

Minutes of CONNEAUT BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

January 4, 2021

The organizational meeting of the Conneaut Area City Schools Board of Education was held on Monday, January 4, 2021 at the Administration Office 230 Gateway Ave., Conneaut, Ohio 44030.

Members Present: Penny Armeni, Suzanne Bernardini, Christopher Brecht, Christopher Bartone and Joan Norton

Others Present: Superintendent Lori Riley, Treasurer Jacelynn Miranda

President Christopher Brecht called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m

Certifications by Treasurer that the Board of Education is in Compliance with meeting Requirement rules.
President Christopher Brecht led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Nomination, Election and Oath of Office for President

Nomination, Election and Oath of Office for Vice President

Superintendent's report: Mrs. Riley updated the board on vaccine distribution process for school staff with a tentative date of February 12, 2021 for the first dose and March 12, 2021 for the second dose. She also shared that the board will need to have discussion at the regularly scheduled January meeting regarding the community service graduation requirement for current seniors and future graduates as a result of COVID-19 restrictions. The State of Ohio has waived teacher evaluations again for this year and will also need to be discussed in the regularly scheduled January meeting.

- 01-2021-01 Moved by Suzanne Bernardini, seconded by Joan Norton that Chris Bartone be appointed legislative liaison/delegate to the Ohio School Boards Association and Penny Armeni as alternate for the 2021 calendar year.
Ayes: Bernardini, Norton, Armeni, Bartone, Brecht and Norton
Nays:
Abstain:
Motion Carried
- 01-2021-02 Moved by Christopher Bartone, seconded by Joan Norton that Chris Brecht be appointed Board liaison to the Conneaut Athletic Association for the 2021 calendar year.
Ayes: Bartone, Norton, Armeni, Bernardini, and Brecht
Nays:
Abstain:
Motion Carried
- 01-2021-03 Moved by Christopher Brecht, seconded by Christopher Bartone that the Board appoint Joan Norton to be Board liaison to Conneaut City Council for 2021.
Ayes: Brecht, Bartone, Armeni, Bernardini, and Norton
Nays:
Abstain:
Motion Carried
- 01-2021-04 Moved by Suzanne Bernardini, seconded by Joan Norton that the Board appoint Penny Armeni to be Board liaison to Friends of the Conneaut Public Library/DLT for 2021.
Ayes: Bernardini, Norton, Armeni, Bartone, and Brecht
Nays:

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Abstain:
Motion Carried

- 01-2021-05 Moved by Suzanne Bernardini, seconded by Joan Norton that the Board appoint the Treasurer as their designee for public records training.
Ayes: Bernardini, Norton, Armeni, Bartone, and Brecht
Nays:
Abstain:
Motion Carried
- 01-2021-06 Moved by Suzanne Bernardini, seconded by Christopher Bartone that the Treasurer be authorized to retain legal services as presented. (ENCLOSURE)
Ayes: Bernardini, Bartone, Armeni, Brecht and Norton
Nays:
Abstain:
Motion Carried
- 01-2021-07 Moved by Joan Norton, seconded by Suzanne Bernardini that the Board approve the OSBA legal assistance fund agreement as presented. (ENCLOSURE)
Ayes: Norton, Bernardini, Armeni, Bartone and Brecht
Nays:
Abstain:
Motion Carried
- 01-2021-08 Moved by Suzanne Bernardini, seconded by Joan Norton that the Board designate the Star Beacon and the Courier published and circulated in the District, as the official newspapers for the Conneaut Area City Schools.
Ayes: Bernardini, Norton, Armeni, Bartone and Brecht
Nays:
Abstain:
Motion Carried
- 01-2021-09 Moved by Christopher Bartone, seconded by Joan Norton that the regular monthly meetings of Conneaut Area City Schools Board of Education during the 2021 calendar year be held on Wednesday of each month beginning with the work session at 10am, followed by the regular session at Conneaut High School, 381 Mill Street, Conneaut, Ohio or alternatively as determined by the Board of Education.
Ayes: Bartone, Norton, Armeni, Bernardini, and Brecht
Nays:
Abstain:
Motion Carried
- 01-2021-10 Moved by Christopher Bartone, seconded by Christopher Brecht that the Board reaffirm all Board policies in effect at the date of this meeting are continued in full force and effect unless modified by subsequent action of the Board, pursuant to OAC 3301-35-02.
Ayes: Bartone, Brecht, Armeni, Bernardini, and Norton

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Nays:
Abstain:
Motion Carried

- 01-2021-11 Moved by Suzanne Bernardini, seconded by Christopher Bartone that the Board approves their membership to OSBA (Ohio School Boards Association) for the year of 2021 at a cost of \$5,809.00. (ENCLOSURE)
Ayes: Bernardini, Bartone, Armeni, Brecht and Norton
Nays:
Abstain:
Motion Carried
- 01-2021-12 Moved by Christopher Brecht, seconded by Christopher Bartone that the Board approve the appropriation of a sum not to exceed two dollars for each child enrolled in the district, or twenty thousand dollars, whichever is greater for payment of expense actually incurred by board members in the performance of their duties or members-elect in training and orientation to the performance of their duties.
Ayes: Brecht, Bartone, Armeni, Bernardini, and Norton
Nays:
Abstain:
Motion Carried
- 01-2021-13 Moved by Joan Norton, seconded by Suzanne Bernardini that the Treasurer be authorized to request tax advances from the County auditor as the 2021 real estate and personal property tax collections become available.
Ayes: Norton, Bernardini, Armeni, Bartone, and Brecht
Nays:
Abstain:
Motion Carried
- 01-2021-14 Moved by Joan Norton, seconded by Christopher Bartone that the Treasurer be authorized to invest any monies that become available from the County Auditor as the 2021 real estate and personal property tax collections become available.
Ayes: Norton, Bartone, Armeni, Bernardini, and Brecht
Nays:
Abstain:
Motion Carried
- 01-2021-15 Moved by Suzanne Bernardini, seconded by Christopher Bartone that the Treasurer be authorized to pay bills each month and dispense with monthly resolutions authorizing payment of bills, if the expenditures for such are provided for in the annual budget.
Ayes: Bernardini, Bartone, Armeni, Brecht and Norton
Nays:
Abstain:
Motion Carried

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01-2021-16 Moved by Christopher Brecht, seconded by Joan Norton that the Superintendent authorize no more than \$75,000 through the use of the credit card for any individual transaction.
Ayes: Brecht, Norton, Armeni, Bartone, and Bernardini
Nays:
Abstain:
Motion Carried

01-2021-17 Moved by Joan Norton, seconded by Christopher Bartone that the Superintendent be authorized to grant approval for attendance at Professional meetings as long as requested expenses do not exceed appropriated funds and the requests are within established Board guidelines and policies.
Ayes: Norton, Bartone, Armeni, Bernardini, and Brecht
Nays:
Abstain:
Motion Carried

Board Members' Summary: The board members discussed a board retreat date of January 20, 2021, with a tentative time of 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., with a location to be determined.

01-2021-18 Moved by Christopher Brecht, seconded by Suzanne Bernardini that the board adjourn this organizational meeting."
Ayes: Brecht, Bernardini, Armeni, Bartone, and Norton
Nays:
Abstain:
Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Treasurer

President