

**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 Clay City Jr/Sr High School, Auditoria, 601 Lankford Street, Clay City, IN 47841, on Thursday, October 13, 2011. Tammy Beasley, Jennifer Kaelber, Tina Heffner Forrest Buell, Rob Miller, Ron Scherb, and Amy Burke Adams were present.

I. Call to Order

Mr. Miller, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. He then led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the prayer.

II. Consent Agenda

A. Claims

B. Board Meetings

Regular Session Minutes for September 8, 2011
Special Session Minutes for September 12, 2011, and September 28, 2011
Executive Session Certification for September 8, 2011, and September 12, 2011

C. Field Trips

Clay City Elementary Grade 5 to St. Louis, MO on Friday, May 18, 2012, to tour the Arch, the St. Louis Zoo, Union Station and Cahokia Mounds.

D. Personnel

A. LEAVES OF ABSENCE

1. Certified	None	
a. Family Medical Leave	SE/CCE	Kathryn Butt
2. Non-Certified		
a. Medical Leave	FPE	Carmella McCluskey
b. Medical Leave	TRANS	Jerry Fortune
c. Medical Leave	NCMS	Tina Coltharp

B. RETIREMENTS

1. Certified	None	
2. Non-Certified		
a. Bus Driver (Dec 2011)	TRANS	Robert Cannon
b. Nurse (Dec 2011)	CORP	Mary A. Mackenzie
3. Place on Retirement Index	None	

C. RESIGNATIONS

1. Certified	None	
2. Non-Certified		
a. Food Services (3 hours)	CCHS	Kayla Persinger
b. Food Services (5 hours – did not show up)	NHS	Crystal Evitts
3. ECA Resignations		
a. Art Club	NHS	Rayna White
b. Student Council (50%)	CCE	Deborah Thompson
c. Basketball – 7 th Grade girls	NCMS	Jennifer Smith

4. ECA Lay Coaches	None	
D. TRANSFERS		
1. Certified	None	
2. Non-Certified		
a. From Food Services to Custodial (185-day) NHS		Tressa LeLoup
E. EMPLOYMENT		
1. Certified	None	
2. Non-Certified		
a. Custodian (185 – 2 nd shift)	SE	Megan Watts
b. Instructional Assistant (Sp Serv) FPE		Alicia Batson
c. Bus Driver	TRANS	Paula Hayhurst
d. Food Services	NHS	Becky Woolery
e. Food Services	NHS	Kim Lessman
F. EXTRA-CURRICULAR		
1. Extra-Curricular Certified		
a. Jr. Class Sponsor (50%)	NHS	Chrystal Chrysler
b. Boys Golf Coach	NHS	Josh Trout
c. Elem Science Fair Chair	VBE	Anna Berry
d. Softball Assistant	CCHS	Rachel McCleary
e. Basketball – 8 th Grade Girls	NCMS	Jennifer Smith
2. Extra-Curricular Non-Certified	None	
3. Extra-Curricular (Lay Coach)		
a. Basketball – 7 th Grade Boys	NCMS	Clay Huffman
b. Basketball – 8 th Grade Boys	NCMS	Shawn Hughes
c. Elem Sport – 5 th Grade Boys B-ball)	CCE	Marvin Strauch
d. Basketball – 8 th Grade Boys	CCHS	Levi Seymour
e. Basketball – 7 th Grade Boys	CCHS	Chris Lee
f. Basketball – J.V. Girls	CCHS	Rodney Smith
g. Softball – Head Varsity	CCHS	Jason Sindors
h. Basketball – 6 th Grade Girls	NCMS	Laura McCrea
i. Basketball – 7 th Grade Girls	NCMS	Erica Koehler
G. CHANGES		
1. Certified	None	
2. Non-Certified	None	
H. TERMINATION		
1. Certified	None	
2. Non-Certified	None	
I. INFORMATION ONLY		
	None	

J. VOLUNTEERS

1. Athletic

- a. Jason Sindors – CCHS
- b. David Steward – CCHS
- c. Bradi Oberholtzer – CCHS
- d. Matthew Hardman – NHS
- e. Jonathan Bradshaw – NHS
- f. Scott Fosdick - NHS

2. Classroom

- a. Amanda Loughmiller – SE
- b. Braiden Jackson - SE
- c. Heather Crowder - VBE
- d. Meghan McKay – VBE
- e. Peggy Irwin – LEAAP

Mrs. Heffner moved to accept the consent agenda. Mrs. Adams seconded and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

III. Comments from Patrons

Barbara and Jon Nicoson addressed the board regarding the Central Time Coalition's efforts to move all of Indiana out of the Eastern Time Zone and into the Central Time Zone. Mrs. Nicoson shared that since the middle of September, four students have been hit by cars while on their way to school in the dark. There has also been one attempted abduction. She stated that the main motivating factor in pursuing this change is the belief that children should not have to walk to school in the dark and should not have to wait on a bus in the dark because it is dangerous. Mrs. Nicoson obtained 335 signatures at the recent Popcorn Festival in support of this change in time zones. She noted that with this proposal almost every day students would be going to school and coming home in daylight. Mrs. Nicoson believes the time zone could be changed by the governor, although she doesn't think he would do so, or it could be changed by the legislature. She asked the board members to put their names on a piece of paper that says "I care, and I want you to do this", as individuals, not as a board, in support of the change to the Central Time Zone.

Jaime Wilder spoke on behalf of the Boy Scouts of America and noted that the organization had spoken to the school board a little over a year ago. She again requested that the board allow the Boy Scouts to promote scouting at the schools. She noted that since 2006, when the Boy Scouts were last able to do that, the number of boys who have joined has gone from 107 to just 24 in 2011, which she believes stems from being denied access to the schools. She also noted that the organization has done everything in its power through other methods to encourage boys to join scouting, but without the help and support of the schools, those efforts have shown little results. As she sees it, if action is not taken now, Cub Scout packs and Boy Scout troops in Clay County will dissolve. Ms. Wilder asserted that other organizations such as Girl Scouts and the YMCA are being allowed to distribute some information and display posters. She hopes the Boy Scouts will be able to do the same. She claimed that Clay Community Schools is the only school corporation in the area that restricts Boy Scouts from speaking to students about joining or distributing information about joining. They

are not asking to take away classroom time; rather, they would like to give presentations during lunch periods or recess and during school open houses.

IV. Old Business

A. School Bus Bids

Director of Transportation Frank Misner recommended accepting the bid of \$271,608 from Midwest Transit Equipment to purchase four seventy-eight passenger school buses with trades. Superintendent Tucker recommended approval.

Under discussion, Dr. Buell asked if all four buses were the same model, i.e. seventy-eight passenger, and they were.

Mrs. Adams moved to accept the school bus bids. Mr. Scherb seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

B. Fuel Bids

Mr. Misner recommended, as has been standard practice, to reject all bids and continue the practice of obtaining bids on the day fuel is needed from the following businesses: Ceres Solutions, LLP and Hunter Oil Company. Superintendent Tucker recommended approval.

Under discussion, Mr. Scherb asked if the fuel purchase program with the Indiana Bond Bank that had been discussed at last month's board meeting would be affected by this motion. Superintendent Tucker replied that it would not because the school corporation would purchase the fuel up front and receive a reimbursement for the amount of money spent that exceeds the cap.

Mr. Scherb moved to reject all bids on fuel. Dr. Buell seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

V. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Tucker noted that the ADM (Average Daily Membership) count for this school year, although not yet official, was down by about 90 students, which amounts to about \$450,000 in lost revenue for the budget. As a result, there are things that have been done or will be done to make sure the school corporation is not put in a position where it is necessary to cut staff or increase class sizes. She suggested that in the coming year there may have to be some serious decisions for some programs that have not been as cost-effective in order to keep solid academic programs in place. Otherwise, school is going well-- athletic teams are doing well, bands in both sections of the district are doing well, and it has been a good school year so far.

VI. New Business

A. Conflict of Interest Statements

This is a legal requirement that is done each year in Indiana school corporations. Approval of all of the forms in the board packet was recommended. A copy of each will become a part of the official minutes.

Mrs. Heffner moved to accept the Conflict of Interest statements. Mrs. Kaelber seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

B. Request for Waiver of Notification Date for Retirement

Bus driver Vern Bettenbrock requested a waiver of the requirement to retire at the end of a school semester. Mr. Bettenbrock has unforeseen circumstances that require him to address retirement immediately rather than wait until December of this school year. He has been a dedicated employee for 31 years and meets the Rule of 85 for retirement. Director of Personnel Carolyn Kumpf recommended that the board waive the requirement to retire at the end of a school semester and allow Mr. Bettenbrock to retire and receive his retirement benefits as of September 30, 2011. Superintendent Tucker supported Mrs. Kumpf's recommendation.

Under discussion, Mrs. Adams thanked Mr. Bettenbrock for his years of excellent service and wished him well in retirement. Mr. Miller noted that Mr. Bettenbrock was always good to take athletic teams and he will be missed.

Dr. Buell moved to approve the waiver of notification date for retirement. Mrs. Heffner seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

C. Request for Approval to Apply for the 2011-2012 High Ability Grant, the Title II Part A Grant, and the Indiana Department of Education Innovation Fund Grant

Curriculum and Grants Coordinator Kathy Knust requested permission to submit applications for the High Ability Grant, which is due by November 15, 2011, the Title II Part A: Improving Teacher Quality and Effectiveness Grant, which is due by December 2, 2011, and the Indiana Department of Education Innovation Fund Grant (\$500,000 one year or \$1,000,000 over two years), which is due by November 10, 2011. Approval was recommended by both Mrs. Knust and Superintendent Tucker.

Mrs. Adams moved to approve applying for the 2011-2012 High Ability Grant, the Title II Part A Grant, and the Indiana Department of Education Innovation Fund Grant. Mr. Scherb seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

D. Acceptance of Donation from Meridian-Forest Historic District Inc.

Superintendent Tucker stated that Meridian Elementary has an opportunity to have the old Meridian Street School bell donated by the Meridian-Forest Historic District Inc. She recommended approval to accept the bell.

Mr. Scherb moved to accept the donation of the old Meridian Street School bell from the Meridian-Forest Historic District Inc. Mrs. Kaelber seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

E. Appointments to CCS Insurance Committee

Clay Community Schools was accepted into an insurance trust this year. In accordance with the CCCTA 2011-2013 Bargaining Agreement, the Clay Community Schools Board of Trustees will appoint four members of a total nine representatives to serve on the

CCS insurance committee. The remaining five members of the committee will be appointed by the CCCTA. Superintendent Tucker recommended approving the appointment of Kim Tucker, Carolyn Kumpf, the CCS Business Manager, and a board member to the committee. Tina Heffner recommended Tammy Beasley as the board member for this committee.

Mrs. Heffner moved to accept appointments to the CCS Insurance Committee as previously stated: Carolyn Kumpf, Kim Tucker, the soon-to-be-named business manager, and Tammy Beasley. Mrs. Adams seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7- 0 vote.

F. Computer Technician Position

Superintendent Tucker noted the incredible amount of expansion in terms of technology hardware and online resources utilized every day for instruction and assessment, which has prompted a request for posting of an additional computer technician. It is felt by Superintendent Tucker, Dr. Rayle, Mrs. Kumpf and Mr. Milner that the technology department does not have near the capacity of staff to handle the load that the corporation has presently and will have in the future. Superintendent Tucker requests approval to post for an additional computer technician.

Mrs. Adams moved to approve advertising and filling a computer technician position. Mrs. Heffner seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

G. Interim Business Manager

Due to the resignation of Mike Fowler, it was necessary to obtain the services of an interim business manager. Superintendent Tucker recommended approval to contract the services of Mr. Tim Gorman at the rate of \$330 per day until such time as the position of business manager can be filled. This should involve a time frame of six to eight weeks, with eight weeks being the maximum.

Under discussion, Mrs. Heffner asked if Mr. Gorman would be on site daily for six to eight weeks. Superintendent Tucker replied that Mr. Gorman would be contracted on a daily basis; however, he also has a CPA business and he may have days where he will need to be out to take care of other clients. He would not bill the corporation for those days.

Mrs. Heffner then asked if that was the most reasonable rate that could be found. Superintendent Tucker's response was that the base rate being paid to the most recent business manager was split into a daily rate. Also, Mr. Gorman recently retired from the State Board of Accounts, so this was a salary that was in keeping with his expectations.

Mr. Scherb moved to approve the contracted services with Tim Gorman. Mrs. Kaelber seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

H. School Board Policy #7541 – Computer Technology and Social Media – New: First Reading

As noted by Superintendent Tucker, the school corporation is getting a barrage of younger teachers who are very experienced with social media. It was felt the corporation needed some structure and some language that would safeguard some of the activities that were permissible and appropriate and relevant for the times as far as educational need for social media. The policy was presented for the first reading for the board's consideration.

Dr. Rayle, who drafted the policy, noted that it goes hand in hand with the other board policies regarding Internet access and web pages. He commented that teachers are expected to use the new social media technology and this policy will cover what they can do and how they can do it.

Under discussion, Mrs. Heffner asked how parents could become involved in this. She referred to a conversation she had recently with a former school teacher who has family in Missouri. The former teacher told Mrs. Heffner that her daughter-in-law is in a school system that sends an e-mail directly to the parent when a child does poorly on a test. Dr. Rayle noted that Power School may have features that would automatically e-mail or text every time a grade is entered. Superintendent Tucker then noted that some of the corporation's teachers have blogs for the parents where they can comment on what took place in class that day, which is a nice way to bring parents into the classroom. She added that Mrs. Knust has been working with teachers to develop Internet safety curriculum.

I. Wireless Technology Project

Superintendent Tucker had spoken with Bill Milner about the issue of the technology department doing things that could be hired out externally. Hiring outside firms to do some of the projects would allow the technology employees to get around to the schools and troubleshoot where there are needs. One such project is wiring for wireless technology in all school buildings, which would take months for the technology employees to complete. Approval was requested to contract with HEF Services, Terre Haute, to do the necessary wiring to install wireless access points at Meridian Elementary, Clay City Elementary, Staunton Elementary, Van Buren Elementary, Jackson Township Elementary, Forest Park Elementary, East Side Elementary, and Clay City Jr/Sr High School, at a cost of \$43,300. Funds are to come from the Rainy Day Fund. HEF Services was one of the electrical contractors for the recent elementary building/renovation projects.

Mrs. Heffner moved to accept the wireless technology project that has been presented. Mr. Scherb seconded, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

J. Fuel Purchase Program/Application

The application had been started and Mr. Gorman, with Mr. Misner's help, completed the application. However, the application has not been submitted at this time. Superintendent Tucker had called the Indiana Bond Bank and they indicated that the corporation was in a good position because gas and diesel prices have come down a

little bit. At this time the low and high rates for diesel are \$2.44 to \$2.75, without taxes, and gasoline is \$2.30 to \$2.60. When Superintendent Tucker had asked what most schools were doing, she was told that last year there were ten schools participating and it was the first year that public schools could participate. The Indiana Bond Bank anticipates that several schools will apply this year. Superintendent Tucker was told that, in general, schools hedge at least 65% of their fuel costs and the maximum is 80%. The application, with the school board's blessing, will be sent in. The percentage will not be locked in yet. The Indiana Bond Bank will look over projected fuel per-gallon expenditures over the next 18 months and they will decide if it will be approved. In December, the percentage would be locked in. With no objections from board members, Superintendent Tucker will proceed with the application and bring more information to the school board in November and December. The first application must be submitted by October 25 and it must be finalized by January 1.

K. Williams Property Appraisal Information

Superintendent Tucker stated that the board had asked to have two commercial appraisals done for the Williams property. The results of those two appraisals were included in the board packet. She requested that the board indicate what the next steps for consideration of potential bus garage property or properties should be.

Mr. Scherb noted that there was a lot of confusion about the surveying and the property line stakes when the board toured the facility in August. He would recommend getting the property surveyed, if that is the desire of a majority of the board. Referring to the fact that the building had been looked at before and that some had questioned whether it was big enough, Mr. Scherb stated that he had spoken with John Nugent who owns a company in Terre Haute called EBC. The company manufactures the type of building being looked at on the Williams property, which Mr. Scherb classified as a steel pole barn. Mr. Scherb asked Mr. Nugent how much of a problem it would be to expand the building if it were not large enough for the school corporation's needs. Mr. Nugent's reply: It is very simple to expand. Mr. Nugent had sold the building that is on the Williams property to the Williams family.

Superintendent Tucker asked Mr. Scherb to clarify that he was not suggesting that the school corporation devote money toward a private property owner having a survey done. The board members agreed that the seller would be responsible for the legal survey.

At this point, Dr. Buell asked whether there were any bullying students in our schools. Superintendent Tucker replied that it was an issue that could be discussed at some point about what kinds of programs are in place for that.

Mr. Scherb returned to discussion of the Williams property and asked if the board was ready to negotiate a purchase price of the property. Mr. Miller suggested that the survey needs to be completed first. Superintendent Tucker asked to make clear whether or not the board was authorizing her to contact the owner to see if he is willing to get a legal survey, which they are. Mrs. Heffner would like to add that the board

would like to begin possibly negotiating the purchase price. Mrs. Adams commented that the owner might already have a survey that has been completed.

Mrs. Heffner moved to authorize Superintendent Tucker at this time to pursue negotiations that hinge on whether or not the owner is willing to do a survey on the property, with the intent to negotiate possible purchase. To clarify, Superintendent Tucker restated the request: The board is authorizing her to contact the owner, discuss the possibility of whether a legal survey presently exists or the need for one to be done in the event that the school board would even consider entering into negotiations. If Mr. Williams produces a legal survey, she would bring that back to the November school board meeting and the board will redirect her from there. Mrs. Adams seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

VII. Board Member Comments

Ron Scherb stated that he appreciated the Boy Scouts attending the meeting. He has never quite understood why an arrangement of some type couldn't be worked out. He asked if someone from central office could sit down with the Boy Scouts and see if there is some way to help them.

Rob Miller noted that there seems to be some discrepancy between what some organizations understand that they can and cannot do within the schools, such as handing out information. He would like to come back with a list or clarification according to past policy. Also, he thanked Mr. and Mrs. Nicoson for addressing the board regarding the time zone issue and he personally would be interested in looking at their petition.

Amy Burke Adams pointed out that this topic has been researched for the last year. The board knows that the Boy Scouts of America is an excellent organization, and it would love to help with recruiting. There are still ways – before school, after school, pamphlets, extra-curricular activities – to help the Boy Scouts or any other organization that makes a positive impact on the students to get into the schools and access the kids. However, during the instructional day is where the sticking point is. The research that the school corporation has done has shown that the national leader of the Boy Scouts of America has been for the last two years in the forefront of pulling BSA out of schools during the instructional day to avoid lawsuits. Mrs. Adams added that the ACLU is following the Boy Scouts of America around the United States of America to the schools and making sure they are not getting special treatment. Mrs. Adams knows that the Boy Scouts are on the Patriot Organizations list and that they have a very rich past and they have a positive impact on students. But as a board member she has to look at what is best for all students of Clay Community Schools, and she does not want to put one dime of taxpaying money towards litigation. That is her concern: That money needs to go into the classroom and not for lawyers. She is happy to support anything that will help the Boy Scouts before school, after school, during extra-curricular events, but not during the instructional day.

Forrest Buell asked if the school board was looking at the Williams property as something long term. Mr. Miller replied that he thought they were. Dr. Buell commented that he would like to see the bus garage somewhere out in the open and build something to fit the school corporation's needs.

VIII. Future Agenda Items

Ron Scherb would like to bring the Williams property back to see if the board wants to make a decision on that.

IX. Adjournment

Having exhausted all agenda items, the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

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