

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES OF
CASTON SCHOOL CORPORATION**

Board President, Chad Boldry, called the December 15, 2021, meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance at 5:32 P.M. Present at the session were board members: Mrs. Beth Howard, Mrs. Cristie Rans, Mr. Jeff Smith, and Mr. Roger Byrum. Also present were Superintendent, Dr. Paul Voigt, Corporation Attorney, Mr. Rhett Lee, Mr. Chuck Evans, Ms. Jennifer Lukens, Mrs. Gina Hierlmeier, Mrs. Angie Miller, Ms. Anita Doan, Mrs. Tina Paschen, Ms. Susan Loftain, Ms. Colleen Diveley, and Mr. Andy Hubenthal.

2. Celebrations:

Ms. Lukens reported that the Mill Creek Church, of Rochester, donated \$1100.00 to Caston for students to be able to purchase books at the school library's book fair. Ms. Lukens also reported that the Friday Not Live and the Elementary Announcements being overseen by Mrs. Helt, are going well. The Elementary Christmas Program was a great success with the high school gymnasium being filled with guests for the program. Ms. Anita Doan was commended for her efforts to gather monetary donations to provide one hundred Caston students with Christmas gifts this year. Mr. Evans congratulated Caston's Delaney Strasser for being the winner of a Lilly Scholarship. Delaney plans to attend Butler University in the fall. Caston's Sam Smith was named an Indianapolis Colts IFCA Academic All-Star. Mr. Evans also reminded those present of the High School Christmas Concert taking place at 6:30 this evening.

Dr. Voigt announced the December **Staff Spotlight**, honoree is staff member, Rich Shultz. Mr. Shultz is Caston's Comet Academy teacher and credit recovery instructor. He was nominated by Tina Paschen, who said Rich always goes above and beyond in his duties and works hard to make sure Caston students meet their goals. Rich received a gift bag valued at over \$150.00 in gift certificates from area businesses, as well as a customized Caston polo shirt, compliments of the Winning Edge, of Rochester. Dr. Voigt expressed his thanks for Mr. Shultz's dedication to his job and the students here at Caston.

Dr. Voigt also thanked Caston's Corporation Treasurer, Susan Loftain, for her great job getting the recent State Board of Accounts audit successfully completed.

Also congratulated was Mr. Dan Williams, Caston's Technology Director. Dan applied for and received a grant in the amount of \$35,000.00 to purchase laptop computers for the engineering classes. These computers were greatly needed and allow the students to each have their own computer for the class.

Mrs. Tina Paschen gave the board, and all present a presentation on Caston's Career Pathways for Students.

3. Public Comment Regarding Advertised Items: None

4. Consent Agenda: Before discussion or voting, it was requested item 10 be taken from the Consent Agenda to be voted on separately. Item 10 was removed as requested and made a separate vote. Beth Howard moved, seconded by Jeff Smith to approve the consent agenda items as follows:

- a. Approve minutes for meetings as follows:
 1. November 10, 2021 Regular Board Meeting

- b. Presentation and review of claims
- c. Resignations:
 - 1. Anjie Wallace – School Nurse
 - 2. Melinda Shultz – Head Varsity Volleyball Coach
 - 3. Ginger Harrison – Special. Education Para
- d. Employment Recommendations:
 - 1. Blake Mollenkopf – Head Baseball Coach
 - 2. Nick Stuber – Assistant Baseball Coach
 - 3. Brandon Kinser – Volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach
 - 4. Steve Young - Volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach
 - 5. Jon Burks – Head Softball Coach
 - 6. Tanner Burks – Assistant Softball Coach
 - 7. Greg Zimpleman – Volunteer Assistant Softball Coach
 - 8. Samantha Schanlaub – Volunteer Assistant Softball Coach
 - 9. Blair Zimmerman – Co Head Track Coach
 - ~~10. Mark Evans – Co Head Track Coach~~
 - 11. Evelyn Byrum – Jr. High Boys Track Coach
 - 12. Brianna Young – Jr. High Girls Track Coach
 - 13. Will Porter – Winter Weight Room Supervision
 - 14. Lyndsey Ball – School Nurse
 - 15. LeAnn Coffing – Assistant to the Nurse
- e. Presentation and review of November, 2021 Treasurer’s Report and Revenue Report

Unanimous 5-0

- 10. Beth Howard moved, seconded by Jeff Smith to approve Mark Evans as Co-Head Track Coach

Vote: 4-1 Cristie Rans voted Nay

5. Old Business: None

6. New Business:

- a. Cristie Rans moved, seconded by Beth Howard to grant approval for the adoption of Board Resolution for the FY 22 Expenditure Goals

Unanimous 5-0

- b. Jeff Smith moved, seconded by Roger Byrum to grant Permission for appropriation allotment transfers and payment of claims necessary for close of calendar year 2021 financials

Unanimous 5-0

- c. Beth Howard moved, seconded by Cristie Rans to approve changes/revisions to the Caston School Corporation Classified Staff Handbook

Unanimous 5-0

- d. Beth Howard moved, seconded by Cristie Rans to grant approval for recommended classified staff wage increases for eligible employees per the guidelines of the Caston School Corporation Classified Staff Handbook

Unanimous 5-0

- e. Jeff Smith moved, seconded by Roger Byrum to accept a donation from Mill Creek Church to Caston Elementary for students to buy books at the book fair.

Unanimous 5-0

- f. Beth Howard moved, seconded by Cristie Rans to approve the purchase of 2nd grade classroom furniture

Unanimous 5-0

g. Beth Howard moved, seconded by Cristie Rans to approve the Notice of Rate Change from Astbury Water Technology. Beth Howard specified she would like to see Uriah Horn, Building & Maintenance Supervisor, become certified to test Caston’s water.

Unanimous 5-0

7. Other Business: None

8. Reports/Information:

ECA Monthly Financial Report (Nov. 2021)

Principal’s Report

Ms. Lukens told all present the November 14th Robotics event had a huge turnout.

Mr. Evans announced sixty percent of Caston students completed their E-learning assignments on time. E-Learning was due to the December tenth weather related school closure. NWEA and IReady testing is taking place on the High School side of the building.

Curriculum Report

Mrs. Miller said Elementary Data meetings are going well. She also gave an update on the New Teacher Mentoring Program, including positive feedback from the new Caston teachers.

Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Voigt asked the board for a date to be set for the annual Board Reorganization Meeting. January 5th, at 6:30 P.M. in the Bruce E. Cress Boardroom was decided upon. The topic of holding games and practices on weather related closure days was discussed. It was decided that Dr. Voigt, Mr. Evans, and Ms. Hierlmeier would discuss the safety of proceeding with scheduled games or practices on closure days and make the final decision in a timely manner. They will then notify all school board members of their decision. This only applies to the Varsity and Junior Varsity level. No student athlete will be penalized for not being able to attend in this situation.

The subject of bus driver training and reimbursement along with offering all Caston employees driving opportunities was mentioned to the board. Dr. Voigt asked the board to consider allowing potential bus drivers to receive a five hundred dollar incentive for successfully completing any and all necessary bus driver training, and for one full year’s service as a route or substitute bus driver for the Caston School Corporation. The board agreed that was a good idea and told Dr. Voigt to proceed with advertising this incentive to all Caston staff and to the public.

9. Public Comment: None

10. Board Comment:

Beth Howard recommended supporting the Varsity & Junior Varsity Girls’ Basketball teams. They are having an outstanding season and it is well worth going to watch them play.

The next regular school board meeting is January 19, 2021, at 6:30 P.M. in the Bruce E. Cress Boardroom.

11. Adjournment: Jeff Smith moved, seconded by Roger Byrum that the regular meeting be adjourned at 6:39 P.M.

Unanimous 5-0

CASTON BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

