions and Comments on Agenda Items – Jennifer Hood requested to speak during New Business item E: School Board Policy #9270.
 - B. Routine Consent Items: Approval of Reports: Travel; Monthly Personnel; Bill Lists; Payroll Claims and Donations; and Field Trip Requests – Travis Callaway provided comments on a consent agenda item report. Jaci Hadsell moved to approve all reports as presented with a second by Travis Callaway. With no further discussion motion carried 5-0.
 - C. Submission of Monthly Corporation Extra-Curricular Receipts and Disbursements and Fund Reports - no action necessary. No comments
- III. New Business –
 - A. Fanning & Howey Report – Dr. Shoemaker stated this is a standing item with no report to be given at this time.
 - B. Approval of New School Number – Dr. Shoemaker explained the rationale for requesting approval to create a New School entitled New Castle Schools at Hoosier Youth Challenge Academy. He also stated New Castle Adult Basic Education has been providing services to the residential students for over six years. The partnership with HYCA will result in minimal changes initially but eventually allow New Castle to provide in person instruction to students housed at the Academy. There was much discussion regarding the program. Nan Polk moved

to approve the request as presented with a second by Travis Callaway. With no more discussion, the motion carried 5-0.

- C. Approval of Middle School Reconfiguration (Grades 6-8) – Dr. Shoemaker stated that as the construction concludes, the Indiana Department of Education requires approval to reconfigure New Castle Middle School to include grade 6. Jaci Hadsell moved to reconfigure the New Castle Middle School to include grades 6-8. Cory Bennett gave the second and the motion carried 5-0.
- D. Approval of Elementary Reconfiguration – Dr. Shoemaker stated that the elementary schools will also need approval to reconfigure for the Indiana Department of Education as sixth grade will be moving to the Middle School level. Nan Polk moved to approve the reconfiguration of all elementary schools to include grades Kindergarten to grade 5. Cory Bennett gave the second and the motion carried 5-0.
- E. School Board Policy - #9270 – The School Board President stated this item was placed on the agenda to allow for Board discussion only at this time. There was much discussion regarding this policy. Discussion included eligibility procedures and/or requirements for a student not enrolled in New Castle Schools to participate in an extra-curricular activity; the possible number of classes required for a student to participate; testing requirements of the students and IHSAA requirements placed on the school for non-enrolled student participation in athletics. After a lengthy discussion, the President allowed Jennifer Hood, Andy Hood and David Youngquist to speak regarding this agenda item. No change in policy was made at this time.
- F. School Board Policy – Dr. Shoemaker stated this was the second and final reading for School Board Policy #0164.04 Meeting of the Board – He provided some requirements and updates of this policy. After a brief discussion, Jaci Hadsell moved to approve the policy as presented with a second by Nan Polk. With no more discussion, the motion carried 5-0.
- G. Graduation Pathways & Initiatives – Kirk Amman, Karen Bimber and Mercy Jumbo gave an informative presentation for the School Board. There was some discussion.

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

- A. Middle School Dedication - May 14, 2022 beginning at 10:00 am
- B. High School Cooling Towers
- C. Tennis Courts
- D. Bundy Auditorium renovations beginning June 6, 2022
- E. Friends of Bundy – Update of fundraising
- F. State Fire Marshal inspection– all buildings passed
- G. Summer Opportunities for students
- H. Transportation – Hosting a Regional Meeting for area school districts

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

- A. Spring Newsletter has been distributed
- B. Pre-K Registration – April 27, 2022
- C. IREAD – Results indicate improvement in all schools
- D. ILEARN testing window coming up
- E. Presentation Slides of recent activities

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

- A. Transfer from Education Fund to Operations Fund – March 2022 Expenditures in the amount of \$334,000.00 – Nan Polk moved to approve the transfer in the amount requested with a second by Cory Bennett. With no discussion, motion carried 5-0.

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

- A. Debbie Raines – Virtual responsibilities for 2022/2023 school year

VIII. Adjournment – With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:48 pm.

President: _____

Vice President: _____

Secretary: _____

