

CHESTER COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.139

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting May 15, 2024

The Board of Education of Chester Community Unit School District No. 139 held a Regular Meeting, in High School FACS Classroom B217. President Debi Caraway called the meeting to order at 6:55 pm

Malley motioned, Krieg seconded to enter into executive session at 6:55 p.m. for the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Matt Davitz entered the executive session at 7:25 p.m.

Wolff motioned, Malleh seconded to return to open session at 7:58 p.m. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Krieg, Fricke, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Pledge of allegiance

Public Comment

- Michelle Meyers - Asked her into closed session for confidentiality.

Board Correspondence

- Robin Renfroe - Thank you letter to Board and Superintendent for the Condolence Shadow Box.
- High School staff - Thank you letter to Board and Superintendent for Staff Appreciation festivities and gifts.

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

- Approval of Agenda
- April 8, 2024 Regular and Executive Meeting Minutes, and April 22, 202 Special Meeting Minutes
- Bills in the amount of \$752,8569.30 and payroll in the amount of \$552,181.33
- Financial Reports

Athletic Director Report

CGS

- The boys Track team placed 1st in the large school division of the county meet, the State Qualifiers:
 - 4X100 relay - Xzavier Wilson, Donnie Sabo, Preston Liefer, Danny Worley
 - Long Jump - Danny Worley placing 3rd
 - Shot Put - Kingston Turner
- Danny Worley broke the Long Jump record from 1987 held by Bruce Caldwell jumping 19' 9.5"

CHS

- Dancer Amanda Kennon committed to dance at the next level with McKendree University, also got named to the All State Dance Team
- Girls Track and Field placed 3rd at the conference meet
- Boys Track and Field place 2nd at the conference meet

Other

- The conference AD's voted no to the proposed coop with Christ Our Savior Evansville
- Summer Camp dates set and approved
- EL Student Numbers (Historical)
 - 15-16 SY: 11
 - 16-17 SY: 18
 - 17-18 SY: 22

- 18-19 SY: 25 *First year we had students at the high school level
 - 19-20 SY: 39
 - 20-21 SY: 38
 - 21-22 SY: 54
 - 22-23 SY: 64
 - 23-24 SY: 81
 - 24-25 SY: Projected number based on current and incoming PreK - 96
- Grades 3, 2, and 1 were tested the week of April 29th (Aimsweb)
 - Kindergarten was tested the week of May 6th (Aimsweb)
 - Grade 12 tested on April 29th and May 1st (Star Reading and Math)
 - Grades 4 through 11 are currently being tested (Star Reading and Math)
 - All 2024 spring state testing is complete
 - PSAT and SAT score release in College Board for students started on April 18th
 - 10 Juniors scored at or above a 1020, 6 scored in the 1000 range, 3 scored in the 1100 range, 2 scored in the 1200 range, and 2 students scored in the 1300 range

Maintenance

- A hot water booster pump was installed at the grade school
- Two 75" monitors were installed in the lower lobby and office of the grade school
- New flag pole lights were installed for both the flag set on the football field and the single flag out in front of the high school
- Bleachers at the grade school have been replaced and/or repaired any issues with the shear pins and wheels being off track
- A damaged bathroom partition door was removed and replaced with a new one at the high school

Grade School Principal

- Graduation is set for Thursday, May 16th at 6:00 pm in the Colbert Gymnasium. Matt Davitz, Charles Fricke, and Dr. James Krieg will be presenting diplomas
- The Spring Concert was held on April 25th. Jr.High, 5th and 6th grade bands performed
- Celebrate Fitness Day was held on Friday, May 26th. Inflatables were set up in the gym. There were several activities on the pavement in front of the building, as well as an ice cream truck. PTS raised over \$15,000 for the students this year
- PreK graduation was held on Thursday, May 9th at 5:30 and 6:30 pm in the gym
- Summer school will run June 3-21st.
- The Positive Give Back for May was \$175, which went to the Chester Area Christian Food Pantry. The staff raised \$3,380.75 this school year. Since its inception in 2013, Positive Give Back has raised \$31,901.25
- Junior High Musicians participated in the State Solo and Ensemble Contest. There were 8 superior solo ratings, 14 excellent solo ratings, and 1 superior ensemble rating

High School Principal

- Saturday, April 6th was Prom
- Tuesday, April 9th, Mabry Wingerter, Garret Hopkins, Jordan Buskohl, and Emma Diskey attended Senator Bryant's Youth annual Spring Conference
- RISE equipment installed
- Friday, April 12th the music program took 5th place overall in the state in the class B (Solo/Ensemble and Organizational Contest)
- Tuesday, April 16th, students services and the administration visited the 8th graders from all three feeder schools helping them build their schedule for next year
- Thursday, April 25th, SADD hosted a blood drive in Jurgens Gym
- Friday, April 26th, SIUC visited the high school for their SIUC Takeover Tour locations. They mentioned CHS provided them with the best and most impressive welcome
- Wednesday, May 1st, SISHSA Banquet at SIUC
- Tuesday, May 7th, CHS Spring concert
- Wednesday, May 8th was the Senior Celebration Cookout. Some members from the First Baptist Church cooked pork steak, chicken breast, hot dogs, and burgers for the seniors
- Wednesday, May 8th, Ms. Hodge and crew took a trip o the state capitol to participate in GSA to Equality Illinois Advocacy Day

- Wednesday May 8th was Honors Night and we awarded \$280,000 in scholarships to students and 2.4 million in financial assistance was given overall to the class of 2024
- Sunday, May 19th was CHS Graduation at 3 pm in Colbert Gym.

Superintendent

Governance

- We are working with the hospital to purchase the Chester Clinic for a new Early Childhood Center
- Due to hail damage in April, they are recommending:
 - Replacing the outside coils on the DOAS #1 unit at the grade school
 - Replacing the outdoor unit on the locker rooms at the grade school
 - Removing panels, guards, and screens on the other units at the grade school
 - Waiting for the window panels for the high school

Budget/Finance

- Amending grants
- Working on a grant for safety in the district for window coverings and completing keys on the grade school campus

Building and Grounds

- Vestibule complete
- We have been meeting for the high school projects this summer

Classroom

- Positions available:
 - PreK teacher
 - Assistant Principal
 - Social Worker
 - High school Special Education teacher
 - Grade school Special Education teacher
 - Bus Aide

Athletics

- Positions available:
 - High school Assistant Volleyball coach
 - Jr.High Head Cross Country coach
 - Jr.High Boys Basketball Assistant coach
 - Jr.High Head Boys Baseball coach
 - Jr.High Head Girls Basketball coach

Wolff motioned, Fricke seconded to conduct the second reading of Board Press Policy updates 114. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Krieg seconded to approve Baysinger's base bid with Samron Midwest Contracting, Inc.--Murphysboro for the Chester High school renovations in the amount of \$696,630.00. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Fricke seconded to approve the Memorandum of Understanding set forth the terms and understanding between the Chester Community Unit School District 139's Board of Education and the Chester Education Service Professionals, IEA-NEA. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Coffey seconded to approve facility request for Chester Stingers to utilize the practice field for Football camp, June 8, 2024 from 10:00 am-12:00 pm. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Davitz seconded to employ Melissa Talbert as Early Childhood Special Education Teacher effective August 14, 2024 pending EHR and background check. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Krieg seconded to approve Tim Blair as Grade School Principal for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Malley seconded to approve Jenny Cartwright as Grade School and High School Athletic Director for the 2024-25 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Davitz motioned, Coffey seconded to employ Jeremy Hargis as Grade School Head Custodian and Kitchen Personnel at \$18.60/hr. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Malley seconded to employ Caitlin Schwarz as Pre-K Teacher effective August 14, 2024 pending EHR and background check. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Davitz seconded to approve Mike Liefer as Assistant Jr.High Boys Basketball Coach for the 2024-25 sports season. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Coffey seconded to approve Priscilla Martinez as Jr.High Cross Country Coach for the 2024-25 sports season. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Coffey motioned, Malley seconded to reassign Lindsey Hargis from Pre-K Teacher to First Grade Teacher effective August 14, 2024. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Malley seconded to approve Reese Chandler as High School Assistant Volleyball Coach for the 2024-25 sports season. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Krieg seconded to approve Kristin Petrowske as Assistant Grade School Principal for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years pending EHR and background check. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Krieg seconded to approve to employ Grade School and High School coaches for the 2024-25 fall/winter sports season as listed. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Krieg seconded to accept the Grade School and High School volunteers for the 2024-25 fall/winter sports season as listed. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Fricke seconded to employ Aiden Mcfarland as Student Custodian at \$14.10/hr pending background check. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Wolff motioned, Malley seconded to accept the resignation of Jessica Whiteside, First Grade Teacher, Head Jr.High Cross Country Coach, and Head Jr.High Girls Basketball Coach effective end of the 2023-24 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Coffey seconded to accept the resignation of Esther Higgerson-Roy, Grade School Special Education Teacher effective end of the 2023-24 school year. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fricke motioned, Davitz seconded to accept the resignation of Gavin Cowan, Student Custodian effective April 16, 2024. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Coffey motioned, Wolff seconded to accept the resignation of Jacob Wentz, Head Jr.High Baseball Coach effective Fall 2024. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Krieg seconded to approve the resignation of Chase Murphy, Student Custodian effective May 13, 2024. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Krieg seconded to approve the resignation of Danny Valleroy, Assistant Jr.High Boys Basketball Coach effective April 30, 2024. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the resignation of Jonathon Snow, Jacket Care Worker effective May 2, 2024. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Coffey seconded to approve the resignation of Alyssa Keith, High School Assistant Volleyball Coach effective May 7, 2024. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Malley motioned, Fricke seconded to approve the FMLA request for Lisa Koester, Reading Specialist Teacher effective April 2, 2024 until June 1, 2024. Roll call vote. Ayes: Caraway, Coffey, Davitz, Fricke, Krieg, Malley, Wolff. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Krieg motioned, Malley seconded to return back to closed session at 8:47 pm. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Motion carried.

The next REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Education will be held **Thursday June 20, 2024 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.