

**Cassopolis Public Schools
725 Center Street
Cassopolis, MI 49031
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**Board of Education
Minutes
Regular Meeting
December 11, 2017**

Welcome: This regular meeting of the Cassopolis Board of Education was held on Monday, December 11, 2017 in the Board meeting room at Squires Education Center, and called to order at 6:33 p.m., as President Ward welcomed those attending.

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

Member absent: None

Also present: Dr. Angela Piazza, Dee Voss, Deb Stermer, Jerry Zachary, Matt Brawley, Brooke Brawley, Forrest Gasper, Karen Blaha, Jeff Wernette, Dave VanLue, Jason Messner, Glen Barr, Geri Vlasticak, Cindy Martynowicz, members of the staff

Sue Horstmann led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Ward welcomed all to tonight's meeting of the School Board of Education. He stated that the purpose of this public meeting is to conduct the business of the School Corporation and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There will be time for public participation as indicated by the agenda.

Mission: To ensure that all students achieve the educational and life skills necessary to be successful in today's ever-changing society.

Vision: All students will demonstrate the academic, technological, and cultural competencies necessary to compete in a global society.

We will keep these statements at the forefront of all business decisions.

Approval of the Agenda – **Moved by** Sue Horstmann, **supported by** Lisa Cutting to amend the agenda by adding Item 10-B to discuss a new position for Coordinator of Career and College Readiness/District New Tech Coach; and also to add item 11-A to act on the same position. **Motion carried** 7-0, as follows: Horstmann, yes; Cutting, yes; Smego, yes; Calvert, yes; Deubner, yes; Binns, yes; Ward, yes.

Moved by George Calvert, **supported by** Deb Deubner to approve the agenda, as amended. **Motion carried** 7-0, as follows: Horstmann, yes; Cutting, yes; Smego, yes; Calvert, yes; Deubner, yes; Binns, yes; Ward, yes.

Approval of Minutes: **Moved by** Sue Horstmann, **supported by** Jesse Binns to approve the minutes from the November 13, 2017 meeting, as written. **Motion carried** 7-0, as follows: Deubner, yes; Binns, yes; Horstmann, yes; Calvert, yes; Cutting, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, yes.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Piazza said that a dual committee meeting was held earlier with members from Personnel/Finance and Curriculum. They discussed Executive Tours to New Tech schools that have already happened and an upcoming Learning Tour this week for the rest of the elementary staff to see how a New Tech School operates. Dr. Piazza said she had asked principals and teachers share their experiences and thoughts from the tours.

Mrs. Voss, Mrs. Stermer, Mrs. Carlisle and Mrs. Rogers spoke about their experiences on the elementary New Tech sites. All were very positive and hope the district implements this program.

Mr. VanLue, Mrs. Garrett, Mrs. Johnson and Miss Quinn spoke regarding their thoughts of touring a secondary New Tech site. Each gave their own perspective and all agreed that the program seemed to flow very smoothly.

Both groups said that the students were actively engaged in classroom projects and were eager participants.

Curriculum Update:

Board Committee Reports:

Athletic: Mrs. Deubner said that basketball homecoming is this Friday.

Building & Grounds/Transportation: No report.

Curriculum: Ms. Cutting said that they met tonight along with Finance/Personnel and discussed where the district is headed. There are some issues for them to tend to and there are plans in place to make that happen.

Personnel/Finance: Mrs. Horstmann said they could have actually used more time at the committee meeting as there was a lot to cover. They also heard a brief overview of district finances and some improvements that will take place.

Public Comment: None.

New Business – Action Items:

New Hire – Varsity Golf Coach: **Moved by** Amanda Smego, **supported by** George Calvert to award the position of Varsity Golf Coach to Melissa Garret. **Motion carried** 7-0, as follows: Calvert, yes; Horstmann, yes; Smego, yes; Binns, yes; Cutting, yes; Deubner, yes; Ward, yes.

New Hire – Business Manager: **Moved by** Lisa Cutting, **supported by** Deb Deubner to award the position of Business Manager to Geri Vlasicak. **Motion carried** 7-0, as follows: Horstmann, yes; Cutting, yes; Smego, yes; Calvert, yes; Deubner, yes; Binns, yes; Ward, yes.

Mrs. Vlasicak said she is very excited about the change in the district and looks forward to being a part of it.

New Business – Discussion Item

NEOLA First Readings, Volume 32, #1: Dr. Piazza said that Board members received an email with the proposed policy changes from NEOLA. She said that these amendments are all necessary per changes in state law. These policy issues will be on for second reading and action in January.

Coordinator of Career and College Readiness/District New Tech Coach: Dr. Piazza said that the district is moving forward with integration of Project Based Learning. She reviewed new mandates and said that this program would help offer support to students at Ross Beatty. Dr. Piazza said that there is a huge need for this position in district, and said that it will be a learning curve for both students and teachers. It will require a lot of instructional coaching. She would like the Board's support to post this position immediately and hopes to start the position after break. All costs for this program and position would be paid from grant funds.

Old Business – Action Items:

Coordinator of Career and College Readiness/District New Tech Coach: **Moved by** Sue Horstmann, **supported by** George Calvert to authorize the Superintendent to immediately post for the position of Coordinator of Career and College Readiness/District New Tech Coach. **Motion carried** 7-0, as follows: Deubner, yes; Binns, yes; Horstmann, yes; Calvert, yes; Cutting, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, yes.

Miscellaneous Administrative Items:

December 20 Winter Band Concert

December 22 Last Day before Holiday Break

January 8 School Resumes

January 8 BOE Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Squires Education Center

January 15 No School for Students or Staff – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Mr. Ward thanked everyone and wished all a wonderful holiday season.

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 7:37 p.m.

Susan Horstmann, Secretary