

Cassopolis Public Schools  
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Board of Education  
Minutes  
Special Meeting  
January 20, 2014

This special meeting of the Cassopolis Board of Education was held on Monday, January 20, 2014 in the Board Meeting Room at Squires Education Center and began at 7:00 as President Ward welcomed those attending.

Members Present: George Calvert, Sue Horstmann, John Bright, Jason Pompey, Lori Whitmyer, Jeremy Carlisle and Scott Ward

Member Absent: None

Also present: Tracy Hertsel, Robyn Bright, Cindy Martynowicz, members of the staff, student body and community

Lori Whitmyer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda - **Moved by** Jeremy Carlisle, **supported by** Jason Pompey to approve the agenda, as presented. **Motion carried** 7-0, as follows: Horstmann, yes; Whitmyer, yes; Bright, yes; Calvert, yes; Carlisle, yes; Pompey, yes; Ward, yes.

Approval of Minutes – **Moved by** Lori Whitmyer, **supported by** John Bright to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of January 13, 2014, as written. **Motion carried**, 7-0, as follows: Carlisle, yes; Pompey, yes; Horstmann, yes; Calvert, yes; Whitmyer, yes; Bright, yes; Ward, yes.

#### New Business – Discussion Item

Proposed color scheme and carpet samples for restoration project at Ross Beatty Jr./Sr. High School – Dr. Calvert stated that the Building and Grounds Committee met last Wednesday and toured the high school to see the damaged areas. They also walked through the Wellness Center to see their color scheme and carpet color. The committee selected samples for the full Board and community to look at and give input. The committee liked the option of blue carpet and more neutral colors for the walls.

Mr. Ward said that rather than only fixing what needs to be fixed if we have the money the committee wants to do a little more, to move the high school forward another 30-40 years. They saw that the auditorium desperately needs help; the carpeting in there is being replaced, but they need more in that area. They would like a uniform color scheme to be used throughout the building.

Mr. Hertsel said the basic shelf life that companies normally keep carpet colors is between 5-8 years. He explained that carpet squares are 2-3 times as expensive as buying carpet rolls and if the squares aren't installed exactly right it becomes an issue. It was recommended that we go with carpet rolls. We would like to update the building room by room. At this time, there are three classrooms, the auditorium and the guidance office that are approved by our insurance adjuster for new carpeting.

Mr. Carlisle said they want to keep the colors more neutral for consistency.

Mr. Bright said that he is on the Finance Committee and knows they want to spend more money to get more done than insurance will cover. He also suggested that we ask for a larger sample of the carpet that is selected and ask someone do a seam with the samples.

Mr. Carlisle said the Building and Grounds Committee agreed for us to do as much renovation as possible but were not sure of funds available.

Mr. Hertsel said he has prices based on the areas to be carpeted. The insurance adjustment for carpeting is in the \$24,000 area and quotes were under \$20,000 so we would be money ahead for that piece.

At this time, President Ward recessed the meeting until 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 7:31 p.m.

Public Comment –

Thomas Bosler, Ross Beatty JSHS student body president said that the area by the band room includes the old choir room and the old choir pit is still underneath. As the band grows, it gets harder to have both the band and choir in the same room. The choir needs risers to be more efficient. He asked, rather than recarpeting that room about the possibility of turning it back into a choir room as he thinks that would help the program grow.

Austyn Withers, student, asked if linoleum had been considered versus carpet. He thinks it would last longer, be easier to clean and might stay modern longer.

**Moved by** Lori Whitmyer, **supported by** John Bright that the following are approved for restoration at Ross Beatty Jr./Sr. High School: Navy Alma Mater for the carpet and tan for the wall colors.

Mrs. Whitmyer asked when we need to let the contractors know our decision. Mr. Hertsel said as soon as there is a decision we will inform the insurance company. It would then take a week to get the down payment and 60% is required before the order can be placed. It would take 1-2 weeks to get the carpet in and another week for installation. She liked the idea to research linoleum and possibly using sound barriers for the ceiling.

Mr. Ward said during the Sam Adams Elementary construction project it was strongly suggested that we not use linoleum. One of the problems with this he has seen in the elementary school is if you walk through the hallways after school there are scuff marks on the floor. He suggested we get more information and determine if this is advantageous before making the final decision.

Mr. Hertsel said he would get this information before the next Board meeting and it can be discussed at that time.

**Motion carried** 7-0, as follows: Whitmyer, yes; Calvert, yes; Horstmann, yes; Carlisle, yes; Bright, yes; Pompey, yes; Ward, yes.

Mr. Bright said that we could still get started on the guidance area and auditorium as those areas would still be carpeted.

Dr. Calvert said that we want to get the building back to being fully useable.

Mrs. Horstmann asked if tan is the color selected, does that limit us or can we have accent walls? Mr. Hertsel said we would have that availability. That can be discussed and acted on at a future Board meeting also.

Mr. Ward asked Mr. Hertsel to get prices if possible for the next Board meeting.

Mr. Carlisle asked if we are making this more complicated than it needs to be at this point, as he feels we need to get the process moving quickly.

CSEA 2013-2016 contract – **Moved by** Lori Whitmyer, **supported by** John Bright to approve the CSEA 2013-2016 contract, as presented.

Mr. Bright said when this is voted on and if approved, all district employees from teachers, administrators to the CSEA group will be on the same schedule of pay as relates to our student enrollment. It also will give everyone the same absentee policy throughout all groups. There was a lot of hard work across the board to make this contract happen.

Mr. Hertsel thanked Mrs. Blaske for her time to work out the details.

**Motion carried** 7-0, as follows: Pompey, yes; Horstmann, yes; Calvert, yes; Whitmyer, yes; Carlisle, yes; Bright, yes; Ward, yes.

Superintendent Report – Mr. Hertsel said that today we were approved to have the gym floor replaced rather than repaired at the high school. The adjuster wants two bids and he will be working on getting that information.

Mr. Carlisle thanked Mr. Hertsel and the staff for all of their hard work since the disaster happened at Ross Beatty.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education it was **moved by** George Calvert, **supported by** Jeremy Carlisle to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. All in favor.

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Susan Horstmann, Secretary