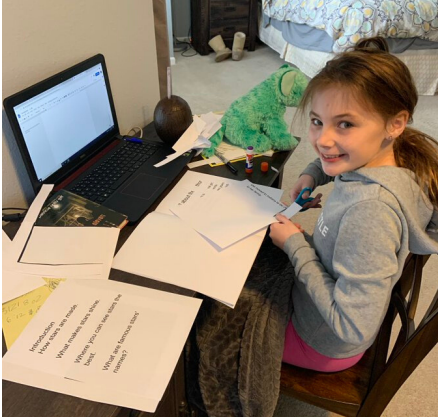




CARMEL CLAY SCHOOLS

School Board Regular Session 3.23.2020



CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were approved:

- Claims
- Payroll
- Personnel Report
- Approval of Gift Applications
 - Thanks to a generous CEF Musical Showcase sponsorship by United Fidelity Bank, the Carmel Education Foundation has made a donation of \$190 to each of the following school music teachers: Carmel Elementary Teacher Tiffany Ingles, Cherry Tree Elementary Teacher Anna Moody, College Wood Elementary Teacher Keli Welsh, Forest Dale Elementary Teacher Dori Gallinat, Mohawk Trails Elementary Teacher Mike McBride, Orchard Park Elementary Teacher Julia Walker, Prairie Trace Elementary Teacher Andrew Poticha, Smoky Row Elementary Teacher Josh Southard, Towne Meadow Elementary Teacher Andrew Himelick, West Clay Elementary Teacher Ashley Eaton, Woodbrook Elementary Teacher Lindsey Ratner, and Carmel Middle School Teachers Trisha Scheidies and Carmen Wiest
 - The Fidelity Charitable Donor-Advised Fund awarded an Ashley Flowers and Erik Hudak Giving Fund donation in the name of AudioChuck (Crime Junkie Podcast) to CHS Radio WHJE in the amount of \$1,792.

[VIEW THE MEETING](#)

CONSENT AGENDA (CONT.)

- Approval of Gift Applications (Continued)
 - Carmel Elementary received memorial donations in honor of student Stephen Hotseller: Make-A-Wish Foundation - \$4,000, Mitchell and Carrie Spalding - \$50, and Thomas Spalding - \$25
- Minutes: School Board Workshop February 10, 2020
- Minutes: School Board Regular Session February 24, 2020

[Watch the Consent Agenda](#)

NEW ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES & TRANSPORTATION

- Dr. Beresford announced Mr. Gary Clevenger as the new Assistant Director of Facilities & Transportation. Mr. Clevenger began his transportation career as the State Training Specialist for the Indiana Department of Transportation. He traveled the state training school bus drivers while focusing on increasing the safety of students on and around school buses. He then served as the Assistant Director of Transportation with Washington Township Schools and most recently served as their Director of Transportation. His primary responsibilities included collaborating with district/building administrators and law enforcement personnel on all transportation operations for the school district. He also managed the day-to-day operations and professional development for a transportation staff of 170+ (office, drivers, aides, mechanics, etc.) while also managing strategic departmental and district goals. Mr. Clevenger will replace Supervisor of Transportation, Amy Beaven, who will retire May 1, 2020.

[Watch the Announcement](#)

ACTION ITEM

- The following Action Item was approved:
 - Resolution Authorizing Administration to Handle Work Disruptions for Employees Impacted by Coronavirus

[Watch the Action Item](#)

MONTHLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

- Dr. Beresford presented the Monthly Financial Update and Associate Superintendent of Business Affairs, Mr. Roger McMichael, answered questions from the Board.

[Watch the Monthly Financial Update](#)

DISCUSSION ITEM

- Carmel Clay Schools Superintendent, Dr. Michael Beresford, presented and led a discussion on the CCS Rebranding Project.

[Watch the Discussion Item](#)

MESSAGE FROM THE CCS SCHOOL BOARD

On behalf of the Carmel Clay School Board, we want to thank our teachers and administrators for working tirelessly to get virtual learning up and running so that our students can continue to learn. Second, we must also thank our amazing technology department for making this all possible. Not only have they helped distribute devices for e-learning, but they have made virtual learning possible. Third, to our food service team and community volunteers, for distributing food to our families that count on CCS. Fourth, to the countless other team members who have stepped up during this challenge. Also, a big thank you to our families who are supporting our Carmel Clay students in this new way of learning. Finally, thank you to Dr. Beresford and our whole administrative team for leading us so seamlessly into these uncharted waters. With just two days to officially prepare, they have taken us from traditional classrooms to a new educational platform of learning. As Dr. Beresford has shared in his e-mail last Friday, we are not perfect, but we crushed it. We will strive to be the best at getting better. As we adapt to this challenge, if you, our students, families, or employees need help, we are here for each other so please reach out if you need assistance. Also, please safely check in with neighbors, family members, co-workers, and friends to make sure they are okay. During this difficult time, we must take advantage of the opportunities that this challenge is causing and we, the CCS family, are better together and together we will get through this challenge.

Mike Kerschner
President

Katie Browning
Vice President

Dr. Lin Zheng
Secretary

Layla Spanenberg
Board Member

Pam Knowles
Board Member

SPECIAL REPORT: COVID-19 RESPONSE

- Dr. Beresford provided a special report on the COVID-19 response from Carmel Clay Schools.

CCS FOOD SERVICE

- On March 18th, 595 students received a week's worth of lunch and breakfast food, which added up to 2,975 meals.
- Merciful Help has added "BackSacks" of weekend food and continues to assist with food distribution.
- CCS Counselors, Social Workers, and CYAP advocates are also helping with individual situations.
- This week (March 23), there are 763 students signed up to receive supplemental food assistance.

STUDENT SERVICES

- Social Workers and Counselors are meeting virtually twice a week to provide resources and updates to families.
- Social Workers and Counselors have been helping families with food assistance and virtual mental health resources.
- Social Workers have also been working with teachers to embed SEL activities into curriculum and have been providing teachers with daily activities that are easy to use and are engaging for students, such as SEL videos and online activities.
- Virtual office hours are being held for students who have mental health and/or general well-being concerns and needs. This also includes college & career planning and scheduling for high school students.
- Student Services has provided a virtual mental health provider list for students. Our Social Workers are also checking in on families via phone calls and emails.
- Student Services has created a list of internet providers who are providing free and/or low cost internet options for families in need of these services.
- Student Services continues to plan for the Summer Lunch Program alongside our partner, the Carmel Youth Assistance Program. Carmel Youth Assistance Program continues to be a great resource for CCS families. Maggie Figge and Melissa Yarger have worked alongside our team to update us on available resources and have been present for questions that have come up due to the unusual circumstances of social distancing and diminishing resources.
- Students are still utilizing the STOPit app and our SROs and CCS team are still responding to these messages.
- SROs have currently been reassigned to other duties as directed by the Carmel Police Department, but they are still monitoring school issues.
- David Woodward, Director of Student Services, is our COVID-19 Coordinator and is monitoring and communicating with the city, county, and state, and insuring compliance to keep our students and staff safe.

TECHNOLOGY TEAM

- Last Friday, a message was sent to staff and families that talked about the “behind the scenes” people who do amazing work to “make school happen.” The CCS Technology Department is a great example of that and they continue to do phenomenal work.
- As of Monday morning, March 23, the Technology Team had closed 11 PowerSchool Tickets, 84 Virtual Learning Tickets and 322 Kayako/General Tech Support Tickets. 2,073 devices have been checked out by CCS Families. Our number of daily Canvas Messages increased from 2,371 last Monday to as high as 14,948 last Thursday. A total of 47,972 messages have been sent.

SPECIAL REPORT: COVID-19 RESPONSE

HR & FINANCE TEAM

- Human Resources and Finance are two additional “behind the scenes” teams that have shouldered many key services, particularly to CCS employees. Many of the HR procedures have been changed to support online/virtual processes.
- A resolution has been proposed to empower the administration to support hourly (non-salaried) staff with income, since they have been unable to work normal hours.
- Two employee groups are self-sustaining, Food Service & Edu-care workers, and Mr. McMichael has estimated those costs.
- All state recruiting fairs for teachers have been cancelled, but the district will participate in a National Education Week Virtual Teacher Recruitment Fair this week.

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

- For the past two years, the Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Team has been working on what Virtual Learning might look like. Due to the school closure, they have had to accelerate some of their work and have created a very comprehensive framework for virtual learning. This framework has been positively received by teachers and administrators.
- Dr. Beresford shared some quotes from school leaders about their observations on the first three days of virtual learning and shared examples of virtual learning experiences our students participated in last week.

WHAT'S NEXT?

- The Governor has closed all schools until May 1 and has cancelled all state testing.
- The Governor has also given school districts 20 waiver days. CCS has not used any of these days at this point (March 23).
- As of Monday, March 23rd, there are 9 school days until spring break and 41 school days left in the school year. On May 1 we will have 19 days left of the school year.
- The CCS Administrative Team is having conversations about what virtual learning might look like over a longer period of time and how to leverage waiver days. The team will be working with the Carmel Teachers Association and parents as they determine next steps. The district will communicate these next steps to CCS families soon.

[Watch the Special Report](#)

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

- Board Secretary, Dr. Lin Zheng, presented information on Carmel Clay Parks and Recreation's Extended School Enrichment Program.

[Watch the Board Member Report](#)

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Beresford shared that he understands this is a very uncertain time for our CCS families, staff, and our community. Many are fearful and anxious about the virus and the impact this continues to have on so many aspects of our lives. He wants our students, staff, families and the community to know that it is “OK to not be OK,” and it is normal to feel a variety of emotions during this situation. Dr. Beresford also emphasized that as a community we need to have faith that we will get through this crisis. He recently spoke with two epidemiologists who explained that staying home, practicing social distancing, and washing your hands can help stop by the virus as fast as it is spreading. It takes all of us working together to make it happen and that’s one thing our CCS families and Carmel community are good at – working together! It’s important to be informed, be smart and band together to make our community a healthier community and ultimately, “flatten the curve.”

[Watch the Superintendent's Report](#)

CCS KUDOS



The School Board would like to recognize the hard work and dedication of staff members as brought to their attention by the Carmel community. Kudos to Sarah Tilbury! If you would like to share your positive CCS employee experience with the School Board, please [click here](#).

ADJOURNMENT

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

IMPORTANT DATES

APRIL 2020

MAY 2020

Please click here to view upcoming Board Meetings, breaks and holidays

April 3-10 Spring Break (No School)
April 14 - School Board Workshop Session
April 27 - School Board Regular Session

May 18 - School Board Regular Session



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If you are interested please contact **Shelley Coover**,
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