



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

8502 Bailey Road • Darien, Illinois 60561-5333

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 22, 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 22nd Day of March, 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: Vice President Kent Absalonsen, Secretary Alice Esposito and Members Lana Johnson, Rinku Patel, Urszula Tanouye and Steve Wyent. President Camden attended via telephone

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

Vice President Absalonsen welcomed the following guests: Scott Kondraschow and Katie Fujiura

The district received two FOIA requests that were fulfilled.

D. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

II. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of the March 22, 2022 Regular Meeting Agenda

B. Approval of the February 15, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

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

D. Approval of the District Bills



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E. Approval of Request for Employee Leaves of Absence

Mr. Cross stated that there are five employees requesting leave. Those employees are Quinn Csuk, Stacy Gray, Scott Kondraschow, Kathryn Marks and Mike McLean.

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

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Secretary Esposito

Member Wyent

Member Johnson

Member Patel

Member Tanouye

President Camden

Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

III. Reports, Updates and Informational Items

A. Administrative Reports

Dr. Anderson announced that we have 58 children on next year's kindergarten list. If these numbers hold there will be three sections of Kindergarten next year, but we are likely to see a higher enrollment. Prekindergarten will have four sections and will be full next year.

Mrs. Marcinkewicz shared that teachers have been asking to plan fun end of the year activities for all grade levels. She noted that normally we do not plan non-educational based field trips but with all that students have missed during the pandemic, it was decided to do something fun and different this year. On May 27 fifth and sixth grades will be going to Enchanted Castle and seventh and eighth grades will go to Great America.



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Mrs. Marcinkewicz shared that the Darien Woman's Club held its art fair recently at Cass Junior High and the event was a great success. She next announced that Cass and Concord will be hosting their own art show this year on April 20 at Cass Junior High that will be accompanied by the Jazz Band. Mrs. Marcinkewicz concluded by announcing that recognition night will be on May 31 and graduation will be June 2.

Mrs. Tanouye asked if it is possible to expand the prekindergarten program and Dr. Anderson explained that the program can accommodate 80 students with the current funding in place and the program must accept all identified at risk students.

B. CARE Reports and Grant Funding

Lana Johnson shared that at the most recent CARE meeting the focus was on succession planning and leadership for the 2022-23 school year as well as the book fairs scheduled for this school year at both schools.

C. Federal Impact Aid Advocacy and Funding Report

Mr. Cross shared details of the Federal Impact Aid meetings he attended recently in Washington, D.C. It is looking like Impact Aid will continue to be funded, but the funding is not matching up with the increase in the number of impacted school districts across the country. He added that there is House Resolution 5255 which has a goal of working toward fully funding the impact aid program. At this time, the district receives 6 cents on the dollar of the money it would be receiving if Argonne National Laboratory was taxable land.

D. Updates and Discussion Regarding Long-Term Facility Plans for Safety, Security and Geothermal Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Systems

Mr. Cross shared updates regarding cost estimates for the district's HVAC needs. He stated that he is working closely with the school district's architect and engineers in planning due to the obvious concerns with inflation and supply chain issues. He also shared that he discussed if a different solution, outside of the geothermal system that was unanimously recommended by the Facilities Committee, would be impacted differently and the answer was no because all components have been equally impacted.



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The Board held an in-depth discussion regarding the school district's recent planning, the proposed geothermal systems, the cost and the facts and details that will need to be provided to the local community. The Board discussed how this information will be distributed, and the fact that if eventually approved by the voters as discussed, it needs to be clearly explained to the taxpayers that the district may not use the money for anything other than the work and financing proposed. It was also discussed that the potential dollar amount on the ballot is a maximum for purposes of borrowing. Once publicly bid, if the final projects cost less than the district is authorized to borrow, then the district is able to borrow less. The final amount could also be decreased through grant funding.

E. Discussion Regarding Proposed Resolution for Approval of School Bonds

With consensus that the Board needs to move forward and take the facility plans to the community, the Board agreed to hold a special meeting on Tuesday, April 5, at 6:00 p.m. to consider the bond resolution to put the question on the ballot for the June 28, 2022 general primary election.

IV. Recommended Action Items

A. Acceptance of Resignations

Member Tanouye moved and Member Wyent seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Kelly Skalnik effective at the close of the 2021-22 school year.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Member Tanouye

Member Wyent

Member Johnson

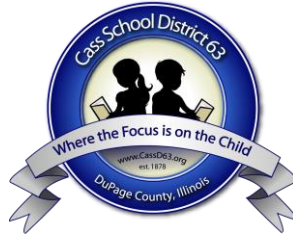
Member Patel

Secretary Esposito

President Camden

Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.



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Member Wyent moved and Member Tanouye seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Kylie Wild effective at the close of the 2021-22 school year.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Member Wyent
Member Tanouye
Member Johnson
Member Patel
Secretary Esposito
President Camden
Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

Member Johnson moved and Member Wyent seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Shannon Wachowski effective March 25, 2022.

Roll call

Aye

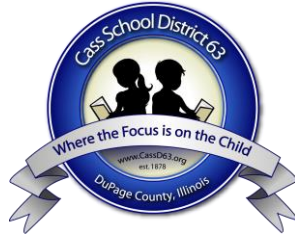
Nay

Member Johnson
Member Wyent
Member Tanouye
Member Patel
Secretary Esposito
President Camden
Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

B. Approval of Requests for Retirement

Secretary Esposito moved and Member Patel seconded a motion to approve the retirement request of Ken Kohnke at the close the 2023-24 school year.



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Roll call

Aye

Nay

Secretary Esposito

Member Patel

Member Johnson

Member Tanouye

Member Wyent

President Camden

Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

Secretary Esposito moved and Member Patel seconded a motion to approve the retirement request of Becky Kriz at the close the 2025-26 school year.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Secretary Esposito

Member Patel

Member Johnson

Member Tanouye

Member Wyent

President Camden

Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

Member Johnson moved and Member Tanouye seconded a motion to approve the retirement request of Jane York at the close the 2025-26 school year.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

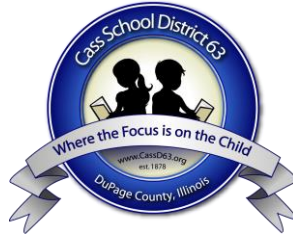
Member Johnson

Member Tanouye

Member Patel

Member Wyent

Secretary Esposito



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President Camden
Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

C. Employment of Recommended Personnel

Secretary Esposito moved and Member Patel seconded a motion to approve Sara Zimmerman for the position of full-time school psychologist effective at the start of the 2022-23 school year.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Secretary Esposito
Member Patel
Member Johnson
Member Tanouye
Member Wyent
President Camden
Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

Member Patel moved and Secretary Esposito seconded a motion to approve Katy Modglin for the position of full-time special education teacher at Concord Elementary effective at the start of the 2022-23 school year.

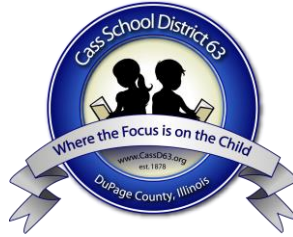
Roll call

Aye

Nay

Member Patel
Secretary Esposito
Member Johnson
Member Tanouye
Member Wyent
President Camden
Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.



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Member Johnson moved and Member Wyent seconded a motion to approve Lisa Daly for the position of half-time special education teacher at Concord Elementary effective at the start of the 2022-23 school year.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Member Johnson

Member Wyent

Member Patel

Member Tanouye

Secretary Esposito

President Camden

Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

Member Wyent moved and Member Johnson seconded a motion to approve Taylor Dazzo for the position of full-time English language arts teacher at Cass Junior High effective at the start of the 2022-23 school year.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Member Wyent

Member Johnson

Member Patel

Member Tanouye

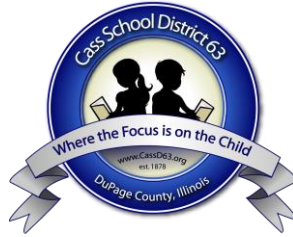
Secretary Esposito

President Camden

Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

Member Tanouye moved and Member Patel seconded a motion to approve Patty Orvis for the position of long-term substitute English language arts teacher at Cass Junior High effective March 21 through the close of the 2021-22 school year.



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Roll call

Aye

Nay

Member Tanouye

Member Patel

Member Johnson

Member Wyent

Secretary Esposito

President Camden

Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

Member Wyent moved and Member Johnson seconded a motion to approve Tameko Ross for the position of bus driver effective at the start of the 2022-23 school year.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Member Wyent

Member Johnson

Member Patel

Member Tanouye

Secretary Esposito

President Camden

Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

Secretary Esposito moved and Member Patel seconded a motion to approve Tara Steward for the position of bus driver effective at the start of the 2022-23 school year.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Secretary Esposito

Member Patel



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Member Johnson
Member Tanouye
Member Wyent
President Camden
Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

D. Approval of 2022-23 Assistant Principal Contracts

Member Johnson moved and Secretary Esposito seconded a motion to approve the 2022-23 contract for Assistant Principal Katie Doyle.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Member Johnson
Secretary Esposito
Member Wyent
Member Patel
Member Tanouye
President Camden
Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

Member Patel moved and Member Johnson seconded a motion to approve the 2022-23 contract for Assistant Principal Michelle Roberts.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Member Patel
Member Johnson
Member Wyent
Member Patel
Member Tanouye
Secretary Esposito



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President Camden
Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

E. Approval of 2022-23 SASSED Classroom Lease Agreements

Mr. Cross stated that SASSED would like to continue to lease two classrooms in each building. The lease amount is remaining the same as it has been the previous two school years, which is \$23,000 per classroom.

Secretary Esposito moved and Member Patel seconded a motion to approve the 2022-23 SASSED Classroom Lease Agreement as presented.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Secretary Esposito
Member Patel
Member Johnson
Member Tanouye
Member Wyent
President Camden
Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

F. Approval of Recommended Stay Healthy, Stay Smart Plan Updates

Mr. Cross reviewed the Stay Healthy, Stay Smart Plan updates which are more concise and align to the recent Centers for Disease Control guidance.

Secretary Esposito moved and Member Patel seconded a motion to approve the recommended updates to the Stay Healthy, Stay Smart Plan as presented.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Secretary Esposito
Member Patel
Member Johnson



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Member Tanouye
Member Wyent
President Camden
Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

G. Approval of Recommended District Concussion Oversight Team Members

Mr. Cross explained that the board is required to approve the district concussion oversight team members and that it would meet as needed to help provide guidance to the district concussion protocols.

Secretary Esposito moved and Member Johnson seconded a motion to approve the concussion oversight team members as presented.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Secretary Esposito
Member Johnson
Member Patel
Member Tanouye
Member Wyent
President Camden
Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

H. Acknowledgement of Board of Education's Role as DCFS Mandated Reporters

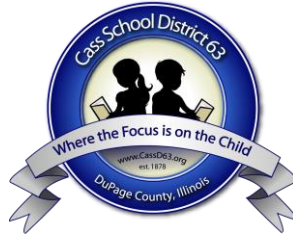
Member Johnson moved and Member Patel seconded a motion to acknowledge the Board of Education's role as DCFS Mandated Reporters.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Member Johnson
Member Patel



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Member Tanouye
Member Wyent
Secretary Esposito
President Camden
Vice President Absalonsen

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

V. Conclusion

A. Public Comments

➤ There were no public comments.

B. Board Member Comments

➤ There were no Board Member comments.

VII. Adjournment

Secretary Esposito moved and Member Johnson seconded a motion to adjourn this Regular Board of Education Meeting of March 22, 2022 at 8:58 p.m. Voice vote; All Ayes. Motion Carried, 7 to 0.

Shelly Camden, Board of Education President

Attest: _____
Alice Esposito, Board of Education Secretary