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# **Board Minutes October 19, 2020**

The following summarizes the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting held at Jac-Cen-Del Elementary Library at 6:00 PM on Monday, October 19, 2020.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

 There were no changes or additions to the agenda. Those in attendance were Jim Westerman, Jason Wagner, Jason Smith, Travis Neal, Steve Huntington, Ryan Middleton, Mr. Whaley, Mr. Unsicker, Nancy Means, staff and patrons.

Motion: Jason Smith Second: Jason Wagner

Vote: 5 For

#### **REPORTS**

Mr. Trent Whaley, Elementary Principal

Given the highly irregular start to the school year, there are still great things happening at JCDE! Our teachers and staff continue to go above and beyond each and every day. Mr. Whaley shared the following highlights.

- Kindergarten welcomed their new students and are already seeing progress with developmental and academic levels.
- 1st grade completed a Johnny Appleseed unit in September and applesauce making was the culmination of their unit.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> grade hosts Safe Passage Inc. from Batesville once a month. This program is called Endless Possibilities and the focus is on character development.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students recently had an egg drop challenge where the scientific method was put into practice. The students also focused on the skill of inferencing, while wearing "spy" gear.
- 4<sup>th</sup> grade recently hosted Margaret Mary Health to discuss the safety with prescription and over the counter medication.
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade students have been involved in "Fitness Friday" each month where they focus on taking a break using yoga and other movements. 5<sup>th</sup> graders are also involved with projects that stretch their thinking and problem solving skills.
- 6<sup>th</sup> grade recently dissected owl pellets. The students were highly engaged.
- Preschool has been focusing on different community helpers this month. They have had Deputy Dan and Principal Whaley talk to them.
- The Title and Special Education program is busy assessing and keeping track of our student growth to meet individual needs.

- The art students have decorated drink sleeves for the Upper Room.
- Music students are beginning to learn Christmas songs.
- Computer lab students are working on a new program to enhance their computer science skills.
- PE students continue to focus on fitness in each activity.
- As a whole school, a fundraiser campaign has begun to enhance our outdoor learning spaces and replace playground equipment.
- JCDE has launched the Core Essentials program, where they focus on a specific skill each month. In October, the focus will be on Integrity. The new motto at JCDE is: At JCDE, we treat others right, make smart decisions and maximize our potential by working hard every day.

# **ACTION ITEMS**

 The board approved the minutes of the following meetings held on September 21, 2020: Budget Public Hearing, Public Hearing for Lease Financing, Bargaining Public Hearing, and the Regular Board Meeting.

Motion: Jason Wagner Second: Steve Huntington

Vote: 5 For

The board approved payroll and other claims for October 2020.

Motion: Steve Huntington Second: Jason Wagner

Vote: 5 For

 The board approved the second reading and adoption of the Neola Policy Updates Volume 32 #2 and the Special Updates.

Motion: Steve Huntington Second: Travis Neal

Vote: 5 For

• The board approved the 2021 Budget and Plans for the following funds: Education, Operations, Debt Service, Rainy Day, Bus Replacement Plan and CPF Plan as advertised.

Motion: Steve Huntington Second: Jason Wagner

Vote: 5 For

The board approved the presented debt as uncollectable.

Motion: Steve Huntington Second: Jason Smith

Vote: 5 For

The board approved the following coaching assignments:

Boys Freshman Basketball Head Coach Boys Elementary Basketball Head Coach Boys 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball Head Coach Boys 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball Head Coach Jacob Todd Clint Bohman Larry Hammond Nick Simon

Motion: Jason Wagner Second: Steve Huntington

Vote: 5 For

#### SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Mr. Middleton reported that JCD received a \$50,000 grant that will go towards further educating our teachers on best teaching practices for project based learning. Project based learning and STEM work collectively by having students learn at their level, but also pushing them to learn beyond. The 50k will go towards this learning and will also pay a stipend for 4 teachers selected in each building.
- Mr. Middleton updated the board and those in attendance on the STEM certification. In the last
  meeting he commented that we would be STEM certified at the elementary by the end of October.
  However, it has been decided that we would like to be more prepared and better equipped
  (instructionally) and hold off until we can certify the entire corporation next fall. It is felt the teachers will
  be in a more responsive state at this point.
- JCD has recently refinanced a bond due to the nature of our economy and will begin using some of that money towards putting a new gym roof on the Jr./Sr. high building. During this process, there are multiple phone calls along with many exchanged emails that are used to rate the financial stability of the corporation. He was happy to report the corporation came back with an AA+ rating.
- Mr. Middleton thanked Mrs. Gray and her students for the Casey's pink initiative. They were
  responsible for painting the windows at the store for breast cancer awareness month and did an
  awesome job.

# **BOARD COMMENTS**

- Mr. Westerman thanked the PTO board and Mrs. Brown for putting together the board candidate forum.
- Mr. Neal expressed how much he has enjoyed being on the board and how excited he is for the direction the school is headed.
- Mr. Huntington congratulated all candidates for running this year and taking an interest in making a
  difference for the school.

## **PATRON COMMENTS**

- Mrs. Gray thanked Mrs. Brown for her work in putting together the board candidate forum.
- Mrs. Horn congratulated Cloey Simon and Josh Pohle for advancing to semi-state in Cross Country.
- One patron questioned the board as to why they thought so many people were running for the school board this year. Many board members responded with the same sentiment. They were happy to see so many people interested in serving the school. They encourage citizens to study your candidates and choose the one that is not coming in with an agenda, but rather has a deep and true passion for serving the students and school.

# **NEXT MEETING**

 The next regular meeting of the Jac-Cen-Del School Board of Trustees will be held on Monday, November 16, 2020 at 6:00 PM. Location will be determined and the public will be made aware as travel and distancing continue to lift.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Steve Huntington Second: Jason Wagner

Vote: 5 For

