



## CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

8502 Bailey Road • Darien, Illinois 60561-5333

# Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 17, 2019

**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 DECEMBER, 2019.**

### 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 Absalonsen, Secretary Alice Esposito, Member Lana Johnson and Member Jeff McCollian. Member Brad Carrino and Member Michael Ockrim were absent.

Also in attendance:

Kerry J. Foderaro, Superintendent of Schools

Laura Anderson, Concord Elementary School Principal

Christine Marcinkewicz, Cass Junior High School Principal

Robert Strande, District Director of Fiscal Services

Gayle Wilson, Recording Secretary and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Cass Junior High School students Elias Carder, Amanda Esposito and Adrian Folfas led the Board of Education in the Pledge of Allegiance. These students were recently honored by the Northwestern University Center for Talent for scoring in the top 1% of students who participated in the PSAT and ACT. All three students stated that they will participate again this year.

### RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE

President Camden welcomed:

Mark Cross

Joe Esposito

Jessica Ruiz

Karen Hyder

Ronda Cross

Amanda Esposito

Anya Schlottmann

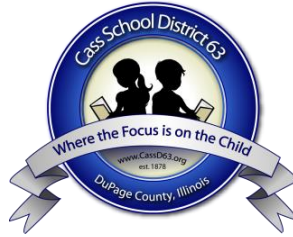
Katie Summers

Deb Dolehide

Scott Kondraschow

Zebaa Kalimullah

Kristyn McElligott



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Cinda Rokicki  
Greg Carder  
Adrian Folfas  
Ashley Anderson

Angela Zurawski  
Eli Carder  
Malgorzata Gasienica Roj.  
Robert Novak

Rachel Carder  
Matt Etherington  
Katie Doyle

### PUBLIC COMMENT

- Ms. Ashley Anderson stated that she is not in favor of E-Learning Days. She felt that the work offered to students last year during E-Learning Days was not comparable to work that would have been accomplished in the classroom. She further stated that much of the work given required parent assistance and that is an additional cause for concern.

### CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Approval of Minutes of the November 12, 2019 Special Board of Education Closed Meeting
- B. Approval of Minutes of the November 12, 2019 Special Board of Education Meeting
- C. Approval of Minutes of the November 13, 2019 Special Board of Education Closed Meeting
- D. Approval of Minutes of the November 13, 2019 Special Board of Education Meeting
- E. Approval of Minutes of the November 19, 2019 Board of Education Closed Meeting
- F. Approval of Minutes of the November 19, 2019 Board of Education Meeting
- G. Approval of Minutes of the December 2, 2019 Special Board of Education Closed Meeting
- H. Approval of Minutes of the December 2, 2019 Special Board of Education Meeting
- I. Approval of Minutes of the December 3, 2019 Special Board of Education Closed Meeting
- J. Approval of Minutes of the December 3, 2019 Special Board of Education Meeting
- K. Approval of Minutes of the December 4, 2019 Special Board of Education Closed Meeting



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- L. Approval of Minutes of the December 4, 2019 Special Board of Education Meeting
- M. Receipt of Budget Report – November, 2019
- N. Approval of Payroll – November, 2019
- O. Approval of Bills and Additional Bills – December, 2019
- P. Receipt of Investment Report – November, 2019
- Q. Approval of Personnel Report
- R. Approval of Maintaining the Status of Closed Session Minutes

*Secretary Esposito moved and Member McCollian seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with Additional Bills as presented.*

Roll call

Aye

Nay

President Camden

Vice President Absalonsen

Secretary Esposito

Member Johnson

Member McCollian

Motion carried, 5 to 0.

### REPORTS

#### A. **C**ass Resources for **E**nrichment (CARE) Report

Member Johnson shared that the North Pole Adventure was held last week and was a success. During this week Concord Elementary School Winter Parties will be held and an Ice Cream Social is scheduled to be held at Cass Junior High School. The next big event is the upcoming Trivia Night on Friday, January 24. Registration for this fundraiser event is now open.



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### B. Administrators' Reports

- Principal Anderson reviewed Concord Elementary School activities highlighting the recent drive to provide gifts for families in need in the District. Additionally, the Crisis Team recently attended De-escalation Training to learn how to better assist students in need.
- Principal Marcinkewicz highlighted the Cass Junior High School Veterans Day annual assembly. This year there were 11 family members who are veterans that attended the assembly. It is always a very emotional event. Principal Marcinkewicz added that three Cass Junior High School students were recently invited to play in the All-Illinois Junior Band, which is quite an accomplishment.
- Superintendent Foderaro expressed his appreciation to the Board of Education and presented each with a small token gift to each Member on behalf of the Cass School District 63 Community to wish them Happy Holidays.

### **Public Hearing** E-Learning Days

The State of Illinois changed the law in regards to E-Learning Days and now requires that the Board of Education approve a Resolution and hold a Public Hearing to discuss before approval of the utilization of E-Learning Days. The proposal from the Administration is that this year teachers will teach their emergency days in real time on the day of the emergency closing rather than at a later day as was done this past school year.

President Camden opened the floor to public comments.

- Teacher Karen Hyder shared that much was learned from last year's E-Learning Days and adjustments have been made for moving forward. The E-Learning will allow teaching and learning to occur in real time with the curriculum continuing with no loss in forward momentum.



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- Ms. Zebaa Kalimullah stated that special needs students miss out on needed therapies and curriculum.
- President Camden stated that Hinsdale High School District 86 is also using E-Learning Days. She feels it is an important transition, as it will help Cass School District 63 better transition to what to expect at the high school level.

President Camden closed the Public Hearing.

### OLD BUSINESS

- A. Discussion of and Possible Action to Employ New Superintendent of Schools, Effective July 1, 2020

President Camden reviewed the process the Board of Education took this past year and a half to hire an Executive Search Firm, gather staff, student, school families and community input to a create a leadership profile to vet over 40 candidates and then interview final candidates. She is pleased to announce that the Board of Education has chosen experienced Superintendent from Peru School District 124, Mr. Mark R. Cross as the next Superintendent of Schools.

*Vice President Absalonsen moved and Member Johnson seconded a motion to approve a three-year contract for Mr. Mark Cross, to be the District's next Superintendent of Schools effective July 1, 2020 as presented.*

Roll call

Aye

President Camden

Vice President Absalonsen

Secretary Esposito

Member Johnson

Member McCollian

Nay



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Motion carried, 5 to 0.

Mr. Cross thanked the Board of Education and stated how grateful he is to be coming to Cass School District 63. He looks forward to meeting and working with the students, school families, staff, Board of Education and the community at large. Mr. Cross also introduced his wife, Ronda Cross to the Board of Education.

### B. Discussion of and Possible Action on Fiscal Year 2019 Tax Levy

District Coordinator of Fiscal Services Dolehide and District Director of Fiscal Services Strande reviewed the recommended 2019 Tax Levy with the Board of Education.

*Secretary Esposito moved and Vice President Absalonsen seconded a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2019 Tax Levy as presented.*

Roll call

Aye

Nay

President Camden

Vice President Absalonsen

Secretary Esposito

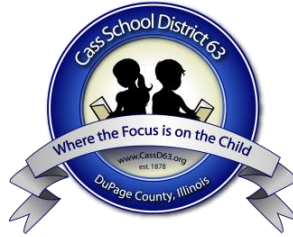
Member Johnson

Member McCollian

Motion carried, 5 to 0.

### C. Discussion of Board of Education Committees

- Chairperson Johnson stated that the Community Connections' Newsletter was mailed and the response has been positive. The next Newsletter is scheduled to go out before Spring Break.
- Superintendent Foderaro stated that the Facilities Committee will meet in February to discuss upcoming summer 2020 projects.



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- Superintendent Foderaro stated that the Finance Committee will meet in February to discuss five-year fiscal projections.
- Director of Teaching and Learning Anderson stated that the Teaching and Learning Committee is reviewing the Reading Curriculum and has narrowed down their selections for resources and will be coming to the Board of Education later in the school year with recommendations for the 2020 school year.

### New Business

- A. Discussion of and Possible Action on Tax Abatement of General Obligation School Refunding Bonds

Fiscal Services Coordinator Dolehide and District Director of Fiscal Services Strande reviewed the recommended Tax Abatement with the Board of Education.

*Member Johnson moved and Secretary Esposito seconded a motion to approve the Tax Abatement of General Obligation School Refunding Bonds as presented.*

Roll call

Aye

Nay

President Camden

Vice President Absalonsen

Secretary Esposito

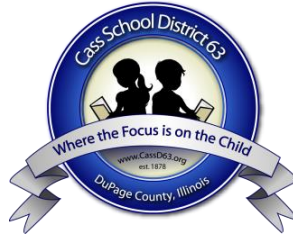
Member Johnson

Member McCollian

Motion carried, 5 to 0.

- B. Discussion of and Possible Action on Resolution to Adopt E-Learning Days

Superintendent Foderaro stated that the state requires the Board adopt this Resolution in order to utilize E-Learning Days.



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*Vice President Absalonsen moved and Member Johnson seconded a motion to approve the E-Learning Day Resolution as presented.*

Roll call

Aye

Nay

President Camden  
Vice President Absalonsen  
Secretary Esposito  
Member Johnson  
Member McCollian

Motion carried, 5 to 0.

C. Discussion of and Possible Action on E-Learning Days Collective Bargaining Memo of Understanding

Superintendent Foderaro stated that the Administration and Cass Education Association negotiated the recommended E-Learning Day Memo of Understanding to address Teacher working conditions for E-Learning Days.

*Member Johnson moved and Vice President Absalonsen seconded a motion to approve the E-Learning Day Memo of Understanding with the Cass Education Association as presented.*

Roll call

Aye

Nay

President Camden  
Vice President Absalonsen  
Secretary Esposito  
Member Johnson  
Member McCollian

Motion carried, 5 to 0.





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### D. Discussion of Recommended Board of Education Policies – First Reading

Superintendent Foderaro reviewed the recommended policies that the Policy & Planning Committee reviewed at last evening's meeting. The Committee is supportive of the recommended changes. The Board will be asked to take formal action on the recommended policies at the January 21, 2020 Board of Education meeting.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

- There was no Public Comment.

### BOARD MEMBER REMARKS

- Lana Johnson shared that Beginning Band and Junior Chorus Concert was last week and was very well attended. It was wonderful to see so many Third and Fourth Grade Students involved in the Band and Chorus programs.

### BOARD SECRETARY ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE

- The next Regular Board of Education Meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 in the District Community Room.
- The Board of Education received a thank you note from Teacher Angela Zurawski.
- The Board of Education received a FOIA request from Mr. Robert Burch.

### ADJOURNMENT

*Vice President Absalonsen moved and Member Johnson seconded a motion to adjourn this Board of Education Meeting of December 17, 2019 at 8:17 p.m. Voice vote; All Ayes. Motion Carried 5 to 0.*



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Shelly Camden, Board of Education President

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