

Crawfordsville Community School Corporation
Board of Education - Regular Meeting
Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 5:30 P.M.
Crawfordsville High School
One Athenian Dr.

MINUTES

I. Roll Call

Present: Steve McLaughlin, Kathy Brown, Susan Albrecht, Kent Minnette, Monte Thompson, Rex Ryker, Brent Bokhart, Andrew Nicodemus, Jay Strickland, Kris Sims, Sean Gerold, Peyton Suitor, Chloe Carter, Jenny Veatch, Takeshi Greiner, Jenni Sims, Ellie Walker, Max Brummett, Nara Beyer,

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Building Principal Report - Jay Strickland - CHS Principal

Student Presenters: Ellie Walker, Nara Beyer, Max Brummett, & Lillian Hummel

Each student shared their personal experiences in their four years at CHS. The impact that teachers, coaches, and friendships have made on their growth as leaders and pursuing their future careers.

Teacher Presenters: Jenny Veatch, Peyton Suiter, Jenny Sims, Takeshi Greiner

These teachers expressed their love for CHS coming from different backgrounds. Mrs. Veatch has been teaching at CHS in the Science department for over 20 years. Mrs. Simms, a veteran teacher, has only been at CHS for three years but immediately felt welcome and part of the family. Mr. Suiter and Mr. Greiner are both working through their Transition to Teaching process and share their experiences, gleaned from fellow teachers and administrators to improve on their skills.

Mr. Strickland shared a clearer path of how our students will select a seal (Enrollment, Employment, Enlistment with additional “Honors” for each category)for their future diploma track. Many of the courses listed in the new Indiana diploma are already being offered at CHS. Many will have the opportunity to receive more than one seal. Collaboration between CMS Principal, Mrs. Haas, and CHS Principal, Mr. Strickland, has been a large part of preparing our middle schoolers for High School and this new diploma structure. Eighth grade students are already offered classes that will carry over into their High School careers.

IV. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes, Construction Accounts Payable Claims Vouchers, Register of Accounts Payable Vouchers, and Surplus Items

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

V. Old Business - None

VI. New Business

a. Consider Approval for Student International Travel Opportunity - Chloe Carter

Ms. Carter presented her plans for the next student international trip. For the 2026 Trip, 79 students are registered to attend. To alleviate the weight of this number as well as offer more opportunities, Ms. Carter is requesting approval for an annual trip rather than every other year. She presented the board with the 2027 trip to Costa Rica. This would still be

organized with EF travel agency and allow for 2 years of fundraising still to occur as they will continue to present the next trip 2 years in advance. The 2027 trip will be geared more toward the adventurous student who enjoys the hiking and climbing and outdoor aspects of this location. The price for 2027 is already locked in. This structure will also allow more opportunities and a variety of options through their High School career.

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

- b. Consider CHS Student Handbook for 2025-2026 - Susan Albrecht

Susan Albrecht was assigned to review this CHS Student handbook. She spoke with Mr. Strickland about some small corrections and recommended approval to the board.

Susan Albrecht made a motion to approve, seconded by Kent Minnette. Motion carried

- c. Consider CMS Student Handbook for 2025-2026 - Kent Minnette

Kent Minnette was tasked to review the CMS Student handbook and recommended approval with the change of the yellow font to be made less bold.

Kent Minnette made a motion to approve, seconded by Susan Albrecht. Motion carried

- d. Consider AVA Student Handbook for 2025-2026 - Monte Thompson

Monte Thompson reviewed the AVA Student Handbook after going through a series of questions and recommendations to Mark Melton. Mr. Melton updated the student handbook and it was recommended for approval.

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

- e. Consider MCCF Unrestricted Grant Application - Spring Cycle

A Grant Application is requested for safety upgrades to Willson Preschool Academy. These changes would primarily be needed in the employee childcare rooms. We do not have the exact budget at this time. The board understands the need for these upgrades and support this motion.

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

- f. Consider Approval for Technology Advance from the Common School Fund

Andrew Nicodemus shared this loan is submitted twice a year. This one was submitted last week at it's due date for \$238,000 for student systems, equipment and Chromebooks for student. Dr. Ryker added that CCSC qualifies for the Common School Funds all because of our low assessed value school corporation in our tax base produces a smaller amount of property tax.

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

- g. Consider Policy 4420 Law Enforcement Relations - First Reading

This policy was labeled essential by the Indiana State Board of Accounts. We do not currently have a detailed policy that this draft provides. We want to cooperate with state and government authorities while protecting our students and families. This draft is provided by ISBA and will be revisited at the May meeting for a second reading.

No Motion

- h. Consider Corporation Amendment - Administration Address Change
The new Administration building will be located at 3 West Athenian Dr, Crawfordsville, IN 47933. This will be filed with the School Accountability office which will send it on to the Board of Education and the DOE.

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

- i. Consider School Amendment - Athens Virtual Academy School
Athens Virtual Academy is currently 7-12 grade. This amendment would allow 6th graders to join AVA. One thing that they have learned in this inaugural year is that secondary transition is an opportune moment for students to transition to virtual as well. This is filling a need.

Monte Thomspon made a motion to approve, seconded by Susan Albrecht. Motion carried

VII. Personnel

- a. Consider Ashley Fisher Resignation - CHS Teacher Assistant
- b. Consider Ember Neal Resignation - Hose Teacher Assistant
- c. Consider Brian Bartlett Resignation - CMS Part-Time Band Director
- d. Consider Michelle Pichardo Resignation - Hoover Teacher Assistant

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

- e. Recommend Sidney Veatch - Hose Elementary Teacher

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

VIII. Business Manager Report [Andrew Nicodemus]

- a. IASBO News
 - i. Our Payroll Specialist, Tara Walters, and I will be attending the IASBO Annual Conference from May 7th through May 9th in Fort Wayne. This conference offers numerous opportunities for professional development and meaningful networking with colleagues from across the state.
 - ii. Last week, I attended the final session of the IASBO Leadership Academy on Tuesday and Wednesday, and I'm pleased to share that I have now officially graduated from the program. This experience provided valuable leadership training, as well as a wealth of resources and strategies that will support both my personal growth and the continued development of our team.
- b. Business Office
 - i. We are beginning the transition from our current 26-pay schedule to a 24-pay schedule, with an anticipated effective date of July 1st. The Business Office is actively developing transition materials and plans to begin communicating details to all staff starting in May.
 - ii. We continue to monitor legislative activity in the General Assembly. Currently, all bills are in the second house and must pass through the committee by the end of today. The second house has until Tuesday, April 15th, to pass bills, after which any amended legislation will return to the original house for final approval. The legislative session is expected to conclude by the end of the month. We will closely

track the final versions of these bills and provide updates on any impact they may have on our school operations.

IX. Assistant Superintendent Report [Dr. Brent Bokhart]

- a. Operations
 - i. New Building - Interior punch with CSO has been completed. We have received our occupancy certification. The main items to be completed are the board desk, paving, and final exterior work with grounds.
 - ii. Grounds - SSC has been getting out for early spring work with mowing, seeding, edging, and aerating.
- b. School Safety
 - i. SRO - Officer Tony Bowen is beginning to shadow within our schools. We appreciate the proactive approach to integrating Officer Bowen into our schools as he joins CCSC as our SRO for the 2025-2026 school year.
- c. Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
 - i. ILEARN - The Testing window opens on April 14 for grades 3-8. This will take 2-3 weeks to complete.
 - ii. UFLI - Coaches and classroom teachers recently received professional development from Melissa Gill on the implementation of UFLI merging with Orton Gillingham, progress monitoring, and additional supporting resources.
 - iii. Reading Curriculum - The Selection committee recently met to discuss the K-5 reading adoption. Two resources are currently being considered, both with their areas of strength. The next step is to gather financial quotes to be considered within the selection process. We would look to come to the May board meeting with a recommendation.
 - iv. IPLI - Tami Haas, CMS Principal and Jen Hall, Nicholson Principal, both graduated from their two-year program with Indiana Principal Leadership Institute. This is a two-year professional development program enriched in learning of action research, Marzano High Reliability practices, and overall school improvement. Dr. Ryker and I are proud of their commitment to their own personal growth and their achievement in completing their two-year program.

X. Superintendent Report [Dr. Rex Ryker]

- a. Thank you to Mr. Strickland, CHS students, and staff for hosting and providing a student-focused presentation.
- b. Thank you to Nucor for sponsoring \$18,500 for our batting cage project and small parking lot near the tennis courts.
- c. Educational and Instructional Leadership
- d. Organizational, Operational, and Resource Management
 - SB1 - Effect on Estimated Funding.

Property Tax Funding

CCSC	CY26	CY27	CY28
Estimated Net Levy	\$8,238,302	\$8,299,710	\$7,354,889
Estimated Change	\$105,431	\$61,408	\$-944,821

Estimated %Change	1.3%	0.7%	-11.4%
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e. Personnel

Andrew Nicodemus is the recipient of the IASBO Early Impact Award. This award honors individuals who have made notable contributions or shown outstanding engagement in a short time, emphasizing their active participation and positive impact as newcomers to the field.

f. Community

Dr Ryker has been working with Thrive Housing Steering Committee and the Mayor on a potential housing project.

XI. Other

XII. Board Member Communication

XIII. Patron Comments

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

Kathy Brown made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Kent Minnette. Motion passed
The meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm.

Patron's Comments are limited to 3 minutes per spokesperson for a total of 30 minutes.

The meeting site is fully accessible. Any person requiring further accommodations should contact the Superintendent at the School Corporation's central office.