

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

The Caston Board of School Trustees met Tuesday, April 8, 2014, in the administration building. Present were board members Mr. Russell Phillips, Mrs. Michaela Slisher, Mr. Jason Herd, Mr. Gary Baumgardner and Mr. Bruce Cress. Also present was Interim Superintendent – Mrs. Lucinda Douglass and HS Principal Adam Strasser. School corporation attorney, Robert Murray was in attendance from 7:43 PM until the end of the meeting.

Regular Meeting: President, Mr. Jason Herd, called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance at 7:02 P.M.

Celebrations:

- 5th & 6th grade students held a Science Fair on March 19, 2014. Thirty-eight 5th grade students & fifty-five 6th grade students completed projects begun in January and displayed them in the assembly room for other Caston students and community members to observe. Mrs. Monical coordinated the science fair. Fifty-eight parents attended the Caston Elementary Science Fair.
 - The 5/6 Grade held March Madness. Students were placed in teams to work on math skills prior to ISTEP+ testing. The “Indiana” team had the highest overall percentage and earned a certificate and a pizza party. Students on the team were: Ally Borges, Ginger Slisher, Kenzie Baldwin, Amelia Lowry, Josh Mounce, Keegan Doty, Jessie Tovar, Bryce Crawn, Hanna Howard an Shyanna Nice. Individual growth was measured based on progress between pre- and post-test scores. Fifth graders recognized for individual growth included: Hayley Books, Stephen Warren, and Nicole Sailors. Sixth graders included Angel Pierce, Alexia Melms, and Cynthia VanHam. Individuals with the highest growth were rewarded with a gift card and certificate of achievement. Two students, Olivia Boldry and Ginger Slisher achieved a perfect score on the final assessment – they were also awarded with a certificate of achievement. Special thanks to Mr. Osburn, Elementary Interim Principal, for his donation of the gift cards and pizza!
 - On March 19th Caston hosted the district 2 FFA Leadership Career Development Events. FFA members along with 13 Advisors attended the event. Seventy-two community members served as judges for the various contests.
 - Quentin Douglass won the Ag Sales Demonstration for the 2nd year in a row and will attend the State contest in June.
 - Derek Berkshire won the Extemporaneous Public Speaking & Leadership Ambassador contests and advances to the state
 - Bryana Slisher placed 2nd in the Essay contest
 - Trenton Howard placed 2nd in the Extemporaneous Speaking
 - Dalton Daily & Nicolas Richter placed 3rd in Ag Mechanics Demo
 - Addie Sarver & Emily Strain were 3rd in the Food Science Demo
 - Adrianna Dague and Andrew Smith participated in the Ag Business Management Demo
 - Eli Douglass and Alyssa Fagner participated in the Animal Science Demo
 - Winston Weller participated in the Plant Science Demo
 - Alix Hayden and Emilie Thomson participated in Horticulture Science
 - Adrianna Dague participated in the Creed
 - Matt Rans, Blake Richter, Josh Miller & Carrie Sailors participated in Quiz Bowl
 - Kylie Pugh participated in the Job Interview
 - Madeline Moeller participated in the Prepared Public Speaking
- Thanks to Mrs. Butcher for all her work in helping our students prepare for this event AND for all of her coordination in hosting the event.
- Thirteen students from Caston HS will attend a leadership conference on Wednesday April 16th with Mr. Houston.
 - Caston Elementary students raised \$7,881.52 for “Jump Rope for Heart” this year. One Hundred Forty One Elementary students participated. This topped last year’s record total by \$500. Mrs. Maribeth Brash coordinated the event, as she has for the past many years.

Public comment re: advertised items: none

Consent Agenda: Mrs. Slisher moved, seconded by Mr. Herd to approve the consent agenda items as follows:

- a. Approve minutes of the March 17, 2014 Executive Session as printed in advance
- b. Approve minutes of the March 17, 2014 Regular meeting as printed in advance.
- c. Presentation and review of claims 34877 to 35008 in the amount of \$588,523.69.
- d. Presentation and review of March, 2014 Treasurer’s Report
- e. Consider request from Mr. Bill Dexter, custodian, for retirement effective July 10, 2014.
- f. Consider request from Mrs. Carol Garber, Art Teacher, for retirement effective at the end of the 2013-14 school year.

- g. Consider request from Mrs. Deb Baker, Elementary Teacher, for retirement effective at the end of the 2013-14 school year.
- h. Consider approval for the following individuals for Elementary & Jr/Sr High School Academic Competition teams: HS Academic Super Bowl Coaches: Chelsey Correll, Vince Huffman, Trisha Karcher. Midwest Conference Math Coaches: Mike Buczkowski, Steve Freeman, Trisha Karcher. JH Academic Coaches: Anni Rondot, Nyssa Tierney, Nick Stuber & Leigh Ann Runkle. Elementary Academic Coaches: Rachel Ruff, Teresa Button & Nathan Speitel.
- i. Consider request for splitting stipend for weight room supervisor between Mr. Christopher Ulerick & Mr. JR Howell with 50% of stipend going to each individual.

Unanimous 5 – 0

****See comment regarding items e, f, & g in board comment section***

New Business:

- a. Mrs. Slisher moved seconded by Mr. Phillips to approve establishment of a bus stop in Logansport area to accommodate students living in that community and attending Caston School Corporation as a pilot project for the 2014-15 school year.

Unanimous 5 – 0

- b. Mr. Phillips moved seconded by Mr. Herd to approve the recommendation to extend days until May 2, 2014 to make-up the March 12, 2014 snow day and keep the student ending date of school as per the Caston 2013-14 School Calendar as May 30, 2014.

Motion Failed with a 2-3 vote with Mr. Cress, Mr. Baumgardner, & Mrs. Slisher voting “Nay”

- c. Mr. Baumgardner moved seconded by Mr. Cress to approve the use of contingency funds from the construction project to purchase door-holding mechanisms for doors currently in need of them as an effort to complete the updating of doors throughout the building. Approximate cost estimated at \$1000.

Unanimous 5-0

- d. Mr. Cress moved seconded by Mrs. Slisher to approve the attendance of interested board members at the IEERB 2014 updates, to be held April 22, 2014 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Unanimous 5-0

- e. Mr. Baumgardner moved seconded by Mr. Cress to approve board attendance for the April 17, 2014 Study Council Meeting at Christos in Plymouth to hear David Houle, world renowned Futurist, as guest presenter.

Unanimous 5-0

- f. Mr. Baumgardner moved seconded by Mr. Phillips to approve the field trip request from Mr. Vince Huffman for the 2014 Senior Class Trip to be taken on Saturday, May 17, 2014 to Cedar Point Amusement Park in Sandusky, Ohio with the school corporation paying for the cost of the driver and fuel.

Unanimous 5 – 0

- g. NO MOTION was made to approve the request for the JV & Varsity baseball games to be played on Monday, May 26 (Memorial Day.)

Request died for lack of motion

First reading of board policy as follows:

- A. 5111 – Determination of Legal Settlement and Eligibility for Enrollment of Students Without Legal Settlement in the Corporation
- B. 5517.01 – Bullying
- C. 6151 – Bad Checks and Uncollectable Debts
- D. 7510.01 – Use of Corporation Physical Fitness Facilities

Consensus of board for 1st Reading

Other Business:

- a. Mr. Cress moved seconded by Mr. Baumgardner to approve minutes of the 4-1-14 Executive Session as presented

4-1 (Mr. Phillips voting “Nay”)

- b. Mr. Baumgardner moved seconded by Mrs. Slisher to approve the 2014 Homecoming Parade to be held on Wednesday, 10-1-14.

4-1 (Mr. Phillips voting "Nay")
- c. Mr. Baumgardner moved seconded by Mr. Phillips to approve the wireless communication allowance for Mr. TJ Garner.

Unanimous 5-0
- d. Review of the preliminary LAJSSC Reorganization agreement and acknowledgement of the pending finalization for the April 22, 2014 meeting.

Consensus of Board for Review

Reports/Information: Mrs. Douglass presented the following reports and information to the board members:

1. May 31, 2014 arrival of 2 new busse purchased during the 2013-14 school year
2. Second Grade fieldtrip to South Bend Health Works Museum & Fire Station
3. Century Career Center Flyer was presented to each board member & Mrs. Douglass by Mrs. Slisher

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

- Mr. Baumgardner asked if employee sick days can be transferred to other employees if one employee chooses to do so. He questioned why some employees were able to do this and others were not.
- Mr. Cress noticed a crack on the southwest side of the track and mentioned that it should be taken care of.
- Mr Cress recognized the three retirees for their good service to the school corporation.
- Mr. Herd congratulated Mrs. Butcher and the FFA for a successful hog roast and many awards at the District 2 FFA Career Development Events.
- Mr. Herd thanked his 3rd grade teacher, Mrs. Baker for being an exceptional teacher. He stated that she was one of his favorite teachers and he regretted being ornery in her classroom on occasions.
- Mr. Phillips asked about the March revenue report and stated he would like a copy since it was not included in the board packet.
- Mr. Phillips requested that an executive session be held prior to a meeting where he would be asked to vote on extra-curricular assignments.
- Mr. Phillips commented that if additional work sessions or meetings are needed to be added to expedite the business of the school corporation he was supportive of doing so, as things seem to be moving too slowly at times.
- **All board members and Superintendent thanked the three individuals who will be retiring for their service to the school corporation – it was noted that over 70 years of experience will be walking out the door and these individuals will be missed.*

Adjournment: Mr. Cress moved, seconded by Mr. Baumgardner, that the regular meeting be adjourned at 9:20 P.M.

Unanimous 5 - 0

CASTON BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
