



CARMEL CLAY SCHOOLS

School Board Workshop Session 1.13.2020



ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- President--Michael Kerschner
- Vice President--Katie Browning
- Secretary--Dr. Lin Zheng
- Member--Layla Spanenberg
- Member--Pam Knowles

[VIEW THE FULL MEETING](#)



(L to R: Superintendent Dr. Beresford, Board Member Mrs. Pam Knowles, Board Member Mrs. Layla Spanenberg, Board Vice President Mrs. Katie Browning, Board Secretary Dr. Lin Zheng and Board President Mr. Mike Kerschner.

RELATED ITEMS

- It is recommended that the School Board salaries remain at \$2,000 per year per statute.

APPOINTMENTS

- Appointment of Treasurer-- Mr. Roger McMichael, Deputy Treasurer--Mrs. Kara Kollros and Approval of Bonds for Treasurer, Deputy Treasurer, Extra-Curricular Treasurers and Cafeteria Cashiers
- Appointment of General Counsel--Mr. David Day
- Appointment of Executive Secretary--Mrs. Colleen Nobis
- Appointment of Cable Television Representative--Mrs. Christi Cloud
- Appointment of ISBA Delegate and ISBA Legislative Liaison--Mrs. Layla Spanenberg
- Appointment of Carmel Clay Parks Representative--Dr. Lin Zheng
- Carmel Redevelopment Commission Representative--Mrs. Katie Browning

CONSENT

- Approval of Consent Items
- Personnel Report
- Claims
- Payroll
- Carry Forward of Capital Projects Accounts
- Closing Budget Functions
- Authorization to Sign Agreements for Alternative Services and Private Residential School Placements
- Minutes: Workshop Session November 11, 2019
- Minutes: Regular Session November 25, 2019

ACTION ITEMS

- Board of Finance Organization
- Change of Enrollment Eligibility for the Prime Health Insurance Plan
- Name of the New Elementary School on Clay Center Road

[Watch the Action Items](#)

WORKSHOP TOPIC

- Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Dr. Amy Dudley, provided the School Board with a Literacy Program Evaluation Presentation.

[Watch the Workshop Topic](#)

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Dr. Beresford thanked Mr. Roger McMichael for his presentation on the assessment of the financial condition of the school district. Dr. Beresford also thanked Dr. Dudley for her presentation on the Literacy Program Evaluation. Dr. Beresford emphasized that literacy is a key skill needed for a successful future.
- Dr. Beresford reported that CHS transition night occurred Monday evening, January 13, 2020. He stated that the high school staff was excited to welcome incoming freshman students! Dr. Beresford also mentioned that middle school transition nights are happening soon. Each middle school will be communicating with parents of our incoming 6th graders to inform them of dates and times in which students and parents can tour the school, meet staff members and learn about the day-to-day life of a middle school student.
- Dr. Beresford shared that kindergarten registration for the 2020-2021 school year began Monday, January 13, 2020. The online registration form can be accessed “In the News” section on the homepage of the district website. Parents/guardians are encouraged to have students enrolled by Friday, March 6, 2020. Questions regarding kindergarten registration and programming can be directed to their child’s school.
- Dr. Beresford shared some exciting news from Clay Middle School. They will be welcoming a highly trained therapy dog named Auggie. Auggie is a 1½ year old male Sheepadoodle and is certified through The Alliance of Therapy Dogs and the AKC Canine Good Citizen program. His handlers are Clay Middle School Counselor Erin Naas and Special Education Department Chair Jeff Naas. Dr. Beresford stated that research on the addition of therapy dogs in schools has shown to have many benefits for students. In adolescents, the use of a therapy dog is known to decrease anxiety, improve self-esteem, improve communication skills and increase overall academic achievement. Our Clay Middle School staff looks forward to introducing Auggie to students and staff members through various meet and greet sessions when he begins on January 27th.
- Dr. Beresford shared that it was a big weekend for high school sports. He congratulated the Boys and Girls Swimming and Diving Teams for winning the MIC Championships on Saturday. He also congratulated the CHS Boys Basketball team who had a big road win, defeating previously unbeaten Westfield. Dr. Beresford mentioned that it was a packed house and a great atmosphere of Hamilton County Hoosier Hysteria! Dr. Beresford also gave a shout-out to the CHS Girls Basketball Team who are now on a seven game winning streak with their win over Fort Wayne South.
- Dr. Beresford gave kudos to the Educational Services Center staff for their generosity this past holiday season. This year, ESC staff adopted four families with 14 total children, providing gifts and food for them over winter break. Other staff members donated to the Indiana Canine Assistance Network, the Retired Greyhound Racing Dog Rescue, various church missions, the Carmel Education Foundation, and two separate staffers did something unique - they paid off the lunch debts of a large number of students and put 12 weeks of lunch money in their accounts. Dr. Beresford emphasized how proud and thankful he is for the ESC team!

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Dr. Beresford's Bell-Ringer of the evening was celebrating School Board Appreciation Week. He shared that the district is fortunate to have five Board Members who are truly champions and committed to the success of every student and family we serve. He emphasized that the Board gives our Carmel community a voice in educational decision-making. In addition, he shared that our Board members are fierce advocates for public education at the local, state and national level. Their contribution is a year-round, four-year commitment with several of our Board Members having served multiple terms over the years.

Dr. Beresford mentioned that our Board Members are sometimes forced to make difficult decisions and that they dedicate many hours to gather as much information and data available to inform their decisions. Another key role of our Board Members is to advance the vision and mission of CCS and adopt policies that give the district structure, direction, and compliance with Indiana and Federal code.

Finally, Dr. Beresford stated that our Board Members are student-centered. They strictly adhere to the CCS Guiding Principles and focus on keeping students at the center of every decision. We are extremely grateful and thankful for their service to our students and their families, our staff, and our community!

[Watch the Superintendent's Report](#)

CCS KUDOS



The School Board would like to recognize the hard work and dedication of staff members as brought to their attention by the Carmel community. Kudos to Maureen Nestor, Chard Reid, Brian McGuckin, Rebecca Powell, Kelly Speidel, Elizabeth Herman, Katherine Gray, Heather Elliott and Lauren Fiechter! If you would like to share your positive CCS employee experience with the School Board, please [click here](#).

ADJOURNMENT

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

JANUARY 2020

FEBRUARY 2020

Please click here to view upcoming Board Meetings, breaks and holidays

Jan. 20-- MLK Jr. Day--No School

Jan. 27--School Board Regular Session

Feb. 10-- School Board Workshop Session

Feb. 17--President's Day--No School

Feb. 24--School Board Regular Session

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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