

**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 Clay City Jr/Sr High School, 601 Lankford Street, Clay City, IN 47841, on Thursday, October 8, 2009. Terry Barr, Dottie King, Tina Heffner, Jennifer Kaelber, Ted Jackson, Brian Atkinson, and Forrest Buell were present.

I. Call to Order

Mr. Jackson, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm. Mr. Jackson led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the prayer.

II. Consent Agenda

A. Claims

B. Board Meetings

Regular Session Minutes for September 10, 2009

Special Session Minutes for September 14, 2009, and September 24, 2009

Executive Session Certification for September 10, 2009, and September 14, 2009

C. Field Trips

Northview High School French III and IV classes to Chicago on November 20, 2009

Mrs. Kaelber moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, and Mrs. Barr seconded. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

III. Comments from Patrons

None at this meeting

IV. Old Business

A. H1N1 Flu Plans

Lynn Stoelting, Corporation Nurse, presented board members with a copy of a letter that had been sent home to parents of students regarding a confirmed case of Influenza A. She explained that Influenza A may or may not be the H1N1 flu. Mrs. Stoelting added that the letter also included a list of the symptoms of the flu and recommendations as to when to keep a child at home in order to minimize spreading the virus. Mrs. Stoelting referred to information that had been sent home regarding vaccination clinics to be held by the Clay County Health Department at all schools in the corporation. For children age 12 and under, parents will need to accompany their child while receiving the vaccine. There will also be evening clinics.

B. ECA Eligibility Criteria, Student and Athletic Handbook Change: Second Reading

The proposed change involves moving the grade eligibility determination for extra-curricular participation from grades at the end of the six-weeks grading periods to

grades at the mid-term of the six-weeks grading periods for students at North Clay Middle School and in grades 7 and 8 at Clay City Jr/Sr High School. Approval is recommended.

Mrs. Heffner moved to approve the recommendation. Dr. King seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

C. New and Revised School Board Policies: Second Reading

The new and revised policies were originally presented on August 13. They were then discussed at a special session and two items were recommended to be changed. A change was recommended for Revised Policy 8600 pertaining to volunteers, and for New Policy 6435 pertaining to removal of secondary students from class as a disciplinary measure. This is the second reading, and it is recommended that all new and revised policies be approved.

Dr. King moved to approve the recommendation. Mrs. Barr seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

V. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Schroeder noted the following:

- Groundbreaking ceremonies took place last week and Dr. Schroeder thanked everyone who attended. In particular, he thanked the board members for taking the time to attend, students for behaving well, teachers who worked with administrators, and principals for planning good activities.
- Thanks were offered to Mary Yelton for obtaining a \$50,000 grant through the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy.
- There will be no classes for students on Monday, October 12
- Official ADM count is 24 students less than last year. Special Ed/Pre-school numbers are down.

VI. Board Member Comments

Board member comments were addressed at the end of the meeting prior to personnel items.

VII. New Business

A. Temporary Custodial Help During Building Project

Mr. Reberger noted that surplus auctions would need to be scheduled as quickly as possible to create space for equipment coming out of the buildings that are being renovated. He intends to conduct auctions at the maintenance compound, Van Buren Elementary, and Clay City Jr/Sr High School. Also, he would like to have permission to use extra help as needed to move equipment.

Mr. Atkinson moved to grant permission as requested. Mrs. Barr seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

B. Conflict of Interest Forms

These forms are submitted to the school board every year for approval.

Dr. King moved to approve the conflict of interest forms. Mr. Atkinson seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

C. After-School Counseling Program

Dr. Schroeder explained that the corporation has an opportunity to have a therapeutic counselor on hand to help with discipline and counseling needs at Northview, North Clay, and Clay City Jr/Sr High School. Ms. Andrea Herbert is currently the therapeutic counselor at Cumberland Academy. It is recommended that she be appointed to serve as the counselor for two-hour weekly sessions and that she be paid at the curriculum rate.

Ms. Lisa Showalter added that this came about because she noted that many students who were enrolling at Cumberland Academy following expulsion were not receiving counseling services, particularly if they had not committed a criminal act and had not been directed to go through a court-ordered counseling program. This would be proactive and would benefit those students that have been assigned to detention or Tuesday school or in-school suspension and did not benefit from that. The sessions could be used as punishment while also providing counseling for issues such as anger management. Weekly topics will center on issues relevant to the students in attendance. Ms. Showalter believes that Ms. Herbert is well-qualified to cover those topics with her therapeutic background. Dr. Schroeder added that funding will be provided by a Safe Schools grant. The recommendation is to approve the program with the understanding that if the grant is discontinued, the program would be discontinued unless sources of funding other than the General Fund were found.

Mr. Atkinson moved to approve the recommendation. Mrs. Heffner seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

D. Jobs for America's Graduates Program

Dr. Schroeder stated that people approached Northview High School with this program for at-risk juniors and seniors to receive basic skills assessment. This would be funded by a Workforce Development grant. The recommendation is that the program be offered as long as the grant will fund it. If the grant discontinues, General Fund dollars would not be spent to maintain the program.

Kathy Knust has been working with the Workforce Development group and explained that the program would be put in place at Northview High School and not at Clay City Jr/Sr High School because this is funded through a grant and there is just enough funding to be approved for Northview. She believes it is a good opportunity for a group of students to acquire job employability skills. Participants are supported by a mentor that helps them receive either a diploma or a GED. The mentor will also follow up with participants for twelve months after graduation to help support them. She believes the

corporation is fortunate to be a part of this; it is new and is not in very many schools at this time.

Under discussion, Mr. Jackson asked if Workforce Development would be tracking results to see how successful this program is, which they will. Mr. Jackson also asked if the grant was covering just this school year. Mrs. Knust stated that the program would stay as long as the grant was available. She has already asked that if the program expands, she would like to include Clay City Jr/Sr High School. Mrs. Heffner asked if it would be only at Northview because they will meet at the Northview site during the school day. Mrs. Knust explained that students would actually take this as a course and they receive a credit for it. The corporation is only responsible for providing a room and a computer. A mentor would be on site all day. If the program would be expanded to Clay City, there would be a mentor on site all day there as well.

Mr. Atkinson moved to approve the recommendation. Mrs. Kaelber seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

E. EMERGE Program

Dr. Schroeder explained that Rose-Hulman contacted Northview regarding the EMERGE program, which is for young ladies who might think about going into engineering. It offers a mentor program. This is being paid for by a grant in connection with Rose-Hulman. He recommended that the program be approved as long as Rose-Hulman and that grant pay for the program. If the grant is discontinued, the program will discontinue. Mr. Tim Rayle, principal of Northview High School, added that the program is for high-ability kids.

Under discussion, Mrs. Heffner asked if this was something that may in time be offered at Clay City Jr/Sr High School. Dr. Schroeder replied that the corporation would like to. Mrs. Heffner asked about the cost of the mentor, and Dr. Schroeder explained that it doesn't cost the student or the corporation anything. It is paid through a grant and Rose-Hulman chose the schools to which the grant would be offered.

Mr. Jackson moved to approve the recommendation. Mrs. Heffner seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

F. Contract for Purchase of Bus Garage Land

Dr. Schroeder stated that, at the last board meeting, alternatives for the bus garage were presented and the school board was asked for permission to put together a contract for the City Coal Yard property. The contract presented was written by Jeff Boyll, Clay Community Schools' attorney. In the contract, it was to be stipulated that the owner must agree to clean up the property, tear down the buildings and have Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) clearance. The amount of the purchase price is \$73,750, which was based on the average of two appraisals as required by Indiana law. In discussion among Dr. Schroeder, Mr. Misner, Mr. Reberger, and Mr. Fowler, the conclusion was that this was the least expensive of the alternatives and it would keep the transportation and maintenance departments in the same area. Noting that there

had been concerns expressed about the property, Dr. Schroeder reiterated that the corporation would not buy the property unless it passed EPA clearance as stipulated in the contract. The second stage would be to go ahead and construct a building; however, that is not being asked for at this point.

Mr. Reberger stated that this had been discussed for a long time and lots of options had been looked at. They keep coming back to this option. He believes that this is the one that makes sense and this is the one that is the most economical. As he sees it, the way the contract is proposed, any liability that the school corporation might have has been limited. He believes this is what needs to be done. Mr. Misner agreed that this is where they need to be and he added that this is just the first part in a three or four stage process. Mr. Fowler interjected that the money for this is set aside in the Rainy Day Fund and the corporation would not have to bond for it.

Dr. Schroeder pointed out that one of his major concerns was the Transportation Fund itself. When talking about other alternatives and moving the transportation garage away from downtown, it was determined that there were additional costs associated with driving more mileage. The Transportation Fund is the fund that can least afford to take additional hits and additional costs. Dr. Schroeder also mentioned that the Circuit Breaker has now taken effect, which will force the school corporation to make cuts either in the Transportation Fund or the Bus Replacement Fund or the Capital Projects Fund. His main concern is to not increase transportation operational costs.

Dr. Buell asked what is involved in relation to existing structures and clean-up of property. Dr. Schroeder stated that there are some old rusty metal buildings on that property, which would have to be torn down. As stipulated in the contract, if they were not torn down, the school corporation would not buy the land. In response to Dr. Buell's query as to what the cost would be for that, Dr. Schroeder stated that the appraisers did not break the cost out. Mr. Reberger added that the appraised value is the value once the buildings are removed: There would be no cost to the school corporation. The offer being made with this contract includes all of the costs of demolition and all of the costs for getting the appropriate EPA clearances. They are included in the cost and would be paid by the seller.

Mrs. Heffner would prefer to not move ahead until she can see what the EPA actually does say about the property. She has some really strong reservations and she would like to see the EPA Phases I and II completed before moving ahead and buying land.

Mr. Jackson's understanding of the contract is that, if it is signed by the board by the 15th of this month, the seller has to prepare the land and have the EPA clearance before it is purchased, which is correct.

Mr. Atkinson believes there are quite a few questions about this piece of property, and he asked about the possibility of tabling the issue. In response, Mrs. Barr asked if the concern was that the corporation could get by without a transportation garage. She noted that virtually every available piece of property had been looked at. Mr. Misner

added that probably three dozen pieces of property have been looked at, and he believes the key issue is that if this property doesn't pan out EPA-wise, the corporation will not buy it. It would not be the corporation's problem; it would be the seller's problem.

Mrs. Barr noted that it sounds as if the board members have concerns that this is not the place for the bus garage or that the corporation can do without a transportation garage. Mrs. Heffner clarified that her concern is that, at this point in time with finances the way they are and all of the renovations going on, perhaps the corporation could hold back on purchasing a piece of property for the transportation garage. Mrs. Barr responded that she is coming at it from a different point of view because this has been a need acknowledged county-wide and talked about before she ever came on the board. Mrs. Barr is amazed, and impressed, that the corporation has made it this far without having to do something. Her concern is that the corporation could discuss this endlessly while doing nothing.

Mrs. Barr made a motion for approval of the contract. Dr. King seconded.

Under discussion, Dr. Buell asked what the size of the property was. Dr. Schroeder replied that it is a little over two acres. Mrs. Kaelber expressed her concerns that the EPA might approve the property at this time, but in the future something might be found that would be toxic. She would like a little more information. Mrs. Barr, while acknowledging that everybody has legitimate concerns, believes that if the EPA came back with a finding that it was safe, she would assume that was correct. She asks what the corporation will do if it doesn't do this. Mr. Misner added that this property is as perfect as it is going to be. He added that the issue of the transportation garage goes back at least twenty years.

The motion was defeated by a vote of 3-4, with Tina Heffner, Jennifer Kaelber, Brian Atkinson and Forrest Buell opposed.

G. Resolution to Authorize the Superintendent and Business Manager to Sign Agreements for Alternative Services and Private Residential Placements

Dr. Schroeder explained that this is something that is done every year. Dr. King read the resolution into the minutes.

Mrs. Heffner moved to approve the resolution. Mrs. Kaelber seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

H. ISTEP+ and NWEA

Assistant Superintendent Kim Tucker presented information regarding the tests, the results, and what is going to be done to improve results. Ms. Tucker offered her thanks to Stephanie Jackson, Data Management Coordinator, for preparing graphs for the data.

I. School Board Comments at End of Meeting Agenda

Board President Jackson noted that the order of the agenda is in board policy. Mrs. Barr had requested moving board member comments from Item VI on the agenda to a spot farther down on the agenda, such as right before Item VIII Personnel. This will be considered a first reading to make that change.

Because board member comments had not been offered during the regular agenda item, board members were allowed at this time to make their comments.

Mrs. Barr commented on the groundbreaking ceremonies at the elementary schools. She deemed them to be the most enjoyable activity that she has participated in during her time on the board. She especially thanked Tom Reberger for the comments he made to the students prior to the groundbreaking ceremonies. Mrs. Barr also offered her thanks for the information that was presented regarding test scores. She noted that it was a good thing to see positive results and she complimented everyone for a job well done.

Dr. King noted the security features that have been put in the front of the buildings at North Clay, Northview, and Clay City; she is glad to see that. She also congratulated a teacher (Michelle Tracy, her daughter) for giving birth to Dr. King's granddaughter.

Mrs. Heffner stated that she was unable to attend the groundbreaking ceremonies, but she appreciated the coverage of the events in The Brazil Times and The Clay City News. She commented on the curriculum mapping that is taking place and the benefits that will provide. Mrs. Heffner also referred to the high school bands and how well they are doing in competition. She expressed her hope that school patrons had taken advantage of open houses at the schools.

Mrs. Kaelber thanked Mary Yelton for her work on obtaining the grant. Although Mrs. Kaelber was unable to attend the groundbreaking ceremonies, she is very excited to see work progressing.

Mr. Atkinson stated that he really enjoyed the ground breaking ceremonies that he was able to attend this week. He noted that the building project is a culmination of a lot of years of the community working for this, and he is grateful to get the projects started.

Mr. Jackson expressed his appreciation to the building administrators that participated in the groundbreaking ceremonies. He publicly recognized Jim Guy, Len Fischer, and Steve Grigsby who were board members when the building process started.

VIII. Personnel

A. Leaves of Absence

1. Certified

a. Maternity Leave (FMLA)	NCMS	Sarah Goda
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2. Non-Certified

a. Family Medical Leave	NCMS	Charlotte Chamberlain
b. Medical Leave	TRANS	Leslie Webster
c. Medical Leave	TRANS	Paul Stallcop
d. Medical Leave	TRANS	William L. McCullough
e. Medical Leave	TRANS	Vickie Templeton
f. Medical Leave	NCMS	Janet Shonkwiler

B.	Retirements		
	1. Certified	None	
	2. Non-Certified		
	a. Food Services (Dec. 31, 2009)	SE	Rose Johnson
	3. Place on Retirement Index	None	
C.	Resignations		
	1. Certified	None	
	2. Non-Certified		
	a. Title I Nurse	ESE	Amy Bowling
	3. ECA Resignation		
	a. Elementary Sport	CCE	Cindy Gerber
D.	Transfers		
	1. Certified	None	
	2. Non-Certified	None	
E.	Employment		
	1. Certified	None	
	2. Non-Certified		
	a. Instructional Assistant (Sp Serv)	NCMS	Sheree Brown
	b. Instructional Assistant (Sp Serv)	NCMS	Susan McCrocklin
	c. Instructional Assistant (Sp Serv)	NCMS	Cisilee Phegley
	d. Instructional Assistant (Sp Serv 4 hrs)	CCHS	Julia Schlak
	3. Extra-Curricular Certified		
	a. Basketball – Boys 9 th Gr 50%	NHS	Joey Bennett
	b. Basketball – Girls 8 th Gr	NCMS	Jennifer Smith
	c. Basketball – Boys 6 th Gr	NCMS	Kendall Sheets
	d. J.E.T.S. Sponsor	NHS	Kirsten McClure-Snow
	e. Academic Super Bowl (Science)	NHS	Kirsten McClure-Snow
	f. Student Council (50%)	CCE	Carol Morris
	g. Student Council (50%)	CCE	Cindy Gerber
	4. Extra-Curricular Non-Certified		
	a. Key Club	NHS	Pat Krider
	5. Extra-Curricular Lay Coach/Lay Sponsor		
	a. Wrestling – Head	NHS	Dan Mikesell
	b. Wrestling – Assistant	NHS	Chris Walker
	c. Basketball – Boys JV	NHS	Chris Dehart
	d. Basketball – Girls JV	NHS	Michael Medearis
	e. Basketball – Boys 9 th Gr (50%)	NHS	Mike Lacy
	f. Basketball – Boys 7 th Gr	NCMS	Clay Huffman
	g. Basketball – Boys JV	CCHS	T. Christian Barnett
	h. Basketball – Boys Varsity Asst.	CCHS	Greg Myers
	i. Basketball – Girls Jr Varsity	CCHS	Rodney Smith
	j. Basketball – Boys 8 th Gr	CCHS	Jesse White
	k. Basketball – Boys 7 th Gr	CCHS	Matt Ames

l. Basketball – Girls 8 th Gr	CCHS	Jason Sindors
m. Basketball – Girls 7 th Gr	CCHS	Charles Blane Crabb
n. Cheer Sponsor – Jr High	CCHS	Courtney Dayhuff
o. Basketball – Girls 9 th Gr	NHS	Tony McCarter
p. Basketball – Girls Varsity Asst	NHS	Shane Chesshir

6. Volunteers

a. Basketball – Girls Varsity	CCHS	Bradi Oberholtzer
b. Basketball – Boys Varsity	CCHS	Mark Lane

F. Changes

1. Certified None

2. Non-Certified None

3. Lay Coach

a. Evelyn Greenwood will be changing an elementary club for an elementary sport at Meridian.

b. Linda Grove will be changing an elementary club for an elementary sport at Meridian.

G. Termination

1. Certified None

2. Non-Certified None

H. Information Only

1. Rayna White will be used as an ESL Tutor for 2 hours per day. ESL Tutors are paid at the beginning IA rate on an as-needed basis.

I. Classroom Volunteer

None

Mr. Atkinson moved to approve the personnel items. Mrs. Kaelber seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

IX. Future Agenda Items

Mrs. Barr would like to hear board members' proposals for the bus garage.

X. Adjournment

Mrs. Heffner made a motion to adjourn and Mrs. Kaelber seconded. With a 7-0 vote, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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