

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

February 21, 2024

6:30 P.M.

Board President, Beth Howard, called the February 21, 2024, meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance at 6:30 P.M. Present were board members: Mrs. Cristie Rans, Mr. Jeff Smith, Mr. Chad Boldry, and Mr. Roger Byrum. Also present were Superintendent, Mrs. Angela Miller, Corporation Attorney, Mrs. Lauren Adley, Jr-Sr High Principal, Mr. Chuck Evans, Assistant Principal, Mrs. Gina Hierlmeier, Elementary Principal, Ms. Jennifer Lukens, Director of Guidance/CCTA President, Ms. Anita Doan, and Administrative Assistant, Ms. Colleen Diveley. Also present at the meeting were Caston teachers, Mrs. Christi Rush, Mrs. Cindy DePyper, Mrs. Megan Boldry, and Mrs. Amy Banks. Present from the community was Mrs. Lora Redweik.

Celebrations: The elementary school won the WSBT-22, I Love To Read Challenge! Lynnette Grant, of WSBT-TV, made a visit to the Caston elementary gym and read a story to all the students. Several students interacted with Ms. Grant during her visit. The elementary school had two winners in the American Legion Essay Contest. The Jr/Sr High School has begun recognizing outstanding students and teachers each month. Ashley Pacheco and Hannah Rogers are the January students of the month, and Mrs. Hipsher & Mr. Allender are the teachers of the month for January. Congratulations everyone! Mr. Allender was recognized for having given a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem at the Girls' Basketball Regional held at Caston recently. Mrs. Heirlmeir and Mr. Tocco did an outstanding job coordinating the Class A Regional Championship held here at Caston. Caston students, Braden Rush, Olivia Thomas, Shayley Strasser, and Lucas Graham have been awarded Rising Star certificates. The JH Robotics team won the Judges Award at the Buzzer Beater Competition hosted by Caston on February 17, 2024.

Staff Spotlight: JH teacher, Tammy Cooley is the February Staff Spotlight member! The person nominating Mrs. Cooley said that Mrs. Cooley is a great mentor and team leader. She is willing to help whenever asked and is knowledgeable in her content area. The nominator felt they were a better teacher each day because of Mrs. Cooley. Congratulations Tammy!

PLCs Presentation: A group of Caston teachers gave a presentation to the board and all present on the operations of, and effectiveness of Professional Learning Communities.

Public Comment Regarding Advertised Items: None

Consent Agenda: Cristie Rans moved, seconded by Chad Boldry, to approve the consent agenda items as follows:

1. January 17, 2024 Regular Monthly Board Meeting Minutes
2. January 17, 2024 Public Work Session Minutes
3. February 7, 2024 Executive Session Minutes
- b. Presentation and review of claims for the month of January, 2024
- c. Resignations/Retirement:
 1. Jordan Santillana, JR HS Physical Education Teacher
- d. Employment Recommendations:
 1. Ginger Harrison, Elementary Math Bowl Co Coach
 2. Lindsey Jones, Elementary Math Bowl Co Coach
 3. Vicky Maroney, Battle of the Books Coach
 4. Lindsey Brubaker, Special Education Teacher

5. Blair Zimmerman, Weight Room Supervisor
 6. Ben Brubaker, Assistant Track Coach
 7. Greg Martz, Assistant Track
 8. Brianna Young, JH Track Coach
 9. Megan Young, JH Track Coach
 10. Trey Young, Volunteer Assistant JH Track Coach
 11. Adam Goller, Baseball Volunteer Assistant Coach
 12. Traci Mahoney, Cafeteria
 13. Adrienne Van Ham, Bus Driver
- e. Presentation of January 31, 2024 Treasurer's Report & Revenue

Unanimous 5-0

Old Business: None

New Business Jeff Smith moved, seconded by Roger Byrum to grant approval for the cancellation of checks outstanding for 2+ years issued from Caston Extra-Curricular Funds

Unanimous 5-0

Cristie Rans moved, seconded by Chad Boldry to grant approval for the cancellation of checks outstanding for 2+ years issued from Caston School Corporation Funds

Unanimous 5-0

Roger Byrum moved, seconded by Chad Boldry to grant approval for providing advertising space for eCampus on the football field and on school digital signs when available

Unanimous 5-0

Cristie Rans moved, seconded by Chad Boldry to grant approval for accepting a donation from eCampus (CEO, Matt Montgomery, Caston Graduate 1979) for the Caston Football Program

Unanimous 5-0

First reading on changes to Policy 5200 Attendance

First reading

Jeff Smith moved, seconded by Roger Byrum to grant approval for designating April 8, 2024 as a virtual learning day due to the predicted solar eclipse.

Unanimous 5-0

Cristie Rans moved, seconded by Chad Boldry to grant approval of the 2024-2028 Master Lease Purchase Apple Agreement to purchase 870 iPads for students and staff

Unanimous 5-0

Roger Byrum moved, seconded by Jeff Smith to grant approval to distribute the Early Literacy Achievement Grant funds to designated K-3 staff from the 2022-23 school year

Unanimous 5-0

Other Business:

Cristie Rans moved, seconded by Chad Boldry to approve the resignation of Kayla Foster as full-time bus driver

Unanimous 5-0

Jeff Smith moved, seconded by Roger Byrum to approve the overnight stay for Trent Tocco at the Annual State Athletic Directors' Conference with the IIAAA in Indianapolis, March 17-19, 2024

Unanimous 5-0

Reports/Information:

ECA monthly financial report (Jan. 2024)

Principal's Report

Ms. Lukens gave highlights on the Comet Cash Store, FFA Petting Zoo, Jump Rope for Heart, and the upcoming Kindergarten Registration. Mr. Evans spoke of the recent College & Career Fair, Guidance Office Topics, the upcoming FFA hog roast and tractor day, Boys' Basketball Sectionals, Senior Night, Jr/Sr High Band Concert, and the senior class trip to Nashville in March.

Superintendent Report:

Mrs. Miller reported that \$1600.00 was raised for the United Way of Cass and Fulton counties. This money was raised between the student Penny Wars and staff donations. She reported the new Caston website and App has been launched with great success. Some of the information shared pertaining to student excellence included Jackson Robbins and Pete Duvall as regional wrestling qualifiers, the first state championship win for the FFA's Parley Team, Breana Amezquita's top 10 placing in the state for the Distinguished Young Women's competition, Caston's Key Club's recent volunteer experience at the Logansport Emmaus Center, and Mrs. Herrold's class winning the January Hot Cocoa Reading Challenge. Recent meetings attended by Mrs. Miller were two meetings in Cass County with area superintendents, and a meeting with community members about the need for more preschool opportunities in our community. The Rochester radio station, WROI, was live with the FFA Parley Team and the Varsity Girls' Basketball Team on February 12, 2024. The two teams met with Mrs. Miller in the boardroom of the administration building for the radio show. The newly constructed restroom near the girls' softball field is completed. This is a unisex, ADA compliant restroom that replaces the portable restroom that was utilized for years. Pictures of the new restroom were shown at the board meeting.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment: None

The next regular board meeting will be held March 20, 2024, at 6:30 P.M. in the Bruce E Cress Boardroom of the Caston Administration Building.

A Public Work Session will be held the same evening immediately following the regular board meeting.

Adjournment: Jeff Smith moved, seconded by Roger Byrum that the regular meeting be adjourned at 7:11 P.M.

Unanimous 5-0

CASTON BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

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