

Minutes for March 26, 2025 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, March 26, 2025.

Board members present: Amber Swartz, Nick Tharp, Sean Saxton, Andrew Sullivan, and Cassy Allen.

Board members absent: None

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

Board President Swartz called the meeting to order at 7:46 p.m.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

- The public hearing for the proposed 2025-2026 school calendar was held. Superintendent Coffelt reviewed the structure of the calendar and remaining considerations, including start date, Homecoming, and spring break.

CONSENSUS ITEMS AND REPORTS:

The following consent items were approved:

- The agenda for March 26, 2025.
- Minutes of the previous meetings on February 12 and March 12, 2025.
- Financial reports for the following funds for February 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 March:
General Fund \$135,349.22; Activity Fund \$19,572.96; Lunch Fund \$20,095.84; Capital Projects Fund \$61,242.05; PPEL Fund \$17,364.79; Management Fund \$16,141.50.
- Funds in the amount of \$562.01 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.
- The following open enrollment applications were approved: 2024-25 due to a change in residence – Two students from Clarke CSD (5th & 12th grade) and one student from Mormon Trail CSD (10th grade).
2025-26 - One student from Lamoni (Kindergarten) and one student from Mormon Trail CSD (12th grade).
- There were no fundraising requests.

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

LEARNING LINK:

- Dan, Amy, and Chris shared topics covered in the March 20, 2025 School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC) meeting. Topics included: CD School Resource Officer (SRO), student achievement, and the 2025-2026 school calendar. The Board approved the SIAC meeting review. **Motion** by Tharp, second by Allen. Motion carried unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Students have missed one day due to inclement weather. The 2024-2025 calendar was developed with a number of hours above the required minimum of 1,080. The board approved to waive the missed hours for all students PK-12. **Motion** by Sullivan, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.
- The 2025-2026 school calendar will be approved in April due to unresolved considerations regarding Homecoming and current legislative discussions regarding the school start date.
- The SWCC contract for Welding Technology, Health Science, and Carpentry and Building Trades beginning May 12, 2025 through August 3, 2025 was also approved. **Motion** by Allen, second by Sullivan. Motion carried unanimously.
- The Board approved the Senior Trip to the Wisconsin Dells, April 21-23. **Motion** by Allen, second by Saxton. Motion carried unanimously.
- Two bids were received for the 2025 mowing season – Tharp Lawn Care and Christensen Mowing Service. The Board approved Christensen Mowing Service as the low bid for the 2025 mowing season. **Motion** by Saxton, second by Allen. Motion carried with Tharp abstaining.
The Board approved Midwest Dust Solutions for the 2025 dust control services. **Motion** by Allen, second by Saxton. Motion carried with Tharp abstaining.

ACTION ITEMS CONT'D

- Personnel:
 - The Board accepted the following resignations: Boyd Sinclair, Elementary Sped and Zach Mendenhall, Head JH Boys Basketball Coach. **Motion** by Allen, second by Sullivan. Motion carried unanimously.
 - The Board approved the following hires: Summer School Coordinators: Elementary, Mindy Hamilton and JH/HS At-Risk, Tricia Applegate; Zach Clark, Head JH Football Coach; and Ethan Thomas, Assistant JH Boys Track Coach. **Motion** by Tharp, second by Allen. Motion carried unanimously.
 - The Board approved the contracts to share a Business Communications position with Martensdale St. Marys for the remainder of this school year and 2025-2026. **Motion** by Saxton, second by Sullivan. Motion carried unanimously.
 - Classified staff resignations: Cassie Hamilton, Kitchen Manager; Beth Hearron, Part-time Cook; and Jr Wells, Sub Bus Driver.
- District Projects/Purchases:
 - The Board approved the renewal of the Natural Gas Program Participation Agreement for 2025-26 with the Iowa Local Government Risk Pool Commission. This agreement helps the District mitigate budget risks associated with winter heating and other natural gas consumption. **Motion** by Allen, second by Tharp. Motion carried unanimously.
 - The Board approved the purchase of a Resilite Flex 3 wrestling mat with donations from the Booster Club. **Motion** by Tharp, second by Allen. Motion carried unanimously.
 - The District has been awarded a DEKKO Foundation grant \$1 for \$1 match up to \$40,000 for the new weight room renovation.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- Board Business:
 - Superintendent Coffelt shared the latest School Administrators of Iowa (SAI) legislative update.
 - The Board reflected on the Facility Needs Assessment prepared by Denovo Construction Solutions.
 - Superintendent Coffelt shared the spring activity summary developed by Zach Clark highlighting track, golf, and Esports participation numbers and other spring activities such as the spring play April 4-6.
- Upcoming Dates:
 - a. April 23: Board of Education Regular Meeting @ 7:30 p.m. – High School Tap Room 1122.
 - b. May 14: Board Work Session @ 7:30 p.m. – High School Tap Room 1122. Regular Meeting @ 8:30 p.m.

Allen moved the meeting adjourn at 8:44 p.m. Second by Sullivan.

Amber Swartz, President

Becky Broich, Board Secretary