

Minutes for April 19, 2023 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 Meet on Wednesday, April 19, 2023.

Board members present: Amber Swartz, Sean Saxton, and Nick Tharp.

Board members absent: Cassy Allen and Andrew Sullivan.

Others in attendance: Amy Whittington, Dan Johnson, Kim Elsberry, Chris Coffelt, Becky Broich and two guests.

Board President Swartz called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

- The public hearing for the proposed 2023-2024 school budget was held. No written or public comment was given or received.
- The public hearing for the proposed 2023-2024 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 April 19, 2023.
- Minutes of the previous meeting on March 22, 2023.
- Summary list of bills for April :
General Fund \$91,744.49; Activity Fund \$37,223.43; Lunch Fund \$50,454.69; PPEL Fund \$793.00; Capital Projects Fund \$91,392.79; Management Fund \$972.00.
- Funds in the amount of \$7,263.98 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 (American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief –ESSER III) for COVID-19 expenses incurred.
- There were no open enrollment applications for Board review.
- The following fundraising request was approved: HS Baseball – Selling Iowa Cubs vouchers.

Motion to approve all items listed in Consensus Items and Reports listed above by Saxton, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.

LEARNING LINK:

- Earlier this year the Board approved the purchase of a social, emotional learning curriculum for grades K-12. Middle/High School Counselor Kim Elsberry highlighted this curricular purchase called Character Strong. This program builds a more welcoming and supportive school climate and helps students become “future ready” by learning and practicing essential life skills. At the elementary level, School Counselor Cayle Buckingham teaches the lessons weekly, with the lessons tying to the monthly RED Way character trait. At the middle/high school level, teachers share sessions weekly during seminar, with Mrs. Elsberry rotating between seminars to provide additional support. Feedback from students and staff about the program has been positive.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Budget
 - The Board adopted the 2023-24 school budget with a tax rate of \$12.43 per \$1,000 taxable valuation. **Motion** by Tharp, second by Saxton. Motion carried unanimously.
 - The budget guarantee is a mechanism that is designed to respond to declining enrollment allowing districts to receive an increase of 1% over the prior year’s Regular Program District Cost. The board is not expected to be eligible for the budget guarantee for 2023-2024, but is advised to adopt the resolution just in case. The board adopted the following resolution in order to receive the scale down or 101% budget guarantee. **Resolution:** RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of Central Decatur Community School District, will levy property tax for fiscal year 2023-2024 for the regular program budget adjustment as allowed under section 257.14, Code of Iowa. **Motion** by Tharp, second by Saxton. Motion carried unanimously.
- The Board approved the 2023-2024 School Calendar. **Motion** by Saxton, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.
- District Projects/Purchases:
 - Superintendent Coffelt talked about upcoming projects for security cameras, radios, and roof replacement. Quotes for these projects will be reviewed at the May 17th board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS CONT'D:

- Districts are required to review board director boundaries after each census. Jodi Flory of Cornerstone Geospatial Consulting is assisting the District with this process and has recommended a slight change between District 1 and 2. Current population for each director district is: DD1 = 1,356; DD2 = 1,292; and DD3 = 1,303. The slight change will make the director districts: DD1 = 1,318; DD2 = 1,330; and DD3 remains 1,303. The Board adopted the following resolution. Resolution: Authorizing the Retention of Boundaries for Director Districts for Central Decatur Community School District. **Motion** by Tharp, second by Saxton. Motion carried unanimously.
- Class of 2023/Students
 - The board approved Class of 2023 students for graduation, pending successful completion of all district graduation requirements and to forgive hours missed due to inclement weather. **Motion** by Saxton, second by Tharp.
 - Students have missed two days due to inclement weather. The 2022-2023 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 K-11 and to have an early dismissal on May 11th. **Motion** by Tharp, second by Saxton. Motion carried unanimously.
- The Board approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the GOLD Center – Regional Career Academy Programming Partnership between Bedford, Diagonal, Lamoni, and CD Community School Districts, Southwestern Community College, and The GOLD Center. The regional career academy will provide access to work-based learning opportunities in at least four career academy programs not currently offered at Central Decatur. **Motion** by Tharp, second by Saxton. Motion carried unanimously.
- The following Southwestern Community College (SWCC) Educational Services Contracts were approved for 2023-24: Nurse Assisting Career Academy, Welding Career Academy, Carpentry and Building Trades, and Online Arts and Sciences courses. The SWCC contract for Welding Technology, Health Science, and Carpentry and Building Trades beginning May 15, 2023 through August 6, 2023 was also approved. **Motion** by Saxton, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.
- Personnel:
 - The Board approved the following:
 - Resignations:
 - Britney Baker, Instructional Coach; Seth Baumfalk, Kindergarten Teacher; Cody Ferguson, Secondary PE; Ashton Trullinger, 2023-24 Elementary Sped Teacher; Whitney Hanthorn, TLC Mentor; Machel Clark, Paraeducator; Bonnie Clark, Assistant HS Softball Coach; Ben Stoner, Assistant HS Football Coach; and Rudy Evertsen, Assistant HS Girls Basketball Coach. **Motion** by Saxton, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.
 - Hires:
 - Summer School Staff: Carlee Hamilton, Jenny Jones, Bailey Gwinn, Seth Baumfalk, Eily Hall, Tracy Martin, Lisa Jackson, Sara Linhart, Cassie Havlik, Cathy Cornell, Mara Dykes, Lauren Palmer, Angie Vaughn, and Cathy Cooper. **Motion** by Tharp, second by Saxton. Motion carried unanimously.
 - Emily Murphy, Kindergarten Teacher; TLC Mentors: Bonnie Clark, Tracy Andrews, Tracy Martin, Annie Nickell, Heidi Bell, Mindy Hamilton, Tricia Applegate; and Laci Erke, TLC Instructional Coach. **Motion** by Saxton, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.
 - Coach/Sponsor: Maizee Lindsey, Assistant HS Softball Coach; Curtis Boothe, Head HS Boys Track Coach; Melanie Puck, Assistant Middle School Volleyball Coach; and Katelyn Young, Fall and Winter Flag Sponsor. **Motion** by Tharp, second by Saxton. Motion carried unanimously.
 - Brittney Lehman, Trish Thomas, Andrea Furman, and Kathy Vogel, Paraeducators; Bruce Miller, Bus Driver; Jill Sage, Central Office Assistant (Accounts Payable/Payroll). **Motion** by Saxton, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.
 - Lane Change for Caessie Henderson from BA+12 to BA+24 for the 2023-2024 school year, pending review of supporting documentation. **Motion** by Saxton, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.
 - 28E Agreement to move district health insurance benefits from Iowa Public Employers Pool (IPEP) to Iowa Governmental Health Care Plan (IGHCP). **Motion** by Tharp, second by Saxton. Motion carried unanimously.
- The Board approved the second reading of the following board policies: 701.05 – Fiscal Management; Regulation 701.05R1 – Fiscal Management – Financial Metrics; 705.01 – Purchasing – Bidding; and 705.01R2 – Purchasing – Bidding – Using Federal Funds in Procurement Contracts. **Motion** by Saxton, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- Superintendent Coffelt shared the latest updates for the 2023 Legislative Session.
- Upcoming Dates:
 - a. National Teacher Appreciation Day – Tuesday, May 2, 2023
 - b. Staff Recognition Week – May 1-5, 2023
 - c. Board of Education Appreciation Month - May
 - d. Regular Meeting: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 – 7:30 p.m. – High School Library
 - e. 2023 Commencement: Sunday, May 21, 2023 – 3:00 p.m.

Saxton moved the meeting adjourn at 9:03 p.m. Second by Tharp.

Amber Swartz, President

Becky Broich, Board Secretary