

## Minutes for October 18, 2023 Central Decatur Board of Education Meeting

The Central Decatur Community School Board of Education met in regular session in the High School Library on Wednesday, October 18, 2023.

Board members present: Cassy Allen, Amber Swartz and Nick Tharp.

Board members absent: Andrew Sullivan and Sean Saxton.

Others in attendance: Alli Theisen via Google Meet, Cathy Cornell, Melissa Linhart, Amy Whittington, Chris Coffelt, Becky Broich and two guests.

Board President Swartz called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

### CONSENSUS ITEMS AND REPORTS:

The following consent items were approved:

- The agenda for October 18, 2023.
- Minutes of the previous meeting on September 26, 2023.
- Summary list of bills for October:  
General Fund \$109,487.79; Activity Fund \$26,351.81; Lunch Fund \$42,348.14; PPEL Fund \$3,034.00; Capital Projects Fund \$187,397.62; Management Fund: \$13,076.00.
- Funds in the amount of \$457.46 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.
- The following open enrollment applications were approved: Four Clarke CSD students; and one Mt Ayr CSD student to attend CD beginning the 2023-2024 school year.
- The following fundraising requests were approved: Boys Basketball – Thelma’s Chicken Dinner; Dance – Kids Overnighter.

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

### LEARNING LINK:

- Melissa Linhart and Cathy Cornell talked about the University of Iowa’s School of the Wild (SOW). Fifth and Sixth grade students participate in a week long outdoor environmental learning experience at Slip Bluff County Park and Nine Eagles State Park. Several student reflections about the importance of SOW were shared, as well as teacher reflections. Overall, students have a great time learning about the environment and in the outdoors. Teachers focused on getting to know students on a different level and using this experience throughout the year.

### ACTION ITEMS:

- District Projects/Purchases
  - Estes Construction Project Engineer Alli Theisen reviewed progress for District HVAC projects. The Board approved Change Order #013 for chiller wiring and sensor in the amount of \$2,174. **Motion** by Allen, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.
  - After discussion, the Board approved to terminate the contract with FEH Design for facility master planning services. **Motion** by Allen, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.
  - Superintendent Coffelt discussed the need for an emergency radio system. The Board tabled the discussion until the November board meeting. **Motion** by Allen, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.
  - Superintendent Coffelt reviewed the progress for the MS/HS gym floor renovation, which is expected to be completed by the end of next week.
- The Board reviewed the October 2, 2023 certified enrollment, K-12 student demographic data and student participation data in college and career courses. After discussing enrollment trends and the impact on future financial indicators, the Board approved the annual review of district, attendance center and course enrollment data. **Motion** by Allen, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.
- The Board approved the early graduation request from one senior, upon completion of all necessary requirements. **Motion** by Tharp, second by Allen. Motion carried unanimously.

## ACTION ITEMS CONT'D

- Personnel:
  - Board President Swartz turned control of the meeting to Vice-President Allen.
  - The Board approved the hire of Cassy Allen as Head MS Girls Basketball Coach. **Motion** by Swartz, second by Tharp. Motion carried with Allen abstaining. Control of the meeting was returned to Swartz.
  - The Board approved the hire of Seth Reed as Food Service Truck Unloader. **Motion** by Allen, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.
  - The Board was notified of the following classified staff hire: Shannon Wetterling, Evening Custodian.
  - The Board approved adding a fall season for eSports with Alex Burnette as coach. **Motion** by Allen, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously. The Board also approved sharing all seasons of eSports with the Lamoni Community School District. **Motion** by Allen, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.
  - The Board approved the 2023-2024 Girls Wrestling Sharing Agreement with the Lamoni CSD and Mount Ayr CSD under the name “Southern Tier Wrestling”. **Motion** by Allen, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.
  - The Board approved the Iowa Health Careers Registered Apprenticeship Program On-the-Job training Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Decatur County Hospital. **Motion** by Tharp, second by Allen. Motion carried unanimously.

## INFORMATION ITEMS:

- The Board discussed the staff survey results regarding interest in exploring a four day school week calendar and discussed possible benefits and concerns. Overall, there was a high interest in exploring this option. A survey will be shared with parents to get their feedback as well. The Board will continue to research this option.
- Superintendent Coffelt thanked Principals Whittington and Johnson for their relentless dedication to CD students and staff, highlighting the importance of their leadership in the overall success of the school district.
- Upcoming Dates:
  - a. October is National Principals Month
  - b. October 23: School Improvement Advisory Committee @ 6 pm
  - c. October 24: Central Decatur Community School Foundation @ 5:30 pm
  - d. November 7: Board Director Elections and Revenue Purpose Statement Referendum
  - e. November 9: Veteran’s Day Assembly @ 10:30 am
  - f. November 15: Board of Education Annual/Organizational Meeting @ 7:30 pm - High School Library
  - g. November 16: 2023 IASB Annual Convention
  - h. December 6: Joint Board Session w. Lamoni Board of Education @ 7:30 pm - CD High School Library
  - i. December 20: Board of Education Regular Meeting @ 7:30 pm - High School Library

Allen moved the meeting adjourn at 9:41 p.m. Second by Tharp.

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Amber Swartz, President

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Becky Broich, Board Secretary