

Minutes of Public Meeting
January 8, 2024

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 8, 2024.

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 Gail Edwards, School Support Specialist

Also Present: Approximately 15 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. Approval of Agenda: No changes to the agenda – Nan Polk moved to approve the agenda as presented with a second by Seth Lee. Motion carried 5-0
 - D. Approval of Minutes: Regular Session December 11, 2023 – 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. There was a brief discussion with the board. Jaci Hadsell moved to approve the consent agenda items as presented with a second by Jennifer Blackford.
 - B. Submission of Monthly Corporation Extra-Curricular Receipts and Disbursements and Fund Reports - no action necessary.
- III. New Business –
 - A. Board Reorganization – Joel Harvey opened the nomination process.
 - President: Jaci Hadsell nominated Nan Polk with a second by Jennifer Blackford, motion carried 5-0. The meeting was then turned over to the President.
 - Vice President: Jaci Hadsell nominated Jennifer Blackford with a second by John Griffith, motion carried 5-0.
 - Secretary: Jennifer Blackford nominated Seth Lee with a second by Jaci Hadsell, motion carried 5-0
 - B. Approval of Date, Time & Location for Regular Session Meetings
With a brief discussion Jennifer Blackford moved to set the Regular Session on the second Monday of each month beginning at 6:30 pm in the CEC Board Room with a few exceptions on the location, and a second by Seth Lee, motion carried 5-0

- C. Board Appointments: President Nan Polk made the following appointments.
- Legislative Liaison: Nan Polk
 - RDC: Seth Lee
 - Vocational Board: Jaci Hadsell
 - Corporation Treasurer: Megan Bell
 - Deputy Treasurer: Leah Melton
 - Board Attorney: Hayes Copenhaver Crider Harvey, LLP
- D. Annual Declaration of Conflict of Interest – Previously 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. As well as family members being school employees.
 - 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.
 - Nan Polk – Daughter in law is a school employee
- E. Retiree Recognition – None

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

- A. Construction is underway on the restrooms at Sunnyside
- B. New plows on trucks (hope not to need them)
- C. Bus Inspection – Beginning of March

Some discussion concerning heating at NCMS

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

- A. The following were part of a slide presentation:
- Appreciating our People
 - Tiniest Trojan
 - New Castle Career Center hosts NCMS
 - New Castle Career Center Shines
 - NCMS outstanding performance
 - Career Café
 - Paw-sitive Behavior
 - Bulldogs on tour
 - Wildcats strike
 - NCHS Ed. Class tutors

Dr. Shoemaker read a thank you letter from Saint James Episcopal Church Thanking Building Trades for building the new garage.

Dates to remember:

1/19/2024 – Henry Community Health recognition of partnership – Half time of the boys' basketball game

1/24/2024 – Open House of our Gymnastics Team's newly renovated gymnasium
5 – 7 pm at the former Greenstreet School – Door #2

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.
- B. Approval to Void Stale Dated Checks - Megan Bell explained the process and requirement of the State Board of Accounts. Seth Lee 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.

Nan Polk visited Eastwood Elementary School and spoke of the volunteer work the teacher and staff had done to decorate the front foyer of the building. Nan invited everyone to go to Eastwood to see it as it is a Winter wonderland and will be up for a little while longer.

VIII. Adjournment – With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

President: _____

Vice President: _____

Secretary: _____