

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

A regular session of the Clay Community Schools Board of Trustees was held at the Board Room of the Central Administrative Office, 1013 S. Forest Avenue, Brazil, IN, 47834, on Thursday, March 14, 2024. Ryan Keller, Michael Shaw, Andrea Baysinger, Tom Reberger, Amy Burke Adams, and Cheryl Schopmeyer were present. Lynn Romas was absent.

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 Rayle offered the prayer.

II. Comments from Patrons

None

III. Consent Agenda

A. Claims

B. Board Meetings

Regular Session: Thursday, February 8, 2024

C. Field Trips

NHS Girls Basketball to Corydon Central Basketball Tournament on November 15-16, 2024, requiring an overnight stay.

NHS Boys Basketball to South Bend, IN to the 100th Anniversary Game on January 3-4, 2025, requiring an overnight stay.

NHS Girls Basketball to Holiday World and Vincennes University Team Camp on June 19-23, 2024, requiring an overnight stay.

NHS Fine Arts to New York City, New York on December 27-30, 2024, requiring an out of state and overnight stay.

NHS Band to Sandusky, Ohio, to attend the Music in the Parks Festival on May 18-19, 2024, requiring an out of state and overnight stay.

D. Personnel

A. LEAVES OF ABSENCE

1. Certified

a. FMLA	NHS	Emily Goff
b. FMLA	CCHS	Shelly Ream
c. FMLA	FPE	Piper German
d. FMLA-Maternity	MES	Corey Haviland
e. FMLA	NHS	Lisa Chambers
f. FMLA	MES	Jennifer Hawkins
g. FMLA-Maternity	VBE	Jaime Lamb
h. FMLA	NCMS	A. Jean Harris
i. FMLA	JTE	Shelli Roembke
j. FMLA	NCMS	Don Bryan
k. FMLA	SES	Emmaly Wisley

I. Elementary Teacher (Maternity Leave 2024-25 School Year)	VBE	Jaclyn Williams
2. Non-Certified		
a. Medical	VBE	Erik Peterson
b. Medical	Trans	Kimberly Wetnight
c. Not Eligible for Leave	ESE	Krista Peterson
d. Not Eligible for Leave	FPE	Jane Crowley
e. Not Eligible for Leave	VBE	Brandi Tutterow
B. RETIREMENTS		
1. Certified		
a. Secondary Math Teacher (6/1/24)	NCMS	Sarah Kissinger
b. Secondary Spec. Educ. (6/1/24)	NCMS	Paula Thompson
c. Elementary Teacher (6/1/2024)	ESE	Terri Potter
2. Non-Certified		
a. Custodian 185-day (6/1/24)	JTE	Robert Neville
b. Instructional Assistant (6/1/24)	NCMS	Cindy Lemmon
c. Technology Assistant (6/1/24)	NCMS	Leanne True
d. Bus Mechanic 'Medical Retirement' (3/29/24)	Trans	Scott Wilson
3. Place on Retirement Index	None	
C. RESIGNATIONS		
1. Certified		
a. Elementary Teacher (2/21/24)	SES	Betsy Stevenson
2. Non-Certified		
a. Instructional Assistant	FPE	Alexus Hartman
b. Custodian 185-day (2/14/24)	CCE	Jennifer Sadlowski
c. Custodian 185-day (2/16/24)	SES	Angela Pennington
d. Food Services (2/20/24)	FPE	Amelia Martin
e. Instructional Assistant (3/1/24)	FPE	Chelsea Hollowell
f. Instructional Assistant (3/8/24)	FPE	Alison Eisman
g. Instructional Assistant (2/27/24)	FPE	Susan Todd
h. Secretary (3/29/24)	JTE	Valerie Linton
i. Custodian 185-day (3/5/24)	FPE	Keith Sparks II
3. ECA Resignations	None	
4. ECA Lay Coaches		
a. Girls' VA Basketball Coach (3/5/24)	CCHS	Charles Crabb
D. TRANSFERS		
1. Certified	None	
2. Non-Certified		

a. Custodian 210-day (2/12/24)	CCE	Shelly Long
E. EMPLOYMENT		
1. Certified	None	
2. Non-Certified	None	
3. Other	None	
F. EXTRA-CURRICULAR		
1. Extra-Curricular Certified		
a. Assistant Tennis Coach	NHS	Hannah Hughes
b. Boys' Golf Coach	CCHS	Clarence Johnson
c. Elementary Drama Club	SES	Valerie Clark
2. Extra-Curricular Non-Certified	None	
3. Extra-Curricular Lay Coach		
a. JV/VA Baseball Coach	NHS	Coy Edwards
4. Supplemental	None	
G. CHANGES		
1. Certified	None	
2. Non-Certified		
a. Food Services- Increase to 7.0 hrs (2/22/24)	FPE	Danielle McCurry
b. Food Services- Increase to 5.5 hrs (2/22/24)	FPE	Ashley Purcell
c. Food Services- Decrease to 6.5 hrs (3/4/24)	NHS	Natasha Morris
3. ECA-Lay Coaches	None	
H. VOLUNTEERS		
1. CLASSROOM		
a. Classroom (Volunteer)	CCE	Alicia Jacobs
b. Classroom (Volunteer)	CCE	Michael Jacobs
c. Classroom (Volunteer)	CCE	Kaylee Baumgartner
d. Classroom (Volunteer)	CCE	Michelle Jones
e. Classroom (Volunteer)	CCE	Abigail Morales
f. Classroom (Volunteer)	FPE	Debra BonDurant
g. Classroom (Volunteer)	FPE	Susan Todd
h. Classroom (Volunteer)	FPE	Chelsea Hollowell
i. Classroom (Volunteer)	JTE	Anthony Martin
j. Classroom (Volunteer)	JTE	Cassey Martin
k. Classroom (Volunteer)	SES	Debra Mogan
l. Classroom (Volunteer)	VBE	Colleen Maurer
m. Classroom (Volunteer)	VBE	Kyle McCoy
n. Classroom (Volunteer)	VBE	Brenda Thacker
o. Classroom (Volunteer)	VBE	Haley Cooksey
p. Classroom (Volunteer)	NHS	Elizabeth Gibbens
q. Classroom (Volunteer)	NHS	Mary Cassidy
r. Classroom (Volunteer)	NCMS/NHS	Tyler Hutcheson

s. Classroom (Volunteer)	NCMS/NHS	Lisa Hutcheson
t. Classroom (Volunteer)	CCE/CCHS	Susan Fagg
u. Classroom (Volunteer)	CCE/CCHS	Greg Long
v. Classroom (Volunteer)	VBE	Josh Abrams
w. Classroom (Volunteer)	CCE/CCHS	David Schroer

2. BAND

a. Band (Volunteer)	NHS	Guillermo Ramirez
b. Band (Volunteer)	NHS	Lysandra Johnson

3. ATHLETICS/ECA

a. Assistant Track Coach (Vol)	NCMS	Michael Dave Wilson
b. Assistant Track Coach (Vol)	NCMS	Rhiannon Bussing
c. Assistant Track Coach (Vol)	NCMS	Lyndsey Horn

I. TERMINATIONS

None

J. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY

a. Custodian (3 days)	CCE	Jennifer Sadlowski
b. Instructional Assistant (3 days)	MES	Chelsea Dighton

K. NON-RENEWAL

1. CLASSIFIED

a. Instructional Assistant (90-day Evaluation 3/19/24) "Recommendation Employee does not become permanent"	VBE	Riley Spradlin
b. Custodian 185-day (90-day Evaluation 3/5/24) "Recommendation Employee does not become permanent"	FPE	Keith Sparks III

2. ATHLETICS/ECA

None

E. Conflict of Interest

Enclosed in the board packet was a conflict of interest form from a new employee.

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

IV. Old Business

A. Neola and Acceptable Use Policy Updates – Second Reading

Information regarding the proposed updates to the Neola policy, and staff and student acceptable use policy was presented at the February 8 regular session, and no changes were proposed during the first reading.

Mrs. Baysinger moved to approve the Neola and acceptable use policy updates. Mrs. Adams seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

V. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Rayle noted the following:

- Congratulated Clay City Jr/Sr High School and Northview High School boys' basketball teams for their sectional championship wins.
- Recognized Northview's DECA members who will be representing Northview at the National Competition in Anaheim, CA at the end of April.
- Mr. Charles Ogborn and the Staunton Elementary Robotics team shared their Rube Goldberg machine with the school board.

**VI. New Business
School Update**

Throughout the 2023-24 academic year, the Board will receive monthly updates from a designated school. Mrs. Amy Hardey, Principal at Meridian Elementary, invited students to present the history and demographics of the school.

A. Student Handbook 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.

B. Duke Energy Foundation Grant Acceptance

The Duke Energy Foundation offered Clay Community Schools a grant to fund the cost of a therapy dog and the therapy dog's training at East Side Elementary School. Research has shown that the presence of a therapy dog in school settings results in physical, social, cognitive, and mental health benefits for both students and staff. Mrs. Adams thanked Mr. Rick Burger, Duke Energy Manager, for his support of Clay Community Schools.

Dr. Shaw moved to approve the acceptance of the Duke Energy Foundation Grant. Mrs. Baysinger seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

C. Indiana Department of Transportation Bicycle Helmet Donation

Due to the outstanding efforts of Meridian Elementary teacher Carrie Strain, the Indiana Department of Transportation graciously offered to provide all Clay Community Schools first and second-grade students a bicycle helmet as part of the Bike IN Safety program. Under discussion, Mrs. Schopmeyer asked what prompted the donation; Mrs. Hardey explained that this State Department incentive was done at Mrs. Strains' previous corporation where she was employed, and thought it would be wonderful to give Clay Community students the same opportunity.

Mr. Keller moved to approve the bicycle helmet donation. Dr. Shaw seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

D. Resolution on Board Compensation

It was proposed that Board Compensation be updated to include per diem amounts of \$150 per regular session board meeting and \$75 per special session board meeting.

This amount matches that approved by the Board of Commissioners of the IPS. This will be retroactive to January 1, 2024.

Mrs. Adams moved to approve the resolution on board compensation. Mrs. Baysinger seconded, and the motion was approved by a 5-1 vote, with Mr. Keller opposed.

E. Early Literacy Achievement Grant Resolution

Included in the board packet was a resolution that authorizes the superintendent to pay supplemental payment stipends through the Literacy Grant to teachers, instructional coaches, and other school staff who were responsible for the implementation and delivery of literacy and reading instruction through grade three during the 2022-23 school year and who maintain employment within the corporation/charter school on the date of distribution.

Mr. Keller moved to approve the Early Literacy Achievement Grant Resolution. Dr. Shaw seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

F. Clay City Elementary PTO Donation

Clay City Elementary Principal, Brent Vaught, requested the approval of a donation of equipment valued at \$3266.20 from the Clay City Elementary School PTO for the sensory room. Information regarding the sensory room was included in the board packet. Under discussion, Mrs. Schopmeyer noted that the information provided indicated that yoga would be an option for students and questioned if there would be a trained yoga instructor teaching students since it could potentially be dangerous if not taught properly. Dr. Rayle said he would look into it and let her know.

Mr. Keller moved to approve the CCE PTO donation. Mrs. Baysinger seconded, and the motion was approved by a 5-0-1 vote, with Mrs. Schopmeyer abstaining.

G. 2024-25 School Calendar Change Request

Mrs. Schopmeyer moved to approve the requested change to the 2024-25 school calendar. Dr. Shaw seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

The changes requested were to move the February 3 Teacher Inservice Day to February 17, and to add January 20, Martin Luther King Jr Day, to the calendar.

H. AMENDED Resolution for Interest Deposits

In January, a resolution was approved that authorized the corporation treasurer to receipt investment income into the Education Fund. Enclosed in the board packet was an amended resolution, authorizing the corporation treasurer to receipt the investment income into either the Education Fund or the Operations Fund.

Mr. Keller moved to approve the amended resolution for interest deposits. Mrs. Adams seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

I. Permission to Bid Chromebooks

Included in the board packet were the bid specs for the Chromebooks for K, 6, 7, and 8th grade students for the 2024-25 school year. Mr. Milner requested to bid 1400

Chromebooks. If granted permission to bid, they would have bids due on April 2, 2024, by 11:00 am at Central Office. A request to approve the winning bidder would be made at the April 11, 2024 board meeting. The Chromebooks will be received no later than July 1, 2024.

Mrs. Baysinger moved to approve the permission to bid on Chromebooks. Dr. Shaw seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

J. Digital Learning Grant Application

Mrs. Baysinger moved to approve the request to apply for the digital learning grant. Mr. Keller seconded, and the motion was approved by a 5-0-1 vote with Mrs. Schopmeyer abstaining.

Under discussion, Mrs. Schopmeyer stated she is not a fan of artificial intelligence and asked what the application would accomplish. Mr. Scott explained the application they would like to get is called Khanmigo and it is aligned with Khan Academy. He explained that it is a personal AI tutor that does not provide answers to students but rather guides them to find the answers themselves. It also generates individualized instruction for that student to meet their needs as they progress. Mrs. Adams reminisced about a time when the Internet was introduced and with any new technological advancement, it is about teaching children how to use the new technology positively. Mr. Reberger also noted that there will be staff training with the program that is based on math and writing and feels comfortable with the program.

VII. Board Member Comments

Michael Shaw shared that AI is not going away and it is time to start learning how to use it. He thanked Ms. Hardey and Meridian students for their presentation and to Mr. Ogborn and the Staunton students.

Ryan Keller thanked the Meridian Elementary students for their presentation, the Staunton Elementary students for their Rube Goldberg presentation, INDOT for their generous donation, and Duke Energy for their support.

Andrea Baysinger thanked Ms. Hardey and the students for their presentation and noted it was a great night with a great crowd.

Amy Burke Adams thanked Meridian and Staunton students for both presentations and thanked Mr. Burger with Duke Energy for their support. Also, the Wabash Valley Community Foundation for donating \$5000 to Clay City Jr/Sr High to invest in their fitness area. She noted that the area is not just for students, but also for community members. She also mentioned that the YMCA is taking applications for summer employment, and the pool will be looking to hire lifeguards for this summer. She wanted to invite patrons to read the School News section in the Brazil Times. It is written by students and interns and provides priceless information. Northview High School also hosted a Career Day for community businesses' and allowed students to sign up to learn about their businesses and to sign up for future on-site tours. She wanted to remind students that scholarship applications are opening and they are usually advertised in the Brazil Times. Also, Carnegie Hall in New York City is offering a summer workshop for music teachers, and Newfield Museum in Indianapolis has a new immersive experience art display up and would make a wonderful field trip for students. Mrs. Adams noted that in regards to the board member compensation rate increasing,

she wanted to share what she does with the money earned. She explained that she uses her money earned from being a board member to sponsor youth leagues in the community. She feels this is an easy way to give back to the children in the community.

Cheryl Schopmeyer thanked Meridian for their presentation and shared the fun experience she had at the Engineer in the Classroom competition.

Tom Reberger commended the CCS teacher who performed the Heimlich maneuver and saved a child's life. He noted that teachers do more than teach and wanted everyone to know how valuable they are.

VIII. Future Agenda Items

None

IX. Adjournment

Having exhausted all agenda items, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

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