

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF  
CLAY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

An organizational and regular session of the Clay Community Schools Board of Trustees was held at the Board Room of the Central Administrative Office, 1013 S. Forest Avenue, Brazil, IN, 47834, on Thursday, May 8, 2025. Dr. David Bess, Dr. Michael Shaw, Charley Jackson, Andrea Baysinger, Tom Reberger, Amy Burke Adams, and Cheryl Schopmeyer were present.

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Board President Tom Reberger led those in attendance in the pledge, and Superintendent Rayle offered the prayer.

**II. Comments from Patrons**

None

**III. Consent Agenda**

**A. Claims**

**B. Board Meetings**

Regular Session: Thursday, April 10, 2025

Executive Session: Thursday, April 10, 2025

**C. Field Trips**

-CCHS Girls' Basketball team to attend the basketball camp at DePauw University on June 16-18, 2025. This is an overnight trip that required board approval.

-NHS Band to attend the Thanksgiving Parade of Bands in Orlando, Florida on November 23-28, 2026. This is an out-of-state and overnight field trip that required board approval.

-NHS Choir to attend the Jazz Festival at New Castle High School on November 7-8, 2025. This is an overnight field trip that required board approval.

-CCHS FFA to attend the Indiana FFA State Convention at Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN on June 17-19, 2025. This is an overnight field trip that required board approval.

**D. Personnel**

**A. LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

1. Certified

a. FMLA

CCE/SES/VBE

Garrett Thatcher

2. Non-Certified

a. FMLA

CO

Cori Barker

b. Not Eligible for Leave-Approved Absence VBE

Brittany Bennett

c. Not Eligible for Leave-Approved Absence NHS

Myron Hane

**B. RETIREMENTS**

1. Certified

None

2. Non-Certified

a. Insurance and Deductions Clerk (10/1/25) CO

Cori Barker

3. Place on Retirement Index

None

**C. RESIGNATIONS**

1. Certified

a. Elementary Teacher (7/31/25)

VBE

Jeff Walker

b. Elementary Teacher (5/1/25)	VBE	Jamie Lamb
2. Non-Certified		
a. Food Services (4/10/25)	NHS	Debra Brewer
b. Instructional Assistant (5/22/25)	JTE	Amanda Slater
3. ECA Resignations		
a. Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach	CCHS	Chris Ames
b. Student Council Sponsor	CCHS	Sarah Dowell
4. ECA Lay Coaches	None	
D. TRANSFERS		
1. Certified	None	
2. Non-Certified		
a. Secretary/Treasurer (from IA at JTE-7/23/25) NCMS		Kari McNeely
E. EMPLOYMENT		
1. Certified	None	
2. Non-Certified	None	
3. Other	None	
F. EXTRA-CURRICULAR		
1. Extra-Curricular Certified		
a. Science Superbowl Coach	NHS	Lindsey Barr
2. Extra-Curricular Non-Certified	None	
3. Extra-Curricular Lay Coach	None	
4. Supplemental	None	
G. CHANGES		
1. Certified	None	
2. Non-Certified	None	
3. ECA-Lay Coaches	None	
H. VOLUNTEERS		
1. CLASSROOM		
a. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Jason Orman
b. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Macrea Mitchell
c. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Laura Wells
d. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Tanner Jenkins
e. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Dylan Hofmann
f. Classroom Volunteer	FPE	Ashley Lewicki
g. Classroom Volunteer	FPE	Andrew Chambers
h. Classroom Volunteer	FPE	Kristina Myers
i. Classroom Volunteer	JTE	Kristin Phillips
j. Classroom Volunteer	MES	Leslie Jones
k. Classroom Volunteer	SES	Reanda Kirchner
l. Classroom Volunteer	SES	Abbe Hendrix
m. Classroom Volunteer	SES	Michael Jones
n. Classroom Volunteer	VBE	Janet Modglin
o. Classroom Volunteer	VBE	Jesse Merriman
p. Classroom Volunteer	VBE	Andrea Williams

q. Classroom Volunteer	CCHS	John Wells
r. Classroom Volunteer	NCMS	Nickolas Conklin
s. Classroom Volunteer	NCMS	Patricia Keller
t. Classroom Volunteer	NCMS	Diana Frazier
u. Classroom Volunteer	NCMS	Virginia Ooley
v. Classroom Volunteer	CCS	Shannon Long
w. Classroom Volunteer	CCS	Jorita Wilson
x. Classroom Volunteer	SES/NCMS	Jamie Wheeler
y. Classroom Volunteer	SES/NC/NHS	Billie Cassidy
z. Classroom Volunteer	VBE/NC/NHS	Timothy Whitaker
aa. Classroom Volunteer	VBE/NC/NHS	Brian Plummer
bb. Classroom Volunteer	MES/NC/NHS	Kayla Fisher
cc. Classroom Volunteer	CCE/CCHS/JTE	Kimberly Wallace
dd. Classroom Volunteer	ESE/NC/NHS	Anola Gallion
2. ATHLETICS/ECA	None	
3. BAND	None	
I. TERMINATIONS	None	
J. SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY	None	
K. NON-RENEWAL		
1. CLASSIFIED	None	
2. ATHLETICS/ECA	None	

#### L. ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACT RENEWALS:

*Legislation sets forth that it is no longer assumed that an administrator's contract automatically rolls over simply because there is an absence of cancellation of contract. Michelle Cooper, legal counsel for the corporation, has previously informed the corporation that she sees this more of a formality, and if the Superintendent or Board had any intention of canceling an administrator's contract, the process would have to begin much earlier. This measure is more to keep the school corporation in compliance with the Indiana Statutes. Michelle Cooper also advised the school corporation that the contract renewals could be part of the Consent Agenda so all contracts could be voted on as part of the monthly personnel agenda.*

a. Superintendent	Central Office	Tim Rayle
b. Assistant Superintendent	Central Office	Brady Scott
c. Director of Extended Services	Central Office	Aron Hammond
d. Director of Technology	Corporation	Bill Milner
e. Director of Curriculum & Grants	Central Office	Kathy Knust
f. Director of Business Affairs	Central Office	John Szabo
g. Director of Human Resources	Central Office	Chris Ross
h. Director of Special Services	Corporation	Doug Lunn
i. Director of Health Services	Corporation	Amber Sindors
j. Principal	Clay City Elementary	Brent Vaught
k. Principal	East Side Elementary	OPEN
l. Principal	Forest Park Elementary	Dustin Jorgensen
m. Principal	Jackson Township Elementary	Brad Ennen
n. Principal	Meridian Elementary	Amy Hardey
o. Principal	Staunton Elementary	Chuck Fry
p. Principal	Van Buren Elementary	Derek Tipton
q. Assistant Principal/Athletic Director	Clay City Jr/Sr High School	Harley Skinner
r. Assistant Principal	Northview High School	Deb Zimmerman
s. Assistant Principal	Northview High School	Bryan Strain
t. Assistant Principal	North Clay Middle School	Kim Parsons
u. Assistant Principal	North Clay Middle School	Brent Anderson
v. Assistant Principal/Director of At-Risk	Cumberland Academy	Rachel Kiefer
w. Principal	North Clay Middle School	Bethany Jones
x. Principal	Clay City Jr/Sr High School	Michael Owens
y. Principal	Northview High School	Chris Mauk

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

**IV. Old Business**

None

**V. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Rayle took a moment to recognize and honor several groups of individuals whose daily work forms the backbone of Clay Community Schools. Dr. Rayle shared,

"First, we recently celebrated National School Principal's Day. Our principal's ability to manage complex operations, build relationships, and maintain a focus on student success is nothing short of remarkable. Last Friday was School Lunch Heroes Day, these individuals work tirelessly to ensure our students receive nutritious meals in a welcoming environment. Their service is essential to student well-being and learning readiness. This week, we are celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week. Our teachers are the foundation of everything we do. I want to publicly thank each and every teacher for their commitment to excellence and their impact on young lives. Yesterday, we recognized School Nurse Appreciation Day. Our school nurses are not only healthcare professionals but also trusted caregivers, often serving as the first line of support for students' physical and emotional health. Their calm, competent presence is a source of comfort for families and staff alike. We also recently acknowledged Administrative Assistant's Day. These individuals are often the first faces seen and the first voices heard in our schools and departments. Their ability to handle the details, manage the unexpected, and keep operations running smoothly is invaluable to our entire school community. On School Bus Driver Appreciation Day, we recognized the incredible responsibility our bus drivers carry, transporting students safely each day, building relationships along the way, and being the first and last part of the school day experience for many children. It takes an entire team to educate and support our students. I want to thank all our employees, across every role, for their dedication, professionalism, and heart they bring to Clay Community Schools."

**VI. New Business  
School Update**

Throughout the 2024-25 academic year, the Board will receive monthly updates from a designated school. Mr. Chris Mauk, Principal at Northview High School, shared academic and athletic successes achieved throughout the year. Following his presentation, the Northview High School Jazz Band performed for the board.

**A. 2-Hour Delay Waiver**

Dr. Shaw moved to approve the 2-hour delay time missed on April 7, 2025 by Police Officers, Bus Drivers, Cafeteria Staff, Instructional Assistants, Building Level School Nurses, and Building Level Secretarial & Office Staff. Mrs. Schopmeyer seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**B. Recommendation to Accept Chromebook Bids**

Mr. Jackson moved to approve Mr. Milner's request to accept the bid from CDWG for the Acer R757T devices. Dr. Bess seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**C. Permission to Accept Donation for the CCHS Academic Letter Banquet**

Mrs. Schopmeyer moved to approve Mr. Owen's request to accept a sponsorship check for \$2,134 from Riddell National Bank. Mrs. Baysinger seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. The funds will be used to cover the meal, patches and bars for the academic letter banquet students, faculty, and staff.

**D. Permission to Accept Donations for the CCHS and NHS FFA**

Mrs. Schopmeyer moved to approve the request from CCHS Principal Mr. Owens and NHS Principal Mr. Mauk to each accept a sponsorship check for \$1,000 from BASF and Matt and Shelly Mace for the CCHS and NHS FFA programs. Mr. Jackson seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. The funds will be used to support student programs at both schools.

**E. Memorandums of Understanding for Emergency Preparedness and Mutual Aid**

Two MOUs for Emergency Preparedness and Mutual Aid were provided to the board. The MOUs were developed to specify the responsibilities of CCS and Cloverdale Community Schools and Clay County Emergency Management in the event of an emergency.

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

**F. Memorandum of Understanding between the Clay County Health Department and the Clay Community School Corporation**

A MOU formalizing an agreement between the Clay County Health Department and the Clay Community School Corporation was provided to the board. This agreement authorizes the entry of student vaccination and related public health records into the Children and Hoosier Immunization Registry Program (CHIRP), in full compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Mrs. Baysinger moved to approve the MOU. Mrs. Adams seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0-1 vote, with Mrs. Schopmeyer abstaining.

**G. Food2School Purchasing Cooperative Approvals for 2025-26**

Mr. Jackson moved to approve to renew contracts for GPO/Distributor, milk, and bread for the 2025-2026 school year. Mrs. Adams seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**H. Request to apply for a Community Oriented Policing Services Grant**

Chief of Police Josh Clarke requested permission to apply for a Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Grant for the 2025-2026 school year. The COPS grant is a federal initiative supporting school safety efforts. Chief Clarke provided the board with a COPS School Violence Prevention Program fact sheet.

Mrs. Adams moved to approve the request to apply for the COPS grant. Mrs. Schopmeyer seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**I. Request to apply for a Digital Learning Grant**

Mr. Jackson moved to approve the request from Dianna Knox to apply for the Indiana Department of Education's Digital Learning Grant. Mrs. Schopmeyer seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote. This grant is designed to support efforts to enhance student learning through the strategic use of technology. The focus of the grant includes fostering innovation, improving digital learning experiences for students, and promoting effective digital instructional practices among educators.

**J. Indiana Department of Education – Robotics Competition Grant: 2025-2026**

Mrs. Schopmeyer moved to approve Kathy Knust's request to apply for the Indiana Department of Education – Robotics Competitive Grant. Dr. Bess seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**VII. Board Member Comments**

**Dr. David Bess** expressed he had started his visitations around the corporation and had visited Mr. Milner and the technology department this week. He stated he saw how things operated and was very impressed. He also visited the employees at the health center and was impressed with their operation, noting it was a very nice facility and the employees there seemed to be very helpful. After that, he visited Goals Academy and spoke with one of the instructors. He learned they have had 30 students who have passed the equivalency test this year. He also visited the house that the Building Trades students are working on. He learned that if you enroll in that program for two years, it counts as one year if you go to the carpenter's union as an apprentice. He shared that he enjoyed the Employee Recognition Dinner and it was nice hearing all the wonderful things from the retirees.

**Dr. Michael Shaw** shared his appreciation to everyone in the corporation, every day, every week, every month. He extended thanks to Mrs. Knust and Mr. Milner for their hard work.

**Charley Jackson** thanked all the teachers, administrators, bus drivers, and the complete staff of Clay Community Schools. He also thanked Mr. Mauk for his presentation and the NHS Jazz Band for their performance.

**Andrea Baysinger** wished everyone a Happy Teacher Appreciation Day and hopes everyone received good comments from their students and parents. She said she saw a lot of people posting about how teachers have made an impact on their lives. She hopes each teacher gets that kind of feedback.

**Amy Burke-Adams** wished everyone a Happy Teacher Appreciation Week. She shared they appreciate the teachers every week, but she was glad they had the opportunity to let them know in person how much they do appreciate them and what they do each and every day. She wanted to remind everyone that summer is right around the corner and graduations would be happening in a few weeks. She also wanted to mention that today the community participated in Manufacturers Appreciation Day that was held at Great Dane and it was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Redevelopment Commission. There were other organizations that donated and one of the speakers was CCS' own, Kathy Knust, who did a phenomenal job explaining the changes that are coming to the HS diplomas and how that could impact them. She said they also had Senator Greg Goode who stayed after and not only praised the handouts and Mrs. Knust's explanation, but was very impressed with her presentation. She wanted to share her appreciation to Mrs. Knust and Dr. Rayle for representing Clay Community Schools at the community events.

**Cheryl Schopmeyer** thanked the teachers in attendance at the meeting, sharing she appreciates all they do. She thanked Mr. Mauk for his presentation and really appreciated the NHS Jazz Band for their performance. She mentioned she had the opportunity to attend the Northview Quiz Bowl and it was excellent. She said it was like watching a live Jeopardy and it was very entertaining and the students are really smart, she highly recommends watching it.

**Tom Reberger** agreed with all previous comments.

**VIII. Future Agenda Items**

Mr. Jackson requested an exploration of the potential transition from the traditional Valedictorian and Salutatorian recognition model to the Latin Honors System. He said he had spoken to a few teachers, administrators, and former students and they feel like this is something they would like to see done in the near future.

**IX. Adjournment**

Having exhausted all agenda items, the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

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