

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

## Minutes of CONNEAUT BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

February 16, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Conneaut Area City Schools Board of Education was held on Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at the Conneaut High School 381 Mill Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030. The Regular Meeting was preceded by a 10:00 a.m. Work Session.

Work Session: Mr. James Kennedy, Conneaut Middle School Principal, provided the board with an update. He highlighted the recent Safe Decisions Week which focused on supporting students by providing several presenters that targeted social issues and traumas that are affecting students in today's environment. Mr. Kennedy was pleased to share that Reality Day yielded forty-five community volunteers to provide experiences for student that mimic real life situations. PBIS initiative goal for second semester was celebrated with providing opportunities for students to win prizes for their hard work. Mr. Kennedy also highlighted that the Conneaut Middle School Curriculum Guide would include four more elective courses for 7th and 8th grade students. For school year 2022-2023, 8th grade students will have 26 different electives to consider as options. With the Conneaut Middle School also being included in the Gear Up program, the grant will provide CMS students with career and college exploration as early as 6th grade.

Meeting began at 10:30 a.m.

Members Present: Penny Armeni, Christopher Bartone, Suzanne Bernardini, Christopher Brecht.

Members Excused: Joan Norton

Others Present: Keith Troia, Julie Ring, Kelly Carlson, Richard Howell, Steven Thomas, Rachel Rapose, Kylie Hills.

Certifications by Treasurer that the Board of Education is in Compliance with meeting requirement rules.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Bartone.

Agenda Modifications: Mrs. Riley noted to the Board that the Presentation portion of the meeting would be prior to the Public Participation portion of the meeting.

Presentations: Mr. Jack Kraus awarded the Student of the Month award to Jonathan Pizzi. Mrs. Mary Holdson, shared that Jonathan is dedicated, kind, and has a great sense of humor. Mrs. Holdson explained that he has done that very well transitioning from remote instruction back to a regular classroom. Jonathan also shows a genuine concern for others.

Mr. Nate Wise, CHS and CMS Band Instructor, presented information and details regarding potential for a band trip to Chicago in March 2023 to be included in the St. Patrick's Day parade. The Conneaut Music Boosters will be fundraising to minimize the cost for students. Mr. Wise also expressed his appreciation for the board's support in the purchase of new band uniforms.

Mrs. Riley provided the board with a draft of the 2022-2023 calendar and reviewed changes. She plans to present to the board for final approval and the March board meeting. Mrs. Riley and Mrs. Louise Cleveland, School Nurse, provided and reviewed new guidance on COVID contact tracing from the CDC, Ohio Department of Health, Ashtabula County Health Department and the Conneaut Health Department. Mrs. Riley and Mrs. Cleveland met with the Conneaut Health Department and based on reduced cases, Mrs. Riley recommends that masks be optional effective March 7. The district will retain the right to require masks. Federal guidelines for bussing is still mandated thru March 18.

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Delegations and visitors: Mrs. Julie Ring, Mrs. Kelly Carlson, Mr. Richard Howell, Mr. Steven Thomas, Mrs. Rachel Rapose and Mrs. Kelsie Thomas addressed the board individually in the public participation section of the meeting. Concerns expressed by the individuals included the request to allow facial coverings during the school day to be parental choice, the time of day of board meetings and access to recent board meeting minutes on the district website.

Correspondence: Mrs. Riley provided a letter to the board that the Conneaut Area City School District has been invited to be a member of the Chagrin Valley Conference (CVC) for the 2023-2024 school year and that this is a six-year commitment. Mrs. Riley also added that for the 2022-2023 school year, the district will be independent.

## Committee Reports

Legislative – None

A-Tech – Mrs. Bernardini reported A-Tech Board of Education President is Mr. Mike Kennedy.

Athletic Council/SPARC– Mr. Chris Brecht reported there will be an All County Track Meet on May 4th, and will honor track record holders. He also expressed the concern about availability of transportation for spring sports.

Friends of the Conneaut Public Library/DLT – None

City Council – Mrs. Riley reported in Mrs. Norton’s absence. Mr. Emery is now the Conneaut City Council Liaison replacing Mrs. Tammy Ledford.

Board President – None

Superintendent’s report: Mrs. Riley, Superintendent, provided information regarding the proposed agreement to reorganize the Northeast Ohio Management Information Network (NEOMIN) as a regional council of governments. Mrs. Riley also reviewed the first reading for multiple board policies.

Treasurer’s Report: Mrs. Miranda provided an update on House Bill 126 that the bill has currently passed the Senate and is awaiting a concurrence vote. Mrs. Miranda also presented a Mid-Year Amended Five Year Forecast based on recent board approved transfers. Mrs. Miranda reviewed the purpose for the creation of the ESSERS I FY2021 Carryover fund. ODE requires district to create a new fund for any unspent FY21 ESSERS I Carryover for tracking purposes. Mrs. Miranda also reviewed the OSC Bus Bid process and is recommending the board move forward with the purchase of one – (1) 71 passenger handicapped accessible bus.

02-2022-01 Moved by Suzanne Bernardini, seconded by Penny Armeni that the minutes of the organizational meeting of January 5, 2022, the board retreat of January 12, 2022, the regular meeting of January 19, 2022, and the special meeting of January 26, 2022 be approved as presented.

Ayes: Armeni, Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht

Nays:

Abstain:

Motion Carried

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- 02-2022-02 Moved by Penny Armeni, seconded by Christopher Brecht that the financial report be approved as presented.  
Ayes: Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht, Armeni  
Nays:  
Abstain:  
Motion Carried
- 02-2022-03 Moved by Christopher Brecht, seconded by Penny Armeni that the Board approve the amended mid-year five-year Financial Forecast be approved as presented.  
Ayes: Bernardini, Brecht, Armeni, Bartone  
Nays:  
Abstain:  
Motion Carried
- 02-2022-04 Moved by Suzanne Bernardini, seconded by Penny Armeni that the Board approve the following donations as presented.
- Donation in the amount of \$400.00 for Special Education, from various donors in memory of Margaret Lyon, fund #018-9100
  - Donation in the amount of \$1,200.00 for SPARC, from FO Eagles, fund #019-9100
  - Donation in the amount of \$709.01 for CHS Track & Cross Country from Moose Lodge, fund #300-9001
- Ayes: Brecht, Armeni, Bartone, Bernardini  
Nays:  
Abstain:  
Motion Carried
- 02-2022-05 Moved by Christopher Brecht, seconded by Suzanne Bernardini that the Board approve the request to create the following fund with all the corresponding revenue and expenditure line items.
- ESSERS I, FY 2021 Carry over      \$6,946.71      Fund #507-9121
- Ayes: Armeni, Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht  
Nays:  
Abstain;  
Motion Carried
- 02-2022-06 Moved by Penny Armeni, seconded by Christopher Brecht that the Board approve Ohio Schools Council Cooperative advertising and receiving bids for school bus chassis and bodies.  
Ayes: Armeni, Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht  
Nays:  
Abstain:  
Motion Carried
- 02-2022-07 Moved by Suzanne Bernardini, seconded by Penny Armeni that the Board approve the agreement to reorganize the North East Ohio Management Information Network [NEOMIN] as a regional council of governments as presented.  
Ayes: Armeni, Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht  
Nays:  
Abstain:  
Motion Carried

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- 02-2022-08 Moved by Penny Armeni, seconded by Suzanne Bernardini that the Conneaut Area City Schools Board of Education authorizes membership in the Ohio High School Athletic Association for the 2022-2023 school year as presented.  
Ayes: Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht, Armeni  
Nays:  
Abstain:  
Motion Carried
- 02-2022-09 Moved by Penny Armeni, seconded by Christopher Brecht that the Board give first reading to the following policies and revisions as presented.
- 2271 COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS PROGRAM
  - 2370.01 BLENDED LEARNING
  - 5772 WEAPONS
  - 6110 GRANT FUNDS
  - 6114 COST PRINCIPALS-SPENDING FEDERAL FUNDS
  - 6325 PROCUREMENT-FEDERAL GRANTS/FUNDS
  - 6423 USE OF CREDIT CARDS
  - 7217 WEAPONS
  - 8500 FOOD SERVICES
- Ayes: Bernardini, Brecht, Armeni, Bartone  
Nays:  
Abstain:  
Motion Carried
- 02-2022-10 Moved by Penny Armeni, seconded by Christopher Brecht that the Board give first reading to the district calendar for school year 2022-2023 as presented.  
Ayes: Brecht, Armeni, Bartone, Bernardini  
Nays:  
Abstain:  
Motion Carried
- 02-2022-11 Moved by Suzanne Bernardini, seconded by Christopher Brecht that the Board approve the Band trip to Chicago, Illinois for grades 9-12 as presented.  
Ayes: Armeni, Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht  
Nays:  
Abstain:  
Motion Carried
- 02-2022-12 Moved by Christopher Brecht, seconded by Suzanne Bernardini that the Board approve the Conneaut Middle School course description guide for the 2022-2023 school year as presented.  
Ayes: Armeni, Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht  
Nays:  
Abstain:  
Motion Carried

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02-2022-13 Moved by Suzanne Bernardini, seconded by Penny Armeni that the Board approve the following personnel resolutions, pending proper certification and successful completion of pre-employment testing and personnel paper work as needed, in accordance with scale as adopted by the Board.

13.01 Approve movement on scale to reflect additional education.

Matthew Bidwell, from M to M+15

13.02 Approve the following changes in classified contracts.

Gary Pitts, bus aide/parapro certification, from 6.25 hrs/per day to 7 hrs/per day, effective 1/10/22

Larry Latva, driver, from 7.5 hrs/per day to 8 hrs/per day, effective 1/10/2022

13.03 Approve employment for the following substitute certified personnel for the 2021-2022 school year.

Adam Holdson

Shennen Valdez

13.04 Approve employment for the following substitute classified personnel for the 2021-2022 school year.

Amanda Smith

Ayes: Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht, Armeni

Nays:

Abstain:

Motion Carried

02-2022-14 Moved by Christopher Brecht, seconded Penny Armeni that the Board approve the following supplemental contract for the 2021-2022 school year as presented.

Daniel Spring      Head Boys Track      Step 1

Ayes: Bernardini, Brecht, Armeni, Bartone

Nays:

Abstain:

Motion Carried

02-2022-15 Moved by Christopher Brecht, seconded by penny Armeni that the Board approve the following supplemental contract for the 2021-2022 school year as presented.

Chris Brown      Head Girls Track      Step 1

Ayes: Brecht, Armeni, Bartone, Bernardini

Nays:

Abstain:

Motion Carried

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02-2022-16 Moved by Christopher Brecht, seconded by Suzanne Bernardini that the Board approve the following supplemental contract for the 2021-2022 school year as presented.

Taylor Cleveland CHS Asst. Track Step 1  
 Ayes: Armeni, Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht  
 Nays:  
 Abstain:  
 Motion Carried

02-2022-17 Moved by Christopher Brecht, seconded by Penny Armeni that the Board approve the following supplemental contract for the 2021-2022 school year as presented.

Robert McBride CMS Asst. Track Step 1  
 Ayes: Armeni, Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht  
 Nays:  
 Abstain:  
 Motion Carried

02-2022-18 Moved by Christopher Brecht, seconded by Penny Armeni that the Board approve the following supplemental contract for the 2021-2022 school year as presented.

Rocco Dobran Spring Weight Room Step 1  
 Ayes: Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht, Armeni  
 Nays:  
 Abstain:  
 Motion Carried

Board Members' Summary: The board thanked the presenters, Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. Cleveland, and Mr. Wise for their informational reports. They also acknowledged and appreciate the individuals input during the public participation portion of the meeting. The board appreciates thanks Conneaut City Council for School Board Member Recognition in the month of January. Also noted was the great media coverage of the Promethean boards now available in classroom for teacher and student use. The board also congratulated Superintendent Lori Riley for the Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year award 2020, celebrated one year late due to the pandemic.

02-2022-19 Moved by Christopher Brecht, seconded by Suzanne Bernardini that the Board adjourn this regular meeting.

Ayes: Bernardini, Brecht, Armeni, Bartone  
 Nays:  
 Abstain:  
 Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned 12:09 p.m.