

**Crawfordsville Community School Corporation
Board of Education - Regular Meeting
Thursday, May 13th, 2021, at 6:00 P.M
Crawfordsville Middle School 705 Wallace Ave. (LGI Room)**

AGENDA

I. Roll Call

Steve McLaughlin, Dr. Bowling, Dr. Ryker, Ellen Ball, Kathleen Brown, Susan Albrecht, Kent Minnette, Jennifer Coyle, Brent Bokhart, Ann Stanley, Alex Tinkel, Johnnie Jones, and Nick Hedrick (Journal Review) were in attendance.

II. CHARACTER COUNTS!SM Corporation - *Respect*

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Building Principal Report - Jennifer Coyle - Nicholson

Principal Coyle informed the Board of the following updates and improvements:

- School Improvement Plan (SIP) Update
- Focus on Response to Intervention (RtI) Team - Revamping Process
- Nicholson School is Down 6.5% from 2020-21 Referrals which already meets their School Improvement goal for the 21-22 school year.
- Collaborating with the Indiana IEP Resource Center

V. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes, Construction Accounts Payable Claims Vouchers, Register of Accounts Payable Vouchers, and Surplus Items

- a. Surplus Item - Trailer
- b. Surplus Item - School Bus

Dr. Ryker explained to the Board both items are valued under \$5,000.00 each and will be scrapped by Waldon's Recycling. Waldon's will haul the trailer and bus to their property allowing local fire departments to come in and train using the bus. This, once again, is another example of community partners working together. We will receive the money once the items have been scrapped.

Susan Albrecht made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes, Construction Accounts Payable Claims Vouchers, Register of Accounts Payable Vouchers, and Surplus Items . Kathleen Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Old Business

None at this time.

VII. New Business

- a. Preschool Student Handbook - Kathleen Brown

Being no changes or edits, Kathleen Brown made a motion to approve the CMS Student Handbook as submitted. Ellen Ball seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

b. Elementary Student Handbook - Ellen Ball

Being no changes or edits, Ellen Ball made a motion to approve the CMS Student Handbook as submitted. Kent Minnette seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

c. Consider 2022 - 2023 CCSC Calendar

Dr. Bowling explained to the Board that this calendar shows an earlier August start to the school year along with days divided between the two semesters, breaks which will align with North, South and Western Boone School Districts, and the school year ending by Memorial Day. We will also have built-in snow days which will prevent days being added to the end of the year.

Kathleen Brown made a motion to approve the 2022 - 2023 CCSC Calendar as submitted. Kent Minnette seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

d. Revised Policy 5115 Transfer Students

Dr. Ryker explained Policy 5155 which provides guidance, acceptance, and denial of transfer students that is dictated by Indiana Code. The new revisions to Policy 5155 are all from the ISBA recommended language and have been discussed with CEA. Currently we have not come close to our capacity voted upon in previous years by the Board which increased the transfer limit to forty (40) students per grade level, so this language will not likely come into effect. It is a good addition in case we receive a large transfer request per grade level or if the maximum number of transfers per grade level is lowered.

The second area of change is adding a reason to deny a student for a history of unexcused absences based upon the location of the student's residence. We have had a few transfer students with excessive absences, and our administrators and teachers would appreciate this additional criteria.

Kathleen Brown asked if we verify student information with the school when a parent submits the transfer application. Dr. Ryker informed the Board that parents are to supply attendance and discipline records from their current school with the application when applying.

Dr. Ryker recommended that the Board approve revisions to Policy 5115. Ellen Ball made a motion to approve the Revision of the 5115 Policy. Susan Albrecht seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

e. Revised Policy 5630 Corporal Punishment

Dr. Ryker explained to the Board Policy 5630 guides the use of reasonable force, restraint, and corporal punishment. Revisions to Policy 5630 removes the ability of a building administrator to administer corporal punishment and retitles the policy to include

reasonable force and restraint which have also been discussed with the administrative team and with CEA. Corporal punishment has never been administered by any current administrator.

We do not wish to remove the language allowing for reasonable force or restraint in situations needing such action due to a threat of physical injury by a student to self or to others to protect teachers if an intervention situation occurs. The revised language does allow the Board to discipline an employee for use of unreasonable force.

Dr. Ryker then recommended that the Board approve the revisions to Policy 5630. Kathleen Brown made a motion to approve the Revised Policy 5630 Corporal Punishment. Susan Albrecht seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

f. Natural Gas Provider Agreement

Dr. Ryker advised the Board that he is reviewing a possible change from Constellation to CIMA Energy for our natural gas provider.

For our natural gas usage, we currently use Center Point (Vectren) as a utility while also using a 3rd party vendor (Constellation) for our gas due to large requirements and savings. We still have to pay the utility for the price of pipes and meters and services. Natural gas is measured in therms or decatherms. We use approximately 9,000 decatherms a year with CHS accounting for over one third of our usage.

In February 2021, record-breaking low temperatures across most of the lower 48 states plus production losses in Texas caused prices to spike fivefold. During that time our cost of gas increased greatly. We did not have many options to reduce usage. Pricing increased from approximately \$6 DTH to \$30 DTH at its highest. We averaged \$25.48 a DTH from February 13th through the 22nd. This was the highest nominal price going back to at least 1993.

CIMA is a larger provider and has advantages such as leases on their own pipelines and greater storage capacity than smaller companies. When there was a shortage, Constellation was having to buy gas from companies like CIMA. Further, CIMA sells gas by a baseload monthly contracted amount which provides more stability.

After meeting with a CIMA Energy representative and reviewing our last two years of usage, they were able to provide us with an analysis of potential savings. For eighteen (18) of the twenty-two (22) months analyzed, savings would be approximately \$13,000.00. During the shortage of February CIMA's cost for gas was nearly \$10 cheaper a BTH than Constellation. Overall, we could see an estimated 18.26% savings by switching third party vendors.

- g. Bid Selection - Pflederer Building Roofing
For projects under \$150,000 dollars, we are required to seek at least three quotes, allowing at least seven days for response. We are required to accept the lowest quote. Three letters were sent via certified mail requesting quotes for a roof replacement. Two quotes were received.

Dr. Ryker recommended the Board approve Hinshaw Roofing (\$114,965.00) for the roofing project at the Pflederer Building.

After some review, Kent Minnette made a motion to approve Hinshaw Roofing for the Bid Selection - Pflederer Building Roofing. Kathleen Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Personnel

- a. Consider Retirement of Jim Claycomb - CMS - Custodial/Maintenance
- b. Consider Retirement of Kelly Harmon - Hose - Nurse
- c. Consider Retirement of Rhonda Nicholas - Hoover - Library Aide
Kathleen Brown made a motion to approve the retirements of Jim Claycomb, Kelly Harmon and Rhonda Nicholas. Ellen Ball seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- d. Consider Resignation of Eddie Guanajuato - CMS/CHS Band Director
- e. Consider Resignation of Nicole Hathaway - CHS Aide
- f. Consider Resignation of Jamie Fall - Willson Speech & Hearing
- g. Consider Resignation of Sonja Bratcher - Nicholson - Special Education Aide
- h. Consider Resignation of Blair Wade - Nicholson - 3rd Grade Teacher
Kent Minnette made a motion to approve the resignations of Eddie Guanajuato, Nicole Hathaway, Jamie Fall, Sonja Bratcher and Blair Wade. Ellen Ball seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- i. Recommend Brad Clark - CHS Business Teacher
- j. Recommend Jared Kaminski - CHS Chemistry & Physics Teacher
- k. Recommend Sydney Chaney - CMS Language Arts Teacher
Kent Minnette made a motion to approve the hiring of Brad Clark, Jared Kaminski and Sydney Chaney. Ellen Ball seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Change of Position

- a. Darrin Wilcoxson from CHS Teacher to CHS Technology Coordinator
- b. Dion Gobel from Interschool Mail/Lunch Van to Driver Position
Dr. Bowling explained that the change in position information was for the Board information only. Board approval was not required.

X. Assistant Superintendent Report **School Safety**

AssessmentZone - Threat assessment program and software. This program will allow us to perform assessments based on role and better include community resources such as the fire department and police department. Dr. Ryker and Mark Melton completed a preliminary training and will host a large training at CHS. This program also includes a certified suicide assessment tool.

CHS Busing

When the new high school parking lot was designed, it was designed with the idea that buses would pick up and drop off at the back of the school. With the upgrade to the back parking lot, we will be able to move buses to the back (east side) of the building. This will significantly reduce the chaos of student drivers, parents drivers, staff, and buses all leaving from the same area. This will also include more staff members to have parking lot duty.

Construction

The Related Arts Project began this week with the demolition of the choir room. The academic project is down to punch list items and a few whiteboards to be installed.

Student Services

The Blue and Gold student cafe and media center at CHS are finally open for senior students that meet the Honor Reward criteria. Students and staff can come to the cafe a half hour before school begins and throughout the day (except during lunch and the end of 7th period). Items served in our cafe meet our wellness policy.

The CHS leadership team established guidelines for an Honor Reward System based on grades and attendance. Students must have a GPA of 3.0 during a current semester; may not have excessive or significant disciplinary issues; and may not have any unexcused absences. Students that meet this criteria receive an ID Badge that can be carried in their chromebook case. Students with the Honor Rewards Badge may leave study hall or a class when work is finished to go to the media center and or cafe. Students re-qualify every nine weeks.

Superintendent's Report

COVID

- Montgomery County - **Blue Level - Advisory Level is Blue**
- Positivity Rate = **2.65% - Down**
- Weekly cases per 100,000 Cases = **33 - Down**
- Current numbers are the lowest that has been reported.

Graduation

Date: Friday, May 28th

The cap has been raised on the ticket system being used.

Malcolm X Institute of Wabash College

We have partnered with Wabash College highlighting children's cultural literature. Wabash students read to elementary students as part of the ongoing diversity initiative. We are always glad to partner with Wabash College.

Summer Term

- Expanded to PreK
- Current enrollment is 180 students with as many as 220 expected.
- The Community Foundation contacted us advising that a donor has stepped forward and will purchase books for 200 students - more if more students enroll, for each of the six weeks of summer term.

Federal Funding Schools will Receive

- 1st Round Received Cares Act (Esser 1) - \$454,000.00 - Spent on COVID related issues.
- 2nd Round Esser 2 - \$1,784,000.00 -Application due May 14th.
- 3rd Round Esser 3 - \$4,008,000.00 - To be used to attack learning loss on multiple fronts.

Esser 2 and Esser 3 will be spent on the following:

- Summer Term
- Additional Instructional Coaching in Elementary Schools
- Maintain staffing levels to keep classes small
- Address Social and Emotional Needs
- Revamp our HVAC Controls
- Possible stipends for Certified and Non-Certified Staff

Central Office Relocation

Dr. Bowling asked for the Board's input regarding starting to look at the relocation of the central office. Currently looking at two options:

- Build a new building - possibly located at the high school grounds.
- Renovating an existing building in the downtown area.

XI. Other

Nothing at this time.

XII. Board Member's Communication

Kathleen Brown shared with the Board that she had communication with a patron who is a 1951 graduate from Crawfordsville Highschool regarding the organ that was in the old high school wondering whatever happened to it. Back in that time, the organ was dedicated in the name of a student who had passed away.

Dr. Bowling had contacted Lisa Warren, CMS/CHS Choir Assistant, and she advised that she had spoken with CHS graduate, Joey Gerold, who remembers the organ, and said that it was housed on the left side of the stage, but could not remember if it was sold in the auction. The property has since been sold and renovated.

XIII. Patron Comments

Johnnie Jones shared with the Board his concerns of safety and room usage in the Middle School by the janitorial staff.

XIV. Adjournment

Kathleen Brown made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ellen Ball seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:03 P.M.