

Cassopolis Public Schools
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Board of Education
Minutes
Regular Meeting
March 10, 2014

Welcome: This regular meeting of the Cassopolis Board of Education was held on Monday, March 10, 2014 in the Board meeting room at Squires Educational Center and called to order at 7:00 p.m., as President Ward welcomed those attending.

Roll Call: Members Present: Jeremy Carlisle, Jason Pompey, Lori Whitmyer (arrived at 7:03 p.m.), George Calvert, Sue Horstmann and Scott Ward
Member Absent: John Bright
Also present: Tracy Hertsel, Dee Voss, Bob Sieko, Sara Park, Cindy Martynowicz, members of the community, staff and media

Sue Horstmann led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda - **Moved by** Jeremy Carlisle, **supported by** Jason Pompey to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion carried**, 5-0, as follows: Calvert, yes; Horstmann, yes; Pompey, yes; Carlisle, yes; Ward, yes.

Approval of Minutes: **Moved by** George Calvert, **supported by** Jeremy Carlisle to approve the minutes from the regular meetings of February 24, 2014, as written. **Motion carried** 5-0, as follows: Pompey, yes; Horstmann, yes; Calvert, yes; Carlisle, yes; Ward, yes.

Communications or correspondence – Mr. Hertsel said there is one correspondence which is a request for closed session later in the meeting.

Reports, Information Items from School Staff –

Sam Adams Elementary School / Voss: Mrs. Voss distributed summary reports for MEAP results from this school year.

Mrs. Whitmyer arrived at this point in the meeting.

Mrs. Voss reviewed MEAP results grade level to grade level and explained the process to compare results. Mrs. Voss invited all to attend McTeacher night at McDonald's, which will be next Tuesday night. She said that the Sam Adams Elementary honor roll was in the Vigilant and thanked Scott Novak for visiting the school and writing articles for recent editions.

Ross Beatty Jr./Sr. High School / Sieko: Mr. Sieko stated that Mr. Ward, Mr. Hertsel and he were at the state FFA convention and it was great to see the kids do so well. Today the new state reform monitor was in district. The monitor was pleased with what she saw and will send a follow up report. Mr. Sieko said that junior high students MEAP tested showed improvement in all areas over the last four years. He said that the guidance counselor has written a course description guide and is working on a recruitment video.

Austyn Withers, Robotics Club member, said they competed at Gull Lake this past weekend. The team ended up 13th out of 40, and made it to the finals. In the finals they won the first match but lost the other two matches. They have repaired the robot and are feeling confident going into the next competition which will be in St. Joseph on March 28-29.

Carrie George said that district FFA teams competed at state convention last week, Wednesday through Friday and she was very impressed with our kids. Cameron Hayden was elected as the Region I State Vice President. She said that Mr. Sieko and Mr. Hertsel were there Thursday night and Cameron was a finalist for the Star award; he was later named the Star recipient. She said that the Cassopolis chapter hasn't had a Star recipient since 1972. In leadership contests the Parliamentary Procedures team was state runners up; Ag Issues won state and will go to nationals in the fall. Emily Waldschmidt competed in the job interview contest and won, that will go to nationals also. We also had all Ag Science projects at the convention.

Public Comment – None.

New Business – Discussion Items

Collaborative Teaching Model – Mrs. George said that this past fall they were looking for more opportunities to offer academic credit at the Ag school. They were contacted by reps from the Career Tech Education center and met with reps from other counties. At another meeting Biology teachers participated and they talked about using each other's strengths. Mrs. George said that if she works collaboratively with Mrs. Wellman who is a Biology teacher, students would be able to earn a Biology credit for her Ag classes. If the Board allows this she and Mrs. Wellman would meet during the year to track each other's students and look at the process. They would do an annual review each year. If this were instituted it would open the Ag program to freshmen.

Mr. Hertsel said that this will be an action item at the next Board meeting and asked Board members let him know if there are any questions about the proposal.

Mrs. George said also discussed at the last Curriculum Committee meeting were current graduation requirements. If the Board wants to be more flexible and allow kids to be at the Ag school, these could be changed. This will also be an action item at the next Board meeting.

NEOLA 1st reading on revised/new policies – Mr. Hertsel asked if there were any questions on the packet that was distributed two weeks ago and there were none. These will be an action item at the next Board meeting.

New Business – Action Items

Resignations – **Moved by** Lori Whitmyer, **supported by** Jeremy Carlisle that the resignations of Iraidá Maldonado, Bus Driver, effective April 4, 2014; and, Bob Ballantine, JV Baseball Coach, effective immediately, are accepted with regret. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Calvert, yes; Horstmann, yes; Pompey, yes; Whitmyer, yes; Carlisle, yes; Ward, yes.

Hirings – **Moved by** Jeremy Carlisle, **supported by** George Calvert that the following positions are awarded: Martin McGinn, Varsity Track Coach; Brian Klee, Junior High Girls Track Coach; and, Chad Sheteron, JV Baseball Coach, as recommended by the Athletic Director. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Horstmann, yes; Whitmyer, yes; Calvert, yes; Carlisle, yes; Pompey, yes; Ward, yes.

Superintendent's Report – Mr. Hertsel reported as follows:

- Thanked Scott Novak for recent coverage in the Vigilant.
- Today was the start of spring sport practices.
- Appreciated Mr. Chapman and Mr. George giving their reports tonight.
- Gave an update on construction issues at both buildings.
- Is working on finalizing the SAES sign and will start the bid process soon.
- Congratulated all of our students for their participation in recent contests.

Expulsion Hearing – **Moved by** Jason Pompey, **supported by** Jeremy Carlisle to go into closed session at 7:40 p.m. for the purpose of an expulsion hearing. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Carlisle, yes; Pompey, yes; Horstmann, yes; Calvert, yes; Whitmyer, yes; Ward, yes.

Returned to open session at 8:30 p.m.

Moved by Jason Pompey, **supported by** Jeremy Carlisle to expel Student A for up to one year with the ability for early reinstatement, pending a recommendation from the Reinstatement Committee; and that Student A is to have the E-2020 program made available. **Motion carried** 5-1, as follows: Whitmyer, yes; Calvert, no; Horstmann, yes; Carlisle, yes; Pompey, yes; Ward, yes.

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 8:32 p.m. All in favor.

Susan Horstmann, Secretary