

**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 Commons of North Clay Middle School, 3450 W State Road 340, Brazil, IN 47834, on Thursday, March 10, 2022. Michael Shaw, Lynn Romas, Andrea Baysinger, Tom Reberger, Amy Burke Adams, and Charley Jackson were present. Ryan Keller was not present.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Board President Tom Reberger led those in attendance in the pledge, and Superintendent Fritz offered the prayer.

Superintendent Fritz noted that items H and I would be pulled from the agenda to give additional time to review the projects, reprioritize, and make necessary adjustments due to supply and demand issues.

II. Consent Agenda

A. Claims

B. Board Meetings

Regular Session: February 10, 2022

C. Field Trips

Clay City High School B.P.A. to Indianapolis, Indiana, March 13-15, 2022, to the Annual B.P.A. State Conference, requiring an overnight stay.

D. Personnel

A. LEAVES OF ABSENCE

1. Certified

a. FMLA	NHS	Jennifer Smith
b. FMLA	CCHS	Danielle Pate
c. FMLA	NHS	Fawn Zimmerman
d. FMLA	NHS	Marie Bettenbrock
e. FMLA	NCMS	Paula Thompson
f. FMLA	CCE/ESE/MES	Kim White
g. Not Eligible (did not work 1.250 hours last year)	NHS	Dan Dragon

2. Non-Certified

a. FMLA	NHS	Lisa Freeman
b. FMLA	VBE	Penny Hood
c. Medical Leave	Trans	Nancy Touchet
d. Medical Leave	Food Serv.	Barbra Houk
e. Not Eligible for Leave	Food Serv.	Kylee Lucas
f. Not Eligible for Leave	Secretary	Helen Meunier

3. Article III / Section 12- Inclusions

Section 12. Inclusions. The Board may grant a leave of absence for sabbatical, sick, and other appropriate reasons as contained in this Article, but not limited to such references.

a. Medical Leave (Return date of 8/5/22) CCE/CCHS Hannah Thompson

B. RETIREMENTS

1. Certified	None	
2. Non-Certified	None	
3. Place on Retirement Index		
a. Retirement Index	None	
b. Longevity Stipend	None	
C. RESIGNATIONS		
1. Certified		
a. Director of Business Affairs (eff. 6/30/22) CO		Mark Shayotovich
b. Industrial Technology Teacher (eff. 5/25/22) NHS		James Latta
2. Non-Certified		
a. Custodian (eff. 2/17/22)	NCMS	Aaron Rutledge
b. Bus Driver (eff. 2/23/22)	Trans	Tina Pennington
c. Bus Driver (eff. 2/25/22)	Trans	Catherine Garrett
3. ECA Resignations	None	
4. ECA Lay coaches		
a. Varsity Boys' Soccer Coach	NHS	Mike Rains
D. TRANSFERS		
1. Certified	None	
2. Non-Certified	None	
E. EMPLOYMENT		
1. Certified		
a. English Teacher (22-23 school year)	CA/NHS	Taylor Longest
2. Non-Certified		
a. Bus Driver (61- mile route)	Trans	Paula Spriestersbach
b. School Nurse (LPN)	Nursing	Brandy Biddle
3. Supplemental	None	
F. EXTRA-CURRICULAR		
1. Extra-Curricular Certified		
a. Assist. HS Track	CCHS	Kasey Waite
2. Extra-Curricular Non-Certified	None	
3. Extra-Curricular Lay Coach		
a. Head Varsity Baseball Coach	CCHS	Larry Shaw
b. JV Softball Coach	CCHS	Raven Allender
c. Assist. HS Track	CCHS	Melanie Laswell
d. Head Varsity Softball Coach	CCHS	Jason Sindors
e. JV Baseball Coach	CCHS	Ryne Hayes
4. Supplemental	None	
G. CHANGES		
1. Certified		
a. Moved to a 7/6 contract for the remainder of the school year	NHS	Randy Eppert
b. Moved to a 7/6 contract for the remainder of the school year	NHS	Lisa Chambers
c. Moved to a 7/6 contract for the remainder of the school year	NHS	Nathan Logue
d. Moved to a 7/6 contract for the remainder of the school year	NHS	Kelly Welton
e. Moved to a 7/6 contract for the remainder of the school year	NHS	Luke Carr

f. Moved to a 7/6 contract for the remainder of the school year	NHS	Rochel Reberger
g. Moved to a 7/6 contract for the remainder of the school year	NHS	Deb Allen
2. Non-Certified		
a. Food Services (Pay rate change to reflect subbing as the Café Manager/eff. 2/14/22)	ME	Karen Sampson
3. ECA-Lay Coaches	None	
H. VOLUNTEERS		
1. CLASSROOM	None	
2. ATHLETICS/ECA		
a. Volunteer Assist. Baseball Coach	CCHS	David Smith
b. Volunteer HS Assist. Track Coach	CCHS	Jarrid Stagg
c. Volunteer HS Band Assist.-Winter Winds	CCHS	Nathaniel Rainey
d. Volunteer HS Assist. Track Coach	CCHS	Josh Rector
e. Volunteer Assist. Softball Coach	NHS	Lauren Sackett
f. Volunteer HS Assist. Track Coach	NHS	Mark Vincent
g. Volunteer HS Assist. Track Coach	NHS	Hunter Vincent
h. Volunteer HS Assist. Track Coach	NHS	Aaron Slater
i. Volunteer HS Assist. Track Coach	NHS	Connor Strain
j. Volunteer HS Assist. Track Coach	NHS	Cam Trout
k. Volunteer Assist. Softball Coach	CCHS	Roger Rhodes
l. Volunteer HS Assist. Football Coach	NHS	John McClain
m. Volunteer Winter Guard Chaperone	NHS	Janice Raines-Head
n. Volunteer Prom Chaperone/Worker	NHS	John Hagemier
I. TERMINATIONS	None	
J. Suspension Without Pay	None	
K. NON-RENEWAL	None	

Mr. Jackson moved to approve the consent agenda. Mrs. Baysinger seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

III. Comments from Patrons

Cheryl Schopmeyer began by thanking those who worked on the ESSER Fund Report last month and applauded the Board for their transparency and request for information regarding the funds. She doesn't understand how building projects affect COVID. She asked who is giving the funds and what are the consequences for not submitting to the mandates? She believes the majority of the board did not represent the community when masking, testing, quarantining, and social distancing mandates were put in place. She hopes the board learned from the situation and thanked them for their time and attention.

IV. Old Business None

V. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Fritz noted the following:

- Welcome to new hires: Taylor Longest, Brandy Biddle, and Paula Priestersbach.
- Offered congratulations to Goals Academy students for 100% passing of the High School Equivalency Exam and Northview Winter Guard for their 3rd place finish at the competitive Zionsville show.

VI. New Business

A. CCS Reentry Plan Revision

The Indiana Department of Health and the CDC released some major changes to their COVID protocols and guidelines last month, and these changes were implemented into the CCS Reentry Plan, which will be included in the minutes. The Clay County Health Officer approved the revisions to the CCS Reentry Plan.

Superintendent Fritz assured those that no one is happier than the superintendent about this. He added the revision that was done this time was consistent with the previous revisions, by following local mandates and working in conjunction with the local health officials and following advice from the attorney. He added at the beginning of the pandemic we would tune into the Governor, Dr. Box, and others weekly. They would tell us to lean into our local health officials and to take their advice. He believes we have been consistent with that regarding all reentry plans.

When attending a meeting, he met with the Indiana Secretary of Public Instruction, Katie Jenner, who also advised taking advice from local health officials.

When revisions were implemented, communication was made with the Clay County Health Board. Although most of the time it wasn't a popular decision, medical advice was always followed. As Superintendent Fritz has said before, we are educators, not medical professionals. From his office, he did not let his personal philosophies drive these decisions and feels they were very consistent throughout the process.

Other than a couple of times, the buildings have been open. It has been tough on students, parents, teachers, support staff, and the administration, and especially the school nurses. Superintendent Fritz added they have all worked hard, and he is glad to see the light at the end of the tunnel and feels we are moving in the right direction.

He stated that he fills in for local pastors occasionally and if this revised reentry plan was the title of one of his sermons, he would ask for an amen. He was elated to make the recommended approval for the revision of the reentry plan.

Mrs. Adams moved to approve the CCS Reentry Plan Revision. Mr. Romas seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

B. Student Handbooks Changes – First Reading

Information regarding the proposed changes to the student handbooks was included in the board packet. This was a first reading, so no vote was necessary. The student handbooks will be brought back for a second reading and approval in April.

C. 2-Hour Delay Waiver for Classified Instructional and Office Staff

As per the Classified Handbook, it was recommended that the board waive the 2-hour delay time missed by Category II and III Classified Instructional and Office Staff for February 7, 2022.

Mr. Jackson moved to approve the 2-Hour Delay Waiver for February 7, 2022, and Dr. Shaw seconded.

The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

D. Weather-Related eLearning Day Waiver for Classified Instructional and Office Staff, Cooks, and Bus Drivers

Dr. Shaw moved to approve the waiver for the time missed by cooks, classified instructional and office staff, and bus drivers on February 2, 3, 4, 18, and 24, 2022. Mr. Romas seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

E. Inclement Weather Waiver and Incentive

Because of the large amount of snow, inclement weather, and travel advisories, school buildings were closed on the afternoon of February 2 and the entire day of February 3, 2022; therefore, second and third shift custodians on February 2 and all custodial staff on February 3 were unable to report to work. The board was asked to waive these days for these employees and provide an incentive to the essential classified employees who worked during these days by awarding them one additional personal day. A list of the employees to receive the incentive was included in the board packet.

Superintendent Fritz added all three of the recommendations are past practice. He doesn't want to hold employees hostage for eLearning days when they can't report to work because travel advisories are out, so the buildings need to be shut down.

Under discussion, Mrs. Adams expressed gratitude towards the employees that did go to their buildings those days. She added that it shows their dedication and it was a right call to cancel school those days for the safety of everyone.

Mr. Jackson moved to approve the Inclement Weather Waiver and Incentive. Mrs. Adams seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

F. Food2School Purchasing Cooperative Approvals for 2022-23

Director of Food Services Patsy Woolery asked for permission to renew contracts with GPO/Distributor for milk and bread for the 2022-23 school year. A copy of the cooperative approvals will be included in the minutes.

Mrs. Baysinger moved to approve the renewal of contracts for the 2022-2023 school year, and Mr. Jackson seconded.

Mr. Reberger noted that this is also past practice and it has been very beneficial to the corporation finances.

Superintendent Fritz added they do price checking also. Mrs. Adams showed appreciation to Mrs. Woolery, and Mr. Reberger agreed.

The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

G. Revised School Bus Bids

Director of Extended Services Jesse Trunnell provided a revised recommendation of school bus bids, which will be included in the minutes.

Superintendent Fritz stated the major reason for this was that there were too many issues with the supply chain for gasoline engine buses.

Mr. Romas moved to approve the Revised School Bus Bids. Dr. Shaw seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

H. Temperature Control Project Bids

Pulled from agenda to give additional time to review the projects, reprioritize, and make necessary adjustments due to supply and demand issues.

I. Chiller & Boiler Replacement/NHS Welding Exhaust Project Bids

Pulled from agenda to give additional time to review the projects, reprioritize, and make necessary adjustments due to supply and demand issues.

J. Recommendation to Accept Chromebook Bids

Information from Bill Milner, Director of Technology, was included in the board packet regarding a request to accept the bid from Prosys for Lenovo 500e devices. Mr. Milner was available at the board meeting to answer any questions. The recommendation will be included in the minutes.

Under discussion, Mr. Reberger stated in a discussion with Mr. Milner he could face supply chain issues also, which is why they are being ordered so early. He is hoping to beat everyone else on this so we don't run into the delay we had last school year.

Dr. Shaw moved to approve the Recommendation to Accept Chromebook Bids. Mr. Jackson seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

K. Consideration to Name the CCS Director of Business Affairs

Information was included in the board packet regarding a recommendation to name Mr. John Szabo as the next CCS Director of Business Affairs. The position will consist of a 260-day contract, and Mr. Szabo will receive the salary and benefits addressed in the CCS Administrator Handbook.

Dr. Shaw moved to approve Mr. Szabo as the next CCS Director of Business Affairs. Mr. Jackson seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

VII. Board Member Comments

Michael Shaw stated his appreciation to all the great people in the corporation for all their hard work.

Lynn Romas offered a “ditto” to Dr. Shaw and congratulated Mr. Szabo.

Amy Burke Adams welcomed new hires and also congratulated Mr. Szabo.

Charley Jackson also offered a “ditto” and offered congratulations to Mr. Pete Kikta for the work he has done at the alternative school and showed appreciation for being a part of the CCS family.

VIII. Future Agenda Items

Tom Reberger commented we are hearing a lot about the cost of fuel, energy, etc. He would like the business department to give the Board a report on the contracts we have on the Fuel Savings Program and how much they are saving the corporation compared to buying fuel and natural gas through the open market. He added the agreements the corporation has entered into had a long-range guarantee and have been very beneficial in the past. He believes with the dramatic increases we are seeing, the results will be very impressive.

IX. Adjournment

Having exhausted all agenda items, the meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

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