

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

**July 16, 2025
6:30 P.M.**

Board President, Mrs. Cristie Rans, called the July 16, 2025, meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Present were board members: Mr. Jeff Smith, Mrs. Beth Howard, and Mr. Scott Rudicel. Also present were Superintendent, Mrs. Angela Miller, Corporation Attorney, Ms. Lauren Adley, CCTA Co-President, Mrs. Linda Arnett, Corporation Treasurer, Mrs. Elaine Sutton, and Administrative Assistant Ms. Colleen Diveley. Also present was community member, Kyle Middleton.

Celebrations: The Caston Class of 2025 was commended for their one hundred percent graduation rate! Caston students have also been experiencing great success at area county fairs. Caston senior Olivia Thomas, was crowned Cass County Fair Queen! Summer Weights is a huge success with 70-100 students participating. ILEARN scores are in and show Caston student growth.

Public Comment Regarding Advertised Items: None

Consent Agenda: Beth Howard moved, seconded by Scott Rudicel to approve the consent agenda items as written, but requested Item 17 be stricken and moved to a separate vote.

- a. Approve minutes of the June 18, 2025, Public Meeting of the Caston School Board of Trustees
- b. Approve the minutes of the June 18, 2025, Executive Session
- c. Presentation and review of claims
- d. Resignations/Retirements:
 - 1) Traci Mahoney, Cafeteria
- e. Employment:
 - 1) Chris Ulerick - Varsity Football Coach
 - 2) Tony Slocum - Varsity Assistant Football Coach
 - 3) Brandon Kinser - Varsity Assistant Football
 - 4.) Alec Hettinger - Varsity Assistant Football
 - 5.) Jason Herd – Assistant Football Volunteer
 - 6) Daniel Scales - Co-JH Football
 - 7) Sam DuVall - Co-JH Football
 - 8) Sam Jones - Co-JH Football
 - 9) Blair Zimmerman – Head Cross Country Coach
 - 10) Dave Sommers – Volunteer Assistant Cross Country Coach
 - 11) Brianna Young Wilhelm – JH (Co-Ed) Cross Country Coach
 - 12) Ellen King – Varsity/JV Cheer Coach
 - 13) Amanda Bowyer – Varsity Assistant Cheer Coach
 - 14) Ashley Moon – JH Cheer Coach

- 15) Delonna Logan - Varsity Volleyball Coach
- 16) Jordan Santillana – Assistant Varsity Girls Volleyball Coach
- 17) ~~Erin Smith – Assistant Varsity Girls Volleyball Coach~~
- 18) Lyndsey Ball - JH Volleyball Coach
- 19) Alli Miller - JH Volleyball Coach
- 20) Lindsey Jones – 6th Grade Volleyball Coach
- 21) Crysta Bowyer – 5th Grade Volleyball Coach
- 22) Rick Phelps – Head Girls Golf Coach
- 23) Nathan Foxworth - Volunteer Assistant Girls Golf
- 24) Brandon Kinser – Fall Weight Room Supervisor
- 25) Randy Runkle - Full Time Bus Driver
- 26) Hayllie Pufhal - Elementary Teacher
- 27) Ashly Berry - Elementary Teacher
- 28) Tayler Shafer - Elementary Instructional Assistant
- 29) Brittany Telfer - Preschool Instructional Assistant
- 30) Jennifer Hook - Preschool Instructional Assistant

f. Presentation and review of June 30, 2025, Treasurer’s Report and Revenue Report

Vote: 4-0

Beth Howard moved, seconded by Scott Rudicel to approve hiring Mrs. Erin Smith for Assistant Girls Volleyball coach.

Vote: 3-0 Jeff Smith abstained

Old Business: None

New Business:

a. Jeff Smith moved, seconded by Beth Howard to approve the annual membership for Angela Miller for Indiana Association of Public School Superintendents 2025-2026 Institutional Membership

Unanimous 4-0

b. Beth Howard moved, seconded by Scott Rudicel to approve the annual membership of Caston School Corporation for Indiana Small and Rural Schools

Unanimous 4-0

c. Beth Howard moved, seconded by Jeff Smith to approve the annual agreement with Pioneer Regional School Corporation and Eastern Pulaski School Corporation for Shared Special Education

Unanimous 4-0

d. Jeff Smith moved, seconded by Chad Boldry to approve the 2025-2026 Budget Calendar

Unanimous 4-0

e. Beth Howard moved, seconded by Scott Rudicel to approve purchasing two new Thomas school buses for 2026

Unanimous 4-0

f. Jeff Smith moved, seconded by Beth Howard to grant approval for the Comet Youth Football games and practices from July 21-October 3, 2025

Vote: 3-0, Scott Rudicel abstained

g. Beth Howard moved, seconded by Jeff Smith to approve changes in the facility use request for Comet Youth Football from August 24, 2025, to August 20, 2025

Vote: 3-0, Scott Rudicel abstained

h. Beth Howard moved, seconded by Scott Rudicel to approve a roof quote from Hoekstra Roofing

Unanimous 4-0

i. Beth Howard moved, seconded by Scott Rudicel to grant approval to increase lunch prices for the 2025-26 school year

Unanimous 4-0

j. Scott Rudicel moved, seconded by Jeff Smith to approve the contract with Indiana Online Academy to provide course offerings for the 2025-26 school year

Unanimous 4-0

k. First Reading on revisions to the Caston Classified Handbook

Consensus

l. Beth Howard moved, seconded by Scott Rudicel to approve the following policies:

1. 5111 Determination of Legal Settlement
2. 5500-Student Conduct
3. 5610 Suspension and Expulsion
4. 6250-Required ADM Accounts for the Purpose of State Funding and Verification of Residency
5. 7540.03 - Student Technology Use and Safety
6. 7540.04 - Staff Technology Acceptable Use
7. 7540.09 - Artificial Intelligence (A.I.)
8. 8420 - Emergency Plans and Drills

Unanimous 4-0

m. First Reading on the following policies:

1. 0166.1 - Consent Agenda
2. 0167.2 - Executive Session
3. 1216 - Dress and Appearance
4. 1220 - Employment of the Superintendent
5. 2210 - Curriculum Development
6. 2221 - Mandatory Curriculum
7. 2340 - Field Trip and Other Corporation Trips
8. 2370 - Educational Options
9. 2370.2 - Flex Program
10. 2411 - Guidance and Counseling
11. 2421 - Career and Technical Program
12. 2623 - Student Assessment
13. 2700 - Annual Performance (rescinded policy)
14. 3120 - Employment of Professional Staff
15. 3120.02 - Adjunct Teachers

Consensus

Other Business:

Jeff Smith moved, seconded by Beth Howard to approve Megan Young, Volunteer Assistant Soccer Coach

Unanimous 4-0

Beth Howard moved, seconded by Jeff Smith to approve Ryan Spin, Volunteer Assistant Soccer Coach

Unanimous 4-0

Beth Howard moved, seconded by Jeff Smith to approve Narcizo Sanchez, Volunteer Assistant Soccer Coach

Unanimous 4-0

Jeff Smith moved, seconded by Scott Rudicel to approve Amadeo Medina, JH Soccer

Unanimous 4-0

Reports/Information:

ECA monthly financial report (June 2025)

Principal's Reports

None

Superintendent Report

Mrs. Miller gave updates on the progress of the Bright Comets Preschool, the construction project as it's nearing completion, and the plan for fall outdoor sporting events while the school locker rooms are still under construction. Also mentioned was the new TCP clock and payroll software program.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment:

There will be a pre-bargaining meeting on July 21, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. in the administration building.

The next regular board meeting will be held on August 20, 2025, at 6:30 P.M. in the Bruce E. Cress Boardroom of the Caston Administration Building.

Adjournment: Jeff Smith moved, seconded by Scott Rudicel that the regular meeting be adjourned at 6:54 P.M.

Unanimous 4-0

CASTON BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
