



## CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

8502 Bailey Road • Darien, Illinois 60561-5333

# Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 17, 2020

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT 63, DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS; HELD AT CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63 AT 7:30 P.M. ON THE 17TH DAY OF MARCH, 2020.**

### CLOSED SESSION

Discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee or employees of the District.

*Member Johnson moved and Vice President Absalonsen seconded a motion to go into Closed Session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee or employees of the District.*

Roll call

Aye

Nay

President Camden

Vice President Absalonsen

Secretary Esposito

Member Carrino

Member Johnson

Member McCollian

Member Ockrim

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

### OPEN SESSION

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Upon roll being called, the following members answered present: President Shelly Camden, Vice President Kent Absalonsen, Secretary Esposito, Member Brad Carrino (via phone), Member Lana Johnson (via phone), Member Jeff McCollian (via phone) and Member Michael Ockrim.

Also in attendance:

Kerry J. Foderaro, Superintendent of Schools



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Laura Anderson, Concord Elementary School Principal

Gayle Wilson, Recording Secretary and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE

President Camden presided over the meeting and welcomed:

Leland Wagner

Katie Fujiura

### PUBLIC COMMENT

➤ There was no Public Comment.

### CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Approval of Minutes of the February 18, 2020 Board of Education Closed Meeting
- B. Approval of Minutes of the February 18, 2020 Board of Education Meeting
- C. Receipt of Budget Report – February, 2020
- D. Approval of Payroll – February, 2020
- E. Approval of Bills and Additional Bills – March, 2020
- F. Receipt of Investment Report – February, 2020
- G. Approval of Personnel Report
- H. Approval of Elevator Safety Inspection Contract

*Secretary Esposito moved and Vice President Absalonsen seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with Additional Bills.*

Roll call

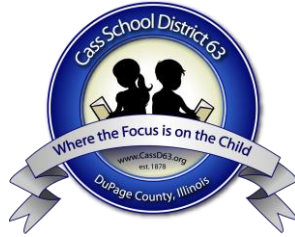
Aye

Nay

President Camden

Vice President Absalonsen

Secretary Esposito



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Member Carrino  
Member Johnson  
Member McCollian  
Member Ockrim

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

### REPORTS

#### A. **CAss Resources for Enrichment (CARE) Report**

Member Johnson shared that CARE held their monthly meeting last night virtually. They are currently processing how to handle their cancelled events due to the Coronavirus/COVID-19 outbreak and also looking forward to the 2020/21 School Year to fill their officer positions for next year.

#### B. Discussion of and Possible Action on Recommended **CAss Resources for Enrichment (CARE) Donation**

Superintendent Foderaro shared that CARE presented a grant in the amount of \$265.60 to supply lunch to Band Students on Recording Day and \$390.00 for an Accompanist for the Cass Junior High School Chorus for a total amount of \$655.60.

*Vice President Absalonsen moved and Michael Ockrim seconded a motion to approve the generous CARE Grants totaling \$655.60 to supply lunch to Band Students on Recording Day and for an Accompanist for the Cass Junior High School Chorus as presented.*

Roll call

Aye

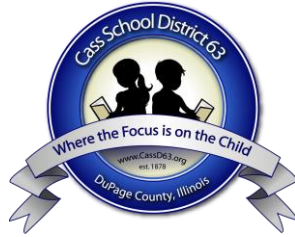
President Camden

Vice President Absalonsen

Secretary Esposito

Member Carrino

Nay



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Member Johnson  
Member McCollian  
Member Ockrim

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

### C. Administrators' Reports

- Principal Anderson shared that Kindergarten Round-up was recently held and currently there are 92 students signed up for Kindergarten for next school year. She added that Prekindergarten Screening was also held and there are 62 students already signed up for next school year with 14 more registered for the fall screening.

Principal Anderson shared, on behalf of Principal Marcinkewicz, that the Cass Junior High School Scholastic Bowl Team went undefeated this school year.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### A. Discussion of Board of Education Committees

- Chairperson Johnson stated that the Community Connections Newsletter will be mailed out the week of Spring Break.
- Superintendent Foderaro stated that the Solar Panels are in the process of being installed at both Concord Elementary School and Cass Junior High School. The next Facilities Committee Meeting will not be held until next school year.
- Director of Teaching and Learning Anderson stated that a recommendation for Reading resource adoption will be presented at the April Board of Education meeting.



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**New Business**

- A. Discussion of and Possible Action on Pandemic Preparedness Policy, Plan and Procedures

Superintendent Foderaro stated that this policy was presented several years back as an optional policy and at that time the District did not recommend it be adopted. At this time, with the current challenges, the Administration is recommending that the Board approve the policy.

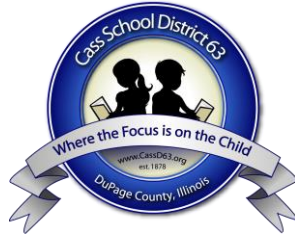
Superintendent Foderaro then invited Principal Anderson to review how well the E-Learning was processing. Principal Anderson stated that the E-Learning is going very well with very few challenges and those that have risen have been handled easily by teachers. She added that E-Learning was not meant as a long-term teaching option. The Administration and teachers are working to intensify the program to increase the rigor to more simulate day-to-day schooling.

President Camden stated how proud she is of the Administration and Teachers for how seamless E-Learning has been. She added that she feels that this District is more prepared than other districts.

Member Johnson stated that she has heard nothing but positive feedback from the community on the communication received from the District and from teachers throughout this difficult time.

Superintendent Foderaro reiterated the District's number one goal is for the health and safety of our school community and that was used as a touchstone for the decision to close school on Thursday, March 12 and Monday, March 16, as it will continue to be used in the future.

Superintendent Foderaro then updated the Board on the process of providing lunches to all students of Cass School District 63. On the first day there were 11



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free and reduced lunches picked up and on the second day there were 50 lunches picked up or distributed via our transportation services. Additionally, the Backpack Program, in partnership with the Darien Rotary Club, will also continue for identified families in need, which will provide them with three weeks of food.

Superintendent Foderaro then discussed with the Board the Administration's actions of continuing to pay all Cass School District 63 employees throughout this closure and the Board of Education was completely supportive. Some employees are working more than they usually are scheduled and some are working less. Some are coming into work and many are working at home. All are willing to do whatever it takes to address this challenge.

Superintendent Foderaro stated that in conjunction with the Pandemic Preparedness Policy, he is recommending the creation of a Superintendent Advisory Committee to help gain additional perspectives on how to address the pandemic. Superintendent Foderaro will be the chair and Members Ockrim and Johnson volunteered to be the Board representatives. The committee should also include at least one teacher, a parent member, a support staff member and a community member. Superintendent Foderaro is planning to have the committee meet virtually by early next week. Recommendations from the Committee will be brought to the Administration and then Board for consideration.

Finally, Superintendent Foderaro discussed the cleaning of the District's facilities. Custodian staff and the contracted cleaning service has been disinfecting the schools on a daily basis since December to combat the flu virus. These efforts have increased over the last two months with the Coronavirus/COVID-19 challenge. The District has received quotes from contractors for deep cleaning if needed. In addition to the facilities, the staff has also been disinfecting the buses daily.

*Member Ockrim moved and Secretary Esposito seconded a motion to approve recommended Pandemic Preparedness Policy as presented.*



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Roll call

Aye

Nay

President Camden

Vice President Absalonsen

Secretary Esposito

Member Carrino

Member Johnson

Member McCollian

Member Ockrim

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

- Teacher and CEA President Katie Fujiura shared her thanks on behalf of the teachers and support staff for continuing to pay staff through this crisis. She would also like to thank the Administration for consideration for a planning time should the E-Learning need to continue beyond Spring Break. She herself has spent a large amount of time emailing with parents and students alike as they navigate through this time. Her biggest concern would be for the Special Education students as these students need a lot more support than virtual learning can offer.

### BOARD MEMBER REMARKS

- Member Johnson thanked the Administration, staff and teachers. She said that everyone has exhibited grace under fire.
- Member McCollian stated that his kids are looking forward to going back to school.



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**BOARD SECRETARY ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE**

- The next Regular Board of Education Meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21, 2020 in the District Community Room.
- The Board of Education received a thank you note from the Darien Woman's Club.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Member Ockrim moved and Vice President Absalonsen seconded a motion to adjourn this Board of Education Meeting of March 17, 2020 at 8:49 p.m. Voice vote; All Ayes. Motion Carried 7 to 0.*

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Shelly Camden, Board of Education President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alice Esposito, Board of Education Secretary