

Minutes of Public Meeting

The New Castle Community School Board of Trustees met in the Board Room at the Community Education Center at 322 Elliott Avenue on August 13, 2018.

Board Members Present: Mr. Jamey Marcum, Mr. Travis Callaway, Mr. Kim Williamson, Mrs. Elizabeth Whitmer, and Mrs. Nan Polk

Central Office Administrators Present: Dr. Matthew Shoemaker, Superintendent; Mrs. Lisa Smith, Assistant Superintendent; Mrs. Sherri Bergum, Curriculum Director; and Megan Bell, Director of Finance

Absent: None

Also Present: Dr. Greg Crider, Corporation Attorney; Beverly Matthews, Hannah Warner, Nici Shelton, Stephanie Renfro, Debby Raines, Stefanie Eikenberry, Janet Maxwell, Jennifer McGowan, Mark Schlotterbeck, Annette Goggin, Chris Lamb, James Nicholson, Patty Broyles, Mike Broyles, Dustin Chew, James Carson, and Dee Orick

Regular Board Meeting – 7:00 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT MARCUM

A. **Roll Call.** President Marcum called the meeting to order.

* B. **Approval of Minutes: July 16, 2018.** Board members previously received copies. On a motion by Mrs. Whitmer and seconded by Mr. Williamson, the minutes were unanimously approved, as presented.

* C. **Approval of Agenda.** On a motion by Mr. Callaway and seconded by Mrs. Polk, the agenda was unanimously approved, as presented.

II. COMMUNICATIONS/ROUTINE CONSENT ITEMS/REGULARLY RECURRING REPORTS/OTHER

A. **Public Questions and Comments on Agenda Items.** In accordance with Board By-Laws, we allow comments or questions from those in attendance on agenda items at this point in the meeting. There were none.

* B. **Routine Consent Items: Approval of Reports: Travel; Monthly Personnel; Bill List Nos. 61014 Through 61183 Payroll Claims and Donations; and Field Trip Requests.**

Board members previously received copies of these reports. On a motion by Mrs. Whitmer and seconded by Mr. Williamson, these were unanimously approved.

Field Trips Approved:

Aug. 1, 2018 – King’s Island-HS Boys Basketball – Daniel Cox

Oct. 22-23, 2018 – Flat Rock YMCA Camp-Eastwood, Grades 4&5 – Jacob White

C. **Submission of Monthly Corporation/Extra-Curricular Receipts and Disbursements; and Fund Reports.**

Board members previously received copies of these reports for informational purposes.

III. NEW BUSINESS

* A. **Recommend Approval of Gordon Food Service Grocery Bid.**

Dee Orick explained this is the second of a two year contract with GFS, and there are no changes in terms but prices increased slightly. Discussion was held on price increases due to tariffs; finding better pricing; and the topic of using paper straws. Board members previously received a copy. On a motion by Mrs. Polk and seconded by Mr. Williamson, this was unanimously approved.

* **B. Recommend Approval of Neola Policy – Volume 30, Number 1.**

The first reading was held during the July 16th meeting. Board members previously received a copy. On a motion by Mrs. Polk and seconded by Mrs. Whitmer, this was unanimously approved.

* **C. Recommend Approval of Contract Renewal for Concessions Management Agreement.**

Dr. Shoemaker explained this is a two year renewal. Board members previously received a copy. It was noted contributions are made towards the Turf Fund. On a motion by Mrs. Whitmer and seconded by Mr. Williamson, this was unanimously approved.

D. Technology Grant for Danielson Center.

Dr. Crider announced \$100,000 dollars Mr. Danielson gave to the IU Foundation has been transferred to the Community Foundation. Mrs. Bell has authority to access this money for the New Castle Career Center, as needed.

Dr. Crider explained a Lily Grant applied for fifteen years ago included a Technology Grant. This is set up with the Community Foundation which pays into the Danielson Education Counsel. New Castle Schools is now the beneficiary. Beverly Matthews stated the Community Foundation Board approved this change at their May 24th meeting. The purpose is to benefit the Career Center, which is now at the Danielson Center. This could generate up to \$5000 per year, available every year, to help with technology costs.

Chris Lamb provided an update on the Career Center's move into the Danielson Center. Within two weeks, coordination between the career center, technology and maintenance, classes began on August 7th at the new location. An open house will be planned in September for the community.

IV. BUILDINGS/GROUNDS/TRANSPORTATION/SUPPORT SERVICES

Assistant Superintendent, Lisa Smith, provided an update. School safety is priority. Safety features have been added to all office entrances and additional safety considerations are being examined. High definition cameras have been installed. The roof replacement at the High School is complete. Roofing repairs and replacement needs will continue to be assessed. Guard rails around the field house will be installed soon. Crews have been busy moving staff to other buildings. The chiller and cooling tower will need to be rebuilt at the High School. Consideration is being given to building outdoor rest rooms at Sunnyside as soccer practice along with baseball games are now using that field. The cafeteria doors at Sunnyside will be replaced. The new Kindergarten classrooms look great. The Technology Department completed 643 service tickets this summer, 274 of those were on student devices. Interactive panels will go up at Westwood Elementary to replace projectors and smart boards, and there are 800 new chrome books. President Marcum welcomed Mrs. Smith to New Castle Schools.

To respond to a question by Mr. Callaway about the GO Fund balance, Dr. Shoemaker and Mrs. Bell noted a meeting is planned this month to look into another bond. If needed, this will be brought to the Board for approval in September.

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Shoemaker thanked and recognized those involved with the amazing Back to School Festival, including the Christian Love Center, Henry County Foundation, City of New Castle, Hope Initiative, Judy Hubbard and the volunteers. More than 850 back packs were given out to students.

The Back to School Breakfast on August 6th was attended by about 400 employees. Door prizes were given out. Dr. Shoemaker thanked the sponsors for their generous donations. The list of sponsors are on the corporation website.

We have hired twenty six new teachers, a Corporation Nurse, and two Administrators. Dr. Shoemaker thanked Principals, CEC staff, and Jena Schmidt for getting everyone hired. He also thanked the teachers for preparing their class rooms to welcome students back to school.

Our maintenance crew has moved teachers into different buildings; built new kindergarten classrooms at Riley and Westwood; and completed work at the Danielson Center. Dr. Shoemaker thanked the crew for doing a great job.

He also thanked Chris Lamb, Dustin Chew, John McClurg, Todd York and everyone who helped with the Danielson Center.

Current student enrollment is 3103. This count is only 6 down from last year. This figure could fluctuate but is a great improvement from our average of being down 110 per year for the past three years.

Buildings now open at 7AM to help families. Free breakfasts and lunches are available at Eastwood, Parker, Sunnyside and Wilbur Wright. The Middle School will provide free breakfast.

Security Resource Officers have been increased from 2 to 4. The new website is projected to be live September 3rd. We continue to work on getting a Pre-K program in place to be eligible for grant money.

We will soon offer an Activity Bus for Middle and High School students involved in extra-curricular activities to provide a ride home. Parents will be informed when this program is ready.

Dr. Shoemaker thanked parents at Eastwood, Riley, and Westwood for their patience during pick-up and drop-off of students as these schools now have kindergarten students and higher enrollment.

We have received the Teacher Appreciation Grant. Distribution will take place once school grades are available. Dr. Shoemaker thanked Mrs. Bergum for applying for this grant.

Long Term Planning Task Force meeting dates are posted on the corporation website. Tuesday, August 14th at 6 PM will be the first meeting since summer recess. Members will meet at the Middle School cafeteria followed by a tour of the building.

Mrs. Polk shared comments she heard by teachers who had fun on the first day of school.

VII. BUDGET

VIII. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Ms. Orick commented on the summer meal program. Over 6200 student meals were served. The program was a great success. She is already looking for different ways to reach more students. Mrs. Polk thanked Ms. Orick for this ministry. The program is based on free and reduced rates.

President Marcum noted traffic issues are being addressed at some buildings.

Nici Shelton asked about cafeteria doors being replaced at Sunnyside. Mrs. Smith noted this is a safety concern and is being taken care of now. The Long Term Planning Task Force will look at overall needs of the corporation.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

President

Vice President

Secretary

LMC