



## **CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63**

8502 Bailey Road • Darien, Illinois 60561-5333

# **Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, October 18, 2022**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Cass School District 63, DuPage County, Illinois; Held at Cass Junior High School at 6:30 P.M. on the 18<sup>th</sup> Day of October, 2022.

### **I. Welcome and Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m.

#### **A. Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **B. Roll Call**

Upon roll being called, the following members answered present: President Shelly Camden, Vice President Lana Johnson, Secretary Alice Esposito and Members Rinku Patel, Urszula Tanouye and Steve Wyent.

Also in attendance: Mark R. Cross, Superintendent and Gayle Wilson, Recording Secretary and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

#### **C. Recognition of Audience, Announcements and Correspondence**

President Camden welcomed the following guests: Jessica Ruiz, Chris Green, Katie Fujiura and Anna Maria Garro.

Secretary Esposito stated that the District received one FOIA request from ProvenIT that was fulfilled.

#### **D. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

### **II. Consent Agenda**

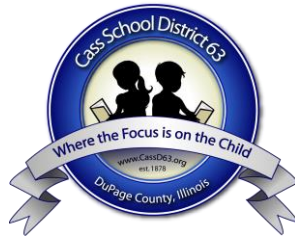
#### **A. Approval of the October 18, 2022 Regular Meeting Agenda**

#### **B. Approval of the September 27, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes**

#### **C. Approval of the September 27, 2022 Closed Meeting Minutes**

#### **D. Approval of the Budget, Cash Flow, Investment and Payroll Reports**

#### **E. Approval of the District Bills**



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*Member Wyent moved and Vice President Johnson seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda to include additional bills as presented.*

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Wyent, Vice President Johnson, Member Patel, Member Tanouye, Secretary Esposito and President Camden. Nay: None. Motion carried 6 to 0.

### **III. Reports, Updates and Informational Items**

#### **A. Administrative Reports**

Mr. Cross reviewed the administrative reports highlighting the CPI Intervention training that some staff recently completed. This training teaches staff how to safely assist a student exhibiting challenging behaviors.

#### **B. CARE Reports and Grant Funding**

Lana Johnson noted that Trivia Night was a success raising approximately \$13,500. Mr. Cross noted that there were three tables with staff this year and he commended the volunteers for the effort in planning the event.

#### **C. Presentation of Fiscal Year 2022 Audit and Annual Financial Report**

Superintendent Mark Cross and Finance Committee members Alice Esposito and Steve Wyent reviewed the fiscal year 2022 audit. Mr. Cross said that he and Fiscal Services Director Deb Dolehide were proud to share another clean audit with no negative findings, auditor recommendations or questioned costs.

Mr. Cross added that during FY22, the district built its fund balances, continued its practice of not issuing short-term or long-term debt and reduced existing debt by over seven percent. He also noted that the district maintains a strong "AA" rating with Standard & Poors, which will be helpful in the event of a successful referendum on November 8.

Mr. Wyent pointed out that the district is only using about a quarter of its debt margin and even with a successful referendum, the district's long-term debt will remain well below its legal limit. Members also referenced the district's strong financial profile, which most recently was a 3.80 out of 4.00, or "Recognition" on the state financial profile rating.



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#### **D. Update and Discussion Regarding Facility Plans for Safety, Security and Replacement of Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Systems**

Superintendent Mark Cross presented several details related to safety and security plans, including pursuit of the BluePoint Security system which is a high level, robust system that drastically reduces the wait time for law enforcement intervention in the event of an active shooter situation. Mr. Cross also explained how the system integrates with what would be a completely modernized camera system, as well as the allowance for instant communication in the event of a crisis. The system allows for quicker intervention and response time during medical emergencies as well.

The cost will be the major consideration and this system and other security plans would be addressed in the event of a successful referendum.

#### **E. Presentation and Review of School Maintenance Matching Grant Application**

After discussing the Safety and Security plans, the Board decided to delay the approval the School Maintenance Grant until after they have the result of the November 8 election. This will help the Board determine whether the HVAC system or security must be prioritized. The final recommendations will be made at the November 15 meeting.

#### **F. Review of Property, Liability and Worker Compensation Insurance Renewal**

Mr. Cross reviewed the insurance renewal proposal for coverage including property, casualty, liability, flood, cyber, automobile and worker compensation coverage. The total renewal of \$122,966 is a 2.25 percent increase over the current year. Mr. Cross pointed out that while some areas of the insurance costs beyond the district's control went up, the worker compensation premium has dropped due to a decrease in recent claims.

#### **G. Presentation of Recommended Board Policy 7:270 Update**

Mr. Cross shared that the district does not currently have a policy allowing the district to have undesignated inhalers in the office in case of an emergency. The administration is recommending that the Board approve the



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addition of this language to our policy to allow us to be prepared with undesignated inhalers in case of an emergency.

#### **IV. Recommended Action Items**

##### **A. Employment of Recommended Personnel**

*Member Tanouye moved and Member Wyent seconded a motion to approve Olesya Ignatenko for the position of Cass Junior High teacher assistant effective October 11, 2022.*

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Tanouye, Member Wyent, Member Patel, Secretary Esposito, Vice President Johnson and President Camden. Nay: None. Motion carried 6 to 0.

##### **B. Approval of School Maintenance Grant Application**

This action item was tabled until the November 15, 2022 Board Meeting.

##### **C. Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Audit and Annual Financial Report**

*Secretary Esposito moved and Member Wyent seconded a motion to adopt the Fiscal Year 2022 Audit and Annual Financial Report.*

Voice Vote – Aye: Secretary Esposito, Member Wyent, Member Patel, Member Tanouye, Vice President Johnson and President Camden. Nay: None. Motion carried 6 to 0.

##### **D. Approval of the Property, Liability and Worker Compensation Insurance Renewal**

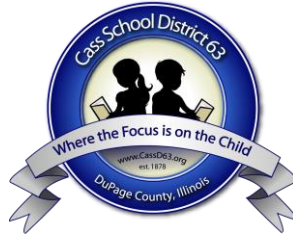
*Member Patel moved and Vice President Johnson seconded a motion to approve the Property, Liability and Worker Compensation Insurance Renewal.*

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Patel, Vice President Johnson, Member Tanouye, Member Wyent, Secretary Esposito and President Camden. Nay: None. Motion carried 6 to 0.

#### **V. Conclusion**

##### **A. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.



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#### **B. Board Member Comments**

There were no Board Member comments.

#### **VI. Closed Session**

Consideration of Appointment to Fill a Board of Education Vacancy

*Secretary Esposito moved and Vice President Johnson seconded a motion to go into closed session at 7:05 p.m. for the purpose of consideration of appointment to fill a Board of Education vacancy.*

Voice Vote – Aye: Secretary Esposito, Vice President Johnson, Member Patel, Member Tanouye, Member Wyent and President Camden. Nay: None. Motion carried 6 to 0.

The Board of Education returned to open session at 8:19 p.m.

#### **VI. Adjournment**

*Secretary Esposito moved and Member Wyent seconded a motion to adjourn this Regular Board of Education Meeting of October 18, 2022 at 8:22 p.m. p.m.*

Voice Vote – Aye: Secretary Esposito, Member Wyent, Member Patel, Member Tanouye, Vice President Johnson and President Camden. Nay: None. Motion carried 6 to 0.

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Shelly Camden, Board of Education President

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