



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

8502 Bailey Road • Darien, Illinois 60561

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 15, 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 15th Day of October, 2024.

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 Lana Johnson, Vice President Rinku Patel, Secretary Urszula Tanouye, and members Chris Green, Katie Marinelli, Liz Mitha, and Steve Wyent.

Also in attendance: Superintendent Mark R. Cross, Recording Secretary and Administrative Assistant Gayle Wilson, Cass Junior High School Principal Christine Marcinkewicz, Catie Kelly, Michael Herbert, Skylar Herbert, Sarah Leganski, Carrie Castaldo, Pam Worth, Lauren Grochowski, Andy Kuntz, Kristina Kuntz, Decker Kuntz, Scott Kondraschow, and Jessica Ruiz.

C. Recognition of Audience, Announcements, and Correspondence

Board President Lana Johnson welcomed and recognized the audience and announced that the Board received one FOIA request from RJB Properties.

D. Public Comments

Mrs. Kuntz thanked cross country coaches Scott Kondraschow and Sara Leganski on running a great program.

E. Student and Staff Spotlight and Recognition

Mr. Cross introduced Cass Junior High cross country team members Skylar Herbert and Decker Kuntz. They were invited to the meeting for the Board to recognize their outstanding season in cross country as the top performers for the Cass teams. Both athletes recorded their best times ever at the conference meet, and Skylar earned a spot to compete at the state finals.



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 15, 2024

Dr. Anderson introduced preschool coordinator Pam Worth and preschool teacher Lauren Grochowski and congratulated them on the great job they have done in keeping the Gold Circle designation in the preschool program, which is a difficult designation to acquire. Dr. Anderson announced that with the additional funding the gold circle status has awarded us, we were able to complete the replacement of the preschool playground.

II. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of the October 15, 2024 Meeting Agenda**
- B. Approval of the September 17, 2024 Meeting Minutes**
- C. Approval of the September 17, 2024 Closed Minutes**
- D. Approval of the Budget, Cash Flow, Investment and Payroll Reports**
- E. Approval of the District Bills**

Mr. Cross reviewed the consent agenda, highlighting the expenditures in the budget noting that we are under expenditures so far this year, and doing better than expected with the interest collected on investments.

Member Wyent moved and Member Mitha seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Wyent, Member Mitha, Member Green, Member Marinelli, Secretary Tanouye, Vice President Patel and President Johnson. Nay: None. Motion carried, 7 to 0.

III. Reports, Updates, and Informational Items

A. Administrative Reports

Dr. Anderson shared that Concord will be participating in the great shakeout earthquake drill, which is a nationwide drill on October 17 at 10:17 a.m. She noted that the daily announcements have added some additional information to include recognized holidays and student achievements.

Mrs. Marcinkewicz stated that things are good at Cass Junior High highlighting our talented cross country athletes. She shared Jazz and Advanced Ensemble has their first concert on October 17. Veterans Day plans are underway with



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 15, 2024

our 7th grade students working on a veteran letter writing project and the school as a whole is collecting items to donate to veterans in need.

Mr. Cross noted that he recently participated in the Emergency Preparedness meeting and a meeting with Mayor Joe Marchese at which he discussed the importance of having all police officers on the force periodically walk through the buildings to ensure familiarity with the spaces in the event of an emergency. Mr. Cross then announced April 11 is the planned date for the Multicultural Celebration. Board Member Katie Marinelli added the plans include a simple event that will afford families an opportunity to create their own display to showcase their culture.

B. Concord Preschool Program Presentation

Preschool Coordinator Pam Worth along with Preschool teacher Lauren Grochowski gave a presentation on the program and what it takes for the program to obtain and maintain Gold Circle status. Board members asked questions and thanked the preschool staff for the excellent presentation.

C. Presentation of Fiscal Year 2024 Audit and Annual Financial Report

Mr. Cross presented the tentative fiscal year 2024 financial audit, submitted by auditor Evoy, Kamschulte, Jacobs, LLP, noting that the district continued to build its fund balances, continued its practice of not issuing short-term debt, and continued to maintain a balanced budget. There were no findings or concerns expressed and the district continues to perform well financially.

D. Update Regarding 2024 IASB Resolutions Committee Report

Mr. Cross reviewed the delegate assembly process for the upcoming annual conference He stated that the District needs to appoint a representative to vote on their behalf at the assembly and Urszula Tanouye has been that person for the past two years. He encouraged the Board to review the Resolutions Committee Report and the recommended action. If someone feels that our Board should vote opposite of the committee recommendation, the Board can discuss those items at the November Board meeting.



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 15, 2024

E. Update and Discussion Regarding Phase II Facility Planning

Mr. Cross reviewed an updated listing of potential Phase II facility planning items for Board consideration. The list includes, but is not limited to, completion of energy efficient lighting, installation of low maintenance flooring, replacement of classroom whiteboards, improvements to music rooms and gymnasiums, addressing drainage issues on the Concord property, completing masonry repair and tuck pointing, improvement of the courtyards, and potential replacement of the Concord playground. These items will be vetted and discussed at the upcoming Facilities Committee meeting.

F. Update Regarding Federal Impact Aid Advocacy and Funding

Mr. Cross shared on his recent trip to Washington, D.C. reviewing his role with two national organizations that advocate for federal impact aid funding, since 37 percent of our school district's land is the federal government owned Argonne National Laboratory. Federal property is not taxable and this puts our school district at a financial disadvantage. He will continue to be actively involved to keep this important funding source available to our district.

IV. Recommended Action Items

A. Approval of Fiscal Year 2024 Audit and Annual Financial Report

Because the audit is complete but not yet in final form, the Board decided to delay formal approval until the November Board meeting.

B. Appointment of Representative to the 2024 IASB Delegate Assembly

Member Green moved and Member Marinelli seconded a motion to appoint Urszula Tanouye as the representative to the 2024 IASB delegate assembly.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Green, Member Marinelli, Member Mitha, Member Wyent, Secretary Tanouye, Vice President Patel, and President Johnson. Nay: None. Motion carried 7 to 0.

C. Employment of Recommended Personnel

Mr. Cross stated that he is recommending Michael Gallagher as Cass Permanent Substitute Teacher and Kerry Glimco, Tinesha Anderson, and Alexandra Gale, and as Concord Teacher Assistants.



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 15, 2024

Secretary Tanouye moved and Member Wyent seconded a motion to approve the recommended candidates Kerry Glimco, Tinesha Anderson, Alexandra Gale, and Michael Gallagher for the remainder of the 2024-25 school year.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Secretary Tanouye, Member Wyent, Member Green, Member Marinelli, Member Mitha, Vice President Patel, and President Johnson.
Nay: None. Motion carried 7 to 0.

V. Conclusion

A. Public Comments

Scott Kondraschow thanked the Board for recognizing the cross country team and stated that the team exhibited leadership and growth over the season.

B. Board Member Comments

Chris Green thanked cross country coaches Scott Kondrashow and Sarah Leganski for their effort with the kids this year.

C. Adjournment

Member Wyent moved and Vice President Patel seconded a motion to adjourn this Board of Education Meeting of October 15, 2024 at 8:49 p.m.

Voice Vote – Aye: Member Wyent, Vice President Patel, Member Green, Member Marinelli, Member Mitha, Secretary Tanouye, and President Johnson.
Nay: None. Motion carried 7 to 0.

Lana Johnson, Board of Education President

Attest: _____

Urszula Tanouye, Board of Education Secretary