

FEBRUARY 15, 2024 BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Pledge of Allegiance

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda of the February 15, 2024, board meeting was approved as presented.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Regular Board meeting of February 1, 2024, were approved as presented.

Reports:

Superintendent – Mr. Timothy Brown

1. Mr. Brown highlighted the four wrestlers who made it to semi-state and the three wrestlers that advanced to this weekend's state finals. Good luck to our Cowan wrestlers this weekend in Evansville! Mr. Brown provided an update on the proposal for the renovated culinary arts room at the Jr/Sr High School. The project is moving ahead on schedule. There is a motion later in the agenda for the approval to seek out quotes. Quotes will be reviewed in the middle of March. Mr. Brown provided a quick update on the repair to a valve in the water system that feeds the fire station. While this did not have any impact on the school, that repair has been made and everything is in working order again. The pressure vessels for the Jr/Sr High School are scheduled to be installed on Monday.
2. Mrs. Kim Campbell provided an update on the Statehouse Day with ISBA that she attended on February 6th. She reviewed some of the critical bills that are being considered at this time. The Board thanked Mrs. Campbell for representing our district at the meeting.
3. The Food Service Management RFP is ready for Board Approval. Once this is approved, it will be advertised in the Muncie Star Press as well as on the school website with a bid opening scheduled for March 18th.
4. Mr. Brown shared a report from Mr. Schwartz, Elementary Principal, on his committee's work to review cursive handwriting. The committee of teachers and administrators recommends providing formal instruction on cursive handwriting beginning with the 24-25 school year. This is up for approval later in the agenda.
5. Mr. Brown provided a summary to the Board on a potential sidewalk project in town along 600S. The first phase of the project would update the sidewalk on the north side of the road from the train tracks to the elementary school. Mr. Hansard and Mr. Brown met with Commissioner James King last week to review this potential project. One consideration for the school district is extending the new sidewalk to our school buildings.
6. Mr. Brown reviewed the district's plan for April 8th, the day of the solar eclipse. School will not be in session that day, as it is a scheduled make-up day. There will also be no athletics contests that day as well.
7. Kindergarten Enrollment for the 2024-25 school year will take place on April 10th. New kindergarten families should contact the elementary school to register.
8. Professional leave requests approved by the Superintendent as of Tuesday, February 13, 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 #23903 to #23972 and the payroll of February 2, 2024, as listed in Appendix #2342 were approved for payment.

The Board granted permission to advertise the Request for Proposals for a Food Service Management Company as presented in Appendix #2343.

The Board granted permission to seek quotes for the Jr/Sr High School Culinary Arts room renovation as presented in Appendix #2344.

Section 125

The Board adopted the Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan provided by American Fidelity as listed in Appendix #2345.

Personnel

Leave

The Board approved an FMLA leave for Heather Guffey from approximately March 20, 2024 through May 1, 2024.

Employment

The Board approved Logan Waters as an Elementary Behavior Interventionist, to begin February 20, 2024.

The Board approved Cassie Weaver as an Assistant Varsity Track Coach for the 2023-24 season.

Cursive Handwriting

The Board approved the direct instruction of cursive handwriting for students in the elementary school beginning with the 2024-25 school year.

2024 Paid Holiday – April 8th

The Board approved a one-time paid holiday for all 260-day fulltime employees for Monday, April 8, 2024, due to the Solar Eclipse.

Opportunity for Board Communication:

Mr. Rick Jones congratulated the six wrestlers that earned academic all-state honors for the season. This is a great accomplishment!

Adjournment

The February 15, 2024, regular board meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m.