



CARMEL CLAY SCHOOLS

School Board Regular Session 2.24.2020



CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were approved:

- Claims
- Payroll
- Personnel Report
- Approval of Gift Applications
 - Gorman & Bunch Orthodontics donated \$200 to the Clay Middle School Science Department.
 - Patrons of Creekside Middle School donated \$600 to the Performing Arts Department.
 - Michael Zinn donated assorted photography equipment to the Carmel High School Photography Department.
- Minutes: Workshop Session January 13, 2020
- Minutes: Regular Session January 27, 2020
- Minutes: Executive Session January 27, 2020

[VIEW THE MEETING](#)

ACTION ITEMS

The following items were approved:

- Bid Award - Carmel High School 2020 Renovations
- Bid Award - 10GB Fiber Optic Upgrade
- Change Orders - 2019 Renovations to Forest Dale Elementary School and Carmel High School and District Wide Paving Improvements
- Adoption of Policy 9150 - School Visitors
- Adoption of Bylaw 0144.2 - Board Member Ethics

[Watch the Action Items](#)

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS



The Carmel Clay School Board recognized the Creekside Middle School Spell Bowl Team on winning the Indiana Academic State Spell Bowl competition! [Watch the Special Presentation](#)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Carmel resident Veronica Werth spoke on the topic of literacy program recommendations.

[Watch the Public Comment](#)

MONTHLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

Associate Superintendent of Business Affairs, Mr. Roger McMichael, presented the Monthly Financial Update.

[Watch the Monthly Financial Update](#)

STUDENT DATA REPORT

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Dr. Amy Dudley, presented High Ability Student Data.

[Watch the Student Data Report](#)

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

- Board Member Mrs. Pam Knowles reported that she, along with Board Member Mrs. Layla Spanenberg and Mental Health Coordinator Mrs. Stephanie Whiteside, attended the NSBA Equity Symposium on February 1st and the Advocacy Institute on February 2nd in Washington, D.C. Mrs. Knowles gave a summary to the Board on the Equity Symposium titled, "Identifying and Eradicating Discriminatory Practices, Prejudices, and Beliefs in Education Policy," and provided a summary to the Board on the Advocacy Institute program titled, "Champion Our Children." Mrs. Knowles stated that during their visit to Washington, they had the opportunity to meet with Indiana legislators including U.S Senator Todd Young, U.S Senator Mike Braun, and legal aid for U.S Representative Susan Brooks, Mr. Andrew Nicholson.
- Board Member Mrs. Layla Spanenberg stated that she also enjoyed attending the Equity Symposium and the Advocacy Institute. She shared that the Equity Symposium provided a different lens with which to view CCS policies, curriculum and programs to support each student, including areas of social and emotional learning and ESSA. Mrs. Spanenberg stated that the CCS School Board focused on three key topics to discuss with Indiana legislators:
 - Full funding of the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA).
 - Opposing the FCC proposed rule to place a new cap on the Universal Service Fund (USF), which includes the E-Rate program.
 - Supporting initiatives like the Higher Education Act Re-authorization to strengthen and build the educator and school leader workforce.

Mrs. Spanenberg also shared that she and Board President Mr. Mike Kerschner attended the ISBA State House Day on February 11, 2020. She reported that they had an opportunity to meet with Indiana State Representative Donna Schaibley and Indiana State Senator John Ruckelshaus.

Mrs. Spanenberg shared that the district is currently tracking 49 bills in the Indiana legislative session that are related to public education. She mentioned that March 3rd is a very important date, as there will be a third reading of Senate Bills in the House and a third reading of House Bills in the Senate. This is also the last day for both the Senate and House adoption of conference committee reports.

- Board Secretary Dr. Lin Zheng reported the Carmel Clay Parks and Recreation received 369 responses from a parent survey about the Extended School Enrichment Program. She shared that 92% of parents who participated in the survey were satisfied with the current program.

[Watch the Board Member Reports](#)

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Dr. Beresford reported that Carmel Clay Schools will join thousands of schools from around the country to recognize Public Schools Week 2020 (February 24-29), a week dedicated towards celebrating the diversity and success of America's public schools. He mentioned that it is also a week to thank the many educators and school professionals who dedicate their lives to ensuring every student achieves their highest potential. He shared that 9 out of 10 students in the United States attend public schools and that 3.2 million educators and hundreds of thousands of support staff work together to prepare nearly 50 million students for a successful future. He stated that Carmel Clay Schools is fortunate to have a community that recognizes the value of public education and that our community is stronger and our schools are better when we all work together to support our children. He encouraged CCS families to follow the district's social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) as CCS continues to celebrate the great things happening in our public schools using the hashtags #PublicSchoolProud and #PSW20.
- Dr. Beresford stated that Carmel Clay Schools is now accepting nominations for the CCS Teacher of the Year! Each year, the Indiana Department of Education conducts a Teacher of the Year program to recognize outstanding teachers from across the state. Carmel Clay Schools participates in this special recognition program by honoring and nominating one teacher to be a representative at the state level of the program. Nominations can be made by students, parents, colleagues and community members. A selection committee comprised of teachers and administrators will review all nominations and select semi-finalists as follows: one from each elementary, two from each middle school and eight from the high school. These 25 semi-finalists will be honored at a celebration event where the Teacher of the Year will be announced to represent Carmel Clay Schools in the Indiana Teacher of the Year program. Nominations are now being accepted for the CCS Stephen A. Backer Teacher of the Year award until midnight on March 8, 2020 at <https://forms.gle/XWfziJS2mdo41EPZA>. The Carmel Clay Schools Teacher of the Year award is endowed by the Stephen A. Backer Memorial. Mr. Backer was an advocate and supporter of Carmel Clay Schools and served on the School Board for seven years until his passing in March 2009.
- Dr. Beresford shared with the Board that Carmel High School is participating in a composting pilot. CHS students Grace Belt, Maanya Rajesh and Sarah Patel attended a leadership camp at Butler University and were challenged to create an initiative that would impact their community. The students created the Environmental Club with the idea to start a composting program in the cafeteria. These students met with club sponsors Carey Anderson and Dr. Sarah Gillum, the CHS leadership team and cafeteria staff to discuss the idea and logistics. Since January 8th, more than 1,000 lbs. of food has been composted and turned into soil. Research has shown that 35% of all landfills are comprised of wasted food, which sits and turns into methane gas, a gas which is 20 times more potent than carbon monoxide. Dr. Beresford congratulated these young women on a successful pilot program and thanked the CHS cafeteria staff for their work in the composting effort.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Dr. Beresford shared that February is Black History Month, a time to reflect upon and celebrate the accomplishments and significant contributions that African Americans have made to American history and society. Throughout the district, students have been learning and discussing significant contributions from individuals such as Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman, George Washington Carver, Muhammad Ali, Maya Angelou and many more influential people. Dr. Beresford highlighted some programs that have been happening at CCS schools:
 - At Carmel Middle School, 8th graders have been studying Martin Luther King Jr. and working together to create beautiful “I Have a Dream” art posters.
 - At Creekside Middle School, students have been studying and celebrating Civil Rights Leaders and have created an inspirational quote board and artwork as a reflection of their learning.
 - Each class at Woodbrook Elementary has been researching the accomplishments and contributions of a famous African Americans and then presenting their research to all students during the morning news broadcast.
 - Carmel High School Black Student Alliance Club members joined more than 350 students from Hamilton County for the 2nd annual Black Leadership Summit. Members in this club also created posters for each department to display how African American leaders have influenced their specific subject area.
- Dr. Beresford congratulated Creekside Middle School Band Director and Performing Arts Department Chair Wendy Higdon who has earned the “Outstanding Bandmaster Award” by Phi Beta Mu, the highest honorary international band director fraternity. Under Mrs. Higdon’s direction, the Creekside Wind Symphony has performed at the prestigious Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic and has been featured at the Indiana Music Education Association (IMEA) Conference.
- Dr. Beresford congratulated the CHS Mock Trial team for winning 1st place out of 16 teams at the state regional. The Mock Trial Team will compete at the state finals on March 7 and 8. He congratulated Zoe Edwards on winning “Outstanding Attorney” in all three trials and congratulated Antara Desmukh on winning the “Best Witness” award.
- Dr. Beresford congratulated the CHS Choir students who competed at the Franklin Central Hoosier Show Choir Classic this past weekend. He reported that New Edition were named Tier 2 Mixed Grand Champions and also won the Best Vocal and Best Visual Captions awards, the Accents were named Unisex Division Grand Champions and won Best Vocal and Best Visual Captions awards, and the Ambassadors were awarded Tier 1 Mixed First runner-up and won the Best Visual Caption award.
- Dr. Beresford congratulated CHS student wrestlers Suhas Chundi and Gabe Davin at the IHSAA State Wrestling Finals! Suhas placed 3rd in the 106 lbs. weight division and Gabe placed 8th in the 170 lb. weight division.

- Dr. Beresford congratulated the Boys Swimming and Diving Team for winning the IHSAA Sectionals on Saturday! The team scored 540 points out of a possible 544 points. This was the Greyhounds 13th consecutive sectional championship. Swimmers Wyatt Davis, Ryan Malicki, Griffin Hadley and Jake Mitchell opened the sectional by winning the 200-yard medley relay in 1:30.30. They will try to break the national school public record of 1:28.00, which was set by Carmel in 2018. The boys will be competing to win their 6th consecutive state title this weekend at the IUPUI Natatorium and their second national championship title.
- Dr. Beresford's Bellringer of the evening was congratulating the CHS Girls Swimming and Diving Team for winning their 34th consecutive IHSAA State Championship! The Greyhounds scored 426.5 points, which was the 4th highest point total of all time. They also swept all three relays for the seventh time in the last eight years, and took first place in two individual events. Sophomore Gretchen Lueking won the 200 freestyle and Freshman Berit Berglund was named state champion in the 100 backstroke. Greyhounds coach Chris Plumb has now coached a combined 22 total championships in boys and girls swimming - one title short of former Carmel cross country and track coach Chuck Koeppen - for the most in IHSAA history.

[Watch the Board Member Reports](#)

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 Kathleen Schuetz, Eric Quinn, Amanda Hoagland, and Kate Masterson! 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 8:24 p.m.

IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH 2020

APRIL 2020

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

March 9 - School Board Workshop Session
March 23 - School Board Regular Session

April 3-10 Spring Break (No School)
April 14 - School Board Workshop Session
April 27 - School Board Regular Session



ATTENTION VISITORS & VOLUNTEERS

Carmel Clay Schools continues to take proactive steps to keep our students and staff safe. On January 27, 2020, the Carmel Clay School Board approved changes to Policy 8120-Volunteers.

Effective immediately, this policy requires volunteers and visitors in classrooms and lunchrooms to have a background check completed and reviewed every three years. The previous policy required background checks for volunteers every five years and did not require background checks for classroom or lunchroom visitors.

If you currently have a background check on file with Carmel Clay Schools, there is no action to be taken at this time. You will be notified via email prior to your background check expiring.

For individuals who need a background check, please visit
<https://www.ccs.k12.in.us/services/volunteer-information>.



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**If you are interested please contact Shelley Coover,
Assistant Director of Human Resources (scoover@ccs.k12.in.us)
5201 East Main Street, Carmel IN 46033
317-844-9961 • www.ccs.k12.in.us**



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