

Minutes for March 24, 2021 Central Decatur Board of Education Meeting

The Central Decatur Community School Board of Education met in regular session in the High School Library and via Google Hangout on Wednesday, March 24, 2021.

As a result of the Governor's Proclamation of Disaster Emergency, the Board is allowed to limit the number of people present at an in-person meeting location as long as the Board provides a means for the public to participate by telephone or electronically. Therefore, for the duration of the public health disaster emergency, the Central Decatur Community School District Board of Directors will limit the number of people present to fifteen. Masks and social distancing are required. Others can attend electronically through Google Hangout. A phone number will be provided with each meeting agenda, which will be posted on the District's website.

Board members present: Amber Swartz, Cayle Buckingham, Andrew Sullivan, and Jolene Petty.

Board members absent: Cassy Allen

Others in attendance were: Amy Whittington, Rudy Evertsen, Chris Coffelt, Becky Broich, and two guests. Licensed Mental Health School Social Worker Audrey Wheeler with Green Hills AEA joined the meeting virtually.

Board President Swartz called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

The public hearing for proposed changes to the 2020-2021 school calendar and the proposed 2021-2022 school calendar was held. No written or public comment was given or received.

CONSENSUS ITEMS AND REPORTS:

The following consent items were approved:

- The agenda for March 24, 2021.
- Minutes of the previous meeting on February 17, 2021.
- Financial reports for the following funds for February: General, Management, Physical Plant and Equipment Levy, Capital Projects, Debt Service, Activity, Scholarship, and Lunch. The final list of officials that were paid via Arbiter Pay for the winter sports season was shared. Summary list of bills:
General Fund \$150,184.20; Activity Fund \$25,650.52; Lunch Fund \$28,979.21; PPEL Fund \$793.00; Capital Projects Fund \$36,425.00; Management Fund \$19,983.25
- Funds in the amount of \$27,432.71 will be transferred from the general fund to the lunch fund. This transfer provides the lunch fund with a portion of the federal COVID-19 funding (Education Stabilization Fund-Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund – ESSER) for additional COVID-19 expenses incurred in March-June 2020, September 2020-January 2021, and March 2021.
- Nine open enrollment applications for students to attend CD beginning the 2021-2022 school year were approved – Four students from Clarke CSD, two from Lamoni CSD, one from Mormon Trail CSD, and two from Wayne CSD. One open enrollment application for a CD student to attend Lamoni CSD for this year with a documented qualifying reason was also approved.
- There were no fundraising requests.

Motion to approve all items listed in Consensus Items and Reports by Buckingham, second by Sullivan.

LEARNING LINK:

- This year the District participated in a sharing agreement with Green Hills AEA to purchase mental health social work services to be made available for our students. Mental Health Social Worker Audrey Wheeler introduced herself to the board and talked about her role in the District. She works individually or with a group of students to provide therapeutic interventions such as, coping skills, problem solving, and anger management on a weekly basis.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Students have missed a total of 48.06 hours - seven days and one two-hour late start due to inclement weather. The calendar was developed with a significant number of hours above the required minimum of 1,080. The board approved to waive the missed hours for all students and to approve the 2021-2022 school calendar. **Motion** by Sullivan, second by Petty. Motion carried unanimously.
- The board approved the following student trips. Senior Trip will be going to Wisconsin Dells, April 27-29, 2021 and the Dance Team will attend Nationals in Allen Texas, April 14-18, 2021. Itineraries and budget were reviewed for each trip. **Motion** by Buckingham, second by Petty. Motion carried unanimously.
- The board reviewed the latest CDC guidelines on vaccination and social distancing. The general consensus was to continue with the current face covering requirement through the end of the school year.

ACTION ITEMS cont'd

- The board reviewed and approved the following district facility projects:
 - Skold Commercial Contracting, Inc to furnish and install epoxy flooring in the MS/HS commons in the amount of \$16,400.00. **Motion** by Petty, second by Buckingham. Motion carried unanimously.
 - Bid awarded to RTI in the amount of \$96,651.86 for infrastructure improvements for new wireless access points and switches, licensing and cable runs. E-rate funds will pay for 80% of this project, with the District Secure an Advanced Vision for Education (SAVE) funds paying for 20% (\$19,330.37). **Motion** by Buckingham, second by Petty. Motion carried unanimously.
 - To purchase 180 Lenovo Chromebooks in the amount of \$80,010.00 to ensure connectivity and access for students during remote learning. Federal COVID-19 relief funds (GEERS and ESSER II) will be used for this purchase. **Motion** by Sullivan, second by Buckingham. Motion carried unanimously.
- The board approved the intent to sell the old Masonic Lodge property to an individual that has expressed interest. **Motion** by Buckingham, second by Sullivan. Motion carried unanimously.
- The board approved the Resolution of the Central Decatur Community School District Regarding Public Hearing to Consider Continued Participation in the Instructional Support Program. This funding has been vital in purchasing classroom resources such as curriculum, software, tech hardware, and instructional supplies. **Motion** by Buckingham, second by Petty. Motion carried unanimously.
- The board approved the Resolution to Join the Iowa Local Government Risk Pool to help the District mitigate budget risks associated with winter heating and other natural gas consumption. **Motion** by Buckingham, second by Sullivan. Motion carried unanimously.
- After review and discussion of received bids, the board awarded the 2021 mowing season bid to Tharp Lawn Care LLC. **Motion** by Petty, second by Buckingham. Motion carried with Sullivan abstaining.
- Personnel:
 - The board accepted the following resignations with appreciation of their service to the District: Janae Crabtree, Secondary Science Teacher; Josue Ramierz-Villeda, MSHS Special Education Teacher; Wendell Smith, 7-12 PE Teacher; and Tracy Andrews, Assistant High School Volleyball Coach. **Motion** by Sullivan, second by Buckingham. Motion carried unanimously.
 - The board approved the following hires: Tracy Andrews, Head JH Volleyball; Calieb Kistler, Middle School TSA Advisor; Gary Hayworth, Assistant Golf Coach; and Madysinn Hood, Secondary English Language Arts Teacher. **Motion** by Sullivan, second by Buckingham. Motion carried unanimously.
 - The board approved the lane change request for Shelley Durrow to move from the BA+12 to BA+24 lane on the salary schedule effective the 2021-2022 school year pending successful completion and documentation submitted. **Motion** by Petty, second by Buckingham. Motion carried unanimously.
- The board approved continuing the following operational sharing agreements and percentages for 2021-2022: Superintendent (CD 60%/Lamoni 40%), Transportation Director (CD 80%/Lamoni 20%), Human Resources Director (CD 50%/Lamoni 50%), and Mental Health School Social Worker (CD 20%/GHAEA 80%). **Motion** by Buckingham, second by Sullivan. Motion carried unanimously.
- The board approved the FY22 budget publication with a proposed rate of \$12.30119 per \$1,000 taxable valuation, a reduction of \$0.71 per thousand from the current levy. The public hearing will be held April 7, 2021 at 7:15 p.m. in the high school library/google hangout. **Motion** by Buckingham, second by Petty. Motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- Upcoming Dates:
 - a. Special Board Meeting: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at 7:15 p.m. - High School Library/Google Hangout. Budget Public Hearing will be held at the beginning of the meeting.
 - b. Regular Meeting: Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 7:15 p.m. – High School Library/Google Hangout.

The board entered into closed session at 9:09 p.m. per Iowa Code 21.5(1)(i) for the Superintendent Mid-Year Review. **Motion** by Buckingham, second by Sullivan. Motion carried unanimously. Roll call vote: Ayes: Petty, Sullivan, Swartz, and Buckingham. Nays: None.

The board resumed open session at 9:41 p.m. Buckingham moved the meeting be adjourned at 9:41 p.m. Second by Petty.