

CHESTER COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 139 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting September 21, 2023

The Board of Education of Chester Community Unit School District No. 139 held a Regular Meeting on September 21, 2023, in High School FACS Classroom B217. President Debi Caraway called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Belton motioned, Davitz seconded to enter into executive session at 6:00 p.m. for the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public. Roll call vote. Ayes: Belton, Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Belton seconded to return to open session at 7:30 p.m. Roll call vote. Ayes: Belton, Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg Nays: none. Motion carried.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

- No public comment was presented

Davitz motioned, Belton seconded to Conduct hearing on Chester School District No. 139 budget for 2023-2024 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Belton, Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg Nays: none. Motion carried.

Belton motioned, Krieg seconded to approve the consent agenda and items as listed. Roll call vote. Ayes: Belton, Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg Nays: none. Motion carried.

- Agenda and items as listed:
- August 7, 2023 special meeting and executive session minutes;
- August 17, 2023 regular meeting and executive session minutes;
- Bills in the amount of \$1,386,032.34 and payroll in the amount \$547,982.53
- Financial reports

Athletic Director's Report

- 18 coaches participated in the free CPR class put on by Chester Memorial Hospital at the High school on September 16, 2023 to meet the new IHSA requirements

CGS

- Regionals for baseball was September 9, 2023
- Regionals for softball was September 9, 2023
- The cross country team will travel to Energy for the Run the Pines Invitational on September 28th, 2023 • Cross Country regionals are October 11, 2023 in Waterloo

CHS

- Dance Camp was a huge success with over 100 dancers
- 3 of the 5 qualified NCA Cheerleaders are now performing at the Cheez-it Citrus Bowl in Florida December 29-January 2, 2024
- The Football Varsity team is currently 1 and 3
- Homecoming game is October 6, 2023 vs Dupo
- The Varsity Volleyball team placed 3rd out of 13 teams in the Benton Tournament. Mabry Wingerter and Jordan Buskohl were selected to the All-Tournament team
- The Volleyball Pink Out game is October 2, 2023 vs. Steeleville
- The boys golf team placed 7th in the Nashville Invitational
- Golf player Lucas Thompson placed 3rd in our CIT and the team placed 3rd out of 9 teams • The girls golf team placed 11th in the Okawville Invitational, Camryn Luthy placed 5th out of 86 golfers • The Chester cross country invitational is September 28, 2023 at the Randolph County Lake • Chester is now hosting

the cross country Conference meet on October 14, 2023 instead of Sparta

- Regionals for cross country will be on October 21, 2023 at the Randolph County Lake

Curriculum Report

- For the past couple weeks have been working on Fall Benchmark testing in reading and math for grades K-12th
 - Social Emotional Learning lessons are being taught on Mondays. Pre-K-8th grade is using a program called Second Step and 9th-12th grad is using a program called Character Strong
 - Jr. High students and 2nd-5th grade are using a program called Freckle. This program is integrated with Star reading and math testing results therefore it is personalized for each student
 - High school students are using a personalized learning program called IXL, reading is on Tuesdays and math on Thursdays.
 - On October 25, 2023 the high school junior will be taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, the assessment will be in digital format
 - The student scores from the 2023 state assessments will be reported at the October Board meeting •
- 2024 Spring State Assessments:
- Access for ELLs: Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State to State for English Language Learners – Jan 17-March 5 for grades K-12
 - IAR: Illinois Assessment of Readiness- March 4-April 19 for grades 3-8
 - ISA: Illinois Science Assessment- March 1-April 30 for grades 5,8,11
 - PSAT: Preliminary Scholastic Assessment (Aptitude) test for grades 9 and 10
 - SAT: Scholastic Assessment (Aptitude) test for grade 11
 - DLM-AA: Dynamic Learning Map Alternate Assessment- March 13-May 8

Maintenance Report

- Diagnosis and repairing of the steamer in the grade school kitchen
- Fixed pipe insulation above the stage at the high school and another located in the Spanish classroom • Electric ran to the new scoreboards
- Installed new internet bridges for the marquees at both school
- Ran two ethernet drops for the old kitchen area in the grade school
- Recycling being dropped off on a daily basis
- Hung new room capacity signs as well as installed two AED's, one in the cafeteria and one in the gym at the high school
- Installed locks on three of the vending refrigerators in the concession stand by the football field and two locks on the two electrical boxes for the new scoreboards to prevent tampering and injury

Grade School Principal's Report

- Yondr pouches are doing well and most students are using them
- Bus Evacuation drills were held on August 29, 2023 as well as our first fire drill on September 8, 2023. Our next fire drill is scheduled for October 11, 2023
- New handicap accessible playground equipment is planned to be delivered in October •
- PTS held their first meeting of the year on September 19, 2023 in the cafeteria
- Parent teacher conferences are currently scheduled for October 19th and 20th.

High School Principal's Report

- Started our SEL curriculum, Character Strong and is going well
- An emergency evacuation drill was held on September 14, 2023
- The new marquee and scoreboard have been installed
- CHS honored and remembered September 11th by the singing of our national anthem by Mr. Colonel's class and a personal story from the building principal
- The Second Annual open house was a huge success
- Both Garret Hopkins and Rylie McDonough have been recognized with one of the "National Rural and Small Town Recognition Awards"
- The courts have been sealed and lines painted and added two pickleball courts as well

Superintendent's Report

Governance:

- Proposals were presented for new sound system in the gym and football fields
- Met with the City of Chester to assist with a grant application for safe routes to school

Budget/Finance:

- Proposed budget presented
- Grant writing

Building and Grounds:

- The punch list is currently being worked on for the 5-6th grade wing at the grade school ➤ The punch list for the kitchen doors, Media Center closet, and locker room closet has been initiated ➤ High School vestibule is coming together with new doors in this month and Sonitrol coming to add security ➤ Re-keying will start at the end of October, early November.
- Completing items on our 10-year Health Life Safety, reviewing those items with Baysinger

Classroom:

- Presented increase in pay for Substitute teachers for the 23-24 school year. The overall area schools' pay was reviewed to assist in the increase
- The school improvement team will focus on assisting the district with ELL students while seeking additional sources
- Working with our new special education teachers with IEP's and AIMWEB Plus

Athletics:

- Presented increase in pay for Officials for the 23-24 school year. The overall conference pay was reviewed to assist in the increase

Belton motioned, Fricke seconded to approve early graduation in December 2023 for students Jazmin Sorto, Aydain Greene, Gabriel White, Zachary Hornbostel, Dylan Kulich, and Skyla Niemeyer. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Fricke seconded to approve the MOU with CEA regarding ELL endorsement. Roll call vote. Ayes: Belton, Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg Nays: none. Motion carried.

Krieg motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the facility request from Grace Church Ministries to utilize the high school parking lot on October 8, 2023 from 12:30 pm-5:30 pm for Family Fun Day. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Davitz seconded to approve the pay increase for officials for the 2023-2024 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Belton, Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Belton seconded to approve teacher substitute pay to \$115 reflecting the beginning of September 30th payroll. Roll call vote. Ayes: Belton, Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Krieg seconded to approve Shivelbine Music & Sound Inc. proposal for sound system for football field at \$14, 898.94 and sound system for Gym/Cafeteria at \$81,738.45. Roll call vote. Ayes: Belton, Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Coffey seconded to approving a Resolution Barring on Jacob Cowan for the period of September 21, 2023 to September 20, 2024 from School Property and Extracurricular Events. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Belton seconded to approve to employ Jessica Valleroy as Infant Toddler Specialist. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Belton seconded to approve Matt Korando as Head Freshman boys' basketball coach. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Krieg motioned, Coffey seconded to accept resignation of Caroline Harrell as paraprofessional effective August 22, 2023. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Coffey seconded to accept resignation of Jakob Cushman as Freshman boys' basketball coach resignation effective August 20, 2023. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Davitz and seconded by Belton to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

The next REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Education will be held **Wednesday October 18, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.** (**Executive Session at 6:00 p.m.**) in the Chester High School FACS Classroom B217 located at 1901 Swanwick Street, Chester, IL 62233.