

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF  
CLAY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

A regular session of the Clay Community Schools Board of Trustees was held in the Board Room of the Central Administrative Office, 1013 S. Forest Avenue, Brazil, IN, 47834, on Thursday, December 14, 2023. Ryan Keller, Michael Shaw, Lynn Romas, Andrea Baysinger, Tom Reberger, Amy Burke Adams, and Cheryl Schopmeyer were present.

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. Board President Tom Reberger led those in attendance in the pledge, and Superintendent Rayle offered the prayer.

**II. Comments from Patrons**

None

**III. Consent Agenda**

**A. Claims**

**B. Board Meetings**

Regular Session: Thursday, November 9, 2023

**C. Field Trips**

NHS Indoor Percussion to WGI Mideast Regional in Highland Heights, Ky on March 16-17, 2024. This is an out of state and overnight stay that required board approval.

NHS Indoor Percussion to WGI World Championships in Dayton, Oh on April 18-20, 2024. This is an out of state and overnight stay that required board approval.

**D. Personnel**

**A. LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

**1. Certified**

a. FMLA	CCHS	Ben Thomas
b. FMLA	CCHS	Clarence Johnson
c. FMLA	NCMS	Marie Bettenbrock
d. FMLA	NHS	Whitney Braswell
e. FMLA	ME	Sarah DeLong
f. FMLA	NCMS	April Lovett
g. FMLA	CCHS	Jennifer Gerber
h. FMLA	NCMS	Julia Fritch
i. Medical Leave of Absence (Return on 1/3/24)	NHS	Lori Brooks
j. Medical Leave of Absence (Return 4/1/24)	NHS	Silvia Weir

**2. Non-Certified**

a. FMLA	CCHS	Kyra Stemler
b. FMLA	Trans	Scott Wilson
c. FMLA	CO	Jorita Wilson
d. Medical	Trans	Jenny Sutherlin
e. Medical	JTE	Cheryl Mitchell
f. Medical	FPE	Amelia Martin
g. Not-eligible for Leave	NHS	Jenna Cooper

**B. RETIREMENTS**

1. Certified	None	
2. Non-Certified		
a. Supervisor of Transportation (eff. 12/29/23)	Trans	Cathy Rodgers
b. IA (eff. 12/29/23)	FPE	Beth Tucker
c. Custodian (eff. 12/29/23)	NHS	Roberta McCullough
3. Place on Retirement Index	None	

**C. RESIGNATIONS**

1. Certified		
a. Elem. Teacher-1 <sup>st</sup> Grade (eff. 12/21/23)	MES	Emily Johnson
2. Non-Certified		
a. Food Services (eff. 12/1/23)	NCMS	Beverly McIntire
b. Custodian (eff. 11/13/23)	NHS	Kelly Knox
c. Bus Driver (eff. 1/1/24)	Trans	Kylie Wyatt
d. Nurse (eff. 11/20/23)	NHS	Charlene McKean
e. IA (eff. 12/8/23)	CCE	Jessica Jackson
3. ECA Resignations	None	
4. ECA Lay coaches	None	

**D. TRANSFERS**

1. Certified	None	
2. Non-Certified		
a. Custodian (eff. 1/4/24)	JTE	Rod Howald
b. Custodian (eff. 1/4/24)	JTE	Nancy Howald

**E. EMPLOYMENT**

1. Certified		
a. Elem. Teacher (temp contract 11/20/23)	MES	Nanette Brown
b. Guidance Counselor (eff. 1/3/24)	NHS	Christina Gunderson
2. Non-Certified		
a. IA-ISS/COPE (29 hr.)	CA	Dee Tilley
b. IA (29 hr.)	ESE	Kayla Smith
c. IA (29 hr.)	NHS	Tessa Stearley
d. Custodian (185-day)	FPE	Keith Sparks III
e. IA-SPED (29 hr.)	VBE	Riley Spradlin
f. IA (29 hr.)	JTE	Jeri Hoke
3. Supplemental	None	

**F. EXTRA-CURRICULAR**

1. Extra-Curricular Certified		
a. 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls' Basketball Coach	NCMS	Erica Garrison
b. 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls' Basketball Coach	NCMS	Luke Lancaster
2. Extra-Curricular Non-Certified	None	

- |   |          |                    |
|---|----------|--------------------|
| 3. Extra-Curricular Lay Coach   |          |                    |
| a. 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls' Basketball Coach                        | NCMS     | Katie Buchanan     |
| b. 5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls' Basketball Coach (25%) | CCE      | Nathan Young       |
| c. 5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls' Basketball Coach (25%) | CCE      | Brent Wheeler      |
| d. Assistant Band Director  | CCHS     | Jeff Colvin        |
| 4. Supplemental   |          |                    |
|   | None     |                    |
| G. CHANGES  |          |                    |
| 1. Certified  | None     |                    |
| 2. Non-Certified  | None     |                    |
| 3. ECA-Lay Coaches  | None     |                    |
| H. VOLUNTEERS   |          |                    |
| 1. CLASSROOM  |          |                    |
| a. Classroom (Volunteer)  | CCE      | Kaylee Edwards     |
| b. Classroom (Volunteer)  | SE       | Jordyn McCrocklin  |
| c. Classroom (Volunteer)  | VBE      | Carrie McHargue    |
| d. Classroom (Volunteer)  | CCE/CCHS | Gwendolyn Tucker   |
| 2. BAND   |          |                    |
| a. Band (Volunteer)   | NHS      | Noah Cline         |
| b. Band (Volunteer)   | NHS      | Simon Harmon       |
| c. Band (Volunteer)   | NHS      | Samuel Stallcop    |
| d. Band (Volunteer)   | NHS      | Peyton Willits     |
| e. Band (Volunteer)   | NHS      | Amanda Loughmiller |
| 3. ATHLETICS/ECA  |          |                    |
| a. 5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls' Basketball Coach (Vol) | CCE      | Kayla Chenoweth    |
| I. TERMINATIONS   |          |                    |
| J. Suspension Without Pay   |          |                    |
| a. Bus Mechanic   | Trans    | Geoff Simmons      |
| K. NON-RENEWAL  |          |                    |
|   | None     |                    |

Mrs. Schopmeyer moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Romas seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**IV. Old Business**

None

**V. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Rayle:

- Welcomed Leo, the new East Side Elementary service dog, to Clay Community Schools. Leo attended the meeting with his handler, Stephanie Sutherland.
- Congratulated Cathy Rodgers, Transportation Supervisor, on her retirement at the end of the month.

- Welcomed new hires: Nanette Brown, Christina Gunderson, Dee Tilley, Kayla Smith, Tessa Stearley, Keith Sparks III, Riley Spradlin, and Jeri Hoke.
- Recognized the following teachers: Michelle Ruhe was named an ISU outstanding educator, Brenda Buchanan was named the 2024 Outstanding High School Music Educator Award- The Indiana Music Educator Association, Stephanie Nuckols was selected as WTWO's Teacher of the Month, Nikki Lemay was named a 2023 McDonald's Outstanding Educator, and Christina Coopriider was named a State Farm Insurance Amazing Teacher.
- Recognized: Northview Boys Wrestling received an IHSAA Exemplary Behavior Report.
- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

## **VI. New Business**

### **School Update**

Throughout the 2023-24 academic year, the Board will receive monthly updates from a designated school. Mr. Michael Owens, Principal at Clay City Jr/Sr High School, shared school statistics and the programs offered to students.

### **A. Recommendation to Approve Secondary Course Changes**

Mrs. Adams moved to approve the secondary course changes. Mr. Keller seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

### **B. State Performance Award**

The Teacher Appreciation Grant does not include the following certified personnel: Director of Guidance, Speech Language Pathologist, Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, and Therapeutic Counselor.

Mrs. Baysinger moved to approve to pay these employees a performance bonus from the education fund according to their evaluation. Dr. Shaw seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

### **C. Classified Employee Christmas Bonus**

Dr. Shaw moved to approve to pay classified staff a \$200 Christmas bonus. Mr. Romas seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

### **D. Engineer in the Classroom Elementary School Program Request**

Mr. Keller moved to approve to continue the Engineer in the Classroom Elementary School Program this year. Mrs. Schopmeyer seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

### **E. Elementary Behavior Interventionist Job Description**

The elementary behavioralist job description was included in the board packet. This was a first reading, so no vote was necessary.

### **F. Neola Policy 8220 Update – First Reading**

Information regarding the proposed updates to the Neola policy was included in the board packet. This was a first reading, so no vote was necessary.

**G. HEA 1003 Flexible Waiver Request**

Mr. Keller moved to approve the resolution to authorize the submission of the HEA 1003 flexibility waiver for the 2024-25 school year. Mr. Romas seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**H. Maintenance and Police Vehicle Quotes**

Mrs. Adams moved to approve the purchase of two maintenance vehicles and one police vehicle based on the lowest quoted price provided to the board. Mr. Keller seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**VII. Board Member Comments**

**Amy Burke Adams** thanked the schools for the Christmas cards she had received, welcomed Leo to the CCS family, offered congratulations to the staff and students on another wonderful Christmas Spectacular production and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

**Cheryl Schopmeyer** congratulated Cathy Rodgers on her upcoming retirement, thanked Mr. Owens for his excellent presentation, offered thanks for the Christmas cards, and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

**Ryan Keller** congratulated Cathy Rodgers for her retirement and thanked Mr. Owens for his presentation and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

**Michael Shaw** “ditto” to what everyone had already said. Extended gratitude to the staff for dedicating their lives to the students of CCS and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

**Lynn Romas** congratulations were extended to Cathy Rodgers for her retirement and Mr. Owens for job well done for his presentation. He mentioned he always hears good things about Clay City Jr/Sr High School. He also wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

**Tom Reberger** congratulated Cathy Rodgers on her retirement and shared that Mr. Owens was correct when he said that the schools are the center of the community. “It shows we do lots of things very well.”

**VIII. Future Agenda Items**

None

**IX. Adjournment**

Having exhausted all agenda items, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

The meeting was audio recorded, and copies may be requested by contacting the Central Administration Office.