

APRIL 3, 2024 BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Pledge of Allegiance

Adoption of Agenda

The April 3, 2024 board meeting was approved as presented.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Regular Board meeting of March 21, 2024 were approved as presented.

Reports:

Superintendent – Mr. Timothy Brown

1. Mr. Brown and the Board welcomed two student teachers, Abby Sigler teaching in fourth grade with Mrs. Hannah Ashton and Gianna Quartucci teaching in fourth grade with Mrs. Libby Glentzer. They both shared their positive experiences at Cowan and their future aspirations.
2. Mr. Brown informed the Board that our new Career Coach, Dr. Tim Long, started this week. He will be speaking to students and families regarding future career opportunities for our students. Dr. Long's work at Cowan is completely funded through a Capacity Building Grant through the Indiana Commission for Higher Education. Mr. Brown shared that over the next several days the parking lot lights will all be converted to LED. The lights in the high school that already have been completed look great! Mr. Brown let the Board know there is new legislation to redefine the requirements for a high school diploma. Our team will be working through this and report back to the Board in the future. Also, all elementary teachers will now be required to complete an 80-hour literacy endorsement course to renew their license after July 1, 2027. Currently the state is funding the course, testing, and a stipend for each teacher who completes the course.
3. Mr. Brown talked about future planning for facilities. He reviewed and discussed with the Board the parking lot analysis received back from Howard Companies. He also reviewed the updated proposed timeline for the 2024 proposed lease financing. Later in the agenda will be a recommendation for approval of an advertisement for hearings to take place at the May Board Meetings. Mr. Brown and the Board also looked over some proposed signage improvements and additions for the school corporation.
4. Kindergarten Enrollment for the 2024-25 school year will take place on Wednesday, April 10th. New kindergarten families should contact the elementary school to register.
5. The ISBA Regional Meeting will be held at Willie and Red's in Hagerstown on Wednesday, April 24, 2024.
6. Professional leave requests approved by the Superintendent as of Monday, April 1, 2024, were presented.

Opportunity for Public Comments

(No negative comments toward Corporation employees are permitted during the public meeting. Alleged misconduct by a Corporation employee is to be addressed in an Executive session of the Board following meeting with appropriate members of the Administration.)

None

Business Office Recommendations

Treasurer's Report and Approval of Claim Docket

The claims #24100 to #24161 and the payroll of March 29, 2024 as listed in Appendix #2353 were approved for payment.

Permission to Advertise Notice of Hearings

The Board granted the Superintendent permission to advertise the Notice of Project Hearing and the Preliminary Determination Hearing for our upcoming projects as listed in Appendix #2354.

Personnel

Resignations

The Board accepted the resignation of Marla Cook as a Special Education Aide effective March 28, 2024.

The Board accepted the resignation of Jeff Andrews as the Director of Maintenance effective June 30, 2024.

Employment

The Board approved up to 98 hours of 2024 Summer PLATO hours at the Junior/Senior High School as assigned by the building principal.

Transfer Students

The Board allowed 23 transfer students for kindergarten for the 2024-2025 school year.

Opportunity for Board Communication:

Mr. Alan Wright thanked all of Cowan's Assistant Principals during National Assistant Principals Week. We have three outstanding Assistant Principals, and they all do a great job!

Adjournment

The April 3, 2024 regular board meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.