

Minutes of Public Meeting

October 17, 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 October 17, 2022.

Board Members Present: 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; Dr. Greg Crider, Attorney and Jena Schmidt, Human Resource Director

Also Present: Approximately 31 in person and virtual attendees community members both in person and virtual.

- I. Call to Order-by President Jennifer Blackford at 7:01 pm
 - A. Roll Call – All members present (3 present at opening) (Nan Polk arrived at 7:31pm)
 - B. Public Comments on Agenda Items: No comments
 - C. Approval of Agenda: Dr. Shoemaker indicated there were no changes to the agenda. Jaci Hadsell moved to approve the agenda as presented with a second by Travis Callaway. Motion carried 3-0.
 - D. Approval of Minutes: Regular Session September 12, 2022
Travis Callaway moved to approve the minutes as presented with a second by Jaci Hadsell. With no discussion, motion carried 3-0.
- II. Communications/Routine Consent Items/Regularly Recurring Reports/Other
 - A. Routine Consent Items: Approval of Reports: Travel; Monthly Personnel; Bill Lists; Payroll Claims and Donations; and Field Trip Requests
Jaci Hadsell moved to approve all reports as presented with a second by Travis Callaway. With no further discussion motion carried 3-0.
 - C. Submission of Monthly Corporation Extra-Curricular Receipts and Disbursements and Fund Reports - no action necessary. No comments were made.
- III. New Business –
 - A. General Obligation Bond – Jennifer Blackford explained this was the project hearing for the General Obligation Bond, the proof of publication has been posed according to Indiana Code requirements. Dr. Shoemaker and Matthew Schumaker from Stifel gave brief presentations on the proposed project and bond issuance. It was discussed that a Special Session was held on August 30, 2022 with Ice Miller and Stifel to define the process and legalities for the General Obligation Bond. A second discussion took place during the September 12, 2022 Regular Session. The final step will take place during the November 14, 2022 Regular Session. It was also reiterated that this General Obligation Bond will be tax neutral and that the funds may only be used for facilities, sidewalks and parking lots. These funds may not be used within the classroom or for employee salaries.

Seth Lee, Community Member – asked if it was true that if the School Corporation did not seek this funding, other entities could and the opportunity for this funding would be lost. That was confirmed.

The meeting was then turned over to Dr. Crider to summarize the three resolutions and seek approval at each step.

- *Project Resolution - \$2 million dollar that would result in no increase the 2022 tax rate for the community. After some discussion, Travis Callaway moved to approve as presented with a second by Jaci Hadsell. Motion carried 3-0.
- *Preliminary Bond Resolution – After some discussion, Jaci Hadsell moved to approve this resolution with a second by Travis Callaway. Motion carried 3-0.
- *Reimbursement Bond Resolution – Dr. Crider gave a brief explanation then Travis Callaway moved to approve with a second by Jaci Hadsell. Motion carried 3-0.

B. Approval of Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2022-2023 – Dr. Shoemaker presented the changes and thanked the NCEA for their collaboration. Dr. Shoemaker then gave a brief summary of negotiations over the past five years. He indicated due to the common goal, collaboration with the teachers and the creation of a placement chart, our certified staff would be receiving an average of an 8.9% increase. Dr. Shoemaker then explained that in June of this year all Support Staff also received an increase in their hourly rates. He indicated that the corporation will also be able to give a one-time stipend to all Support Staff this year as well. Jaci Hadsell moved to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) as presented with a second by Travis Callaway. After some discussion, motion carried 3-0. Jennifer McGowan, NCEA President thanked the Board and the Administrative team for their collaboration toward a common goal. It was also noted the CBA was passed by the teachers unanimously.

C. Second & Final Reading of Neola Policy Updates – Dr. Shoemaker gave a brief presentation. Travis Callaway moved to approve as presented with a second by Jaci Hadsell. After a brief discussion, motion carried 3-0.

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

- A. Tennis Courts-landscaping and athletic team accomplishments
- B. Middle School-State approval for kitchen and final touchups of building
- C. Bundy Auditorium
- D. Field House Doors
- E. Maintenance team preparing buildings for change in temperatures
- F. Transportation team
- G. Education Transformation Team (ETT Grant) – A brief presentation was given on the \$4 million grant and how it will benefit students at all levels. Amy Madden was introduced and there were comments from Board.

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

- A. Food Service-Pirates Day
- B. Cook Out and Powder Puff Game
- C. Middle School Student/Staff Volleyball Game

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- D. Boys Tennis Sectional and Regional Winners
- E. 5th Grade Corn Shucking Contests
- F. HYCA Family Day
- G. College Go Week at Secondary Buildings
- H. Professional Development Day
- I. Fall Festivals
- J. United Way Day of Caring
- K. Elk's Warm Welcome - \$6000 to purchase coats, hats & gloves for students in need
- L. Marching Band & Girls Cross Country advancing to Semi-State

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

- A. Report of September 2022 Transfer from Education Fund to Operations Fund – in the amount of \$334,000 – Jennifer Blackford moved to approve as presented with a second by Nan Polk. Motion carried 4-0.
- B. Approval of 2023 Bus Replacement Budget – After some discussion, Nan Polk moved to approve as presented with a second by Jaci Hadsell. Motion carried 4-0.
- C. Approval of 2023 Capital Projects Plan – After some discussion, Jaci Hadsell moved to approve as presented with a second by Travis Callaway. Motion carried 4-0.
- D. Approval of 2023 Corporation Budget – After some discussion, Travis Callaway moved to approve as presented with a second by Nan Polk. Motion carried 4-0.

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

- A. Karen Yancy, Community – Commented on ETT Grant

VIII. Adjournment – With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05p

President: _____

Vice President: _____

Secretary: _____