

**Cassopolis Public Schools  
725 Center Street  
Cassopolis, MI 49031  
(269) 445-0503**

**Board of Education  
Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
October 10, 2016**

Welcome: This regular meeting of the Cassopolis Board of Education was held on Monday, October 10, 2016 in the Board meeting room at Squires Education Center, and called to order at 7:00 p.m., as President Ward welcomed those attending.

Roll Call: Members present: George Calvert, Sue Horstmann, Jesse Binns, Lisa Cutting, Deb Deubner, Scott Ward

Members absent: Amanda Smego

Also present: Tracy Hertsel, Sara Park, Robyn Bright, John Bright, Cindy Martynowicz and members of the public

Lisa Cutting led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda – **Moved by** George Calvert, **supported by** Jesse Binns to approve the agenda, as presented. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Horstmann, yes; Cutting, yes; Calvert, yes; Deubner, yes; Binns, yes; Ward, yes.

Approval of Minutes: **Moved by** Sue Horstmann, **supported by** George Calvert to approve the minutes from the special meeting of October 3, 2016, as written. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Deubner, yes; Binns, yes; Horstmann, yes; Calvert, yes; Cutting, yes; Ward, yes.

Communications and correspondence – Mr. Hertsel read the following into the record:

“Mr. Brawley,

I am a parent of a bulldog varsity football player and the elementary principal, which also makes me the "mom" to many of the bulldogs. I wanted to write to thank you for the sportsmanlike play of your players and coaches last night. Our boys knew going in to the game that it was likely to not only be a loss, but they knew it would be hard to be competitive. I'm sure your coaches and boys knew that as well.

Your team did not take advantage of the situation. They played their game well but didn't exploit nor play in a way that could have been humiliating or cause injuries. Your coaches did not run the score up. They scored when given the opportunity. As a mom of a player that was nervous about the night's game and looking at a probable loss, he came off the field with a smile. He enjoyed playing the game and being with his teammates despite the obstacles and outcome. A great deal of reason for his feelings, was due to the sportsmanship of the coaches and teams from both schools.

Athletics is about so much more than the win, as you know. Last night, in a way, everyone felt some success. We never hear enough positives in our positions which is why I wanted to make a point to share my thoughts and the thoughts of other parents in the stands.

Thank you again,  
Becky Stauffer”

Reports, Information Items from School Staff –

**Transportation / Bright:** Mr. Bright said that he has completed the State form #4094. Mr. Bright said that he met with area transportation supervisors and Cassopolis is the only school in the county that increased ridership this school year.

Public Comment – None.

New Business – Discussion Item

Update Board Goals – Mr. Hertsel said that Board members have the revised Board goals from the last work session on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. There were no questions or further discussion at this time.

Old Business – Action Item

Update Board Goals – **Moved by** Lisa Cutting, **supported by** George Calvert that it is hereby resolved to update the Board goals to state:

- Raise test scores.
- Instill Ranger Pride in our students and community.
- Hire great people.
- Don't spend more than you take in.
- Increase student enrollment.

**Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Cutting, yes; Calvert, yes; Horstmann, yes; Deubner, yes; Binns, yes; Ward, yes.

New Business – Action Item

Hirings – **Moved by** Deb Deubner, **supported by** George Calvert that the following positions be awarded: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Basketball Coach – Derrick Outlaw and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Basketball Coach – Nikitas Nelson.

**Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Binns, yes; Horstmann, yes; Calver, yes; Cutting, yes; Deubner, yes; Ward, yes.

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

- Thanked Lisa, Deb and George for attending the legislative breakfast this morning.
- Mr. VanLue asked Board members call him if you have questions on the test data he distributed on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- The district received an AED machine that will be used for athletic events and Mr. Brawley will have it with him at events. It was donated from the Wes Leonard Foundation.
- Thanked staff members for their work on count day. It is a long process that will continue on the "back side" now for the next several weeks.

Board Comments -

Mrs. Deubner said that the community had asked a reminder alert be sent a month ahead of the next scheduled open community meeting. As this is scheduled for November 15, she asked if that could go out this week. It was decided to send an alert this week and also a week before the meeting.

Mrs. Deubner also asked that this be put on the signs at both buildings and on the district's Facebook page.

Mr. Ward said that also discussed at the last meeting was setting up a community awareness committee. He would like 1-2 Board members and 3-4 community members and the hope would be to help keep the lines of communication open.

Mr. Ward said that he sat in on the curriculum committee for Lisa last week. The elementary wants to create a transitional Kindergarten class to help some younger aged K students. He thinks the Board should take a strong look at this proposal. Mr. Ward said that he charged the administrative team to look at also offering honors programs to give those students an opportunity to learn at a higher grade level.

Mr. Ward said at the Technology Committee meeting earlier he made a proposal and will be presenting that to the full Board in the near future. He asked Board members be sure to read the committee notes carefully about this proposal.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education it was **moved by** George Calvert and **supported by** Jesse Binns to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m.

---

Susan Horstmann, Secretary