

**CASS CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CASS CITY, MICHIGAN**

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
August 26, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Cass City Public Schools Board of Education was called to order on August 26, 2024 at 7:00 p.m., in the Cass City Jr/Sr High Library by President, Emily Lasceski.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Emily Lasceski, George Batty, Scott Richards, Stacey Bliss, Mandy Ross and Janie Meeker.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bryce VanVliet

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent Zimba, Elementary Principal Fernald and Jr/Sr High Principal Hartzell, CFO Pierce

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Emily Lasceski.

A motion was made by Janie Meeker, supported by Stacey Bliss, to approve the consent agenda as presented in the board packet. **All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED**

Recognition and Presentation: None

Public Participation:

Teacher Barb Graff gave an update on how the first few days of school have gone. Talked about the new cell phone policy and how they are communicating with each on the ways students are trying to work around the policy. She talked about the new Brain Friendly Reading class that she, Laura Curtis and Lauren Taylor are working together on. Heather Middleton is doing new project based learning in some of her classes. The live stock will be moving in soon and they are expecting babies in the fall and around Christmas time.

Reports and Communications:

Allison gave an enrollment report for the start of 2024-2025 school year. Enrollment is down 26 students from winter count last year. Kindergarten has smaller classes this year than the graduating senior class from last year.

Needed approval of the ESSER III Continuity of Learning Plan. This is the last time that we need to approve this plan as all money must be distributed by 9/30/2024. A motion was made by Janie Meeker, supported by Stacey Bliss, to approve the ESSER III Continuity of Learning Plan. **All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.** (A copy is in the Secretary's Book)

A motion was made by Janie Meeker, supported by Stacey Bliss, to approve the Strategic Plan Board Goals. **All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.**

Chelsea Roach was introduced as the new Student Representative to the board of education for the 2024-2025 school year.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

A motion was made by Janie Meeker, supported by Scott Richards, to approve the 1st reading of the Emergency Operations Plan. **All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.** (A copy is in the Secretary's book)

A motion was made by Janie Meeker, supported by George Batty, to approve the 1st reading of the Thrun Board Policy July Updates. **All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.**

A motion was made by Janie Meeker, supported by Stacey Bliss, to approve the 1st Reading of the Athletic Policy. **All Ayes, MOTION CARRIED** (A copy is in the Secretary's book).

A motion was made by Scott Richards, supported by Stacey Bliss, to hire Stephen VerBurg as an Elementary Teacher. **All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.**

A motion was made by Janie Meeker, supported by Stacey Bliss, to hire Rachel Spicer as an Elementary GSRP Teacher. **All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.**

A motion was made by Janie Meeker, supported by Mandy Ross, to hire Eric Hanby as a Jr/Sr High Teacher. **All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.**

A motion was made by Scott Richards, supported by Janie Meeker, to hire Benjamin Southgate as a Jr/Sr High School teacher. **All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.**

A motion was made by Janie Meeker, supported by Mandy Ross, to hire Amanda Sherman as an Elementary Paraprofessional. **All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.**

Stacey Bliss read the resignation letter of Ashley Hagen. A motion was made by Janie Meeker, supported by Stacey Bliss, to accept the letter of resignation with regrets. **All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.**

At 7:25 p.m., it was moved by Janie Meeker, supported by George Batty that the regular monthly meeting be adjourned and the board go into a closed session meeting to discuss ongoing contract negotiations. A roll call vote was taken, Janie Meeker - Aye, Stacey Bliss - Aye, Mandy Ross - Aye, Scott Richards - Aye, George Batty - Aye, Emily Lasceski - Aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

At 8:33 p.m. President Laceski called to order the Open Session.

At 8:34 p.m. a motion was made by George Batty, supported by Janie Meeker to adjourn the open session. **All Ayes. MOTION CARRIED.**

Stacey Bliss, Secretary
Cass City Public Schools Board of Education