



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

8502 Bailey Road • Darien, Illinois 60561

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

Minutes of the 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 14th Day of May, 2024.

I. Welcome and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 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, Principal Laura Anderson, and Recording Secretary and Administrative Assistant Gayle Wilson.

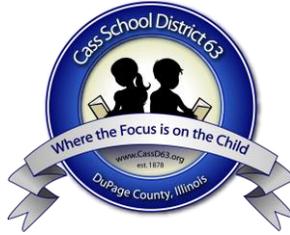
C. Recognition of Students – Junior Chorus Attendance

The Board of Education recognized Concord students Maximillian Bradu, Dina Dzanovic, Genevieve Hylak-Reinholtz, Alyssa Quillin, Shivam Patel, and Chi Vu for having the best attendance records for their two years in junior chorus.

D. Recognition of Staff – 2024 Retirees and Employee Years of Service

The Board and President Lana Johnson and Superintendent Mark Cross recognized retiring staff members Ken Kohnke, Cass STEM and social studies teacher after 20 years, Angela Zurawski, Concord music teacher after 32 years and Anya Schlottmann, Concord teacher after 36 years. Collectively these professionals provided 88 years of service to the district.

The Board also recognized the following individuals who reached milestone years of service this year in Cass School District 63: Reaching five years of service is Deb Athy, Mary Carlo, Ashley Howard, Belle Marien, Kathy Mensik, Landon Mitchell, Keith Monaco, Rhena Patascil, and Mitchell Schwarzkopf.



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Reaching 10 years is Kara Blatt, Stacie Gray, Kristen Kaplan, and Joe Messina. Reaching 15 years is Craig Damrow, Lauren Grochowski, Krista Jamrose, Greg Kirchen, Christina Sells, Katie Summers. Reaching 20 years is Dan Farias, Ken Kohnke, Marie Musil, and Gayle Wilson. Reaching 30 years is Audrey Vaci.

E. Recognition of Audience, Announcements, and Correspondence

Board President Lana Johnson welcomed everyone in attendance.

F. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

II. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of the May 14, 2024 Meeting Agenda

B. Approval of the April 16, 2024 Meeting Minutes

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

D. Approval of the District Bills

E. Acceptance of Resignations

Mr. Cross reviewed the consent agenda items, which included a resignation from teacher assistant Courtney Mathis effective at the close of the 2023-24 school year.

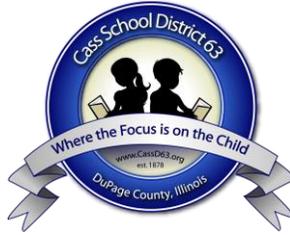
Member Wyent moved and Vice President Patel seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

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

III. Reports, Updates, and Informational Items

A. Administrative Reports

Dr. Anderson reviewed the many end of the year activities at Concord Elementary. Mr. Cross reviewed the Cass end of the year activities highlighting the 8th grade Washington, D.C. trip that Principal Christine Marcinkewicz is on with the class at this time.



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Mr. Cross noted that Frontage Road was supposed to be under construction starting on May 14, which would have created difficulty for bus routes and school traffic with families getting to and from school. He thanked City of Darien Alderwoman Mary Sullivan, who assisted with getting the start date back to May 28, which is after the end of the school year. He then shared that he is working to arrange a visit from Senator Dick Durbin after the HVAC construction is complete, while also working with area Federal Impact Aid school districts.

B. Second Reading of Recommended Board Policy Updates

Mr. Cross presented the second reading of recommended Board policy updates, which are largely focused on statutorily mandated policies related to harassment and discrimination.

C. Presentation Regarding STEAM Curriculum and Resources

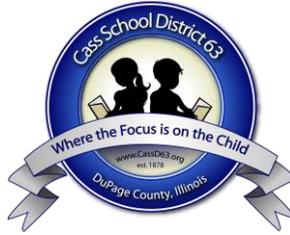
Teacher Matt Etherington presented the proposed curriculum for the new STEAM program at Cass Junior High, which will provide opportunities for our students beginning in 6th grade with courses in Advanced Art, Digital Media, Industrial Design, Animation & Interactivity, and Virtual Worlds. The cost for the transition to the new program is approximately \$65,000. Mr. Cross praised the efforts of Mr. Etherington and Mrs. Marcinkewicz in making these changes happen with the excellent opportunities for our students.

D. Update Regarding Joint Food Service Request for Proposals

Mr. Cross shared that the Illinois State Board of Education has approved the Joint Request for Proposals with Center Cass School District 66 and it will now be released with a legal notice and with all approved school lunch vendors. He added that due to the timing of the process, it is likely the Board will need to hold a special meeting in July to approve the recommended lunch vendor.

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

Mr. Cross updated the Board on the planning and coordination underway for the summer HVAC project noting that the staff is working hard and doing an outstanding job getting packed up and ready to move of the spaces impacted by the renovation. Second shift construction will start in the buildings on



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Monday, May 20 with staff moving out of the buildings on Friday, May 24 after school is out for the summer. The district and school offices will share a summer work space in the Ivy League Kids room when not working remotely.

F. Update Regarding Proposal for HVAC Moving and Storage Services

Mr. Cross shared the proposal from Boerman Moving and Storage to assist in the moving out of the buildings for the HVAC construction. There will be a second recommendation for the return to the buildings in August once those needs are determined.

IV. Recommended Action Items

A. Employment of Recommended Personnel

Mr. Cross reviewed recommendations for Concord teacher assistants Lauren Slomski and Rebecca Kondrisack for the 2024-25 school year.

Member Marinelli moved and Member Mitha seconded a motion to approve the employment of recommended candidates Lauren Slomski and Rebecca Kondrisack for their respective positions for the 2024-25 school year.

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

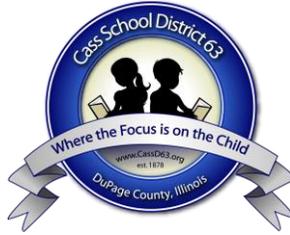
B. Approval of Recommended Board Policy Updates

Member Wyent moved and Member Marinelli seconded a motion to approve the recommended board policy updates.

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 STEAM Curriculum and Resources

Member Mitha moved and Secretary Tanouye seconded a motion to approve the recommended STEAM Curriculum and Resources.



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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.

D. Approval of the Final Revised 2023-24 School Year Calendar

Member Mitha moved and Secretary Tanouye seconded a motion to approve the final revised 2023-24 school year calendar.

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.

E. Approval of the 2024-25 SASSED Classroom Lease Agreement

Member Wyent moved and Vice President Patel seconded a motion to approve the 2024-25 SASSED Classroom Lease Agreement.

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

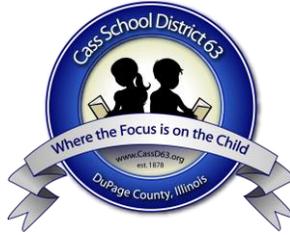
F. Approval of Tri-Merit to Act as Consultants for Renewable Energy Tax Credits

Mr. Cross recommended that the district partner with Tri-Merit to act as consultants for pursuing renewable energy tax credits for the HVAC work being done over the summer.

Member Wyent moved and Vice President Patel seconded a motion to approve Tri-Merit to act as consultants for renewable energy tax credits.

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

G. Approval of Recommended Proposal for HVAC Moving and Storage Services



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Member Marinelli moved and Vice President Patel seconded a motion to approve the HVAC moving and storage to assist with consulting, equipment, moving, and storage during the summer 2024 construction project.

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

H. Approval for Change in Location of the June 11, 2024 Board Meeting

Member Wyent moved and Member Marinelli seconded a motion to approve the change in location of the June 11, 2024 Board of Education meeting to the Indian Prairie Public Library.

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.

V. Conclusion

A. Public Comments

Teacher Matt Etherington thanked the Board for their support of the fine arts program throughout the entirety of his tenure in the District.

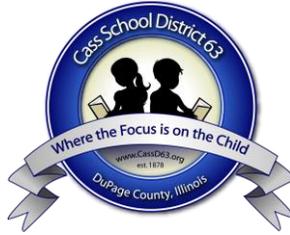
Principal Laura Anderson announced that there is a good chance that Concord Elementary will be awarded a grant to update and complete the preschool playground. Work is currently taking place on the grant and Mr. Cross will update the Board once the district learns a final funding amount and timeline.

B. Board Member Comments

Mark Cross thanked the Board for their support during staff appreciation week and CARE for the treats they provided to the staff.

Urszula Tanouye noted her excitement for the new STEAM program.

Lana Johnson stated how blessed the district is to have longevity of the staff.



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VII. Adjournment

Member Wyent moved and Vice President Patel seconded a motion to adjourn this Board of Education Meeting of May 14, 2024 at 8:44 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