

Cassopolis Public Schools
Cassopolis High School
Media Center
(269)445-0503

Board of Education
Minutes
Regular Meeting
March 20, 2023

Welcome: This regular meeting of the Cassopolis Board of Education was at Cassopolis High School in the Media Center on Monday, March 20, 2023. Meeting was called to order at 6:30p.m., as President Deubner welcomed those attending. Amanda Smego led the Pledge.

Roll Call:

Board of Education Members present: Heather Beaudoin, Jesse Bement, Teresa Dahlgren, Deb Deubner, Amanda Smego and Aaron Steensma

Members absent: Scott Ward

Also present: Dr. John Ritzler, Lindsay Gorham-Pflug, Yara Neuerburg, Chris Bergen, Tammi Preston, Carey May, Brian Smith, Heather Rigby, Eric Burns, Karen Gavin-McCarthy, Jessica Struble, Lisa Phillips, Brett Scott, Jennifer Torbet, Tanya Leach, Aryn Carlisle, Hannah Hoff, Teresa Wellman, Emily Quinn, Rachele Ward, Breana Bowsher, and members of the community.

Agenda:

Moved by Jesse Bement, **supported by** Heather Beaudoin to approve the agenda as presented. There was no discussion. **Motion carried** 6 – 0 Yes – Beaudoin, Bement, Dahlgren, Smego, Steensma, and Deubner. No – 0

Minutes:

Moved by Jesse Bement, **supported by** Amanda Smego to approve the minutes as presented. There was no discussion. **Motion carried** 6 – 0 Yes – Beaudoin, Bement, Dahlgren, Smego, Steensma, and Deubner. No – 0

Superintendent's Report:

Members of our FFA were present to be recognized by the Board; Mason Smego, Katherine Gregory, Emily Carlisle, Dickson Samadder, Jered Wellman, Jackson Bement, Chase DeBruine, Micah Christian, Tabitha Williamson, Alexandra Westphal, Kenyen Kennedy, Isabel Kennedy, Olivia Hayden, Brylee Jones, Colt Bement, Mason McMillen, Taeler DeBruine, Melody Bussey, Braxton Schoetzow.

The Cassopolis Public Schools Foundation awarded four mini grants to our teachers: Mr. Sean Keck, Ms. Jaycee Myer, Ms. Jennifer Bloss, and Ms. Torie Conner.

We received a grant that allowed us to purchase air purifiers for essentially every room in each building in the district. This includes replacement filters for these air purifiers for at least the next five years.

Renewal of the Non-Homestead millage will be on the ballot for the May 2nd election. Non-Homestead property is business/commercial property, not residential.

Dr. Ritzler gave a summary of the meeting held earlier in the month where discussions of the condition of the football field were addressed. Representatives from Carmi and Hostetler were present at that meeting. Originally the project was designed to replace the track. In the process of this there were issues found with the football field. Funding was an issue. Suggestions were made with options that may help to alleviate some of the issues with the football field drainage.

Mrs. Neuerburg introduced members of the Instructional Advisory Council. These members presented an outline/roadmap of the curriculum and instruction that the district is implementing to support the students so that they continue to learn and grow. The team answered questions for the Board.

Public Comment on Agenda Items:

There was no public comment on Agenda Items.

Consent Agenda:

Moved by Aaron Steensma, **supported by** Teresa Dahlgren to approve the consent agenda as presented. There was no discussion. **Motion carried** 6 – 0 Yes – Beaudoin, Bement, Dahlgren, Smego, Steensma, and Deubner. No – 0

New Business: Action Item

Moved by Heather Beaudoin, **supported by** Jesse Bement to approve the 5th grade trip to Camp Friedenswald. There was no discussion. **Motion carried** 6 – 0 Yes – Beaudoin, Bement, Dahlgren, Smego, Steensma, and Deubner. No – 0

Moved by Teresa Dahlgren, **supported by** Aaron Steensma to approve moving future regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting start time from 6:30pm to 5:30pm. There was no discussion. **Motion carried** 6 – 0 Yes – Beaudoin, Bement, Dahlgren, Smego, Steensma, and Deubner. No – 0

Moved by Amanda Smego, **supported by** Teresa Dahlgren to approve the resolution authorizing participation in vaping damages litigation. There was no discussion. **Motion carried** 6 – 0 Yes – Beaudoin, Bement, Dahlgren, Smego, Steensma, and Deubner. No – 0

Miscellaneous Administrative Items:

There were no miscellaneous administrative items.

Public Comment on Non-agenda Items:

There was no public comment on non-agenda items.

Adjournment:

Moved by Teresa Dahlgren, **supported by** Jesse Bement to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:48pm.

Submitted by Beth Westrick
Teresa Dahlgren, Secretary

*Next BOE meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2023.