

CHESTER COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 139 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting October 21, 2021

The Board of Education of Chester Community Unit School District No. 139 held their Regular Meeting on October 21, 2021, in High School FACS Classroom B217. Vice-President Caraway called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Members present: Randi Belton, Nikki Malley, Charles Fricke, Matt Davitz, Lorin Mott, Debi Caraway. Members absent: Trent Vasquez.

Motion was made by Malley and seconded by Mott to enter into executive session at 5:30 p.m. for the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body; and for collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives. Upon roll call Davitz voted aye, Mott voted aye, Fricke voted aye, Malley voted aye, Belton voted aye, Caraway voted aye. 6 aye, 0 nay; motion carried.

Motion was made by Belton and seconded by Davitz to return to open session at 7:31 p.m. Upon roll call Davitz voted aye, Mott voted aye, Fricke voted aye, Malley voted aye, Belton voted aye, Caraway voted aye. 6 aye, 0 nay; motion carried.

Pledge of Allegiance.

No public comment was presented to the Board.

Motion was made by Fricke and seconded by Davitz to approve the agenda and items as listed. Upon roll call all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Grade School Maintenance Report:

- A&W installed 3 additional bottle filling stations in the school.
- Installed 60 new lockers.
- Replaced the photocell on the roof that switches on the lights along the driveway.
- Giessler Roofing patched a small leak in the cafeteria roof.
- Checking and changing filters on air units.

Grade School Athletic Report:

- Softball and baseball have finished their seasons.
- Cross country just finished regionals. Four girls and five boys qualified for the state meet. Mrs. Cartwright is doing a great job with the team.
- Boys and girls basketball have started. The girls first home game was October 20 and the boys first home game is November 2. We have 27 boys participating and 19 girls.
- Fans will be in the stands this year and will have to wear masks.
- Cheerleading has started. Ms. Furuholmen held tryouts and 8 girls made the squad.

High School Athletic Report:

- Football will finish the regular season this week at home against Mt. Vernon. We will hear playoff information on Saturday, October 23 at 8pm.
- Volleyball is 11-8 overall and 3-4 in the conference at the time of this writing. Senior night was held on October 20. Regionals will begin on October 25.
- Chance Mott, Gage Hasemeyer and Clayton Andrews advance to boys golf sectionals. Camryn Luthy and Aubrie Medford advance to girls golf sectionals.
- Cross country participated in their conference meet on October 16 and their regional meet is October 23.
- Girls basketball practice begins November 1 and boys practice will begin on November 8.
- Mr. Bainter has been in contact with Lee's Sports regarding the 1000 point banners.

Curriculum Report:

- Star tests were taken by high school students the week of October 4 in reading and math RTI, as well as any student who tested as "on watch" in August.
- Junior high students are still currently working on RTI for reading and math during the last portion of the school day. They will be taking the Star tests the week of October 25.
- Third grade students were given the DIBELS benchmark testing. The data team will meet with third grade teachers to discuss resulting data.
- Each month a school improvement day will be dedicated to be a "Wellness Wednesday".
- Teachers are continuing to work on the first step of developing their guaranteed viable curriculum. They have been using their standards to develop essential "heart" standards for their classes.
- 33 juniors took the PSAT-NMSQT on October 13.

Grade School Principal's Report:

- Mrs. Gonzalez took the lead on the Fall Book Fair. Each teacher was able to pick out \$81 worth of books for their classroom.
- Mr. Paulus is in the process of installing lockers in the junior high hallway.
- We now have four bottle filling stations throughout the school.
- A teachers' institute was held on October 8. The teachers worked on their guaranteed viable curriculum, GCN training and updating their SLO's.
- We had our official fire drill with the fire department on October 12.
- First quarter ended on Friday, October 15.
- Parent-teacher conferences are being held October 21 and 22.
- A Code Red "Intruder" drill is scheduled with the local police department on October 27.

High School Principal's Report:

- Homecoming week was a great success. A big thank you to the Student Council students and sponsors for coordinating the week.
- The students who needed to retake the Star test did so this past week.
- We are scheduling and completing required safety drills.
- The Class of 1991 toured the school on Saturday, October 9.
- We are considering going away from quarters and reporting only semester grades.
- Proposing a Field Day for students in place of an informal dance during the afternoon of Friday, October 29.

Superintendent's Report:

- Received two FOIA requests from Local Labs.
- FEMA has adjusted some of their eligibility requirements for supplies and equipment purchased to help reopen school after the initial COVID shutdown in the spring of 2020. Our request and appeal will be reviewed again for about \$9,000.
- Putting together a CARES committee to receive input for the third round of CARES funds. The grant application is due in June and the funding will run over two school years. Scheduling a meeting for October 28.
- We also have some additional funding through Digital Equity (\$68,000) and CARES I (\$20,000) that we will be putting together applications for.
- A new sinkhole has formed on the west side of the high school building between it and the football field. It is believed to be a storm drainage issue. Planning a building and grounds committee meeting for November 3 at 5:00 p.m.
- Received a proposal from Heartland Seating to repair and replace parts of the grade school bleachers. There have been issues with moving them in and out. These repairs should help with the general alignment and help them to last longer. The bleachers were installed in the old gym and moved to the new gym in 2015. The move itself likely created a lot of wear and tear. The proposal is for \$15,215. The board questioned the cost of replacing the bleachers versus repairing.
- Pasero is requesting approval for the first payment to J&R Appliance for the installation of the high school kitchen and cafeteria HVAC systems for \$64,624.50. The work has already been completed. Baysinger will finalize their punch list prior to asking for the final payment.
- Discussion held regarding the Inside of the track area.
- Industrial arts program
- Athletic fees

Motion was made by Belton and seconded by Fricke to approve the consent agenda and items as listed. Upon roll call Davitz voted aye, Mott voted aye, Fricke voted aye, Malley voted aye, Belton voted aye, Caraway voted aye. 6 aye, 0 nay; motion carried.

- Minutes of the September 9, 2021 special meeting and executive session;
- Minutes of the September 21, 2021 regular meeting and executive session;
- Bills in the amount of \$1,085,662.89 and payroll in the amount of \$503,130.36;
- Financial reports.

The board tabled the approval to repair the grade school bleachers.

Motion was made by Davitz and seconded by Belton to approve the first payment of \$64,624.50 to J&R Appliances for the high school kitchen and cafeteria HVAC replacement. Upon roll call Mott voted aye, Davitz voted aye, Belton voted aye, Fricke voted aye, Malley voted aye, Caraway voted aye. 6 aye, 0 nay; motion carried.

Motion was made by Fricke and seconded by Malley to approve the 2021-2024 Chester Service Professionals Agreement as presented. Upon roll call Malley voted aye, Fricke voted aye, Belton voted aye, Davitz voted aye, Mott voted aye, Caraway voted aye. 6 aye, 0 nay; motion carried.

Motion was made by Belton and seconded by Mott to accept the resignation of Selena Martinez as ELL paraprofessional effective October 1, 2021. Upon roll call all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Fricke and seconded by Mott to accept the resignation of Brian McMath as high school head custodian effective October 19, 2021. Upon roll call all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Fricke and seconded by Belton to employ Jerina Reese as grade school head volleyball coach for the 2021-22 school year. Upon roll call Mott voted aye, Davitz voted aye, Belton voted aye, Fricke voted aye, Malley voted aye, Caraway voted aye. 6 aye, 0 nay; motion carried.

Motion was made by Davitz and seconded by Mott to employ Sarah Surman as 5/6th grade girls basketball coach for the 2021-22 school year. Upon roll call Malley voted aye, Fricke voted aye, Belton voted aye, Davitz voted aye, Mott voted aye, Caraway voted aye. 6 aye, 0 nay; motion carried.

Motion was made by Davitz and seconded by Mott to approve Kevin Cartwright and Joanna Tudor as 7/8th grade girls basketball volunteers for the 2021-22 school year. Upon roll call all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Fricke and seconded by Malley to approve tenure to Sophia Durbin as recommended. Upon roll call all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Fricke and seconded by Mott to approve the FMLA request of Steve Browning. Upon roll call all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Belton and seconded by Malley to approve starting wages for new employees as presented. Upon roll call Mott voted aye, Davitz voted aye, Belton voted aye, Fricke voted aye, Malley voted aye, Caraway voted aye. 6 aye, 0 nay; motion carried.

Motion was made by Fricke and seconded by Davitz to approve a \$1.35 per hour increase for the 2021-22 school year to secretaries and custodians employed during FY21. Upon roll call Mott voted aye, Davitz voted aye, Belton voted aye, Fricke voted aye, Malley voted aye, Caraway voted aye. 6 aye, 0 nay; motion carried.

Motion was made by Fricke and seconded by Belton to approve ECBG personnel, who are not under either bargaining unit, a 4% salary increase for the 2021-22 school year. Upon roll call Malley voted aye, Fricke voted aye, Belton voted aye, Davitz abstained, Mott voted aye, Caraway voted aye. 5 aye, 0 nay, 1 abstain; motion carried.

Motion was made by Fricke and seconded by Davitz to approve a 4.58% increase for the 2021-22 school year to administration employed during FY21. This equals the average teacher salary increase percentage for the 2021-22 school year per contract. Upon roll call Mott voted aye, Davitz voted aye, Belton voted aye, Fricke voted aye, Malley voted aye, Caraway voted aye. 6 aye, 0 nay; motion carried.

Motion was made by Fricke and seconded by Malley to employ Jacob Wentz as grade school crossing guard beginning October 25, 2021 at \$25 per day. Upon roll call Malley voted aye, Fricke voted aye, Belton voted aye, Davitz voted aye, Mott voted aye, Caraway voted aye. 6 aye, 0 nay; motion carried.

Motion was made by Fricke and seconded by Mott to employ Mary Schroeder as a 3-hour cafeteria worker beginning October 25, 2021. Upon roll call Malley voted aye, Fricke voted aye, Belton voted aye, Davitz voted aye, Mott voted aye, Caraway voted aye. 6 aye, 0 nay; motion carried.

Employment of a district bookkeeper was tabled.

Motion was made by Mott and seconded by Belton to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m. Upon roll call all members voted aye.

The next REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Education will be held **Thursday, November 18, 2021, at 7:30 p.m.** (Executive Session at 6:30 p.m.) in the Chester High School FACS Classroom B217, 1901 Swanwick Street, Chester, IL 62233.