



Crawfordsville Community School Corporation
Board of Education - Regular Meeting
Thursday, December 12, 2024, at 5:30 P.M.
Mollie B Hoover Elementary
1301 S Elm St Avenue

MINUTES

I. Roll Call

Present: Steve McLaughlin, Rex Ryker, Brent Bokhart, Kathy Brown, Susan Albrecht, Kent Minnette, Monte Thompson, Andrew Nicodemus, Doug Lengerich, Sonia Espindala, Marci Galinowski, Jennifer Shadle, Amanda Ellenberger, Amy Hutchison, Hayley Jarman, Samantha Rush, Carrie Jones, Jennie Hesler, Tonya Michael, Kylie McFarland, Hoover Students, Stephanie Wilkinson

Absent: None

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Building Principal Report - Principal Marci Galinowski - Mollie B. Hoover Elementary
Hoover Teacher, Carrie Jones, brought members from her Trivia Club to share what they love most about Trivia Club. Students: Hannah Shadle, Emma Jones, Arianna Jimenez. Students then led the school board in their own version of “Are You Smarter than a 4th Grader”.

Hoover Teacher, Tonya Michael, brought members of her Spell Bowl Club to see if they could outsmart the school board in their spelling skills. Students: April Bethard, Naomi Karger, Will Hutchison

Hoover Teacher, Jen Hesler, brought members of her Game Club who have recently been learning new card games. They broke into groups with the school board members to teach them a quick game of Trash. Students: Eddie Romero, Raul Sanchez, Jacob Phillips

IV. Consent Agenda: Previous Meeting Minutes, Construction Accounts Payable Voucher, Payroll Claims Vouchers, Register of Accounts Payable Voucher, and Surplus Items

Monte Thompson made a motion to approve all consent agenda items seconded by Kathy Brown. Motion passed.

V. Old Business- None

VI. New Business

- a. Consider Art Enrichment Camp - Restoring Hope Restoring Trust Community Partnership Grant

Amanda Ellenberg, an Art teacher at Crawfordsville High School, presented information brought to her by Wabash College. She will be partnering with Wabash College to provide an Art Enrichment Camp via the Restoring hOpe Restoring Trust Community Partnership Grant. Crawfordsville High School students will be assisting with the camp during the summer. Dates are not set at this time but may correlate with the Summer School weeks for ages 6-12 year olds. Ms. Ellenberg also

presented the proposed budget that would be completely covered by the Wabash College Grant funds if approved.

Kathy Brown made a motion to approve seconded by Susan Albrecht. Motion passed.

b. Consider SPED IDOE Grant

The IDOE is offering a grant through the Office of Special Education focused on behavior support for our students with IEPs. We have been working with Dr. Reneae Staley with INcompassing Education who has completed a needs assessment of our special education programming to assist in writing the grant application. Curriculum, materials, professional development and training, and staffing are all being considered for the grant. The grant application window closes on December 31st, 2024. Angela Ludlum has done an outstanding job working with our special education staff and Dr. Staley in this process. I recommend the board approve our submission for this grant.

Monte Thompson made a motion to approve seconded by Kathy Brown. Motion passed.

c. Consider Policy 3012 Employee Reference Checks - Applicants - First Reading

This policy covers a required policy to outline procedures for reference checks on applicants. This does outline our current practice. We do utilize RefLynk for acquiring and documenting reference checks, so they are kept on file. This is a first reading and we will take any questions.

This item will return at the January regular meeting for a second reading and motion.

d. Consider Policy 4013 Homeless Students Enrollment Rights and Services - First Reading

This required policy addresses enrollment rights and services for homeless students protected under the McKinney -Vento Homeless Assistance Act. The policy ensures that homeless students have access to enrollment and school services rights, as well as transportation. This is a first reading and we will take any questions.

This item will return at the January regular meeting for a second reading and motion.

e. Consider Retiring and Recoding Policies:

1. 1100 - Corporation Organization to 1010 - Corporation Organization
2. 1110 - Assessment of Corporation Goals to 1003 - Assessment of Corporation Goals
3. 2110 - Statement of Philosophy to 1002 - Statement of Philosophy
4. Rename and Renumber 1130 - Conflict of Interest - Private Practice to 1203 - Board Member Conflict of Interest

5. Rename and Renumber 6160- Federal Funds to 6110 - Federal Grants and Awards Administration
6. 6130 - Rainy Day Fund to 6011 - Rainy Day Fund
7. 6146 - Internal Controls to 6100 - Internal Controls
8. Rename and Renumber 6320 - Purchase of Supplies and Materials to 6210 - Small Purchases under \$50,000
9. 6421 - Procedures for Lunch/Meal Accounts to 6421-R - Procedures for Lunch/Meal Accounts
10. 2420 - Postsecondary Enrollment Program to 5120 - Postsecondary Enrollment Program
11. 5200 - Title I Services and Parental Involvement to 2261 - Title I Services and Parental Involvement
12. 8360 - Internet Safety - Educating Minors CIPA to 5320 - Internet Safety - Educating Minors CIPA

Kent Minnette made a motion to approve seconded by Monte Thompson. Motion passed.

f. Resolution for Transfer From Rainy Day Fund

This Resolution allows Management to transfer up to \$1.05 million from the Rainy Day Fund to the Operations Fund. This transfer will help to replenish the Operations Fund, which has a consistently low balance due to Property Tax Caps and rising costs to operate the School Corporation year after year. I would recommend that the Board approve this resolution for a Transfer from Rainy Day to Operations.

Kathy Brown made a motion to approve seconded by Kent Minnette. Motion passed.

g. Consider Contract for Turf Replacement

We have been meeting with Bryce Barton and representatives from The Motz Group regarding the replacement of the Field Turf at the High School Athletics Complex. The field is getting to the end of its useful life. They have a contract through their manufacturer, Shaw Turf, through Sourcewell. Sourcewell is a Purchasing Cooperative that we are a member of. This membership and contract allows us to contract directly with the company for this project. The total project base bid is \$579,433 with some additional alternates that we have decided on. We would recommend that the Board approve awarding this contract with The Motz Group for the replacement of the Turf field at CHS.

Susan Albrecht made a motion to approve seconded by Kathy Brown. Motion passed.

VII. Personnel

- a. Recommend Taylor Bowen - Hoover Special Education Aide
- b. Recommend Pete Sims - CHS Teachers Assistant (Current Lay Coach)

- c. Recommend Kristian Cadle - Willson Teachers Assistant
 - d. Recommend Kylie McFarland - CMS Math Teacher Maternity Leave
 - e. Recommend Erika Mrdja - Hoover Fourth Grade Maternity Leave
- Kathy Brown made a motion to approve seconded by Monte Thompson. Motion passed.

VIII. Business Manager's Report

- a. We have received our Final approval for the Common School Tech Loan. We did the application for \$238,200.
- b. The Business Office processed our Retroactive pay with minimal issues. This process included processing all new contracts for certified staff, pay increases for all non-CBA staff, and administrator addendums.
- c. The business Office is preparing for our year-end. We will be working through all of our processes and getting things finished for the end-of-year processing for January.
- d. We will begin the process of rate shopping for interest rates at the local Financial Institutions.

IX. Assistant Superintendent's Report

A. Operational Management

i. Administration Building

Interior work is moving forward with much of the painting being completed except the board room, tile in the restrooms installed, ceiling grid installed, and light fixture and electrical device installation ongoing. Exterior work has slowed with the weather and paving out front will be delayed until spring. We are working with Kettlehut on a plan for occupancy knowing the interior is still planned to be completed close to the original timeframe of the end of February/early March.

- ii. Electric Buses - Huston Electric has completed the upgraded electrical work needed for our charger for the electrical buses. Once the charger is delivered Huston will be able to complete this install.
- iii. The State Fire Marshall conducted onsite building inspections in November. Overall, inspections were all very good with a few exit signs needing to be repaired, storage areas cleared for walkways, and two fire doors at CHS that need to be replaced.
- iv. Nicholson and Hoover Playground - A representative from Sinclair conducted onsite visits and assessments of our playgrounds at Hoover and Nicholson. We are planning for what we will be able to do within our budget for refreshing and updating these two

playgrounds. She will be submitting draft site proposals for review soon.

A. Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment, and Professional Development

a. Teacher Evaluation Team

We have a team represented by principals and teachers who have been researching, reviewing, and developing a new teacher evaluation plan. An initial draft was recently reviewed with building leadership teams for feedback. The plan does move towards alignment with Marzano and our work with High Reliability Schools. The next steps will be to make any revisions from recent feedback for a final rough draft and then pilot with the team in the Spring semester.

b. High Reliability Schools Certification

Buildings are currently working through Level 2 certification. The recent focus has been on professional growth goals. Principals and teachers have worked very hard together in this area and it's exciting to hear the conversations that are occurring regarding continuous growth in our practice as educators to further support our students.

c. Elementary Reading Curriculum

Planning has started for adopting K-5 Core Reading curriculum for next year. Schools are required to adopt an approved curriculum aligned to the science of reading for implementation by 2025-2026. There are currently five approved vendors. We have a team that will be going to presentations in Lafayette by vendors hosted by Wabash Valley Education Center. Our elementary instructional coaches will also be visiting Washington Woods Elementary School in February to observe one of these in practice and speak with teachers.

X. Superintendent's Report

a. Educational and Instructional Leadership

1. New Indiana Diploma

December 11, the State Board of Education approved the new high school diploma rule. Dr. Jenner presented the new diploma requirements as a need to meet the call to "rethink high school."

We are able and ready to provide our students with a myriad of opportunities to meet the requirements of the new diploma and honor seals.

The new diploma offers one (1) base diploma. The required credits increased from 40 to 42. There were minor shifts in requirements. There was an increase in math credits required, including personal finance, but removed the Algebra II requirement. There was an increase in STEM courses that require computer science and two STEM-focused courses. PE & Health requirements were reduced to 2 with 1 PE and 1 Health. There is a requirement for 12 personalized electives. Most of the final changes allow for more flexibility for students. We can meet all of these requirements.

We will transition from pathways to option Honor Seals. The seals focus on three primary tracks for students: 1) enrollment, which is our college-bound; 2) Employment, which is our CTE focus and is for students going directly into the workforce, trade school, or college; and 3) Enlistment and service.

We provide students with the opportunity for the honor seals in enrollment by offering multiple world languages, nineteen (19) and growing AP courses, multiple dual credit offerings, and our successful honors program. We provide students with the opportunity to achieve the Honors Plus seal by offering students the classes to become AP Scholars with Distinction, which requires students to receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on five (5) or more of these exams. **Due to our many AP offerings, students can take five (5) or more AP exams.** Many schools our size do not even offer five (5) AP courses.

Mr. Strickland and his counselors are creating several exciting ways to meet the 75 hours of work-based learning for the Honors Plus Seal. **While the new diploma works to shift a focus away from enrollment, we recognize we have parents who choose Crawfordsville schools to provide a rigorous college-bound experience. We are determined to continue to prepare our college-bound students for success in college.**

We can offer students with the honor seals in employment through our current CTE programs offered through our offerings and the West Central CTE program cooperative with North Montgomery, Southmont, and Western Boone. Our CTE cooperative program is an excellent

example of how schools in Montgomery County work together for our students.

2. NAGC—We provided professional development for our middle school high-ability teachers by sending them to the National Association for Gifted Children conference. I had the privilege of attending the conference with Cami Lane, Seth Nunan, Rachel O’Neal, Brennan Reynolds, and Lisa Talcott.
 3. IAG - I was at the Indiana Association for Gifted Education this past Sunday through Tuesday with teachers and counselors. Our High Ability Program evaluation revealed we needed to strengthen our counseling for our high-ability students. Madison Smith, Sheridan Pool, and Mallory Tucker attended. Elementary teachers also attended, including Krsit Bowker, Shelle Wheeler, Alyssa McGaughey, Anita Harris, Heather Lawson, and Amy Hensley. My focus at both the NAGC and IAG was on providing services and opportunities for our early learners.
- b. Personnel
1. We will pay out the teacher appreciation grant on 12/20. School counselors are not covered by the TAG grant, but will provide them with a stipend equal to the teacher grant.
 2. Organizational Management
 3. We are discussing our 26-27 Calendar
- c. Community
1. We appreciate the Montgomery County Community Foundation for awarding \$10,000 to our nursing program to support the health and well-being of our students, along with \$9,500 for the Crawfordsville Adult Resource Academy to help with testing materials and instructional technology.
- d. Reminders and Announcements
1. Two-factor setup for Board
 2. Happy Holidays
 3. [Athenian Oracle](#)