

**MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS  
OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES OF  
CASTON SCHOOL CORPORATION**

**Executive Session:** The Caston School Board of Trustees met in the administration building on Tuesday, May 6, 2014 for an Executive Session under I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(5) to receive information about and interview prospective employees and to discuss the job performance evaluations of individual employees under I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(9). The meeting convened at 6:00 PM.

Present at the meeting 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 Corporation Attorney – Mr. Robert Murray. No additional information was discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 PM.

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**Regular Meeting:** Following the Executive Session, the Caston Board of School Trustees met Tuesday, May 6, 2014, in the administration building to conduct the regular business of the school board. 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 Corporation Attorney – Mr. Robert Murray. Also attending the meeting was High School Principal, Mr. Adam Strasser. Patrons attending the meeting included Mrs. Jean Urbin, Mr. Charles Rude, and Mrs. Lora Redweik.

Board President, Mr. Jason Herd, called the regular meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance at 7:09 P.M.

**Celebrations:** Caston continues to celebrate accomplishments of students and staff in the areas of Academics, Athletics and the Arts. The following were mentioned as celebrations:

- Michael Smith, Derek Berkshire, Jacob Williamson and Taylor Fenstermaker placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state for the Math Academic Competition. They will compete in the State finals on May 10<sup>th</sup> at Purdue.
- The fine arts team placed 52<sup>nd</sup> in the state, the English and Interdisciplinary team placed 26<sup>th</sup> place in the state, the Social Studies team placed 14<sup>th</sup> in the State, and the Science Team placed 7<sup>th</sup> in the state. The Science team of Michael Smith, Jon Williams, Bryana Slisher, Kim Cress and Addie Sarver missed the opportunity to compete for the state championship by just one place, as the top 6 teams get to compete.
- Recently the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade I-Read scores were published in the media – Caston’s 3<sup>rd</sup> graders had the highest scores in the area with 92.5% passing rate. Thank you to the teachers who have worked so hard with these students to help them be successful on this assessment.
- Caston Girls’ Softball team is currently ranked 9<sup>th</sup> in the State! Last night, they beat Frontier, the #1 ranked team 3-2! This represents the first time our girls’ softball team has ever been ranked in the top 10 of the state and first time we’ve beat Frontier in softball!!
- Senior Quentin Douglass was named to the 1st team “All Loganland Basketball” team while Junior Dustin Offenberger was named to the 2nd team, and Sophomore Brayton Jellison was named to the 3<sup>rd</sup> team.
- Recently the Xi Chapter of Psi Iota Xi held an event called “Celebrating the Arts” in which our community gathered to support and celebrate the artistic talents of our students. Over 100 visual art entries from five schools were collected. Caston received a letter thanking us for our participation and a special thanks to Miss Teresa Button for her enthusiasm and assistance. The letter stated “without her assistance “Celebrating the Arts” would not have been a success!” Megan Fred won both the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place awards for her exhibits in the Grades K-2 Painting.
- WRE held an evening event on March 17<sup>th</sup> at the Logansport Skate World and Fun Center. Congratulations to those students from Caston who were award winners: Emma Stinson, Sam Smith, Brooke-Lynne Ulerick, Abby Williamson, Autumn Garling and Elizabeth Pierce.
- Congratulations to the Caston Drama club and Mrs. Sarver, Mrs. Woodhouse and Mr. Piercy who assisted the students in their production of Alice in Wonderland. They did an excellent job!

**Public comment re: advertised items:** Lora Redweik commented that she was concerned about hiring coaches that are not good role models.

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

- A. Approve minutes of the April 22, 2014 Executive Session and Regular Board Meeting
- B. Presentation and review of claims 35091 – 35192 totaling \$389,912.54
- C. Approval of Treasurer’s Report for April, 2014
- D. Consider approval of transfer of Mrs. Angela Chapman to Administrative Associate for Finance effective upon Mrs. Denise Chandler’s retirement at an hourly rate of \$18.25
- E. Consider approval of Mr. Uriah Horn as a full-time custodian at a starting rate of \$9/hour to be effective the first 90 days with the opportunity to advance to up to \$12 post 90-day timeframe
- F. Consider approval of Mrs. Colleen Diveley as a full-time custodian at \$14.32/hour
- G. *(Removed from consent agenda for separate consideration)*
- H. Consider approval of Mr. Narciso Sanchez as Head Soccer Coach
- I. Consider approval of Ms. Taylor McFarland as Head Volleyball Coach
- J. Consider approval of Mr. Tim Strasser as Head Golf Coach
- K. Consider approval of Mr. JR Howell as Head Boys’ Basketball Coach
- L. Consider approval or Mr. Carl Davis as Head Girls’ Basketball Coach
- M. Consider approval of Mr. Daniel Baker as Head Wrestling Coach

Unanimous 5 – 0

*Item G, removed from consent agenda was acted upon as follows:*

Mr. Herd moved, seconded by Mr. Phillips, that Christopher Ulerick be employed as Caston’s Varsity Football Coach for the 2014-15 school year and that he be suspended from coaching the varsity scrimmage and the first two games of the season, thus, he will not be present nor have any contact with the team or fellow coaches during these events.

Vote: 3-2 (Mrs. Slisher and Mr. Baumgardner voting nay)

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Mr. Cress moved, seconded by Mr. Baumgardner to table the LAJSSC Joint Service and Supply Agreement as presented.

Unanimous 5 - 0

The board discussed recommendations by Mrs. Lucinda Douglass for potential restructuring of Extra-Curricular bookstore position to a part-time position with some of the duties being redistributed to central office in an effort to save dollars for the school corporation while continuing to maintain the same level of services to our students at Caston.

Consensus of the board was given to move forward with plan for restructuring

Mr. Cress moved, seconded by Mr. Baumgardner to approve the appointment of Jean Urbin as a board member for the Kewanna, Union Township Public Library.

Unanimous 5 - 0

**First reading of 2014-15 Caston Elementary Handbook:** Mrs. Douglass presented the proposed revisions to the Caston Elementary Student/Parent Handbook for next school year.

Consensus to bring back for a second reading

Mr. Baumgardner moved, seconded by Mrs. Slisher, to approve administrative travel reimbursement for Mrs. Lucinda Douglass with use of her personal vehicle when conducting business of the Caston School Corporation.

Unanimous 5 – 0

**Other Business:**

Mr. Baumgardner moved, seconded by Mr. Cress to approve the request for the Caston Baseball Team to attend an overnight summer camp on June 23-24 at Bethel College with all expenses paid by the baseball team/program. Request for overnight stay as well as the use of two white mini buses was considered.

Unanimous 5-0

Mrs. Douglass discussed concerns with wear and tear on the school track and shared with the board quotes for future replacement as well as recommendations for immediate repair that would sustain the life of the track until major renovations could be budgeted for. The consensus of the board was that we should do the minimal routine repairs needed at the time that would provide for continued use of the track while planning for a more long-term fix in the coming years.

Consensus

**Reports and Information:**

The following reports and information was provided to the school board of trustees:

- A. April 30, 2014 Caston School Corporation Revenue Report
- B. April 30, 2014 Appropriation Report
- C. RISE Above the Mark Showing at Plymouth HS
- D. CPR Training for Caston Bus Drivers to be held Wednesday, May 7, 2014
- E. Breakfast, Retirement Recognitions & Corporation Meeting to be held on Wednesday, June 4, 2014. 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
- F. APEX Benefits new insurance rates effective July 1, 2014

**Public Comment:** Lora Redweik suggested a Code of Ethics for coaches to sign might be something that the athletic director and the school administration would want to consider pursuing. Additionally, she stated that she would like to see consistency in the athletic department when it comes to standards for hiring.

**Board Comment:** Mr. Phillips asked about the library aide position and wanted to know if this had been discussed with those who would be impacted by a change in this position. Mr. Phillips also asked for an update on non-resident busing.

Mrs. Slisher asked that consideration be given to changing the date for the 2<sup>nd</sup> board meeting in July due to events at the Fulton County fair.

**Adjournment:** Mr. Cress moved, seconded by Mr. Baumgardner that the regular meeting be adjourned at 8:28 P.M.

Unanimous 5 - 0

**CASTON BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES**

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