

**Coal City Community Unit School District #1  
Board of Education Study Session of the Whole Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, April 27, 2022**

**Roll Call.**

President Miller called the Study Session meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Coal City Community Unit School District #1 Boardroom. In attendance were Board members Robert Bianchetta, Mary Gill, Shawn Hamilton, Chuck Lander, Steve Rogers, and Ken Miller. Also, in attendance were Superintendent Dr. Kent Bugg, CSBO Jason Smith, Director of Special Populations Luke Krippel, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Tammy Elledge, Principal Christopher Spencer, and Board Secretary LaWanda Gagliardo. Board member Quint Harmon arrived at 6:04 p.m. Board President Miller led the Board and others present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Discussion on FY23 Kindergarten Enrollment**

Mr. Spencer discussed possibly adding a 7<sup>th</sup> section at the Early Childhood Center for Kindergarten based on enrollment numbers. Currently there are 126 kindergarten students registered for the 22 – 23 school year. In the past more students have registered over the summer, which would increase the total kindergarten class size and that would allow adding that 7<sup>th</sup> section. Information will be sent out to the community regarding registration. Mr. Spencer will provide the Board with an update at the May Board Study Session.

**Discussion on Additional Reading Specialist Position**

Director of Special Populations Luke Krippel discussed the addition of a Reading Specialist Position in the District. Mr. Krippel presented the Board with data to show why an additional Reading Specialist is needed. The data showed Mr. Krippel and his team that they're not seeing the improvements that were seen in the past. Scheduling students who require this assistance is becoming more difficult, and there has been an influx of students requiring the additional support due to COVID19, and splitting the current Reading Specialist between two buildings. Adding this additional position would allow the current Reading Specialist to remain full time at the Elementary School, and this person would be housed at the Intermediate School. This additional position would save the district money in the long term due to getting students back on track now versus having to add additional staff later. Mr. Krippel thanked Mrs. Veronda and Mrs. Ludes their hard work on gathering providing the data. The Board thanked Mr. Krippel for presenting the data, and agreed this would be the time to add an additional position.

**Discussion on New COVID Legislation**

Mr. Spencer updated the Board of Education on the new COVID legislation and its impact on the district. Mr. Spencer discussed how the law covers vaccinated staff, as far back as March of 2020, and will reinstate sick days used for COVID related absences. Data was presented to the Board on the cost of covering both vaccinated and unvaccinated staff. The Board has the ability to set a deadline as to when evidence/documents need to be turned in for individuals who believe they should have their sick days returned. Mr. Spencer discussed creating a Memorandum of Understanding with the SEIU Local 73 and CCCUEA/IEA/NEA. These documents will be presented at the May 4 Board meeting for action.

**Discussion on IASB Three Rivers Division Governing Board Meeting**

Mr. Spencer provided the Board with an update on the status of the Three Rivers Governing Board Meeting/Dinner being held at Coal City High School on June 9. Mr. Spencer informed the Board that

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the meeting has been pushed back to the end of June and will now be held virtually. The Board thanked Board member Robert Bianchetta for all his work with getting the meeting to be initially held at Coal City High School.

**Discussion on Before and After School Care RFP**

Director of Special Populations Luke Krippel discussed the RFP's that have been received from Before and After School Care providers for the district. The deadline is May 26, and to date Mr. Krippel has received only 1 proposal. The before and after school care is tuition based and is at no cost to the Board. Mr. Krippel will have more information to present at the June 1 Board meeting.

**Discussion on FY23 School Lunch Fees**

CSBO Jason Smith discussed FY23 school lunch fees based on recommendations from the State. For the last 2 years school lunches have been free for students, but this goes away in the fall. At the August 5, 2020 Board meeting, the Board approved increasing school lunch fees based on the State average. That increase will stay in place for the 22 - 23 school year.

**Discussion on Recent Issues with Business Checking Account**

CSBO Jason Smith discussed changes to the district's current business checking account. Mr. Smith informed the Board about fraudulent activity with the district account, and the steps taken to avoid this in the future. The district has not lost any money to these fraudulent attempts.

**Discussion on Planning for the FY23 Strategic Plan**

Mr. Spencer discussed the Board's plan for developing the FY23 Strategic Plan. The FY23 Strategic Planning meeting will be held in July. Board member Shawn Hamilton has been in communication with Lori Grant from IASB, and she is available to facilitate the meeting. Mr. Spencer and the Board discussed possible locations, time of day, who to invite, and the structure of the meeting. The Board will finalize the details at the May 4 Board meeting.

**Discussion on Joint Annual Conference**

Mr. Spencer discussed the 22 – 23 Joint Annual Conference. The Conference will be held November 18 – 20. Mr. Spencer wanted to ensure the Board was aware of the dates for the Joint Annual Conference that is held in Chicago.

**Finance Reports**

The bank statements, monthly revenue, expenditure summary reports, check reconciliation report, cash report, and cleared check report for March were enclosed for review. Detailed reports were available in the Business Office for review prior to the meeting. The Treasurer's report, investment report, and lunch report for March were also enclosed for review.

**Open**

a) Items not known at agenda preparation time – none.

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- b) Sharing Ideas / Information – Dr. Bugg left the Board meeting early due to the Village of Coal City dedicating a portion of Carbon Hill Rd. to Megan Bugg. Board member Shawn Hamilton left the Board meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**Closed Session**

At 7:00 p.m. a motion made by Mr. Harmon and seconded by Mr. Lander to go into closed session for the purpose of considering information regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, dismissal of specific employees, collective bargaining matters, and imminent litigation.

**Roll Call.**

Ayes: Quint Harmon, Chuck Lander, Robert Bianchetta, Mary Gill, Steve Rogers, Ken Miller

Nays:

Absent: Shawn Hamilton

Motion: Carried.

Mr. Lander moved and Mr. Harmon seconded to return to open session at 7:05 p.m.

**Roll Call.**

Ayes: Chuck Lander, Quint Harmon, Robert Bianchetta, Mary Gill, Steve Rogers, Ken Miller

Nays:

Absent: Shawn Hamilton

Motion: Carried.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Harmon moved and Mr. Lander seconded to adjourn at 7:06 p.m. the Board Study Session of the Whole meeting.

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Kenneth P. Miller, President

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Mary Gill, Secretary