

Minutes for February 12, 2025 Central Decatur Board of Education Meeting

The work session planned for 7:30 p.m. was postponed due to inclement weather.

The Central Decatur Community School Board of Education met in regular session virtually via Google Meet on Wednesday, February 12, 2025.

Board members present: Sean Saxton, Andrew Sullivan, and Cassy Allen.

Board members absent: Amber Swartz and Nick Tharp

Others in attendance: Rex Blevins-BIST Consultant, Amy Whittington, Dan Johnson, Chris Coffelt, and Becky Broich.

Board Vice-President Allen called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. No public comment was given.

CONSENSUS ITEMS AND REPORTS:

The following consent items were approved:

- The agenda for February 12, 2025.
- Minutes of the previous meetings on January 8, 2025.
- Financial reports for the following funds for January 2025: 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 January:
General Fund \$325,043.66; Activity Fund \$29,484.14; Scholarship Fund \$2,450.00; Lunch Fund \$25,426.92; Capital Projects Fund \$69,274.47; PPEL Fund \$3,393.00.
- Funds in the amount of \$354.18 will be transferred from the General Fund to the Lunch Fund. This transfer provides the Lunch Fund with 21st Century grant funds for expenses incurred.
- One open enrollment application was approved for a Kindergarten student from Clarke CSD to attend CD, beginning the 2025-2026 school year.
Open enrollment applications for three CD students to attend Mormon Trail CSD the 2024-25 school year were denied due to the applications filed late with good cause not founded or documented.
- There were no fundraising requests.

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

LEARNING LINK:

- Behavior Intervention Support Team (BIST) through Cornerstone of Care provides staff training in managing student social, emotional, and behavioral health. BIST Consultant Rex Blevins talked about the work and support he has provided District staff this year. The goal of BIST is to help students who struggle with behaviors that are disruptive to their learning and others' develop new behavior skills/strategies, so they can experience success at school and in life.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Principals Whittington and Johnson shared student achievement data, noting an improvement in overall attendance compared to last year. They shared winter FAST literacy test data by grade level and discussed interventions with IXL and small group instruction implemented to address skill deficits. The Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP) is scheduled for April.
- Personnel:
 - The Board accepted the following resignations with expressed appreciation of their service to the District: Julie Pedersen-Secondary Art; Beverly Nordyke-Secondary Math; Becca Crouch-HR/Nutrition Services Coordinator; Levi Dugger-Band; Melissa Linhart-Elementary classroom teacher; and Colby Wilken-Head JH Football Coach. **Motion** by Sullivan, second by Saxton. Motion carried unanimously.
 - The Board approved the following coach hires: Nick Tharp-Head HS Football and Colby Wilken-Assistant HS Football. **Motion** by Saxton, second by Sullivan. Motion carried unanimously.
 - Tasha Thomas has resigned as a cook.

ACTION ITEMS CONT'D

- 2025-2026 Sharing
 - The Board approved to continue the following operational sharing positions with Lamoni CSD, Green Hills AEA, and City of Leon for the 2025-2026 school year: Transportation Director (80%-CD, 20%-L); Social Worker (40%-CD, 60%-AEA); and School Resource Officer (City of Leon).
 - The Board approved a new operational sharing position – Business Management, Other Business Official-District Communications with Martensdale=St Marys CSD.
 - Other shared positions/services approved to continue: Lamoni CSD-Technology Director (50%-CD, 50%-L). Green Hills AEA-Librarian, ELL Teacher, E-Rate Filing, and Cybersecurity.
 - Athletics and Activities with Lamoni CSD: Baseball @ CD and Girls Soccer @ Lamoni for 2025. Sharing for 2025-2026 will be determined in June.

Motion by Saxton, second by Sullivan. Motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- Superintendent Coffelt shared the staff survey results regarding the draft 2025-2026 school calendar. The final calendar will be approved in March.
- Board Business:
 - The fiscal year 2023 audit was shared with the Board. The fieldwork for the FY24 audit was completed last week.
 - Becky shared the timeline for the FY26 certified budget process.
 - Superintendent Coffelt shared legislative updates including supplemental state aid (SSA) ranging from 2-2.25% increase and school start date discussions.
 - Due to inclement weather, February 12 and 13 are virtual learning days. The District can utilize up to five days as virtual learning.
 - The District infrastructure financing capacity work session will be rescheduled in May.
- Upcoming Dates:
 - a. March 12: Board of Education Work Session @ 7:30 p.m. - High School Tap Room 1122.
 - b. March 26: Board of Education Regular Meeting @ 7:30 p.m. – High School Tap Room 1122.
 - c. April 23: Board of Education Regular Meeting @ 7:30 p.m. – High School Tap Room 1122.

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

The Board entered into exempt session under Iowa Code Chapter 20.17(3) for collective bargaining strategy.

Cassy Allen, Vice-President

Becky Broich, Board Secretary