

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

The Caston Board of School Trustees met Tuesday, March 17, 2015, at 4:30 P.M. in the administration building. Present were Board members Mrs. Beth Howard, Mrs. Michaela Slisher, Mr. Bruce Cress & Mr. Gary Baumgardner. Mr. Jason Herd was unable to attend the meeting. Superintendent - Mrs. Lucinda Douglass and Elementary Principal, Mrs. Katie Miller were also in attendance.

Board President Mr. Bruce Cress called the regular meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance at 4:30 P.M.

**Celebrations:**

- This year, Ms. Debb Stevens, was named the “Athletic Director of the Year” by the Indiana Wrestling Coaches’ Association. Additionally, this Sunday, March 22, 2015, she will receive the National Federation of State High School Associations’ “National Merit Award” for the State of Indiana; awarded for dedication to student athletes and service to the athletic directors’ association. On Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> Caston was notified that Ms. Stevens will be awarded the Indiana Basketball Coach Association’s “Administrator of the Year Award” for District 1 and will be also recognized at their annual spring clinic as well as featured in their Spring newsletter. Debb has dedicated almost 29 years as an athletic director and a total of 39 years in the field of education working with students, athletes and coaches. She also serves on the IHSAA State Board of Directors.
- The Bi-County Choral Festival Performance was hosted Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at Caston High School and was well attended by patrons from Caston, Rochester and Eastern Pulaski School Corporations. It was an excellent performance showcasing wonderful talent by students from the three school corporations. Thanks to the school’s choral directors and especially to Mr. & Mrs. Byrn for hosting the event and to all the students who participated.
- Mrs. Lucinda Douglass shared a thank-you card sent to her by state Superintendent of Public Instruction, Glenda Ritz for her role in the production of an educational documentary “The State of the Classroom” which aired recently and featured students from five schools across Indiana. This documentary educated viewers about the challenges schools face today, regardless of the setting, in meeting the needs of all students. Mrs. Paige Woodhouse and husband Chip Woodhouse, along with Miss Marlena Woods, a Sophomore at Caston residing with the Woodhouses were all featured in the documentary. There was also a glimpse into the classroom of Mr. Mike Buczkowski at one point in the documentary. Board members were encouraged to view this hour-long presentation which can be accessed on the Indiana Department of Education’s website.

**Public Comment Regarding Advertised Items:** None

**Consent Agenda:** Gary Baumgardner moved, seconded by Michaela Slisher to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- a. Approve minutes of the February 12, 2015 Regular Meeting of the Caston Board of School Trustees
- b. Approve minutes of the March 6, 2015 Public Work Session
- c. Presentation and review of February, 2015 Treasurer’s Report
- d. Presentation and review of claims
- e. Employment of Brooke Fox for Varsity Volleyball Coach Position 2015-16 Season

***Unanimous 4-0***

**New Business:**

Gary Baumgardner moved, seconded by Michaela Slisher to approve the offering of the proposed Summer School courses for Caston Jr/Sr High School and Caston Elementary School.

***Unanimous 4-0***

Michaela Slisher moved, seconded by Gary Baumgardner to approve the Patriot Insurance Quote for General Liability, Property, Automobile, Workers Compensation and Umbrella Insurance submitted to Caston School Corporation for April 6, 2015 – April 5, 2016.

***Unanimous 4-0***

Michaela Slisher moved, seconded by Beth Howard to approve a 2-year Apple iPad Lease for K-12 1:1 technology for \$199,589.40 with annual payments of \$101,191.94.

***Unanimous 4-0***

Gary Baumgardner moved, seconded by Michaela Slisher to approve the revisions to the Caston School Corporation Classified Employee Handbook as presented with minor revisions to further clarify information regarding Workman's Compensation and reporting of accidents. Other minor revisions pertained to formatting. This Classified Employee Handbook will apply to all classified employees, regardless of previous hire date, and will replace all previously approved/revised handbooks currently utilized by various groups of employees as a consolidated, uniform handbook.

***Unanimous 4-0***

Gary Baumgardner moved, seconded by Michaela Slisher, to approve the submission of the Alternative Education Program Funding Proposal to Indiana Department of Education.

***Unanimous 4-0***

Michaela Slisher moved, seconded by Gary Baumgardner to approve advertising for the following positions for the 2015-16 school year: Jr/Sr High School Agriculture Teacher, Corporation Curriculum Coordinator and Alternative Education Teacher.

***Unanimous 4-0***

Gary Baumgardner moved, seconded by Michaela Slisher to approve payment for Marcia Tucker's attendance at the IASBO Extracurricular Accounting Seminar on March 12, 2015.

***Unanimous 4-0***

Gary Baumgardner moved, seconded by Beth Howard to approve attendance of the Cross Country team to Twin Lakes Camp at Hillsboro, IN on August 7-8, 2015 as requested by coaches Trisha Karcher and Eric Linn.

***Unanimous 4-0***

Gary Baumgardner moved, seconded by Michaela Slisher to approve acceptance of National School Lunch Program Equipment Grant Award in the amount of \$18,000 for needed equipment in the Caston School Cafeteria.

***Unanimous 4-0***

Gary Baumgardner moved, seconded by Beth Howard to approve attendance for interested board members and Superintendent at the ISBA Spring Board Academy in Indianapolis April 9-10, 2015.

***Unanimous 4-0***

Gary Baumgardner moved, seconded by Michaela Slisher to approve Dan Williams' attendance at the Harmony Administrators Conference at French Lick, Indiana on April 16-17, 2015.

***Unanimous 4-0***

Gary Baumgardner moved, seconded by Michaela Slisher to approve for Ms. Jennifer Lukens to attend the Aspiring Principals Conference on April 12-13, 2015 in Carmel Indiana.

***Unanimous 4-0***

**First Reading of New/Revised Board Policy as follows:**

1. 4120 – Employment of Support Staff
2. 4120.08 – Employment of Personnel for Extracurricular
3. 4122.01 – Drug Free Workplace
4. 4140 – Termination and Resignation
5. 4170 – Substance Abuse
6. 4170.01 – Employee Assistance Program (EAP)
7. 4419 – Support Staff
8. 4430 - Leaves
9. 4433 – Vacation

***Consensus given for first reading***

**Second Reading of Board Policy:** The Board gave a second reading of **Board Policy 3131 – Reduction in Force** and approved adoption of the policy for the Caston School Corporation

***Unanimous 4-0***

**Other Business:** Beth Howard moved, seconded by Gary Baumgardner, to approve the proposal to extend days to compensate for two of the seven make-up days for the 2014-15 school year due to days missed for inclement weather allowing students to finish the year prior to graduation on May 31, 2015.

***Unanimous 4-0***

**Reports/Information:** The following reports were presented to the board for review and discussion:

- a. 2015 Revenue as of 2/28/15
- b. Arrival of two new school busses
- c. First on-line auction for surplus equipment
- d. Data collections for school corporations
- e. Latest 2016 & 2017 School Formula Simulation impact on Caston School Corporation’s Budget

**Public Comment:** Mrs. Katie Miller, Elementary Principal, thanked the board and administration for their kind gestures of sympathy and support during the recent loss of her Mother.

**Board Comment:** Michaela Slisher requested that items submitted as other business be communicated to her prior to the board meetings at the earliest possible time to better prepare for the meetings.

**Adjournment:** Mr. Baumgardner moved, seconded by Mrs. Slisher that the regular meeting be adjourned. At 6:54 P.M.

***Unanimous 4-0***

**CASTON BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_