

**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 the Board Room of the Central Administrative Office, 1013 S. Forest Avenue, Brazil, IN, 47834, on Thursday, May 9, 2024. Ryan Keller, Michael Shaw, Andrea Baysinger, Tom Reberger, Amy Burke Adams, and Cheryl Schopmeyer were present. Charley Jackson participated in the meeting after being sworn in.

**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 11, 2024

Executive Session: Thursday, April 11, 2024

Executive Session: Monday, April 15, 2024

**C. Field Trips**

CCHS Varsity and JV Girls' Basketball team to attend the Vincennes University Team Basketball Camp from June 16-18, 2024. This is an overnight trip that required board approval.

NHS Choirs to perform at Disney World in Orlando, Florida from March 12-16, 2024.

This is an overnight and out-of-state stay that required board approval.

**D. Personnel**

**A. LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

1. Certified

a. FMLA	CA	Brion Blanc
b. Military Leave (May 7,8, & 17, 2024)	NHS	Ben Wagner
c. Maternity Leave (24-25 School Year)	VBE	Jaime Lamb
d. FMLA-Maternity	NHS	Allison Rissler
e. FMLA	NCMS	Tammy Turner
f. FMLA	JTE	Larrisa Goshen
g. FMLA	FPE/MES	Christy Casassa
h. FMLA	NCMS	Jason Setliff

2. Non-Certified

a. FMLA	Trans	Thomas Metz
b. Not Eligible for Leave		

**B. RETIREMENTS**

1. Certified

None

2. Non-Certified

None

3. Place on Retirement Index

None

**C. RESIGNATIONS**

- |  |        |                |
|--|--------|----------------|
| 1. Certified                               |        |                |
| a. Secondary Assistant Principal (6/14/24) | NHS/CA | Karen Phillips |
| b. Secondary Science Teacher (5/23/24)     | NHS    | Angela Johnson |
| 2. Non-Certified                           |        |                |
| a. School Nurse                            | NCMS   | Lindsay Morgan |
| 3. ECA Resignations                        |        |                |
| a. Director of Musical Performance (24-25) | NHS    | Luke Carr      |
| 4. ECA Lay Coaches                         | None   |                |

**D. TRANSFERS**

- |                                     |     |                    |
|-------------------------------------|-----|--------------------|
| 1. Certified                        |     |                    |
| a. Elementary Teacher CCE (24-25)   | JTE | Jennifer Yocom     |
| b. Elementary Teacher MES (24-25)   | FPE | Sarah Abby Stevens |
| c. Assistant Principal CCHS (24-25) | CA  | Rachel Kiefer      |
| 2. Non-Certified                    |     |                    |
| a. Food Services NCMS (4/17/24)     | ESE | Heather Lyons      |
| b. Custodian NCMS (5/27/24)         | NHS | Lloyd Harris       |

**E. EMPLOYMENT**

- |                  |      |
|------------------|------|
| 1. Certified     | None |
| 2. Non-Certified | None |
| 3. Other         | None |

**F. EXTRA-CURRICULAR**

- |   |      |                  |
|---|------|------------------|
| 1. Extra-Curricular Certified           |      |                  |
| a. Varsity Girls' Basketball Coach      | CCHS | Clay Huffman     |
| b. JV Volleyball Coach                  | CCHS | Jenna Ream       |
| 2. Extra-Curricular Non-Certified       | None |                  |
| 3. Extra-Curricular Lay Coach           |      |                  |
| a. Varsity Volleyball Coach             | CCHS | Asieavae Jeffers |
| 4. Supplemental                         |      |                  |
| a. Assistant Softball Coach (max \$600) | NHS  | Hayden Smith     |

**G. CHANGES**

- |                               |      |                |
|-------------------------------|------|----------------|
| 1. Certified                  | None |                |
| 2. Non-Certified              |      |                |
| a. Guidance Secretary (24-25) | CCHS | Michelle Weber |
| 3. ECA-Lay Coaches            | None |                |

**H. VOLUNTEERS**

- |                        |     |               |
|------------------------|-----|---------------|
| 1. CLASSROOM           |     |               |
| a. Classroom Volunteer | CCE | Brian Vitz    |
| b. Classroom Volunteer | CCE | Zachery Welch |

c. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Clayton Bettenbrock
d. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Laura Huffman
e. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Andrew Nicoson
f. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Johanna Damon
g. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Robin Harris
h. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Amanda Baumgartner
i. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	James Patterson
j. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Brittany Duncan
k. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Michael Mitchell
l. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Angela Burrus
m. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Krystal Beckley
n. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Christopher Chenoweth
o. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Allison Carlson
p. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Megan Mitchell
q. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Andrea Brossman
r. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Ralph Michael
s. Classroom Volunteer	CCE	Elizabeth Haviland
t. Classroom Volunteer	SE	Heather Plew
u. Classroom Volunteer	SE	Meagan Tabler
v. Classroom Volunteer	SE	Cameron Casassa
w. Classroom Volunteer	SE	Jeri Casassa
x. Classroom Volunteer	SE	Jolene Dailey
y. Classroom Volunteer	VBE	Matthew Lane
z. Classroom Volunteer	VBE	Cody Moore
aa. Classroom Volunteer	VBE	Megan Lucas
bb. Classroom Volunteer	VBE	Jason McHargue
cc. Classroom Volunteer	NCMS	Autumn Drake
dd. Classroom Volunteer	NCMS	Merry Miller-Moon
ee. Classroom Volunteer	NCMS	Jennifer Head
ff. Classroom Volunteer	NCMS/NHS	Braelyn Patty
gg. Classroom Volunteer	CCE/CCHS	Chelsea Lucas
hh. Classroom Volunteer	CCE/CCHS	Jayci Dickey
ii. Classroom Volunteer	CCE/CCHS	Bryan Hunt
jj. Classroom Volunteer	CCE/CCHS	Michelle Simpson
kk. Classroom Volunteer	CCE/CCHS	Cory Williamson
ll. Classroom Volunteer	CCE/CCHS	Wade Stoliby
mm. Classroom Volunteer	CCE/CCHS	Brina Cox
nn. Classroom Volunteer	CCE/CCHS	Brandon Mattox
oo. Classroom Volunteer	CCE/CCHS	Ashley Hutcheson
pp. Classroom Volunteer	VBE/CCHS	Lacy Conder
qq. Classroom Volunteer	VBE/NCMS	Annette Royer
rr. Classroom Volunteer	VBE/NCMS/NHS	Rachel Wheeler
ss. Classroom Volunteer	SE/NCMS	Robin Trout
tt. Classroom Volunteer	SE/NCMS/NHS	Karen Brimberry
uu. Classroom Volunteer	SE/NCMS/NHS	Ryan Brimberry
vv. Classroom Volunteer	CCHS	Adrie Koehler Blair
2. BAND	None	
3. ATHLETICS/ECA	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. Principal	Clay City Elementary	Brent Vaught
j. Principal	East Side Elementary	Lisa Froderman
k. Principal	Forest Park Elementary	Dustin Jorgensen
l. Principal	Jackson Township Elementary	Brad Ennen
m. Principal	Meridian Elementary	Amy Hardey
n. Principal	Staunton Elementary	Chuck Fry
o. Principal	Van Buren Elementary	Derek Tipton
p. Assistant Principal/Athletic Director	Clay City Jr/Sr High School	Rachel Kiefer
q. Assistant Principal	Northview High School	Deb Zimmerman
r. Assistant Principal	Northview High School	Bryan Strain
s. Assistant Principal	North Clay Middle School	Kim Parsons
t. Assistant Principal	North Clay Middle School	Brent Anderson
u. Assistant Principal/Director of At-Risk	Cumberland Academy	
v. Principal	North Clay Middle School	Bethany Jones
w. Principal	Clay City Jr/Sr High School	Michael Owens
x. Principal	Northview High School	Chris Mauk

**E. Conflict of Interest**

Mr. Keller moved to approve the consent agenda. Mrs. Baysinger seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

**IV. Old Business**

**A. Neola Teacher Appreciation Grant Policy Update – Second Reading**

Information regarding the proposed changes to the Neola policy was presented at the April 11 regular session, and no changes were proposed during the first reading.

Mrs. Adams moved to approve the policy changes. Dr. Shaw seconded, and the motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

**V. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Rayle noted the following:

- Congratulations to the retirees and thank you to those who organized the Employee Recognition Dinner.
- Happy Teacher Appreciation Week and thanks to Ivy for the great article in the Brazil Times.
- Thank you to all the school nurses for Nurse Appreciation Day.
- Congratulations to the Mental Math winners: CCE 4<sup>th</sup> grade and JTE 5<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Congratulations to Meridian Elementary and Van Buren Elementary on becoming STEM-certified schools.

- On May 31 Clay Community Schools will host the first Summer of Learning Conference in partnership with the Indiana Department of Education.
- Thanks to Ivy and the Brazil Times for highlighting the schools throughout the year.
- As the school year is ending, a big thank you to the students, parents, employees, and the community.

**VI. New Business  
School Update**

Throughout the 2023-24 academic year, the Board will receive monthly updates from a designated school. Mr. Chris Mauk, Principal at Northview School, shared staff and student accolades, and the Northview Choir sang for the board.

**A. Appointment of Board Member to Fill Vacant Seat**

On April 16, 2024, The Clay Community Schools Board of Trustees announced the opening on the Board due to the regrettable passing of Board Member Lynn Romas. Applications were accepted until May 1, 2024. The Board of Trustees met in an executive session on Wednesday, May 8, 2024, to review all applications. The Board was asked to make a motion and vote an individual to be appointed to the Board for the remainder of the term that Mr. Romas was elected to serve.

Mrs. Adams made a motion to nominate Charley Jackson. Mrs. Baysinger seconded, and with no other nominations, the motion was approved with a 5-0-1 vote. Mrs. Schopmeyer abstained.

**B. Oath of Office for New Board Member**

Judge Joseph Trout was in attendance to administer the oath of office to the new board member. Before delivering the oath, Judge Trout spoke to the board members regarding his exiting his position as circuit court judge and ensured a smooth transition. He shared it was a bittersweet moment and truly enjoyed working with the school board throughout the years. He truly believes that each member cares deeply about the community, teachers, and students, and he thanked them for that. He reminisced memories of Mr. Romas and shared what a wonderful friend he was.

**C. Appointing of Board Vice President**

Due to the regrettable passing of Board Vice President, Lynn Romas, the office of Vice President needed to be filled. Mrs. Baysinger made a motion to nominate Dr. Michael Shaw. With no other nominations, Dr. Shaw was declared vice president by acclamation.

**D. Wabash Valley Community Foundation Grants**

The Wabash Valley Community Foundation awarded Clay Community Schools a \$10,000 grant to support funding the costs of a therapy dog at North Clay Middle School, and a therapy dog to be shared by Forest Park and Meridian Elementary Schools. The Community Foundation has also awarded the Northview High School Choir program a \$3,475 grant for the Fearless Performing 101 program.

Mr. Keller moved to accept the grants. Mrs. Schopmeyer seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**E. Resolution for North Clay Middle School Purple Star Designation**

Information was included in the packet from NCMS Principal Bethany Jones regarding a request to allow NCMS to once again pursue the Purple Star School Designation for the school.

Application requirements include a school board resolution representing support for military students and families.

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

**F. Update on Northview Bleacher Project**

Director of Extended Services, Aron Hammond, updated the board about the Northview High School bleacher project by presenting blueprints of the upcoming project hoping to be finished by the end of July/beginning of August.

**G. Linton Beauty College – Career and Technical Education Contract**

Mr. Keller moved to approve the two-year contract with Linton Beauty College and Clay City High School. Dr. Shaw seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**H. Consideration to Name the Cumberland Academy Assistant Principal/Director of At-Risk Programs**

Information was included in the board packet to name Mrs. Rachel Kiefer as the next Cumberland Academy Assistant Principal/Director of At-Risk Programs. The position will consist of a 200-day contract, and Mrs. Kiefer will receive the salary and benefits addressed in the CCS Administrator Handbook.

Mrs. Adams moved to approve Mrs. Kiefer as the CA Assistant Principal/Director of At-Risk Programs. Mrs. Baysinger seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

**VII. Board Member Comments**

**Ryan Keller** welcomed Mr. Jackson back to the board. He thanked Mr. Mauk for his presentation and congratulated Mrs. Kiefer.

**Michael Shaw** welcomed Mr. Jackson and expressed his appreciation to those who dedicate their lives to the students of Clay Community Schools. He thanked Mr. Mauk for his presentation and enjoyed the very talented choir performance.

**Charley Jackson** expressed his gratitude to the board members for being selected to serve on the board. He is looking forward to serving again.

**Andrea Baysinger** commented it was a great evening and thanked Mr. Mauk for his presentation. She stated that each school has had a unique approach to how and what was presented to them each month and it's been great to hear what is going on at the buildings.

**Amy Burke Adams** welcomed Mr. Jackson and thanked those who organized the Employee Recognition Dinner. She said it was nice to see the continuity of those who stay with Clay Community Schools and it's one of our many strengths as a corporation. She wanted to say Happy Teacher Appreciation and Nurse's Week. She looks forward to the upcoming graduations and encourages everyone to enjoy their summer. She thanked Mr. Mauk, Mrs. Brenda Buchanan, and the NHS choir. She also congratulated Mrs. Kiefer on her new position.

**Cheryl Schopmeyer** shared that her favorite part of the meeting was when the schools present and was very impressed by the NHS Choir's performance. She shared her appreciation to the teachers and that she is very impressed with what goes on in the school corporation. She also congratulated Mrs. Kiefer.

**Tom Reberger** started by saying the Employee Recognition Dinner was a great evening. It was even more special to be able to share a table with a retiring teacher who did his student teaching with him.

**VIII. Future Agenda Items**

None

**IX. Adjournment**

Having exhausted all agenda items, the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

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