



CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 63

8502 Bailey Road • Darien, Illinois 60561-5333

Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 21, 2023

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 21st Day of February, 2023.

I. Welcome and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call

Upon roll being called, the following members answered present: President Shelly Camden, Vice President Lana Johnson and Members Chris Green, Rinku Patel, Urszula Tanouye and Steve Wyent. My Wyent left the meeting at 8:06 p.m. Secretary Alice Esposito was absent.

Also in attendance: Mark R. Cross, Superintendent, Laura Anderson, Concord Elementary School Principal, Christine Marcinkewicz, Cass Junior High School Principal and Gayle Wilson, Recording Secretary and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

C. Recognition of Audience, Announcements and Correspondence

President Camden welcomed the following guests: Katie Fujiura, Liz Mitha and Shelby Riha

Mrs. Camden stated that the district had received two FOIA requests that have been fulfilled.

II. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of the February 21, 2023 Regular Meeting Agenda**
- B. Approval of the January 24, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes**
- C. Approval of the January 24, 2023 Closed Meeting Minutes**
- D. Approval of the Budget, Cash Flow, Investment and Payroll Reports**
- E. Approval of the District Bills**



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Mr. Cross stated that expenditures under purchased services for transportation have already exceeded budgeted expenditures and that an amendment to the budget will need to be considered at a future meeting. The high expenditures are due to the high cost of outsourcing special education transportation, which is one reason the Board is considering its options for managing future transportation costs. All other areas of the budget are on track to finish the year under budget.

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

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

III. Reports, Updates and Informational Items

A. Principals' Report

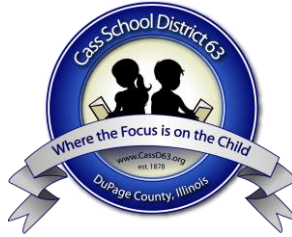
Mrs. Marcinkewicz shared several events taking place at Cass Junior High, highlighting the STEM bridge design and building project and a number of extracurricular activities.

Dr. Anderson shared that Concord is in the process of holding the Kindergarten round up and conducting a Prekindergarten screening to determine how many students we will have in the fall. She added that the curriculum committee is working on science and STEM curriculum resources to implement in the 2023-24 school year. Recommendations on the curriculum resources will be brought to the Board in later in the spring.

B. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Cross shared that the CARE Boys and their VIPs event that was recently held had over 100 participants, which was a great turnout. A similar event will be held in March.

He also addressed substitute teacher compensation and stated that in order to keep the substitutes we have, we need to adjust compensation.



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Mr. Cross shared that he was recently invited to lunch at the Mecca Center to meet with Sheikh Hassan Aly, Iman and Director of Religious Affairs, to discuss an interfaith community effort to work with local community leaders. He and other superintendents will be involved in the conversations taking place.

He also thanked those who participated in the recent drive that was held for earthquake relief in Turkey. Many items were donated and we appreciate the tremendous generosity. One of our district parents delivered the donations on behalf of the district and Mr. Cross thanked him and others for their support.

C. Update Regarding Long-Term Facility Projects

Mr. Cross reviewed recommended bids for geotechnical test boring and topographical site surveys which must be completed in order for the district to install the new geothermal system in the summer of 2024. Additionally, he and Principal Christine Marcinkewicz updated the Board on progress with safety and security planning. How and when some of this work will be completed could be impacted by the HVAC work, although the Board agreed it was best to pursue installing as much of the security measures as soon as reasonably possible, particularly the updated exterior cameras. Mr. Cross will continue to update the Board on this topic.

D. Update and Discussion Regarding School District Food Service Program

Mr. Cross shared the importance of the district to offer the highest quality food at the most reasonable price for our students and families. He said that the quality of food served could be improved. Cass 63 has a cooperative food service arrangement with neighboring Center Cass District 66 and he said the two school districts are talking about possible next steps for a potential vendor. It is also possible that Cass 63 could run the program separately in the event it is no longer feasible to run the shared program. Mr. Cross shared that the target date for a decision is before the end of the school year to allow for enough time to set up with the potential new vendor.



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IV. Recommended Action Items

A. Employment of Recommended Personnel

Member Patel moved and Vice President Johnson seconded a motion to approve Jaclyn Stachorek for the position of Cass Junior High Special Education teacher effective at the start of the 2023-24 school year.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Patel, Vice President Johnson, Member Green, Member Tanouye and President Camden. Nay: None. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Vice President Johnson moved and Member Green seconded a motion to approve Melissa Rivera for the position of full time teacher assistant at Concord Elementary effective February 21, 2023.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Vice President Johnson, Member Green, Member Patel Member Tanouye and President Camden. Nay: None. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Member Green moved and Member Patel seconded a motion to approve Kelly Iovinelli for the position of Concord Elementary teacher assistant effective at the start of the 2023-24 school year.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Green, Member Patel, Member Tanouye, Vice President Johnson and President Camden. Nay: None. Motion carried 5 to 0.

B. Approval of 2023-24 School Year Student Fees

Vice President Johnson moved and Member Patel seconded a motion to approve the 2023-24 school year student fees.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Vice President Johnson, Member Patel, Member Green, Member Tanouye and President Camden. Nay: None. Motion carried 5 to 0.

C. Approval of 2023-24 School Year District Calendar

Vice President Johnson moved and Member Green seconded a motion to approve the 2023-24 school year district calendar.



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Voice Vote – Aye: Vice President Johnson, Member Green, Member Patel, Member Tanouye and President Camden. Nay: None. Motion carried 5 to 0.

D. Authorization to Accept Bids for Regular Student Transportation Services

Member Patel moved and Vice President Johnson seconded a motion to authorize the acceptance of bids for regular student transportation services.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Patel, Vice President Johnson, Member Green, Member Tanouye and President Camden. Nay: None. Motion carried 5 to 0.

E. Approval of Recommended Proposal for Geotechnical Test Boring Services

Vice President Johnson moved and Member Patel seconded a motion to approve the proposal of \$35,950.00 from QC Geothermal, Inc. for geotechnical test boring services.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Vice President Johnson, Member Patel, Member Green, Member Tanouye and President Camden. Nay: None. Motion carried 5 to 0.

F. Approval of Recommended Proposal for Topographical Site Survey Services

Member Patel moved and Member Green seconded a motion to approve the proposal of \$22,870.00 from Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. for topographical site surveys.

Roll Call Vote – Aye: Member Patel, Member Green, Member Tanouye, Vice President and President Camden. Nay: None. Motion carried 5 to 0.

V. Conclusion

A. Public Comments

Christine Marcinkewicz announced that 10-month administrative assistant Maggie Adelman will be assuming the 12-month Cass Junior High administrative assistant position beginning on July 1, 2023 upon Ginny Hirhager's retirement.



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B. Board Member Comments

- Mr. Green extended his thanks to custodian Dan Farias for his help during the Pinewood Derby that was held on a recent weekend.
- Dr. Anderson thanked CARE for bringing Sticky Fingers to the students at Concord as they are really enjoying it. She further noted that CARE is considering the possibility of bringing Spanish classes to students after school next year.

C. Adjournment

Member Patel moved and Vice President Johnson seconded a motion to adjourn this Regular Board of Education Meeting of February 21, 2023 at 8:26 p.m.

Voice Vote – Aye: Member Patel, Vice President Johnson, Member Green, Member Tanouye and President Camden. Nay: None. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Shelly Camden, Board of Education President

Attest: _____
Alice Esposito, Board of Education Secretary