

**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 Central Administrative Office, 1013 S. Forest Avenue, Brazil, IN 47834, on Thursday, October 13, 2016. Tom Reberger, Kevin Kumpf, Scott Hill, Fred Froderman, Ron Scherb, Amy Burke Adams, and Shane Wiram were present.

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Board President Ron Scherb led those in attendance in the pledge and offered the prayer.

**II. Consent Agenda**

**A. Claims**

**B. Board Meetings**

Regular Session Minutes for September 8, 2016  
Executive Session Certification for September 8, 2016  
Special Session Minutes for September 8, 2016; September 27, 2016; and, September 29, 2016

**C. Field Trips**

1) Northview High School Supermileage Team to Detroit, Michigan, April 26-30, 2017, to participate in the Shell Eco-Marathon, requiring overnight stay and out-of-state travel.

**D. Personnel**

**A. LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

1. Certified

a. Medical Leave of Absence	VBE/SE	Debbie Metz
b. FMLA	NCMS	Paula Thompson
c. FMLA	NCMS	Lauren Barnett
d. FMLA	JTE	Cheryl Schoffstall

2. Non-Certified

a. Employee Not Qualified for Leave	VBE	Sandra Jenkins
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**B. RETIREMENTS**

1. Certified	None
2. Non-Certified	None
3. Place on Retirement Index	None

**C. RESIGNATIONS**

1. Certified	None	
2. Non-Certified		
a. 29-hour Instructional Assistant	NHS	Candace Griffin
3. ECA Resignations	None	
4. ECA Lay Coaches	None	

**D. TRANSFERS**

1. Certified	None
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2. Non-Certified	None	
<b>E. EMPLOYMENT</b>		
1. Certified	None	
2. Non-Certified		
a. 29-hour Instructional Assistant	NCMS	Heidi Patterson
b. 29-hour Instructional Assistant	FPE	Kayla Withers
c. 29-hour Instructional Assistant	ME	Teresa Batchelor
d. Bus Driver	TRANS	Nancy Smith
e. 29-hour Special Education Instr. Asst.	SE	Megan Dilley
<b>F. EXTRA-CURRICULAR</b>		
1. Extra-Curricular Certified		
a. Girls' Basketball Assistant (30%)	CCE	Deanne Blankenship
b. 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls' Basketball	NCMS	Erica Garrison
c. 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls' Basketball	NCMS	Richard Dyar
d. 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls' Basketball (40%)	CCE	Michael Owens
2. Extra-Curricular Non-Certified		
a. Varsity Assistant Girls' Basketball (80%)	CCHS	Bradi Oberholtzer
3. Extra-Curricular Lay Coach		
a. 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Boys' Basketball	CCHS	Bill Cesinger
b. 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Boys' Basketball	CCHS	Nathaniel Newton
c. 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Boys' Basketball	CCHS	Jeremy Booe
d. 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls' Basketball	CCHS	Alex Wolfe
e. Varsity Assistant Girls' Basketball (20%)	CCHS	Rodney Smith
f. Junior Varsity Girls' Basketball	CCHS	David Steward
g. Girls' Basketball Assistant (30%)	CCE	Andrew Tucker
h. Jr. High Cheer Coach	CCHS	Erica (Nikki) Simpson
i. Assistant Wrestling Coach	NHS	Justin Sampson
4. Supplemental		
a. ELL Adult Education Instructor	Adult Ed	Whitney Sampson
<b>G. CHANGES</b>		
1. Certified	None	
2. Non-Certified		
a. 185-day Custodian to 260-day	NHS	Marsha Gillin
3. ECA-Lay Coaches	None	
<b>H. VOLUNTEERS</b>		
1. CLASSROOM		
<u>Clay City Elementary</u>		
a. William Michael Lucas		
<u>North Clay Middle School</u>		
a. Jennifer Powell		
2. ATHLETICS/ECA		
<u>Clay City Elementary</u>		
a. Darrin Myers, Boys' Basketball		
b. Robin Petrowski, Cheerleading		

Clay City Jr/Sr High School

a. Logan Cesinger, Jr. High Boys' Basketball

b. Natalie Wolfe, Jr. High Girls' Basketball

Northview High School

a. Foster Buell, Wrestling

b. Austin Staley, Wrestling

I. TERMINATIONS

None

Mr. Kumpf moved to approve the consent agenda items. Mr. Hill seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**III. Comments from Patrons**

None at this meeting

**IV. Old Business**

None at this meeting

**V. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Fritz noted the following:

- A welcome to the Clay Community Schools family was offered to: Heidi Patterson; Kayla Withers; Teresa Batchelor; Nancy Smith; and, Megan Dilley.
- A special session will be held Wednesday, October 19, at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of approving contract awards for the building projects. A building project update will also be provided at that time.
- Congratulations were offered to Clay City Jr/Sr High School for being named an IHSA School of Character again this year. The school was one of only 19 schools in the state to receive this prestigious award, and it was one of only 8 schools in the state to receive the award two years in a row.

**VI. New Business**

**A. 2017-18 CCS School Calendar**

Superintendent Fritz noted that the following goals had been met with this calendar:

- ◇ End the first semester prior to Christmas break
- ◇ Keep a similar number of days in the first and second semesters
- ◇ Start a few days after the first of August, as late as possible
- ◇ Maintain a full week at fall break
- ◇ Maintain the Wednesday off prior to Thanksgiving
- ◇ Maintain one week at spring break

Mrs. Adams moved to accept the recommendation to approve the 2017-18 school calendar. Dr. Froderman seconded.

Under discussion, Mr. Scherb commented that he believed August had traditionally been a family vacation month, and 4-H activities and the state fair also occur in August; he wished there was some way to get the school year started a little bit later. Mrs. Adams countered that the original reason for going to a more balanced calendar was

because students lost less knowledge over the summer. In addition, it was her understanding that test scores were higher and discipline incidents decreased because throughout the year students were better rested with breaks that were spread out.

The motion was approved by a 6-1 vote, with Mr. Scherb opposed.

**B. Request for Permission to Complete Title II Part A Grant and High Ability Grant**

Prior to a motion, Mr. Scherb asked what the Title II Grant was. Mrs. Knust explained the grant was a professional development application for teachers, administrators, and instructional assistants that paid for all trainings and workshops and curriculum writing that was done throughout the year.

Dr. Froderman moved to grant permission to complete the Title II Part A Grant and the High Ability Grant. Mr. Wiram seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**C. Weekend Backpack Program Survey**

Mr. Wiram moved to approve an anonymous survey for parents and guardians participating in the weekend backpack program conducted by St. Vincent Clay Hospital, Meridian Elementary, and the Clay County YMCA. Mr. Reberger seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**D. Board Policy 1350 – Compensation – Revision – First Reading**

This was a first reading, so no vote was necessary. The policy will be brought back at a subsequent meeting for a second reading and approval.

**E. School Bus Informational Report**

Director of Extended Services Mike Howard offered a PowerPoint presentation comparing traditional diesel buses with propane buses. He noted that the intent was to not purchase any propane-fueled buses this year; however, they may look at it seriously next year after looking at the data. A copy of his PowerPoint presentation will become a part of the official minutes.

Under discussion, Mr. Kumpf asked how long the school corporation keeps buses. Mr. Howard replied that, right now, the school corporation keeps a bus, per state guidelines, for twelve years. Usually at that point, a bus has 120,000 – 150,000 miles, and trade-in values can range from \$5,000 to \$15,000.

Mr. Scherb wanted to know what type of engine the manufacturers were using for propane-fueled buses. Mr. Howard's response was that Blue Bird was using a Ford V-10. Lead mechanic Roger Torbert added that Roush had done all of the testing and manufacturing of the components for the propane engines. Mr. Torbert's only concerns with the propane engines have been with the conversion part of it in trying to take a gas motor engine that had been designed for gas and converting it to an alternative fuel. Before deciding to purchase propane-fueled buses, he would like to see a few more years of testing as to how well the block would hold up when the fuel is burning hotter.

Mr. Hill's question was whether the propane-fueled buses could go the same distance between oil changes. Mr. Torbert stated that the recommendation was to change the oil every 5,000 – 7,000 miles, whereas the general maintenance program at this time requires oil to be changed about every 10,000 miles, except for the V-8 engines, which were more in line with the propane engines.

In response to Mr. Wiram's question as what the tank range would be for the propane-fueled buses, Mr. Howard estimated that it would be in the 300-350 mile range. He added that, should a propane-fueled bus be used for an out-of-state or overnight trip, arrangements could be made with dealers to meet a bus at whatever site the bus might be located for refueling purposes.

#### **VII. Board Member Comments**

**Kevin Kumpf** offered congratulations to Clay City Jr/Sr High School for its School of Character award.

**Ron Scherb** reminded everyone of the special meeting to be held Wednesday, October 19, at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of awarding the contracts for the building projects.

#### **VIII. Future Agenda Items**

**Kevin Kumpf** requested some kind of information on dual credit, not necessarily in November, but perhaps within the next two or three months. He noted that laws were changing regarding the requirements for teachers to teach dual credit classes, and he wondered if there was anything the school board could do to encourage more teachers to try to go into that.

#### **IX. Adjournment**

Having exhausted all agenda items, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

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