

Minutes of Public Meeting

November 13, 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 November 13, 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; Joel Harvey, Attorney and Jena Schmidt, Human Resource Director

Also Present: Approximately 16 in person and virtual attendee community members.

- I. Call to Order-by President Jennifer Blackford at 7:00 pm – Moment of Silence was observed for three Trojan families. David Bilbrey, bus aide passed away on November 5, 2023; Bo Pheffer's wife Diana passed away on November 9, 2023 and Tatina Firle's husband, Jason passed away on October 31, 2023.
 - A. Roll Call – All members are present
 - B. Public Comments on Agenda Items: No Comments
 - C. Approval of Agenda: No changes or amendments
Jaci Hadsell moved to approve the minutes as presented with a second by Nan Polk. With no discussion, motion carried 5-0.
 - D. Approval of Minutes: Regular Session October 23, 2023
Nan Polk moved to approve the minutes as presented with a second by Seth Lee. 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
After a few questions, John Griffith moved to approve all reports as presented with a second by Jaci Hadsell. With no further discussion motion carried 5-0.
 - B. Submission of Monthly Corporation Extra-Curricular Receipts and Disbursements and Fund Reports - no action necessary. No comments
- III. New Business –
 - A. New Castle Retiree Recognition: No retiree recognition this month.
 - B. *Approval of Sunnyside Restroom Renovation Bid: Mr. McDaniel presented a quote for the restroom addition at Sunnyside Education Center. The recommendation is to allow Whisenhunt Construction to complete the renovations in the amount of \$193,500. After some discussion, Jaci Hadsell moved to approve the recommendation as presented with a second by Nan Polk. The motion carried 5-0.

- C. First Reading of Board Policy: Ms. Bergum presented proposed changes to School Board Policies #9130 Public Complaints and Concerns and #8510 Wellness. No action is needed at this time. A final reading and approval will be held during the December Regular Session.
- D. *Approve Henry County Library Board: Dr. Shoemaker recommended the School Board appoint Linda Shore as the representative from the School Board to the Henry County Public Library Board. After some discussion, Nan Polk moved to approve the recommendation as presented with a second by Jennifer Blackford. Motion carried 5-0.
- E. *Approve Food Service Handbook Revision: Dr. Shoemaker presented a request from the Food Service Director to revise the Food Service Handbook to allow the use of unclaimed balances to be transferred to an account to be used for food service department equipment expenses. There was a brief discussion then Nan Polk moved to approve as presented with a second by John Griffith. Motion carried 5-0.
- F. Elevatus Presentation: Gave a presentation on proposed upgrades to some athletic fields. There was much discussion.

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

- A. Sunnyside Education Center
- B. ETT Meeting
- C. Winterizing around the district
- D. Gymnastics Space at Greenstreet

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

- A. Grant Fulton & Chase Koger received \$358,000 from Safety Competitive Grant
- B. Current entry level salaries in the area – including highest in Hamilton County.
- C. Regular Board Meeting to be hosted at Sunnyside Education Center
- D. Board Slides
 - i. Fall into Wellness
 - ii. Trojan for a Day
 - iii. High School Musical - Grease
 - iv. Fam Jam #1 held on Nov. 21
 - v. Fieldhouse Trick or Treat
 - vi. Better Futures Day
 - vii. Riley Elementary Honor Society
 - viii. High School Perfect Attendance
 - ix. Senior Signings
 - x. Cheerleaders – 3rd in State
 - xi. Westwood to Conner Prairie
 - xii. Parker Storybook Characters
 - xiii. Eastwood Greatness – Character Awards
 - xiv. Wilbur Wright – Leader in Me – Synergy
 - xv. Be a Teacher Conference

Minutes of Public Meeting

November 13, 2023

- xvi. Optimist Honor Youth
- xvii. Middle School Concert
- xviii. Veteran's Day – Band of Brothers

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

- A. *Approve Transfer from Education Fund to Operations Fund – October Expenses \$305,000
Nan Polk moved to approve the transfer as requested. Jaci Hadsell gave the second and the motion carried 5-0.
- B. *Approve Anticipated Transfer from Education Fund to Operations Fund: Not to exceed \$640,000 for November and December expenses. Jennifer Blackford moved to approve the recommendation as presented with a second by Jaci Hadsell. Motion carried 5-0. Megan Bell will report actual expenditures to the Board.
- C. *Approve 2024 Budget (Line 2) Resolution: Jaci Hadsell moved to approve the recommendation as presented with a second by Jennifer Blackford. Motion carried 5-0.

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

- Shyla Button, Parent: Erin's Law Permission Slip
- Nan Polk, School Board: Counselor: Student ratio

VIII. Adjournment – With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:26pm

President: _____

Vice President: _____

Secretary: _____