



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

8502 Bailey Road • Darien, Illinois 60561

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education of Cass School District 63, DuPage County, Illinois; held at Indian Prairie Public Library at 7:00 P.M. on the 13th Day of August, 2024.

I. Welcome and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call

Upon roll being called, the following members answered present: President Lana Johnson, Vice President Rinku Patel, Secretary Urszula Tanouye, and members Katie Marinelli, Liz Mitha, and Steve Wyent. Member Chris Green was absent.

Also in attendance: Superintendent Mark R. Cross, Recording Secretary and Administrative Assistant Gayle Wilson, and Fiscal Services Director Deb Dolehide.

C. Recognition of Audience, Announcements, and Correspondence

Board President Lana Johnson announced that the Board received one FOIA request from Frank Curry.

D. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

II. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of the August 13, 2024 Meeting Agenda

B. Approval of the June 11, 2024 Meeting Minutes

C. Approval of the July 9, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes

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

E. Approval of the District Bills

F. Approval of Employee Resignations



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

Mr. Cross reviewed the consent agenda sharing that the Board is being asked to approve the budget, cash flow, investments, and payroll reports from June and July and bills for July and August because the Board did not hold a meeting in July. He added that Concord permanent substitute teacher Kerri Soriano submitted her resignation to take a full-time teaching position in another district.

Member Marinelli moved and Member Wyent seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

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

III. Reports, Updates, and Informational Items

A. Administrative Reports

Mr. Cross shared an update on the start of the 2024-25 school year. He announced that the Board election packet circulation timeline begins on August 20. Mr. Cross also discussed changes with the Concord music programs and proposed start times to 6:30 p.m. for the coming school year. After some discussion, it was agreed that it would be good to have the kindergarten program in the evening, as well as the recommendations for 2nd and 4th grades, and junior chorus. 1st and 3rd grade performances will be held as assemblies during the school day for the 2024-25 school year.

B. Presentation of Fiscal Year 2025 Tentative Budget

Superintendent Mark Cross and Fiscal Services Director Deb Dolehide reviewed the tentative fiscal year 2025 budget. Excluding estimated expenditures related to planned facility improvements, the total expenditure budget for FY25 is just over \$15.6 million. Mr. Wyent noted that a budget deficit was expected for the coming year to meet staffing and program needs. Mr. Cross said that this will be monitored carefully, but he does not expect the actual deficit will be as large as the budget deficit of just over \$600,000.



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

C. Annual Report of Contracts Exceeding \$25,000

Mr. Cross presented the annual report of contracts exceeding \$25,000 which is also posted on the District's website.

D. Annual Report of Salary, Compensation and Benefits

Mr. Cross presented the annual salary, compensation and benefits report which is required under Public Acts 97-609 and 96-0266 and is posted on the District's website.

E. First Reading of Recommended Board Policy Updates

Mr. Cross reviewed the proposed Board policy updates. The Board will be asked to formally adopt these updates at the September Board meeting.

F. Update and Discussion Regarding Facility, Safety, and Security Projects

Mr. Cross shared several updates on the geothermal, safety, and security project the district has undertaken over the course of the summer. Despite the challenge and timeline, he said everything is coming together and scheduled to be completed on time. He praised the maintenance and custodial staff for their extra effort and hard work, as well as the cooperation between the district's architects, engineers, and contractors. Mr. Cross said that it should end up as a very successful project. He also discussed change orders and more expenses that will be included in the project, how those expenses are scrutinized, and what to expect in a final range after project completion.

IV. Closed Session

Member Wyent moved and Member Mitha seconded a motion to move into Closed Session for the purpose of discussion of information regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of district employees.

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



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

V. Recommended Action Items

A. Employment of Recommended Personnel

There were no employment recommendations.

B. Approval of Fiscal Year 2025 Tentative Budget

Member Wyent moved and Member Marinelli seconded a motion to approve the fiscal year 2025 tentative budget.

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

C. Approval of Date, Time, and Location for Fiscal Year 2025 Public Budget Hearing

Member Wyent moved and Member Mitha seconded a motion to approve Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the District Community Room to hold the Fiscal Year 2025 Public Budget Hearing.

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

D. Approval of Geothermal HVAC Project Change Orders

Member Wyent moved and Member Mitha seconded a motion to approve geothermal HVAC project change orders one, two, and three as presented.

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

E. Authorization of the Superintendent to Approve Geothermal HVAC Project Change Orders Made in Writing, Per the Requirements of 720 ILCS 5/33E-9



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

Member Wyent moved and Member Mitha seconded a motion to authorize Superintendent Mark Cross to approve geothermal HVAC project change orders 1, 2, and 3, totaling \$174,695.55.

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

F. Approval of Behavioral Threat Assessment Procedures

Member Mitha moved and Member Wyent seconded a motion to approve the Behavioral Threat Assessment Procedures.

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

G. Acknowledgement of Board of Education’s Role as DCFS Mandated Reporters

Member Mitha moved and Secretary Tanouye seconded a motion to acknowledge the Board of Education’s Role as DCFS Mandated Reporters.

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

H. Approval to Release Closed Session Minutes with Exceptions as Noted

Member Mitha moved and Secretary Tanouye seconded a motion to approve the release of closed session minutes from January 24, 2024.

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



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

I. Authorization of Destruction of Verbatim Audio Records from Closed Sessions Held Prior to January 1, 2023 per the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120

Member Mitha moved and Secretary Tanouye seconded a motion to Authorize the Destruction of Verbatim Audio Records from Closed Sessions Held Prior to January 1, 2023 per the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120.

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

VI. Conclusion

A. Public Comments

There was no public comment.

B. Board Member Comments

There were no board member comments.

C. Adjournment

Member Wyent moved and Vice President Patel seconded a motion to adjourn this Board of Education Meeting of August 13, 2024 at 8:50 p.m.

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

Lana Johnson, Board of Education President

Attest: _____
Urszula Tanouye, Board of Education Secretary