

Minutes of Public Meeting

January 9, 2023

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 January 9, 2023.

**Board Members Present:** Jennifer Blackford, President; John Griffith, Member; Jaci Hadsell, Secretary; Seth Lee, Member; and Nan Polk, Vice President

**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 23 in person and virtual attendees community members.

- I. Call to Order-by President Jennifer Blackford at 7:00 pm
  - A. Roll Call – All members present
  - B. Public Comments on Agenda Items: No Comments
  - C. Oath of Office Administered to John Griffith and Seth Lee as newly elected Board Members.
  - D. Approval of Agenda: No changes to the agenda – Nan Polk moved to approve the agenda as presented with a second by Jaci Hadsell. Motion carried 5-0.
  - E. Approval of Minutes: Regular Session December 12, 2022 – Jaci Hadsell moved to approve the minutes as presented with a second by John Griffith. With no discussion, motion carried 5-0.
- 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  
Seth Lee requested to pull 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls softball position and Nan Polk requested to pull girls tennis coach position. This way each position could be voted on separately to avoid a conflict of interest (family). Jaci Hadsell moved to approve the consent agenda items, pulling Middle School Softball and High School Girls Tennis coaches. Nan Polk gave the second and motion carried 5-0. Nan Polk then moved to approve the 7<sup>th</sup> grade softball coach. Jaci Hadsell gave the second and motion carried 4-0-1 with Seth Lee abstaining. Finally, John Griffith moved to approve Girls Tennis coach with a second by Jaci Hadsell. Motion carried 4-0-1 with Nan Polk abstaining.
  - C. Submission of Monthly Corporation Extra-Curricular Receipts and Disbursements and Fund Reports - no action necessary. There were a few questions from the Board.
- III. New Business –
  - A. Board Reorganization – Joel Harvey opened the nomination process.
    - President: Jaci Hadsell nominated Jennifer Blackford and John Griffith Nominated Nan Polk for President. A vote was taken and Jennifer Blackford was declared President by a vote of 3-2. The meeting was then turned over to the President.

- Vice President: Jaci Hadsell nominated Nan Polk with a second by Jennifer Blackford. With no other nominations, motion carried 5-0.
  - Secretary: Nan Polk nominated Jaci Hadsell with a second by Jennifer Blackford. With no other nominations, motion carried 5-0.
  - Time/Date/Place of Regular Session: Nan Polk moved to set each Regular Session on the second Monday of each month beginning at 7:00pm. Jaci Hadsell gave the second and motion carried 5-0.
  - Board Appointments: President Jennifer Blackford made the following appointments.
    - Legislative Liaison: Nan Polk
    - RDC: Nan Polk
    - Vocational Board: Jaci Hadsell
    - Corporation Treasurer: Megan Bell
    - Deputy Treasurer: Leah Melton
    - Board Attorney: Hayes Copenhaver Crider Harvey, LLP
- B. Annual Declaration of Conflict of Interest – the following was declared and filed with the County Clerk as well as the State Board of Accounts.
- Jaci Hadsell – a part-time employee of Indiana Association of School Principals as well as her sister is a school employee.
  - Seth Lee – Owner of Elite Gear, a company that sells athletic, promotional products and athletic apparel to schools in the area including New Castle.
  - Matthew Shoemaker – His wife and brother are employees of St. Vincent network which is our carrier for healthcare. There is no financial gain on any individual.
- C. Approval of E-Rate Category 1 & 2 – Dr. Shoemaker and Dustin Chew presented. Seth Lee moved to approve the recommendation for E-Rate Category 1 & Category 2 as presented. John Griffith gave the second and motion carried 5-0.
- D. Second & Final Reading of Board Policy Updates – Dr. Shoemaker stated Policy #5530.01- Drug Testing Policy will be pulled from approval due to minor wording changes. This policy is tabled until next month. Nan Polk moved to approve the policies as presented with a second by Jaci Hadsell. After some discussion, motion carried 5-0.
- E. Approval of Hoosier Youth Challenge Academy Virtual Handbook – Dr. Shoemaker explained this is for those students who graduate from the HYCA program but remain as online students instead of enrolling in their home school. Jaci Hadsell moved to approve the handbook as presented with a second by Seth Lee. Motion carried 5-0.
- IV. Buildings & Grounds – Updates presented by Adam McDaniel, Assistant to the Superintendent.
- A. Bundy Auditorium
  - B. Roof Projects - pre-bid March 1
  - C. Thank you to Custodians & Maintenance
  - D. School Improvement Grant – New Pathways for High School students

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- E. Mentor Program for students
- F. Grow Your Own Partnership – Ball State University and Anderson University

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

- A. Provided a brief update on Sunnyside Elementary. He has conducted staff and parent meetings to discuss the status of Sunnyside.
- B. In the process of purchasing property behind St. James Episcopal Church. Dr. Shoemaker will provide a presentation to their congregation on January 29, 2023
- C. The following were part of a slide presentation:
  - i. Wrestling Team – Invitational Win
  - ii. Christmas Programs
  - iii. Coach Swim's 500<sup>th</sup> win
  - iv. Stop the Bleed – also 15 AED units
  - v. NCHS Exchange Students - Spain

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

- A. Report for December Expenses from Education to Operations Fund – Transferred \$236,000 which completes the year under the 15% required by the State. Jennifer Blackford moved to approve the report as presented with a second by Jaci Hadsell. Motion carried 5-0.
- B. Approval to Void Stale Dated Checks – Megan Bell explained the process and requirement of the State Board of Accounts. Nan Polk moved to approve as recommended with a second by John Griffith. Motion carried 5-0.

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

- A. Nan Polk – Virtual Students
- B. Jaci Hadsell – Law Enforcement Appreciation Day
- C. Matt Shoemaker – Recognitions this Friday at Boys Basketball game
- D. Jennifer McGowan – High School Choir in downtown Indy
- E. Steve Walls – Bundy Auditorium and congratulations to new Board Members

VIII. Adjournment – With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57p

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

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

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

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