

## Minutes for October 23, 2024 Central Decatur Board of Education Meeting

The Central Decatur Community School Board of Education met in regular session in the High School TAP Room 1122 on Wednesday, October 23, 2024.

Board members present: Sean Saxton, Cassy Allen, Amber Swartz, and Nick Tharp. Andrew Sullivan joined the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Board members absent: None

Others in attendance: Kerry Welch, Amy Whittington, Dan Johnson, Chris Coffelt, Becky Broich and one guest.

Board Vice-President Allen called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. President Swartz was a few minutes late and took over the meeting at 7:43 p.m. No public comment was given.

### CONSENSUS ITEMS AND REPORTS:

The following consent items were approved:

- The agenda for October 23, 2024.
- Minutes of the previous meeting on September 25, 2024.
- Financial reports for the following funds for September 2024: General, Management, Physical Plant and Equipment Levy, Capital Projects, Bond and Interest, Partial-Self Insurance Fund, Activity, Scholarship, and Lunch.
- Summary list of bills for October:  
General Fund \$153,276.11; Activity Fund \$25,099.67; Lunch Fund \$30,866.25; Capital Projects Fund \$118,551.85.
- There were no open enrollment requests.
- The following fundraising requests: Interact Club – Holiday wreaths and Class of 2025 – Crumbl Cookies  
**Motion** to approve all items listed in Consensus Items and Reports listed above by Saxton, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.

### LEARNING LINKS:

- The month of October is National Principals Month. Superintendent Coffelt shared a report affirming that effective principals have a pronounced, positive effect on the schools they lead and thanked Dan and Amy for their leadership and commitment to Central Decatur.
- Principal Whittington and Cardinal Muscle Program Coordinator Kerry Welch talked about the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant and what this funding means to our District. This grant provides support for before and after school programming, Monday school, summer school, and family engagement opportunities. This has been a great support as the District transitioned to a 4-day school calendar this year allowing a safe and engaging place for students when there is no school on Mondays.
- Superintendent Coffelt shared 2024 enrollment highlights. The District experienced a total decline of 42.5 students from the October 2023 Certified Enrollment to October 2024. This equals a loss in funding for next year of approximately \$332,605. There appears to be a trend for larger graduating classes than incoming Kindergarten classes over the next couple school years, creating the likely potential for additional years of declining enrollment. It was noted that many rural school districts have experienced a decline in student enrollment the last few years.

### ACTION ITEMS:

- District Projects/Purchases:
  - The Board discussed the selection of a Facility Needs Assessment and Construction Management Partner. After reviewing considerations between ESTES Construction and Denovo Construction Solutions, the Board selected Denovo Construction Solutions to complete this work. **Motion** by Allen, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.
  - The safety and security project is expected to be completed November 1. The safety and security was a \$250,000 project which provided new internal and external security cameras across the District, as well as more secure building entrance. \$150,000 in federal safety and security funds were applied to the project.
  - The concrete pads for the softball batting cage and the pole barn are expected to be complete within the next couple of weeks.
  - Principal Whittington and Superintendent Coffelt met as part of a committee with community businesses to talk about a Child Care Market Study for Leon. Results of a community study indicated a high need for birth – 5 child care in Leon.
- One bid was received for the 2024-25 snow removal season. The Board approved the bid from DCLI, LLC. **Motion** by Sullivan, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.

## ACTION ITEMS CONT'D

- Personnel:
  - The Board approved the following resignations: Katelyn Young, Flags and Colby Wilken, Co-Head JH Baseball. **Motion** by Allen, second by Saxton. Motion carried unanimously.
  - The Board approved the hire of Chad Ray as Assistant JH Boys Basketball Coach and the following coach contracts: Shane Akers, Head HS Baseball; Maizee Lindsey, Head HS Softball; Melanie Puck, Head JH Softball; Carlee Hamilton & Kylee Rockhold, Co-Assistant HS Softball; and Bonnie Clark, Head JH Boys Track. **Motion** by Allen, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.
  - Classified Notifications:
    - Resignations – Jessica Ymir, Para.
    - Hires – Chelsey Page, Para; Stephanie Wetterling, Custodian; Tasha Thomas, Cook
  - Superintendent Coffelt updated the Board about the possibility of sharing a communications support specialist with Martensdale St. Mary's CSD. This position will be reviewed again in the spring or for next year.
- The Board approved the second reading of the following policies: 502.10; 503.09; 503.09R1; 603.01; 700. **Motion** by Allen, second by Saxton. Motion carried unanimously.

## INFORMATION ITEMS:

- Board Business:
  - The Board discussed the 2024-25 strategic priorities and board calendar for the remainder of this school year.
- Upcoming Dates:
  - a. November 8: Veteran's Day Assembly @ 10:30 a.m.
  - b. November 20: Board of Education Annual/Organizational Meeting @ 7:30 p.m. – High School Tap Room 1122
  - c. November 21: 79<sup>th</sup> Annual IASB Convention
  - d. December 12: Joint Work Session @ Lamoni High School
  - e. December 18: Board of Education Regular Meeting @ 7:30 p.m. High School Tap Room 1122

Allen moved the meeting adjourn at 9:22 p.m. Second by Sullivan.

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Amber Swartz, President

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Becky Broich, Board Secretary