



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

8502 Bailey Road • Darien, Illinois 60561-5333

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

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 15th Day of December, 2020.

Open Session

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. Upon roll being called, the following members answered present: President Shelly Camden (via video conference), Vice President Kent Absalonsen (via video conference), Secretary Alice Esposito (via video conference), Member Lana Johnson (via video conference), Member Jeff McCollian (via video conference), Member Michael Ockrim (via video conference) and Member Rinku Patel.

Also in attendance:

Mark R. Cross, Superintendent of Schools

Laura Anderson, Concord Elementary School Principal (via video conference)

Gayle Wilson, Recording Secretary and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Regular Meeting Agenda

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

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

Recognition of Audience, Announcements and Correspondence

President Camden welcomed:

Becky Kriz (via video conference) Courtney Cozzolino (via video conference)

Dave DeRousse (via video conference)

Secretary Esposito announced that the next Cass School District 63 Board of Education Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 19, 2021 and shared that the District received the following correspondence:



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63 Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

1. Freedom of Information request from Nicholas Hoover
2. Freedom of Information request from an unidentified individual
3. Thank You note received from Teacher Angela Zurawski

Public Comments

There was no public comment.

Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of November 17, 2020 Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes
- B. Approval of Budget, Cash Flow and Investment Reports
- C. Approval of Payroll Reports
- D. Approval of District Bills

Member Ockrim moved and Member McCollian seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda to include Additional Bills as presented.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

President Camden

Vice President Absalonsen

Secretary Esposito

Member Johnson

Member McCollian

Member Ockrim

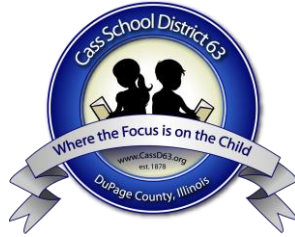
Member Patel

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

Reports, Updates and Informational Items

- A. Administrative Report

Superintendent Cross stated that Principal Marcinkewicz was not able to be in attendance at tonight's meeting.



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

Principal Anderson stated that the District is in a full remote week. She conveyed the appreciation of the Concord Elementary School staff for allowing them to have this week to social distance before the holiday. NWEA testing was recently conducted with otherwise remote students came in person to complete testing. Over break the administrative team will be reviewing the test results to see where the students are in comparison to the national data and compare the students from where they were to where they are to see where improvements need to be made. Principal Anderson added that at a quick glance the scores are strong.

The question was asked as to how the new reading curriculum is working since it was implemented during COVID. Principal Anderson stated that the program was piloted in the school year before so that gave the teams a head start prior to full implementation and so it has gone very well. Teacher Courtney Cozzolino added that the new reading program is completely online so this has added to its success.

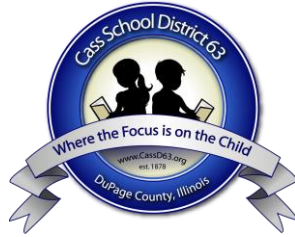
Superintendent Cross added that the District is currently in the process of updating its communication system including a new template for the website, weekly communications, the development of an app and other forms of communication.

B. CARE Reports and Grant Funding

Lana Johnson stated that CARE is continuing to enjoy high levels of involvement and they are continuing to come up with creative ways to fundraise. CARE would like to do something fun for the kids and parents to do as an activity.

C. Presentation of Recommended 2020 Tax Levy

Superintendent Cross presented the proposed 2020 tax levy and stated that it is unchanged from the tentative levy that was presented at the November 2020 meeting. He added that since the recommended 2020 tax levy is less than 105 percent of last year's extension when debt service is excluded, there is no need to hold a Truth-in-Taxation hearing.



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

Superintendent Cross further explained that because the District is limited to the CPI-U (Consumer Price Index For All Urban Consumers), which is estimated at 2.3 percent, after the estimated new construction is added that District is able to fully tax, the District will have an estimated total increase of approximately 3.2 percent.

- D. Review of the Recommended Supplemental 2020 Tax Levy Resolution and Proposed Tax Abatement of General Obligation School Refunding Bonds

Superintendent Cross presented his recommendation that the Board approve the Supplemental 2020 Tax Levy Resolution as presented. The supplemental levy simply ensures that the District is able to capture additional dollars that were restricted under the property tax extension limitation law but have grown with our tax base and are necessary to pay the principal and interest on the bonds.

Superintendent Cross then presented the resolution for abatement of local taxes. This resolution is necessary due to the fact that the District pays for some of its bonded debt out of existing operating funds and as a result needs to abate what would be a property tax payment on those bonds.

- E. Update Regarding Health Guidance, Remote Learning and Return to Learn

Superintendent Cross stated that the District overall has done very well with COVID-19 numbers. Since the November meeting, much has changed in the fight against COVID, including the roll out of a vaccine which has begun for health care and front line workers. He stated of the desire to bring more students back to in-person learning as health guidelines allow. Finally, the Administration has been discussing how the 2021-22 school year might look but with the vaccine there is optimism that next school year will look more normal.

Recommended Action Items

- A. Adoption of Resolution for Approval of the 2020 Tax Levy

Secretary Esposito moved and Member Johnson seconded a motion to adopt the 2020 Tax Levy and Resolution as presented.



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63
Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

Roll call

Aye

Nay

President Camden
Vice President Absalonsen
Secretary Esposito
Member Johnson
Member McCollian
Member Ockrim
Member Patel

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

- B. Adoption of Resolution Authorizing a Supplemental Property Tax Levy to Pay the Principal of and Interest on Outstanding Limited Bonds

Vice President Absalonsen moved and Secretary Esposito seconded a motion to adopt the Resolution Authorizing a Supplemental Property Tax Levy to Pay the Principal of and Interest on Outstanding Limited Bonds as presented.

Roll call

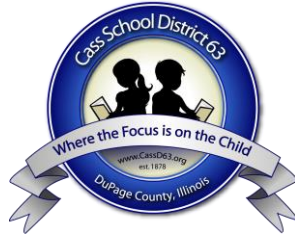
Aye

Nay

President Camden
Vice President Absalonsen
Secretary Esposito
Member Johnson
Member McCollian
Member Ockrim
Member Patel

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

- C. Adoption of Resolution Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied for the Year 2020 to Pay Debt Service on the General Obligation School Refunding Bonds (Alternate



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

Revenue Source), Series 2013B, and General Obligation School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2016B

Secretary Esposito moved and Member Johnson seconded a motion to Adopt the Resolution Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied for the Year 2020 to Pay Debt Service on the General Obligation School Refunding Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2013B, and General Obligation School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2016B as presented.

Roll call

Aye

Nay

President Camden

Vice President Absalonsen

Secretary Esposito

Member Johnson

Member McCollian

Member Ockrim

Member Patel

Motion carried, 7 to 0.

Conclusion

A. Public Comments

- There was no public comment.

Board Member Remarks

- Vice President Absalonsen said he is happy that this is the last meeting of 2020 and he is looking forward to 2021.
- President Camden added that her neighborhood kids are so glad to be in school and thanked everyone for making that happen for students. She added her wishes for a wonderful holiday for all.



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63
Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

- Superintendent Cross added his appreciation to the Board of Education as it was a year ago at the December meeting that the Board hired him. He stated that Cass School District 63 is a wonderful place with a fantastic staff and they have helped to make this a great transition so far.

Member Johnson moved and Vice President Absalonsen seconded a motion to adjourn this Regular Board of Education Meeting of December 15, 2020 at 8:33 p.m. Voice vote; All Ayes. Motion Carried, 7 to 0.

Shelly Camden, Board of Education President

Attest: _____
Alice Esposito, Board of Education Secretary