

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES OF
CASTON SCHOOL CORPORATION**

**September 20, 2023
6:30 P.M.**

Board President, Beth Howard, called the September 20, 2023, meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance at 6:30 P.M. Present were board members: Mrs. Cristie Rans, Mr. Chad Boldry, Mr. Roger Byrum, and Mr. Jeff Smith. Also present were Superintendent Mrs. Angela Miller, Corporation Attorney Mrs. Lauren Adley, Jr-Sr High Principal Mr. Chuck Evans, Elem. Principal Ms. Jennifer Lukens, Director of Guidance/CCTA President Ms. Anita Doan, Corporation Treasurer Mrs. Elaine Sutton, and Administrative Assistant Ms. Colleen Diveley. Also present were Baker Tilly representative, Mr. Brock Bowsher, Kewanna-Union Township Library Director, Charles Rude, and Ms. Cathleen Cunningham.

Celebrations:

Four Caston students earned academic recognition from the National Rural Small and Town college board. Breanna Amezquita and Edison Byrum were awarded Good Sportsmanship pins from Coach Z of the Lewis Cass Kings Cross Country Team. Coaches and Caston Alumni recently ran a cross country meet. Caston alumnus Dave Sommers was joined by the Caston Cross Country team, who ran in support with him as he finished the last leg of the course. What a great show of support from our Comets!

Staff Spotlight

The September recipient is Mrs. Amy Banks. She was nominated by students who said she is super sweet and always there for her students. She does a great job, is very supportive and always wants to help. Congratulations Mrs. Banks!

Presentation by Baker Tilly

Mr. Brock Bowsher gave an illustrative financial strategy presentation to the board and all present.

Public Comment Regarding Advertised Items: None

Consent Agenda: Before proceeding with Consent Agenda approval, it was noted that Part C Employment, Rebecca Rude was a repeat from a previous meeting. Mrs. Howard asked for a motion to strike Rebecca Rude from the consent agenda. Cristie Rans moved, seconded by Chad Boldry to remove Rebecca Rude, #2 from the Employment section of the Consent Agenda. The motion carried, 5-0 in favor of striking the name. Cristie Rans then moved, seconded by Chad Boldry to approve the consent agenda items as corrected:

Approve minutes of the following meeting of the Caston School Board of Trustees:

1. Approve meeting minutes of the School Board of Trustees as follows:

- 1) August 16, 2023 SEA 390 Public Hearing
- 2) August 16, 2023 Regular Board Meeting
- 2) August 16, 2023 Executive Session
- 3) September 6, 2023 Executive Session

b. Presentation and review of claims

c. Employment:

- 1) Resignations/Retirement
 1. Angie Chapman-Elementary Secretary - retirement
- 2) Hiring
 - ~~Rebecca Rude-Special Education Instructional Assistant~~
 1. Marguerite Rock-Elementary Instructional Assistant
 2. Jocelyn Ricket-Elementary Instructional Assistant
 3. Loretta Chambers-Elementary Instructional Assistant
 4. Linda Arnett-Academic Coach
 5. Amy Banks-Academic Coach
 6. Abby Beall-Academic Coach
 7. Trisha Bennett-Academic Coach
 8. Noreen Brummett-Academic Coach
 9. Tammy Cooley-Academic Coach
 10. Carl Davis-Academic Coach
 11. Tiffany Douglass-Academic Coach
 12. Nikki Evans-Academic Coach
 13. Nate Speitel-Academic Coach
 14. Melinda Shultz-Key Club
 15. Melinda Shultz-Yearbook
 16. Alanie Hipsher-Newspaper
 17. Leah Hinderlider-FCCLA
 18. Addie Pfeiffer-Drama Club
 19. Trisha Bennett-JH Student Council
 20. Gina Hierlmeier-HS Student Council
 21. Tina Paschen-HS Student Council
 22. Jon Allender-Band Director
 23. Addie Pfeiffer-Choral Director
 24. Chuck Evans-Senior Class Sponsor

- 25. Melinda Shultz-Senior Class Sponsor
- 26. Leah Hinderlider-Junior Class Sponsor
- 27. Nick Korniak-FFA
- 28. Abby Beall-Art Club
- 29. Susana Baranda-Spanish Club
- 30. Addie Pfeiffer-Play/Musical Director
- 31. Amy Myers-NHS
- 32. Tammy Cooley-co-NJHS
- 33. Alanie Hipsher-co-NJHS
- 34. Jessica Hoffman-co-NJHS
- 35. Tiffany Douglass-Parliamentary Procedure Team
- 36. Elaine Sutton, Corporation Treasurer
- 37. April Oberkrom-Corporation Deputy Treasurer/HR

d. Presentation and review of August 2023 Treasurer's Report and Revenue Report

Unanimous 5-0

Old Business: None

New Business:

Cristie Rans moved, seconded by Jeff Smith to approve the appointment of Cathleen Cunningham to the Kewanna Union Township Library Board

Unanimous 5-0

Cristie Rans moved, seconded by Chad Boldry to table the HVAC retrofit controlling system project as proposed by Havel until a quote is obtained

Unanimous 5-0

Roger Byrum moved, seconded by Chad Boldry to approve the Caston Elementary & Jr./Sr. High School Improvement Plans for 2023-24

Unanimous 5-0

Chad Boldry moved, seconded by Jeff Smith to approve the overnight cross-country event at the NIKE NXR Midwest Regional on November 11-12, 2023

Unanimous 5-0

Cristie Rans moved, seconded by Chad Boldry to grant approval for the overnight cross-country event at the IHSA Cross Country Regionals October 20-21 in Brownsburg

Unanimous 5-0

Jeff Smith moved, seconded by Roger Byrum to grant approval for Angela Miller to attend the ISBA Fall Conference September 25-26, 2023.

Unanimous 5-0

Cristie Rans moved, seconded by Chad Boldry to grant approval for Chuck Evans and Jennifer Lukens to attend the Indiana School Safety Specialist Academy in Indianapolis October 12-13, 2023.

Unanimous 5-0

Roger Byrum moved, seconded by Chad Boldry to grant approval for Dan Williams to attend the HECC Conference November 8-10 in Indianapolis

Unanimous 5-0

Jeff Smith moved, seconded by Roger Byrum to approve the extra curricular events that are scheduled for Wednesday nights during the 2023-24 school year

Unanimous 5-0

Cristie Rans moved, seconded by Chad Boldry to approve adding Elaine Sutton and April Oberkrom to the Caston Education Center and the Caston School Corporation banking accounts

Unanimous 5-0

Other Business:

a. Cristie Rans moved, seconded by Chad Boldry to approve Jasmine Rudd as Elementary Instructional Assistant

Unanimous 5-0

b. Cristie Rans moved, seconded by Chad Boldry to grant permission to provide notice of hearing for the 2024 CPF Plan, Bus Replacement Plan, Debt Service Fund, and Rainy Day Fund on Gateway at least 10 days prior to the hearing scheduled for October 4, 2023

Unanimous 5-0

Reports/Information:

ECA monthly financial report (June 2023)

Principal's Reports

Ms. Lukens reported the Kindergarten had a successful trip to McClure's Apple Orchard, the STAR program is up and running, many classes are meeting their attendance goals and celebrating. She praised Shelly Sarver and Jennifer Scott for their help preparing data and phonics information for teachers. Mr. Evans complimented the JH/HS Guidance Department on building field trips for specific grade levels. The senior class will be going to the State House soon, and the junior class will be going to Purdue. Other grade levels will be going to the Reality Store, college visits, and Junior Achievement sponsored activities. PSAT testing begins next month, the senior's spaghetti dinner was a success and the FFA chili supper will be held mid-October. Homecoming and College Go Week are next week, September 25-30.

Superintendent Report

Mrs. Miller reported that the parking lot project is completed and the track repair work is done as well. There will be PBIS training for the teachers next week, and the new teachers just finished Visible Learning training.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

The next regular board meeting will be held on October 20, 2023, at 6:30 P.M. in the Bruce E. Cress Boardroom of the Caston Administration Building.

Adjournment: Jeff Smith moved, seconded by Roger Byrum that the regular meeting be adjourned at 7:57 P.M.

Unanimous 5-0

CASTON BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

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