

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

The Caston Board of School Trustees met Tuesday, August 18, 2015 at 6:30 P.M. in the administration building. Present were Board members Mrs. Beth Howard, Mrs. Michaela Slisher, Mr. Bruce Cress, Mr. Gary Baumgardner and Mr. Jason Herd. Superintendent - Mrs. Lucinda Douglass and corporation attorney Andrew Achey also were in attendance. Also attending was Amber Helt, Anita Doan, Heidi Rudicel, Teresa Rentschler, Katie Miller, Cari Butcher, Jill Strasser, Vincent S Huffman, Chuck Evans, and Narciso Sanchez.

Board President, Mr. Bruce Cress, called the regular meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance at 6:31 P.M.

Celebrations: Mrs. Douglass stated that both Principals were planning to give reports later in the board meeting and would share celebrations pertaining to the start of the school year. It was later shared by Mrs. Butcher that Caston's FFA was again named a Gold Emblem Chapter – an honor reserved for the top 1% of chapters nationally.

Public Comment Regarding Advertised Items: None

Consent Agenda: Jason Herd moved, seconded by Michaela Slisher to approve consent agenda items as follows:

- a. Approve minutes of the July 21, 2015 Public Work Session, Regular Board Meeting, and Executive Session of the Caston School Board of Trustees
- b. Presentation and review of claims
- c. Hiring of personnel as follows:
 1. Tonya Hartman for 8th Grade Girls' Basketball Coach
 2. Heath Gearhart for JV Boys' Basketball Coach
 3. Julia Hardin for Jr.-Sr. High School Art Teacher
 4. Sara Zimmerman for Library Assistant
- d. Resignations and Leaves as follows:
 1. Resignation of Brenda Eber as Library Assistant
 2. Resignation of Joyce Henderson as Elementary Special Education Teacher effective August 5, 2015
 3. Resignation of Meghan Schroder as Junior High Cheerleading Coach
 4. Request for unpaid maternity leave for Danielle Crane September 14, 2015 – December 22, 2015
- e. Presentation & Review of the July 31, 2015 Treasurer's Report

Unanimous 5-0

Old Business:

Gary Baumgardner moved, seconded by Beth Howard to pursue the opportunity to have the corporation's underground storage tank insured through the Excess Liability Trust Fund – otherwise known as the “state fund” if our UST qualifies for this option. If is not a viable option the board authorized for the school corporation to add a private insurance addendum to our property insurance through Patriot Insurance at the recently quoted price of \$8,000 - \$10,000 per year.

Unanimous 5-0

New Business:

Michaela Slisher moved, seconded by Gary Baumgardner to approve the advertisement of the 2016 Budgets for General, Rainy Day, Debt Service, Capital Projects, Transportation and Bus Replacement Funds as presented: General Fund (\$5,573,385), Rainy Day (\$600,000), Debt Service (\$297,715), Capital Projects (\$909,450), Transportation (\$732,355), and Bus Replacement (\$230,000).

Unanimous 5-0

DISCUSSION ONLY: The board discussed the procedure for use of school credit cards in relation to school travel and conferences. No action was taken on this topic following the discussion. The board instructed Mrs. Douglass, Superintendent, to consider recommendations for any needed revisions to policy 6423 – Use of Credit Cards, or the corresponding Administrative Guidelines to address concerns and/or prevent excess liability to the corporation.

No Action Taken

Gary Baumgardner moved, seconded by Jason Herd to approve the attendance of interested board members and Superintendent at the ISBA/IAPSS Fall Conference to be held on September 28-29, 2015 in Indianapolis, IN.

Unanimous 5-0

Michaela Slisher moved, seconded by Gary Baumgardner to approve the recommended revision to the Classified Employee Handbook under “Retirement”, effectively changing the wording as follows: retirement pay up to a maximum of \$10,000 shall be granted to bus drivers who meet the “**Rule of 75**” (age + years of service to Caston in this capacity **is at least 75**)

Unanimous 5-0

Jason Herd moved, seconded by Michaela Slisher to approve the authorization of receipt of Title I Grant, Project #16-2650 as approved by IDOE for the amount of \$240,261.78.

Unanimous 5-0

Gary Baumgardner moved, seconded by Beth Howard to approve payment to substitute bus drivers for attendance at safety training/annual testing held on July 1, 2015.

Unanimous 5-0

Beth Howard moved, seconded by Gary Baumgardner to approve the Homecoming Parade to be held on Wednesday, September 30th, at 6:15 PM in Fulton.

Unanimous 5-0

Other Business:

Gary Baumgardner moved, seconded by Jason Herd to approve the employment of Tracy Mappin for Elementary Title I Instructional Assistant effective immediately.

Unanimous 5-0

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

- A. Principal’s Reports
- B. Elementary & Jr. – Sr. High School Faculty Handbooks
- C. 2015 Revenue as of 7/31/15
- D. Mrs. Douglass shared that our enrollment as of 8/18/15 is 729 students and that 22 of the students new to the school corporation live out of the district.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment:

Beth Howard asked when the new website would be rolled out.

Gary Baumgardner stated that it might be worthwhile to provide students new to the corporation from outside the district with yard signs – similar to the signs that a business might use when they’ve done work on someone’s home, etc.

Bruce Cress shared a letter he received from Tom Angle, a 1965 graduate of Caston. Tom thanked the Caston School Corporation for the opportunities he had to participate in classes in the fine arts area, as this inspired him to pursue a career as an artist and musician, leading to future success and personal fulfillment in his lifetime.

Adjournment: Gary Baumgardner moved, seconded by Jason Herd that the regular meeting be adjourned. At 8:07 P.M.

Unanimous 5-0

CASTON BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

