# **MINUTES**

## CATASAUQUA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Tuesday, April 9, 2024 7:00 PM – District Administration Office

#### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

The Pledge of Allegiance was given

#### 3. ROLL CALL

Board Members		Non-Board Members	
Dale Hein, President		Dave Knerr	X
Jillian Emert, Vice President	X	Christina Lutz-Doemling	X
Jason Bashaw, Secretary		Lindsey Wallace	X
Christy Cooper, Treasurer	X	Kathleen Kotran	
Lauren Cieslak	X	Paul Reilly	
Eric DeLabar	X	Eric Dauberman	X
Shawn McGinley		Melissa Inselmann	X
Jeremy Smale	X	David Todd	X
Robert Nappa		Robert Kucharczuk	X
Student Representatives		Thomas Moll	X
Delaney Troxell		Carey Pammer	
Sophia Becker		Daniel Kotran	X
Augustus Serrano (Alternate)		Robert Steckel (CMS Interim Principal)	X

X = Present

Visitors: See list inserted in Permanent Minute Book

#### 4. NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

None was held

#### 5. PRESENTATIONS/AUDIENCE INPUT ON AGENDA

Audience Input - Joe Kovacs and Rebecca Zukowski-Gillespie, both part owners of Blondies Cupcakes in Catasauqua, presented a donation of \$1,048.00 from a fundraiser held at the American Legion for Catasauqua's football program. They partnered with the Catty Club and the Jednota Club both also located in Catasauqua Pa.

## **A.** Sheckler Elementary School Students of the Month – Dr. Robert Kucharczuk

Grade 4		
Stephanie Dorn	Harper Caverly	

		Grade 3		
Alexander DeJesus	Addison Conway	Gabriel Rodriguez Diaz	Lauren Rotell	Kimi Pan

#### 6. ADMINISTRATION/BOARD DISCUSSION & REPORTS

- **A.** Academics and Education Melissa Inselmann
  - This month marks a very busy month with State Assessments. The Elementary and Middle Schools are administering the PSSAs on the following dates:
    - o ELA PSSAs on April 22, 23, 24
    - o Math PSSAs on April 29 & 30
    - o Science PSSAs on May 1 & 2 in 4th and 8th Grade only.

The Keystone Exams are coming up in May and are scheduled for the following dates:

- The 8th Grade Algebra I Keystone Exam is on May 14th and 15th.
- The High School Literature Keystone Exam is on May 13th and 14th
- The High School Biology Keystone Exam is on May 15th and May 16th
- The High School Algebra I Keystone Exam is on May 20th and May 21st
- Since the LCTI Summer Camp is not offered this summer, I am currently working with the IU to provide two summer school camps here at CASD to students in grades 2nd-4th and 5th-8th, utilizing ESSER grant funds that would have been used towards the LCTI Summer Camp. I'll have more information to report at the May Academics and Education Committee meeting.
- Dan and I are working together on the Summer Professional Development Menu for our faculty and staff, which will be ready for the May 8th faculty meeting.
- Lastly, this is a reminder that the final approval of the Catasauqua High School textbook adoption of the Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II textbook series is on the agenda tonight, as is the School District Special Education Plan for the 2024 2027 School Year.

## **B.** Finance - Lindsey Wallace

I do not have much to report this month. Just finalizing the Proposed Final Budget for May

- Today we received a Donation from Giant Food Stores on MacArthur Road from their round up program for approximately \$3100. The round up program is when you are the register paying and the key pad asks if you want to round up to the nearest dollar to make a donation. Those donations are then split and distributed to School Districts, Community Organizations and Food Banks in the local area. It is a wonderful program and this is the second year Giant Food Stores has made a donation to the District. I just wanted to acknowledge how thankful we are for their donation.
- Message to the Board: Also, not finance related but you have a folder in front of you that has some paperwork to be completed (if you have not done so already).. The ethics form, IU board vote and I believe the LCCC board vote. If you could kindly complete those and pass them down my way before you leave tonight we would appreciate it.

#### C. Building & Grounds - Eric Dauberman

• Buildings have been inspected and there appears to be no damage within the district after last Friday's earthquake.

- Digital Signs are functional. We will be scheduling PD to learn the full capabilities of the software in the near future. Our crew will mulch around them to keep them safe from mowers.
- Maintenance staff, Randy Tkach, and Director of Operations, Dan Muthersbaugh, will be meeting with reps from Tremco this week to evaluate the next steps in our ongoing waterproofing project at Sheckler. This involves replacing flashing and resealing the roof coping and around windows.
- Hydroscape will be testing the irrigation system this month, maybe as early as next week.
- Mulch will be added to the Sheckler playground area, it was delivered on April 4th.
- **D.** Policy David Knerr Nothing Tonight
- E. Athletics Thomas Moll
  - Spring Sports underway. Weather has not been great. Track home meet Tuesday, April 16
  - Golf Tournament Saturday June 8
  - Jr High Baseball First game today, lost 10-9 to Northampton. Program off to a good start
  - Company out irrigation system for track. Basin for drainage (heavy rainfall and will fill tank and turn into an irrigation system.) Inspection was today. Al 7 sprinkler heads working properly. They will reach out to County for permitting.
- **F.** Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit # 21 <u>Adaptive Bike/Stroller event video</u>, Jason Bashaw *Mr. Bashaw shared a video to share during the meeting in his absence*.
- G. Borough of Catasauqua Dale Hein

Mr. Hein provided the below to share during the meeting in his absence

- 12 New Houses to be built on Pearl Street
- The School View community will be finished by winter 24/25
- H. Borough of North Catasauqua Christy Cooper Nothing Tonight
- I. Hanover Township Lindsey Wallace
  - *Nothing really pertaining to the District, but I do have a few road work updates.*
  - The PennDOT project on Catasauqua Road/ Bethlehem Diner intersection should be completed and operating.
  - There seems to be a large depression in the pavement on Catasauqua Road near Troxell Street intersection. Catasauqua Road is on the list for maintenance this year and the depression area will be excavated and fully reconstructed. The remaining portion of Catasauqua Road will be milled and overlaid. Expect some road work to take place a few weeks in the summer.
- **J.** PSBA Liaison Update Lauren Cieslak Shared information regarding PA Dept of Ed Public School Environmental Repairs Grant program.
- K. Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Update Jillian Emert LCTI gave away the first ever Bison Award to Parkland S.D.'s Cross County Coach, Kelly Bracetty for her heroism in using CPR on a 70 year old person who had collapsed nearby her.
- L. Student Representatives Delaney Troxell & Augustus Serrano

# 7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING(S)

- A. School Board Meeting Held on March 12, 2024
- B. Special School Board Meeting Held on March 20, 2024
- 8. APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT FOR MARCH 2024
- 9. APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFERS MARCH 2024
- 10. APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT OF ALL A/P BILLS APRIL 2024

# 11. APPROVAL TO RATIFY ALL EXPENSES OTHER THAN A/P MARCH 2024

Items 7A, 7B, 8, 9, 10, and 11A were combined by Board request

#### ROLL CALL VOTE

MOTION BY: <u>Cooper</u> SECONDED BY: <u>Cieslak</u>

AYE: Cooper, Smale, Cieslak, Emert, DeLabar

NAY: 0

Five Ayes, Zero Nays, Motion carried

## 12. FINANCIAL

#### 13. PERSONNEL

## A. Removal of the Following Substitute Employees for the 2023-2024 School Year:

Name	Position	Reason
Melissa Miller	Guest Teacher	Personal
Amanda Leamon	Substitute Teacher	Did Not Renew Employment Clearances

#### **B.** Substitutes

The following applicant(s) requested to be added to the Substitute Employment List for the 2023-2024 School Year as follows:

Name	Assignment
Wanda Reitz	Substitute Nurse
Matthew Linsenman	Substitute Custodian

## C. Retirement

1. Employee: Colleen Whitsett

Status: Certified Instructional Aide

Effective: At the end of the 2023-2024 School Year

2. Employee: Lisa Meckes

Status: Non-Certified Instructional Aide

Effective: At the end of the 2023-2024 School Year

3. Employee: Rosemary Matus

Status: CDL driver Effective: March 13, 2024

Items 13A, 13B, and 13C were combined by Board request

#### ROLL CALL VOTE

MOTION BY: <u>DeLabar</u> SECONDED BY: <u>Smale</u>

AYE: Smale, Emert, DeLabar, Cooper, Cieslak

NAY: 0

Five Ayes, Zero Nays, Motion carried

# D. Approval for Days Without Pay

1. Name: Leslie Estrada

Reason: Sick

Effective: March 12, 2024 Full Day

2. Name: Allanah George

Reason: Personal

Effective: March 14, 2024 Half Day

3. Name: Todd Troxell Reason: Personal

Effective: April 8, 2024 Half Day

4. Name: Nichole Grym

Reason: Personal

Effective: March 20, 2024 Half Day

March 27, 2024 Half Day

5. Name: Courtney Schwartz

Reason: Sick

Effective: March 21, 2024 Half Day

March 25, 2024 Full Day

6. Name: Evan Frantz Reason: Personal

Effective: March 27, 2024 Full Day

April 2, 2024 Full Day

## E. Resignation

1. Name: Allanah George

Status: Non-Certified Instructional Aide Assignment: Sheckler Elementary School

Reason: Other Employment Effective: March 27, 2024

2. Name: Evan Frantz

Status: Non-Certified Instructional Aide

Assignment: Catasauqua High School Reason: Other Employment Effective: April 5, 2024

#### F. Intent to Retire

Approval is requested to accept the Intent to Retire, effective the end of the 2023-2024 school year:

Name	Assignment	Years of Service
Lynn Hurd	Kindergarten Teacher	33 Years in District
Wendy Laubenstein	Third Grade Teacher	34 Years in District
Brian Sigafoos	First Grade Teacher	21 Years in District

# G. Approval of Short Term Substitute Rate of \$190.00 per day for Audrey Hackett from March 18, 2024 to approximately June 4, 2024

Items 13D, 13E, 13F, and 13G were combined by Board request

## ROLL CALL VOTE

MOTION BY: <u>Cieslak</u> SECONDED BY: <u>DeLabar</u>

AYE: Cieslak, Emert, Cooper, Smale, DeLabar

NAY: 0

Five Ayes, Zero Nays, Motion carried

## H. Change in Employment Status

1. Name: Caila Landis

Previous Status: General Kitchen Help

Current Status: Non Certified Instructional Aide

Assignment: Sheckler Elementary

Rate of Pay: \$138.00 Benefits: N/A

Effective: April 2, 2024

2. Name: Donald Becker

Previous Status: Non CDL Driver Substitute

Current Status: CDL Driver
Assignment: Transportation
Previous Pay Rate: \$22.54 per hour
Current Pay Rate: \$24.54 per hour

Benefits: N/A

Effective: March 28, 2024

3. Name: Stephanie DeLa Cruz

Previous Status: Non CDL Driver Substitute
Current Status: CDL <del>Driver</del> Substitute

Assignment: Transportation
Previous Pay Rate: \$22.54 per hour
Current Pay Rate: \$24.54 per hour

Benefits: N/A

Effective: April 11, 2024

4. Name: Phillip Hawk

Previous Status: Non CDL Driver Substitute

Current Status: CDL Driver
Assignment: Transportation
Previous Pay Rate: \$22.54 per hour
Current Pay Rate: \$24.54 per hour

Benefits: N/A

Effective: April 11, 2024

5. Name: Jill Gruver

Previous Status: Cafeteria Substitute
Current Status: General Kitchen Help
Assignment: Catasauqua High School

Rate of Pay: \$14.52 per hour

Benefits: N/A

Effective: April 10, 2024

6. Name: Richard Quier

Previous Status: Custodian Substitute

Current Status: Custodian B
Assignment: Districtwide
Rate of Pay: \$19.00 per hour

Benefits: As Per the Collective Bargaining Agreement

Effective: April 2, 2024

<sup>\*</sup> Note Agenda Item 13. H (3) revision made - strikethrough denotes error, and added correct wording next to strikethrough error. Minutes reflect correction to Current Status as CDL Substitute

7. Name: Abbey Shiffert

Previous Status: Certified Instructional Aide

Current Status: First Grade Teacher

Assignment: Sheckler Elementary School

Rate of Pay: Step 1

Benefits: As Per Collective Bargaining Agreement

Effective: August 14, 2024

8. Name: Tiandra Riegel

Previous Status: Certified Instructional Aide

Current Status: First Grade Teacher

Assignment: Sheckler Elementary School

Rate of Pay: Step 1

Benefits: As Per Collective Bargaining Agreement

Effective: August 14, 2024

9. Name: Laura Kotran

Previous Status: Non-Certified Instructional Aide

Current Status: Third Grade Teacher

Assignment: Sheckler Elementary School

Rate of Pay: Step 1

Benefits: As Per Collective Bargaining Agreement

Effective: August 14, 2024

10. Name: Elizabeth Miller

Current Status Substitute Teacher\*

Previous Status: Kindergarten Teacher\*

Previous Status Substitute Teacher\*

Current Status: Kindergarten Teacher\*

Assignment: Sheckler Elementary School

Rate of Pay: Step 1

Benefits: As Per Collective Bargaining Agreement

Effective: August 14, 2024

## ROLL CALL VOTE

MOTION BY: <u>Cooper</u> SECONDED BY: <u>Smale</u>

AYE: Emert, Cooper, Smale, DeLabar, Cieslak

NAY: 0

Five Ayes, Zero Nays, Motion carried

<sup>\*</sup> Note Agenda Item 13. H(10) revisions made - strikethrough denotes errors, and adding correct wording below the strikethrough errors.

# I. Approval of 2024-2025 Support Staff Salaries

Superintendent requests approval of 2024-2025 salaries for Support Staff positions, effective July 1, 2024, in form presented to the Board of School Directors.

#### J. Approval of 2024-2025 Food Service Salaries

Superintendent requests approval of 2024-2025 salaries for Food Service positions, effective July 1, 2024, in form presented to the Board of School Directors.

## K. Approval of 2024-2025 Custodial and Maintenance Salaries

Superintendent requests approval of 2024-2025 salaries for Custodial and Maintenance positions, effective July 1, 2024, in form presented to the Board of School Directors.

## L. Approval of 2024-2025 Transportation Salaries

Superintendent requests approval of 2024-2025 salaries for Transportation positions, effective July 1, 2024, in form presented to the Board of School Directors.

#### M. Approval of 2024-2025 Administration Salaries

Superintendent requests approval of 2024-2025 salaries for Administration positions, effective July 1, 2024, in form presented to the Board of School Directors.

## N. Appointment of Extra-Curricular Positions – 2023-2024 School Year

It is recommended that the names listed below of extra-curricular positions be appointed as noted for the 2023-2024 school-year:

#	Name	Position	Stipend
1	Aaron Bilby	CHS Freshman Class Advisor (revised stipend 90%, original \$730.00 stipend approved on 10/10/23)	\$657.00**
2	Molly Lavigne	CHS Freshman Class Advisor 10%	\$73.00**
3	Tyler Hodges	Assistant Football Coach	Volunteer*
4	Scott Tennyson	Assistant Football Coach	Volunteer*
5	Herman Stein	Assistant Football Coach	Volunteer*
6	Ryan Johnson	Assistant Football Coach	Volunteer*
7	Matthew Kosciolek	Assistant Football Coach	Volunteer*
8	Joseph Henrich	Head Football Coach	Volunteer

<sup>\*</sup> pending receipt of employment paperwork

Items 13I, 13J, 13K, 13L, 13M, and 13N were combined by Board request

## ROLL CALL VOTE

MOTION BY: \_DeLabar\_ SECONDED BY: Cieslak

AYE: DeLabar, Cooper, Emert, Cieslak, Smale

NAY: 0

Five Ayes, Zero Nays, Motion carried

<sup>\*\*</sup> split stipend

#### 14. CURRICULUM

#### A. Final Approval of Textbooks-Mathematics

Administration requests final approval of the following textbooks for Catasauqua High School as follows:

#### 1. Catasauqua High School

enVision AGA Algebra I

Copyright: 2024

Authors: D. Kennedy, E. Milou, C. Thomas, & R. M. Zbiek

Publisher: Savvas Learning Company LLC

# 2. Catasauqua High School

enVision AGA Geometry

Copyright: 2024

Authors: D. Kennedy, E. Milou, C. Thomas, & R. M. Zbiek

Publisher: Savvas Learning Company LLC

# 3. Catasauqua High School

enVision AGA Algebra II

Copyright: 2024

Authors: D. Kennedy, E. Milou, C. Thomas, & R. M. Zbiek

Publisher: Savvas Learning Company LLC

(Textbook samples were available for examination and review for a period of greater than 30 days)

#### ROLL CALL VOTE

MOTION BY: <u>Smale</u> SECONDED BY: <u>DeLabar</u>

AYE: Emert, DeLabar, Cieslak, Cooper, Smale

*NAY:* 0

Five Ayes, Zero Nays, Motion carried

## 15. BOARD APPROVALS

## A. Approval of the Catasauqua Area School District Special Education Plan 2024-2027

Administration requests approval of the Pennsylvania Department of Education mandated Special Education Plan. This document was developed in accordance, and will comply with the applicable provisions of 22 Pa. Code § 14.104 and was made available for public inspection and comment for a minimum of 28 days.

## B. Approval of Facilities Plan Committee Report of the CLIU #21 (resolution)

Request approval of the 2024-2025 Facilities Plan Committee Report as unanimously adopted by the Carbon-Lehigh Intermediate Unit Facilities Plan Committee on March 12, 2024, and the CLIU 21 Board of Directors on March 18, 2024. In addition, the board reaffirms its commitment to the original construct of the Facilities Planning, approved November 1, 1989, which consists of a series of prioritized inquiries to be considered in determining the future location of the CLIU and school district special education classes.

- C. Approval to Participate in the Consortium Energy Bid with Provident Energy
  Consultants to Contract for Electricity Effective July 1, 2025 and to appoint District
  Administration the authority, by signature of contract, to accept or decline Provident
  Energy Consultants recommendation as time is of the essence when entering into
  fixed pricing agreements due to volatility in the energy markets.
- D. Approval Is Requested To Enter Into A Side Stop Signal Arm Enforcement System Agreement With Commonwealth Of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State Police, To Enforce Civil Violations Under 75 Pa. C.S. § 3345.1

Administration recommends this Side Stop Signal Arm Enforcement System Agreement between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State Police (PSP), and Catasauqua Area School District, contracting with BusPatrol America LLC (5 year agreement board approved and signed June 14, 2022)

#### E. Approval/Renewal of Service Contract

1. Service Provider: Cybersoft Technologies, Inc.

Service: PrimeroEdge.- Point of Sale (POS) Software

Location: Cafeteria Amount: \$5,175.00

Term: Effective April 10, 2024

## F. Approval of Additional Revised Van/Bus Stops

Approval is requested of the revised Van/Bus Stops for the School Year, effective immediately. Indicated Stops are subject to change due to additional student enrollments/withdrawals, alternate educational placements, new students/changes that occur at an address that is classified by the state as a hazardous road, or change/addition to a student IEP. All revisions will be maintained by the Transportation Operation Office, and will be made available at all times. Additionally, changes are stored within the transportation software management system.

Items 15A, 15B, 15C, 15D, 15E, and 15F were combined by Board request

#### ROLL CALL VOTE

MOTION BY:\_Cieslak\_ SECONDED BY: \_Cooper\_\_\_\_\_

AYE: Cieslak, Emert, Cooper, DeLabar, Smale

NAY: 0

Five Ayes, Zero Nays, Motion carried

#### 16. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS & VISITORS

#### Dan Kotran/Paul Reilly:

- The new district website is in its final phase
- We're looking to launch the website in early June, at the completion of this school year
- This will give a few weeks in the summer to allow for adjustments to ensure everything is in working order for the beginning of August and the new school year
- The new website will have a fresh look, along with some new features to keep the website updated with new information and events
- As we get closer to May, we can share out a draft link for review before the site goes live
- Paul is working on editing permissions for board members, he will be in touch with that information closer to May before the site goes live.

#### Dr. Robert Kucharczuk:

#### Events

- Ongoing preparation for the upcoming PSSA window
- 2nd Grade Show, Wednesday, April 17th 7:00 PM
- 4th Grade Band Concert, Thursday, May 15th
- Preparation for upcoming K-4 Field days

#### Bob Steckel (Interim Principal):

- March 26th Several of our students and staff attended the awards ceremony for the "What's so cool about Manufacturing" event at Stabler Arena. Melissa and I attended.
- Our staff is preparing students for the PSSAs.
- PBIS update Our students will participate in soccer matches on the football field this Friday. The teachers will coach the grade-level teams while their classmates enjoy the game from the stands. Rider Bucks will be picked at random and winners will be announced during the event. We are in the process of selecting a rain date.
- May 3 Life Skills students will be going to the Special Olympics event in Whitehall.
- May 7 Student Forum, News Show Crew, and Life Skills students are attending an Iron Pigs game.
- Middle School Chorus students are preparing for their spring concert at the high school.
- May 16 The middle school counselors will visit Sheckler's 4th grade students to prepare them for the transition.
- Planning field days.

#### David Todd:

- Spirit Week: April 22nd 26th: Planning some new events this year to include as much of the student body as possible.
- Planning for National Honor Society Induction on Monday, May 13th.
- Student Jane Armbruster won a scholarship from Cedar Crest College which was presented to her, as a surprise, during class.
- Spring Instrumental Concert: May 7 at 7:00 pm.
- Spring Choral Concert: May 8 at 7:00 pm.

#### Melissa Inselmann:

• I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the board for your support, especially during my transition into my current position. I am truly grateful for each one of you and value our collaboration and team approach. Thank you for everything you do for our school district!

## Lindsey Wallace:

• Congratulations to the new Teachers

#### Eric Dauberman:

- Thank you to the interview committee that played a role in evaluating all of the candidates we interviewed last week. We believe that we have secured 4 great teachers that will add to the outstanding Sheckler staff.
- Mr. Henrich has just about finalized his coaching staff and we are excited for these coaches to join coach Henrich in the weight room and any voluntary workouts that may be scheduled soon.

#### Eric DeLabar:

- Commented how his children appreciated the Solar Eclipse glasses that had been handed out during school.
- Expressed how impressed he was of the earthquake communications.

## Dr. Christina Lutz-Doemling:

- On March 27th, Catasauqua Area School District was honored with the Top Workplace Award for the 5th year in a row. We also received the "Doers" award. These awards a tribute to the exceptional commitment and dedication of all members of our Catasauqua Area School District Team. Everyone on the team plays a role and helped our District achieve these very special awards. Congratulations!
- Congratulations to our new teachers!
- Thank you to the school board for approving the salaries we are very appreciative of your ongoing support of our employees and our educational programs.
- Congratulations to our retirees!
- Thank our administration, especially Melissa and our building principals and Dan Kotran in helping to plan and prepare for the solar eclipse.

#### 17. NEXT MEETING DATES

A. Wednesday, May 1, 2024	5:00 PM	B & G Committee Meeting
	6:00 PM	<b>Athletic Committee Meeting</b>
	7:00 PM	<b>Academics Committee Meeting</b>
B. Tuesday, May 7, 2024	7:00 PM	School Board Meeting (first Tuesday of the month exception)

# 18. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY: <u>Cooper</u> SECONDED BY: <u>Cieslak</u>

Motion carried

Time Adjourned: 7:55P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Bashaw Secretary