

Crawfordsville Community School Corporation
Board of Education - Regular Meeting
Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 5:30 P.M.
Laura Hose Elementary
800 Fairview Avenue

MINUTES

- I. Roll Call** - Steve McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.
Present: Steve McLaughlin, Rex Ryker, Brent Bokhart, Kent Minnette, Monte Thompson, Susan Albrecht, Kathy Brown, Andrew Nicodemus, Adam Welcher, Alisha Hauk, Aubrey Fields, Brittany Reef, Hayley Jarman, Eleanor Hesler, Marie Hesler, Scott Hesler, Jennifer Hesler, Melanie Dowd, Ed Dowd, Mallory Dowd, Doug Lengerich, Kelly Krug, Brett Motz, Sondi Eden, Cameron Morgan, Matt Morgan, Diana Wilbert, Jenny Veatch, Jon Tebbe, Trenton Tucker, Kylie McFarland, Alexis Nickle, Heidi Plunkett, Stephanie Wilkinson
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. 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 carried.
- IV. Spotlight on Excellence** - Marie Hesler, Melanie Dowd, Brett Motz, & Kelly Krug
- V. Building Principal Report:** Teachers - Brittany Reef, Alisha Hauk, Aubree Fields
- VI. New Business**
- a. Consider Approval of the BioLEAP Classroom Grant** - Jennifer Veatch
This grant will allow the biology department to purchase models for their dissecting units for an alternative mode of learning.
Susan Albrecht made a motion to approve, seconded by Kathy Brown.
Motion carried.
 - b. Consider Crawfordsville Bands 2026 Trip** - Jon Tebbe, Eleanor Hesler, Hunter Villines, Trenton Tucker, Cameron Morgan
Crawfordsville Band Students (grades 7-10) will travel to Branson, MO during fall break of 2026. Two performances will take place at Silver Dollar City and Branson on Stage Live, among visiting other tourist attractions.
Kent Minnette made a motion to pass the approval of the trip, seconded by Monte Thompson. Motion carried.
 - c. Consider Transportation Handbook 25-26**
Kathy Brown reviewed this handbook and made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Kent Minnette. Motion carried.
 - d. Consider Employee-Sponsored Childcare Handbook 25-26**
Kent Minnette made a motion to approve, seconded by Susan Albrecht.
Motion carried.

e. Consider Willson Preschool Academy Handbook 25-26

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

f. Consider Childcare and Preschool Fees

Class	2025-2026 Childcare Rates	2025-2026 Employer-Sponsored Rates
Infant	\$230 per week	\$115 per week
Toddler	\$200 per week	\$100 per week
Preschool	\$275 per month	\$137.50 per month

Dr. Ryker recommended that the board approve the 2025-26 Employer-Sponsored Childcare rates of \$115 per week for infant care, \$100 per week for toddler care, and \$137.50 per month for preschool. The preschool rate of \$275 per month. The rate of \$50 per week for after-school childcare for infants to Preschool. All must show proof of application for approved rates for CCDF vouchers.

The board asked if this will allow us to break even with the cost of offering this opportunity. Dr. Ryker assured them it was a worthy thing to offer to our staff and comes very close to balancing.

Kathy Brown made a motion to pass, seconded by Monte Thompson.
Motion carried.

g. Consider the 2026-2027 School Calendar

The 2026-27 Calendar has been discussed on multiple occasions with the teacher representatives and aligns well with North Montgomery, South Montgomery, and Western Boone schools to aid in our shared programming. I recommend the Board approve the 2026-2027 School Calendar.

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

h. Andrew - Consider Resolution of Dormant Fund Transfer

This past December we made the last payment on our Retirement/Severance Bond that started paying in December 2013. With a fund that has fulfilled its duties, we now have the ability to transfer the remaining balance into a fund of our choosing. We have decided to transfer this \$1,121.71 to the Rainy Day Fund. We would recommend the Board approve this resolution to make this transfer.

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

VII. Personnel

Resignations

- a. Consider Carlie Sizemore Resignation - Employee Childcare Infant Assistant
- b. Consider Mackenzie Lewellen Resignation - Willson Teachers' Aide
- c. Consider Elizabeth Rooze Resignation - Hose 1st Grade Teacher
- d. Consider Natalie Sizemore Resignation - Willson Teachers' Aide

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

Hiring

- e. Recommend Heather Willhite - Hoover Teachers Assistant
- f. Recommend Cheyenne Lynn - Willson Childcare Assistant
- g. Recommend Elizabeth Aguilar - Willson Developmental Preschool Aide

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

VIII. Business Manager's Report

- a. Audit
 - 1. All audit work has been wrapped up and reviewed by the Auditors. We had our Exit Conference today at 2:30 pm and are just awaiting the final report to be published by the State Board of Accounts. After that is completed, we will be able to share the information in the report.
- b. Grants
 - 1. We received our Carryforward information and allocation for Title I. Our amount is \$84,668.19. We are currently working on a plan to budget these funds.
- c. General Assembly
 - 1. With the help of the IASBO staff, we are watching what is happening in the General Assembly this session. One bill that we are watching closely is HB1001-The Budget Bill. This bill is currently being read and amended in the House Ways and Means Committee. It has a current provision to increase school funding by 2% over each of the next two school years. We will keep an eye on this bill as it progresses.
- d. Other Business Office Items
 - 1. All tax forms that were required to be sent out to individuals were sent out by the January 31st deadline. We appreciate our Payroll and Human Resources staff for getting these important documents out timely.
- e. That is the Business Manager Report

IX. Assistant Superintendent's Report

A. Operational Management

- i. Administration Building - Interior work is coming along. Flooring is all installed, final paint other than touch ups complete, technology is going in with all wiring and data hookups installed.

Projectors in the board room are installed. Some remaining items are furniture, which will begin to arrive the week of 2/24, window treatments, and cabinets, countertops, window sills, and board desk and panels. We are delayed a few weeks due to the cabinets, countertops, window sills, and board desk with a staggered delivery currently scheduled starting next week through March 17th.

- ii. Transportation - Our electric buses have been delayed as we wait for information the acquisition of our manufacturer, Lion Electric. We have had some communication with them that they are aware of the federal government grant ties to the purchase of these buses. Based on the information we have now, we are expecting a 4 month delay in receipt of these buses. We did receive our final new diesel bus, so we do have three new buses that are in use within our fleet. February is love the bus month and we will hold the last Wednesday, Feb. 26, of this month as Driver and Monitor appreciation day. We appreciate the work they put in each day to get our students to and from school and events safely.
- iii. PowerSchool Breach Update - We have continued to work collaboratively with PowerSchool through the breach that occurred in late December. We have submitted data requested by PowerSchool to confirm filled data entry records. Now that they have this, PowerSchool will be reaching out directly to those that were impacted with two years of complimentary credit and identity monitoring supports.

A. Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment, and Professional Development

- a. High Reliability Schools - A team of administrators and teachers attended the High Reliability Schools Summit in San Antonio, TX, where we received national recognition for our buildings and district being achieving Level 1 certification as a safe, supportive, and collaborative culture. This is the second year we have had a team attend and feedback again that this conference was high level with great information and support for our principals and teachers to return to their buildings. Our goal is for us to be Level 2 Certified in Effective Instruction by the end of this school year.
- b. New Teacher Institute - This past week we held a seminar for our first and second year teachers. We are just rounding the 1 year mark from beginning this model of support for our new teachers. I'm proud of the engagement and collaboration that has occurred through this first year and that credit goes to the mentors, mentees, and principals that have helped grow the program in this past year. Our mentor teachers, Jenny Veatch, Stacey Guard, Rachel O'Neal, Andrew Swank, Spring Perry, Molly Whitecotton, and Trisha Whicker have all done an outstanding job in helping guide this program of support for our new teachers.

- c. Reading Adoption - A team of elementary teachers and principals recently attended the textbook caravan for adoption of the Reading curriculum on January 22nd. They heard a presentation from the five approved programs and have been exploring sample materials since the caravan. Instructional coaches recently visited another school currently using one of the programs as well. Next steps will be to get a selection committee together to review the curriculum within a developed rubric aligned to the science of reading.

X. Superintendent's Report

- a. Thank you to Mr. Welcher and Hose for hosting our Board meeting. Mr. Welcher has done a great job of establishing a safe, supportive, and collaborative environment for our students and staff. His arrival has been greatly received.
- b. Celebrations
 1. Our Spring Enrollment has risen to 2,591, which is 82 students higher than our fall count and 237 students higher than last year. The Athens Virtual Academy reached 299 students.
 2. Sophomore Addison James was asked to sing the National Anthem at Gainbridge Fieldhouse for the IHSAA Girls Basketball State Finals on March 1st. Addison sang at the IHSAA Soccer State Finals in November at Michael Carroll Stadium on the campus of IU-Indianapolis. She is a member of both the concert choir and show choirs at CHS and has previously sung the Star Spangled Banner at Ironman Raceway events.
 3. The Girls' Swim team repeated as sectional champions
 4. Boys JV and Varsity Basketball teams won the Sugar Creek Classic
 5. Four wrestlers will compete at Semi-State Taiga Koyanagi, Landon Vaught, Aiden Hutchison, and Braeden Hites
 6. Reading with Alexander was a hit for our K-3 students, and we could see many pictures on social media. Several teachers shared pictures with me that they received in their Class Dojo App. I appreciate Brittany Reef and Morgan Thompson, our Reading Coaches, for creating a great plan to engage students in reading at home.
- c. Educational and Instructional Leadership
 - 1.
- d. Personnel
 1. We have sent out a survey for teachers to share their preferences for placement next year, to share any comments they have, to request meetings with Dr. Ryker, and to provide feedback on Dr. Ryker.
- e. Community

1. Dr. Bokhart and I attended Saturday's Legislative Breakfast hosted by the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce to converse with our local legislators and hear their updates.
2. On Wednesday morning, I attended the Indiana Small and Rural School Superintendent and Legislator Breakfast to meet with other superintendents and to meet with legislators.
3. On Monday, February 3, I met with Mayor Barton and Acuity HR personnel during their visit to Crawfordsville, provided a minibus, and played driver for the Mayor's tour. Acuity is one of our parents' largest employers, so it was great to spend time with them.
4. The latest run on amended Senate Bill 1 reduced cuts on schools, but still provides a loss for almost every school corporation. Crawfordsville is one of the few that would not see a loss due to the minimal impact of the farmland capitalization rate increase. It is still

SB 1 (2025) as Amended in Tax and Fiscal Committee
Farmland Base Rate Formula High Capitalization Rate Changed From 8% to 9%, Beginning Pay 2027
MLGQ % = CY 2026: 0%, CY 2027: 1%, CY 2028: 2%
Current Elderly and Totally Disabled Veteran Deductions Increased From \$14,000 to \$20,000 in Pay 2026
Estimated Revenue Impact

Montgomery	North Montgomery Community School Corp	-363,670	-706,070	-928,900
Montgomery	South Montgomery Community School Corp	-312,580	-595,800	-804,790
Montgomery	Crawfordsville Community School Corp	40,710	47,910	68,710

f. Reminders and Announcements

1. The Next Board meeting is on Thursday, March 13th at CMS
2. February AtheniannOracle
3. I'm Rex Ryker, and I'm glad to be an Athenian

<i>SCHOOL</i>	<i>SPRING 2024</i>	COUNT DAY 10/1	Spring Count Day	Fall to Spring Change	Spring24 to Spring25
Kindergarten	169	182	180	-2	
1st Grade	202	170	168	-2	-1
<i>HOSE</i>	<i>371</i>	<i>352</i>	<i>348</i>	<i>-4</i>	<i>-23</i>
2nd Grade	179	198	196	-2	-6
3rd Grade	173	178	179	1	0
<i>NICHOLSON</i>	<i>352</i>	<i>376</i>	<i>375</i>	<i>-1</i>	<i>23</i>
4th Grade	185	183	179	-4	6
5th Grade	176	189	190	1	5
<i>HOOVER</i>	<i>361</i>	<i>372</i>	<i>369</i>	<i>-3</i>	<i>8</i>
6th Grade	200	184	186	2	10

7th Grade	199	194	196	2	-4
8th Grade	170	188	186	-2	-13
<i>CMS</i>	<i>569</i>	<i>566</i>	<i>568</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>-1</i>
9th Grade	207	168	159	-9	-11
10th Grade	175	190	188	-2	-19
11th Grade	181	165	149	-16	-26
12th Grade	137	149	134	-15	-47
<i>*13</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>	
<i>CHS</i>	<i>701</i>	<i>674</i>	<i>632</i>	<i>-42</i>	<i>-69</i>
<i>7th Grade</i>		<i>7</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>8</i>	
<i>8th Grade</i>		<i>14</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>13</i>	
<i>9th Grade</i>		<i>19</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>40</i>	
<i>10th Grade</i>		<i>33</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>32</i>	
<i>11th Grade</i>		<i>46</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>32</i>	
<i>12th Grade</i>		<i>50</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>5</i>	
<i>AVA</i>		<i>169</i>	<i>299</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>299</i>
	2354	2509	2591	82	237

XI. Board Member Communication - None

XII. Patron Comments - None

XIII. Adjournment - Steve McLaughlin called for a motion to adjourn.

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:41 pm.