



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

8502 Bailey Road • Darien, Illinois 60561-5333

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

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 June, 2021.

I. Welcome and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 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, Member Lana Johnson, Member Rinku Patel, Member Urszula Tanouye and Member Steve Wyent.

Also in attendance:

Mark R. Cross, Superintendent of Schools, Christine Marcinkewicz, Cass Junior High School Principal, Gayle Wilson, Recording Secretary and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

C. Approval of Regular Meeting Agenda

Mr. Cross requested that the Board approve the Regular Meeting Agenda as presented.

Member Johnson moved and Vice President Absalonsen seconded a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Agenda as presented. Voice Vote. All Ayes. Motion carried 7 to 0.

D. Recognition of Audience, Announcements and Correspondence

President Camden welcomed:

Katie Fujiura



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

Secretary Esposito announced that the next Cass School District 63 Board of Education Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. There was one FOIA request from Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters.

E. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

II. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of May 18, 2021 Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

B. Approval of Budget, Cash Flow, Investment and Payroll Reports

C. Approval of District Bills

D. Approval of Authorization to Prepay July Bills

Mr. Cross answered a question regarding the bills responding that invoices between school districts are often due to the special transportation students.

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

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Secretary Esposito

Member Johnson

Member Patel

Member Tanouye

Member Wyent

Vice President Absalonsen

President Camden

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

III. Reports, Updates and Informational Items

A. Administrative Reports

Mr. Cross reported on behalf of Concord Elementary Principal Laura Anderson, highlighting the end of the year activities with students, including a great last day of school with the 4th grade clap out.



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

Principal Marcinkewicz highlighted 8th grade graduation sharing that she received many compliments from parents on how personal the graduation was and how safe attendees and graduates felt. She added that the 4th grade tour of Cass went well as did Field Day.

Mr. Cross informed the board that there are a couple of controversial topics out in the community and across the state that the topics are prevalent due largely to misinformation. He reiterated to the Board that in Cass School District 63, no curriculum changes or instructional approaches have been modified and that he and the building principals will be very happy to speak with any parents who may have questions about curriculum content or issues they may read about that are taking place in other school districts.

B. CARE Reports and Grant Funding

There was no new report this month, but CARE looks forward to meeting again in person and the schedule for the 2021-22 school year has been set.

C. Updates Regarding Planning for the 2021-22 School Year

Mr. Cross announced that school districts have just recently received health guidelines regarding the opening school in the fall, but some questions remain and he expects additional guidance will be forthcoming. He further added that at this time, parents will not be required to provide proof of vaccination, but proof will be required for students who remain symptom free and wish to avoid quarantine after a close contact outside of the home. The state has also stated that daily screenings will no longer be required.

The District is considering having parents sign a one time only agreement that they will not send their children to school if their children exhibit certain symptoms. There is a possibility that screening with COVID tests will occur and be tied to whether or not a child needs to quarantine, but more information needs to be provided by IDPH. Mr. Cross will continue to work with the team on the plans and will communicate to the Board, staff and parents as the school year approaches.

It was asked how teachers in the younger grades feel about adjusting the social distance guidelines and whether or not the district is considering forming student pods for kids to work within to limit exposure. Mr. Cross



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

answered that the district will consider and use as many layered mitigation approaches as possible, but it isn't possible to always keep students in homogeneous groups due to the varying needs of each student academically and socially. It was also asked if the district would allow students to leave campus for lunches with their parents like last school year and it was shared that this will be allowed this year as well

D. Update Regarding Ivy League Kids Before and After School Program

Mr. Cross reviewed the Ivy League Kids Contract stating that only Cass School District 63 students are permitted to attend the program. A question about whether or not the district would be charging Ivy League Kids rent to use our facilities and Mr. Cross responded that he does not feel that he would recommend not doing so for the upcoming school year to avoid that cost being passed on to parents.

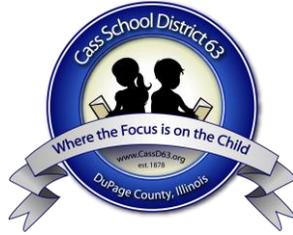
E. Update and Discussion Regarding Goal Setting and Strategic Planning

President Camden and Mr. Cross discussed the strategic planning process with the Board. Mr. Cross shared that from his experience, an effective strategic plan is simple and straightforward, and provides big picture goals, rather than specific details. Just as importantly, it provides a mechanism for the Board to monitor ongoing progress toward those goals. Once the goals are determined, it is the administrative team's responsibility to help the district move toward those goals and provide periodic progress reports. After some discussion it was decided that rather than using outside hired assistance, Mr. Cross will facilitate the process and that the first meeting will be held on August 3 at 6:00 p.m. and the second on September 7 at 6:00 p.m. Each session will be scheduled for two hours.

Mr. Cross also asked the Board if they would be open to shifting the September Board Meeting to Thursday, September 23 and the Board agreed.

F. Review of Proposed 2021-22 Student Handbook Updates

Mr. Cross reviewed the recommended updates and stated that the principals followed the model Illinois Principal Association handbook to develop them.



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

G. Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2022 Tentative Budget

Mr. Cross and Fiscal Services Director Deb Dolehide reviewed the 2021-22 tentative budget. The budget is balanced and is now reduced to five funds. Some unknown variables are the cost of employee health insurance the second half of the fiscal year, as well as special education and related transportation costs. Finance Committee Chair Esposito and Member Wyent both feel that this is a very solid budget and that the process was very clear and straightforward.

IV. Recommended Action Items

A. Approval of 2021-22 Ivy League Kids Contract Agreement

Member Johnson moved and Member Wyent seconded a motion to approve the Ivy League Kids contract as presented.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Vice President Absalonsen

Member Johnson

Member Patel

Member Tanouye

Member Wyent

Secretary Esposito

President Camden

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

B. Approval of Aramark Food Service Contract

Vice President Absalonsen moved and Member Patel seconded a motion to approve the Aramark food service contract as presented.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Secretary Esposito

Member Patel

Member Johnson

Member Tanouye

Member Wyent

Vice President Absalonsen



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63
Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

President Camden

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

C. Approval of Resolution Authorizing the Abolishment of the Working Cash Fund

Secretary Esposito moved and Member Wyent seconded a motion to approve the resolution authorizing the abolishment of the working cash fund.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Member Wyent

Vice President Absalonsen

Member Johnson

Member Patel

Member Tanouye

Secretary Esposito

President Camden

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

D. Approval of Proposed 2021-22 Student Handbook Updates

Member Johnson moved and Vice President Absalonsen seconded a motion to approve the 2021-22 student handbook updates as presented.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Member Johnson

Secretary Esposito

Member Patel

Member Tanouye

Member Wyent

Vice President Absalonsen

President Camden

Motion carried, 7 to 0.



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

E. Employment of Fiscal Year 2022 Tentative Budget

Secretary Esposito moved and Member Wyent seconded a motion to approve the fiscal year 2022 tentative budget.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Member Patel

Secretary Esposito

Member Johnson

Member Tanouye

Member Wyent

Vice President Absalonsen

President Camden

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

F. Approval of Date, Time and Location for the Fiscal Year 2022 Public Budget Hearing for Cass School District 63

Vice President Absalonsen moved and Secretary Esposito seconded a motion to set the public hearing for the fiscal year 2022 budget for Tuesday, August 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Vice President Absalonsen

Member Johnson

Member Patel

Member Tanouye

Member Wyent

Secretary Esposito

President Camden

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

G. Approval of the CEA Memorandum of Understanding

Member Wyent moved and Secretary Esposito seconded a motion to approve the CEA Memorandum of Understanding for Mike McLean so serve as the school district treasurer.



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Vice President Absalonsen

Member Johnson

Member Patel

Member Tanouye

Member Wyent

Secretary Esposito

President Camden

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

H. Employment of Recommended Personnel

Member Johnson moved and Vice President Absalonsen seconded a motion to approve Dana Flutman as half-time Concord Social Worker, Kylie Wild as Concord teacher assistant, Mark Pragides as technology assistant, Savanna Miska as long-term substitute art teacher and Janet Miller as long-term substitute 3rd grade teacher.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

Vice President Absalonsen

Member Johnson

Member Patel

Member Tanouye

Member Wyent

Secretary Esposito

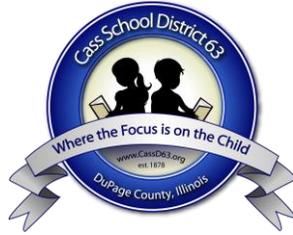
President Camden

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

I. Approval of Requests for Retirement

Member Patel moved and Member Wyent seconded a motion to approve the request for retirement of Sue Lyons effective at the close of the 2022-23 school year.

Roll call



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

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

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

J. Acceptance of Resignations

Member Johnson moved and Member Patel seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Mike Nunzio effective June 30, 2021.

Roll call
Aye Nay
Vice President Absalonsen
Member Johnson
Member Patel
Member Tanouye
Member Wyent
Secretary Esposito
President Camden

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

V. Conclusion

A. Public Comments

- Katie Fujiura thanked the Board for considering including the teachers for input in the strategic planning process.

B. Board Member Comments

- Member Patel said we are so lucky that Cass Junior High went unscathed in the recent storms as just a few blocks over there was significant damage.
- Secretary Esposito thanked Mr. Cross for coming to the school in the middle of the night to check on the buildings after the storm.



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63
Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

C. Adjournment

Member Johnson moved and Secretary Esposito seconded a motion to adjourn this Regular Board of Education Meeting of June 22, 2021 at 9:03 p.m. Voice vote; All Ayes. Motion Carried, 7 to 0.

Shelly Camden, Board of Education President

Attest: _____
Alice Esposito, Board of Education Secretary