

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

**Board of Education  
Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
September 24, 2018**

Welcome: This regular meeting of the Cassopolis Board of Education was held on Monday, September 24, 2018 in the Board meeting room at Squires Education Center, and called to order at 6:30 p.m., as President Ward welcomed those attending.

Roll Call:

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

Members Absent: Jesse Binns

Also present: Dr. Angela Piazza, Jerry Zachary, Jason Messner, Deb Stermer, Robin Hadrack, Brooke Brawley, Matt Brawley, Renee Manno, Glen Barr, Forrest Glasper, Lauren Sheeley, Karen McCarthy, Cindy Martynowicz, members of the staff and community

Amanda Smego 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** George Calvert, **supported by** Deb Deubner to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Horstmann, yes; Calvert, yes; Cutting, yes; Deubner, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, yes.

Approval of Minutes: **Moved by** Amanda Smego, **supported by** Lisa Cutting to approve the minutes from the August 20, 2018 regular meeting, as written. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Calvert, yes; Horstmann, yes; Smego, yes; Cutting, yes; Deubner, yes; Ward, yes.

Superintendent's Report:

Abby Asmus, FFA Advisor and Ag Science Instructor, said that the FFA Chapter and Alumni would like to hold an open house to showcase the District's new ag barn. This would be held on Saturday, October 6 from 2-4 p.m. They would offer light refreshments and have various events including a hayride. Mrs. Asmus said that they have flyers prepared that if the Board is in favor of this request they would like to distribute around town. The Board was in favor of this Ag Barn Open House.

Debora Stermer, Principal, Sam Adams Elementary School reviewed the events from the student's first week of school which focused on "culture week". She reviewed various happenings from Sam Adams Elementary School's culture week.

Robin Hadrick, Principal, Ross Beatty Jr./Sr. High School then reviewed her buildings activities for culture week, which was over the first week of school for students. She said that although no formal instruction was given over these days there was a lot of learning happening. Mrs. Hadrick said that the delayed start Wednesdays are very helpful to staff.

Board Committee Reports:

Athletic: Mr. Ward thanked all who had a part in preparing the grounds for the Patriot Games held last week. He said the football field looked great, as were the fireworks at halftime of Friday's game and he thanked all that helped make the week happen.

Building & Grounds/Transportation: No report.

Curriculum: Ms. Cutting said that the committee met prior to tonight's Board meeting. They received an overview of what has been going on and were reminded of our "why". Ms. Cutting said it is nice seeing the work that has been done and how well things are going.

Personnel/Finance: No report.

Public Comment: None.

Financials: **Moved by** Lisa Cutting, **supported by** George Calvert that the June, 2018 financials are approved as follows: General Fund \$161,173.96; and, Food Service Fund \$34,423.65; and that the July, 2018 financials are approved as follows: General Fund \$445,584.37, and Food Service Fund \$3,597.45. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Horstmann, yes; Cutting, yes Smego, yes; Calvert, yes; Deubner, yes; Ward, yes.

New Business – Action Items

Hire: **Moved by** Deb Deubner, **supported by** Lisa Cutting that Charles Wade Armentrout is awarded the position of Music Teacher for the 2018-19 school year. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Smego, yes; Deubner, yes; Cutting, yes; Calvert, yes; Horstmann, yes; Ward, yes.

Hire: **Moved by** Amanda Smego, **supported by** George Calvert that Lindsey Rademaker is awarded the position of Special Education Teacher for the 2018-19 school year. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Horstmann, yes; Calvert, yes; Cutting, yes; Deubner, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, yes.

Hire: **Moved by** Amanda Smego, **supported by** Deb Deubner that Cody Hadrick is awarded the position of Elementary Teacher for the 2018-19 school year. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Cutting, yes; Deubner, yes; Horstmann, yes; Smego, yes; Calvert, yes; Ward, yes.

Miss Hadrick said that she was very glad for the opportunity to teach in Cassopolis.

Hire: **Moved by** Sue Horstmann, **supported by** Lisa Cutting that Karen Gavin-McCarthy is awarded the position of Coordinator of Special Programs for the 2018-19 school year. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Cutting, yes; Calvert, yes; Horstmann, yes; Deubner, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, yes.

Ms. Gavin-McCarthy said that she has 20 plus years in Special Education and looks forward to working in Cassopolis.

Hire: **Moved by** Amanda Smego, **supported by** Deb Deubner that the position of Yearbook Advisor is awarded to Rachele Ward. **Motion carried** 5-0-1, as follows: Horstmann, yes; Calvert, yes; Cutting, yes; Deubner, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, abstained.

Hire: **Moved by** Amanda Smego, **supported by** George Calvert that the position of FFA Assistant Advisor is awarded to Hannah Deubner. **Motion carried** 5-0-1, as follows: Deubner, abstained; Cutting, yes; Horstmann, yes; Calvert, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, yes.

Hire: **Moved by** Amanda Smego, **supported by** George Calvert that the position of FFA Parliamentary Procedures Coach is awarded to Hannah Deubner. **Motion carried** 5-0-1, as follows: Calvert, yes; Horstmann, yes; Smego, yes; Cutting, yes; Deubner, abstained, Ward, yes.

Hannah Deubner said that she was very active in FFA during high school and is excited to be involved now as a teacher.

Hire: **Moved by** Deb Deubner, **supported by** George Calvert that the position of Greenhand Coach is awarded to Teresa Wellman. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Horstmann, yes; Cutting, yes; Smego, yes; Calvert, yes; Deubner, yes; Ward, yes.

Hire: **Moved by** Deb Deubner, **supported by** George Calvert that the position of Student Council Advisor is awarded to Carey May. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Deubner, yes; Horstmann, yes; Calvert, yes; Cutting, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, yes.

New Business – Discussion Items:

FFA request to attend National FFA Convention, Indianapolis, IN; and,

FFA request to attend FFA Fall Conference, Lansing, MI:

Abby Asmus and Nick Prestly were present on behalf of the FFA. Mrs. Asmus said that they would like approval to go to Nationals even though we do not have a team competing. They would like to take 15 students, would leave on Tuesday, October 23, and would plan to visit various educational sites on the way to Indianapolis, including Purdue University. They would then arrive at Nationals as they would like to observe some of the competitions.

Mrs. Asmus said that Nick was chosen by the National FFA Organization to be the state representative at the “We Are FFA” booth at Nationals. Nick will be highlighted through a TV series that has chosen one member from each state.

For the Fall Conference they would like to go on Thursday, November 8 and Friday, November 9 and would be taking 8 students.

Nick Prestly talked about his experience at Nationals and fall conference.

2018 Tax Levy: Dr. Piazza said that this is an annual form that must be completed in the business office, approved by the Board and received with the local entities before the end of September.

Board ByLaws: Mr. Ward said that he asked this be placed on the agenda. There has been talk about revisiting our Board Bylaws as they have not been updated in some time. He wanted all Board members to have a hard copy to review and make any suggestions for updates. Mr. Ward asked Board members review the Bylaws and let him know if there is anything they would like to see addressed. Mr. Ward said that he would like this as a discussion item on the October 8 agenda.

Old Business – Action Items:

Graduation Date: **Moved by** Sue Horstmann, **supported by** Lisa Cutting that graduation for 2019 will be held on Sunday June 9, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Smego, yes; Deubner, yes; Cutting, yes; Calvert, yes; Horstmann, yes; Ward, yes.

2018 Tax Levy: **Moved by** Sue Horstmann, **supported by** Lisa Cutting that it is hereby resolved the 2018 Tax Levy is approved, as presented. **Motion carried** 6-0, as follows: Horstmann, yes; Calvert, yes; Cutting, yes; Deubner, yes; Smego, yes; Ward, yes.

Miscellaneous Administrative Items: Mr. Ward read the following items into the record:

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

October 17 Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 18 Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 19 & 22 Fall Break

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education it was **moved by** George Calvert and **supported by** Amanda Smego to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

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Susan Horstmann, Secretary