



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

8502 Bailey Road • Darien, Illinois 60561-5333

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 19, 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 7:00 P.M. on the 19th Day of April, 2022.

I. Welcome and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call

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

Also in attendance: Mark R. Cross, Superintendent, Christine Marcinkewicz, Cass Junior High School Principal, Laura Anderson, Concord Elementary School Principal, Gayle Wilson, Recording Secretary and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

C. Recognition of Audience, Announcements and Correspondence

President Camden welcomed the following guests: Filomena De Chiara and Katie Fujiura

D. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

II. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of the April 19, 2022 Regular Meeting Agenda

B. Approval of the March 22, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

C. Approval of the April 5, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes

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

E. Approval of the District Bills

F. Approval of Request for Employee Leaves of Absence



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Mr. Cross highlighted several items in the bill listing, including referencing the end of the local school district paper cooperative. It was determined that the most economical route was by districts purchasing paper individually.

Secretary Esposito moved and Member Johnson seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda to include additional bills as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Secretary Esposito, Member Johnson, Member Patel, Member Tanouye, Member Wyent, Vice President Absalonsen and President Camden

Nays: None

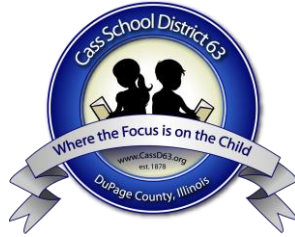
Motion carried, 7 to 0.

III. Reports, Updates and Informational Items

A. Administrative Reports

Dr. Anderson highlighted the recent 4th grade trip to see the Chicago Wolves play noting that the students were respectful and had a wonderful time. She also shared regarding end of the year events for all grade levels. Mrs. Marcinkewicz spoke about the end of the year events at Cass, highlighting the Art and Jazz Show, 7th grade Springfield trip, 8th grade Washington, DC trip and the all school field trip day on May 27.

Mr. Cross updated the Board on work that is taking place with the district's grading system. He said this work stems from Pillar 1, Indicator A of the strategic plan, which references the need to "evaluate current progress reporting to determine if there are more effective methods for communicating academic and behavioral progress to parents." The original discussion was a result of feedback provided by graduates and parents when the Board was gathering input for the strategic plan last fall. Dr. Anderson and Mrs. Marcinkewicz shared highlights of discussions that have taken place so far, with the goal of providing a blended grading system that is easy to understand and helps students better transition to high school, while also maintaining the strengths of standards-based grading. Work with the staff remains and we intend to present this to the Board at the May 17 meeting.



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B. CARE Reports and Grant Funding

Lana Johnson shared that at the most recent CARE meeting the focus continued to be on succession planning and leadership for the 2022-23 school year. CARE does have a full slate of officers ready for the membership to vote on at their May meeting.

C. Discussion Regarding Ivy League Kids Contract Agreement Extension

Mr. Cross reviewed the recommended three-year contract with the Board. He noted that while there is no cost to the district, there is a proposed increase of 20 percent which would be spread out over the next three years. This is due to the need to keep qualified staff in a time of high wage inflation for the program's staff and other cost increases for the program. The maximum increase the first year would be 15 percent, followed by 2.5 percent each of the following two years.

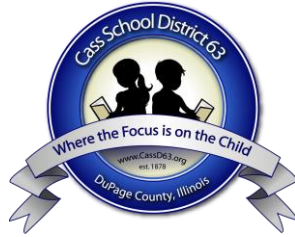
D. Presentation Regarding Mathematics Curriculum and Resources

Dr. Anderson reviewed the recommended curriculum and resource updates that were reviewed and vetted by a curriculum committee including teachers from both Concord and Cass. The total cost came in about \$50,000 under budget and she commended the committee on their hard work on both researching the curriculum and negotiating costs to purchase.

E. Updates and Discussion Regarding Long-Term Facility Plans for Safety, Security and Replacement of Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Systems

Mr. Cross updated the Board on work that is taking place within the district for planning to address the facility needs, including more research with the geothermal systems. He said that visits to other locations will be scheduled with the architect and engineer.

He also thanked Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Tanouye for their hard work in creating the mailing that will be sent out to community members this week. This mailing is fact-based and strictly for the purpose of alerting the community to the issues, directing them to the Frequently Asked Questions and inviting the community to the community information meetings scheduled for the coming weeks.



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F. Presentation of Recommended 2022-23 Board of Education Meeting Dates, Times and Locations

Mr. Cross reviewed the proposed meeting dates for the 2022-23 school year. He noted that there are four dates that fall outside the normal 3rd Tuesday of the month schedule for varying reasons.

IV. Recommended Action Items

A. Approval of Consolidated District Plan for Federal Funding

Vice President Absalonsen moved and Secretary Esposito seconded a motion to approve the Consolidated District Plan for Federal Funding.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Vice President Absalonsen, Secretary Esposito, Member Johnson, Member Patel, Member Tanouye, Member Wyent and President Camden

Nays: None

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

B. Approval of Ivy League Kids Contract Agreement Extension

Member Johnson moved and Member Wyent seconded a motion to approve the Ivy League Kids Contract Agreement Extension.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Member Johnson, Member Wyent, Member Patel, Member Tanouye, Secretary Esposito, Vice President Absalonsen and President Camden

Nays: None

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

C. Approval of Recommended Mathematics Curriculum and Resources

Member Tanouye moved and Secretary Esposito seconded a motion to approve the recommended mathematics curriculum and resources.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Member Tanouye, Secretary Esposito, Member Johnson, Member Patel, Member Wyent, Vice President Absalonsen and President Camden

Nays: None

Motion carried, 7 to 0.



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D. Approval of 2022-23 Board of Education Meeting Dates, Times and Locations

Member Wyent moved and Member Johnson seconded a motion to approve the 2022-23 Board of Education meeting dates, times and locations.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Member Wyent, Member Johnson, Member Patel, Member Tanouye, Secretary Esposito, Vice President Absalonsen and President Camden

Nays: None

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

E. Acceptance of Resignation

Vice President Absalonsen moved and Member Johnson seconded a motion to accept the resignation of long-term substitute Patti Orvis effective March 25, 2022.

Voice Vote

Ayes: Vice President Absalonsen, Member Johnson, Member Patel, Member Tanouye, Member Wyent, Secretary Esposito and President Camden

Nays: None

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

F. Employment of Recommended Personnel

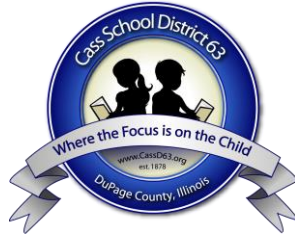
Member Johnson moved and Vice President Absalonsen seconded a motion to approve the employment of Daniel Murphy as a long-term substitute language arts teacher at Cass Junior High School for the remainder of the current school year, effective April 6, 2022.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Member Johnson, Vice President Absalonsen, Member Patel, Member Tanouye, Member Wyent, Secretary Esposito and President Camden

Nays: None

Motion carried, 7 to 0.



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V. Conclusion

A. Public Comments

- There were no public comments.

B. Board Member Comments

- Mrs. Camden stated that she was very excited to learn that so many fun things are coming back for students such as field trips, sports and the Washington, D.C. trip.
- Mrs. Camden shared that she attended the National Honor's Society induction ceremony at Hinsdale South High School and how wonderful it was to see so many Cass graduates recognized. She thanked the teachers and staff for all they did to prepare these kids to be so successful.

VII. Adjournment

Secretary Esposito moved and Member Patel seconded a motion to adjourn this Regular Board of Education Meeting of April 19, 2022 at 9:04 p.m.

Voice Vote

Ayes: Secretary Esposito, Member Patel, Member Johnson, Member Tanouye, Member Wyent, Vice President Absalonsen and President Camden

Nays: None

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

Shelly Camden, Board of Education President

Attest: _____

Alice Esposito, Board of Education Secretary