

**CHASSELL TOWNSHIP SCHOOL
Board of Education
Regular Meeting**

September 19, 2011

The Chassell Township School Board of Education met on Monday, September 19, 2011, in the library. President Chris Holmes called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Present: Dana Johnson, Marcia Messer, Suzanna Tuomi, Ken Kytta, Chris Holmes

Absent: Lynn Gierke, Carl Olson

Visitors: Stacey Kukkonen (Daily Mining Gazette), Randy McClellan, Roger Tervo, Jane Rautiola, Tamara Pietila, Beth Ryyanen, Heather Hainault, Rebekah Schmidt, Sarah Hoekstra

Guests: Randy McClellan addressed the board. He wanted to say "Thank You" on behalf of the Highland Games committee for allowing members to use the future athletic field as a practice area prior to the event which was held in August at the Houghton County Arena fairgrounds.

New elementary teachers were introduced to the board. New teachers are: Heather Hainault (4th Grade), Rebekah Schmidt (Kdg) and Sarah Hoekstra (6th Grade).

Several community members addressed the board regarding the lack of Cross Country Team for the school year 2011-12.

Regular Board Meeting – August 15, 2011 – Marcia Messer moved, seconded by Suzanna Tuomi, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on August 15, 2011, as presented. Motion carried with all members voting AYE.

Treasurer's Report - Chris Holmes reported an income of \$51,172.91, Expenses of \$159,474.15, a transfer to the Athletic Fund of \$1,618.88, leaving a deficient Net Income balance of (\$109,920.12) for the period of July 1, 2011 through August 31, 2011. The General Fund Cash & Investment Balance as of August 31, 2011, was \$477,913.46.

Note: Of the \$477,913.46 cash balance, \$114,214.92 is property tax money owed to other funds.

Dana Johnson moved, seconded by Ken Kytta, to approve the treasurer's report, petty cash report, and to pay the September bills as submitted. Motion carried on a roll call vote:

AYES: Dana Johnson, Marcia Messer, Suzanna Tuomi, Ken Kytta , Chris Holmes

NAYS: None

COMMUNICATIONS

A. Principal's Items

- There are two new student teachers this semester. Chris Schuldt is from N.M.U. and is in P.E. and Robotics. Madeline Northey is from M.T.U. and she is in High School English and Math.
- Superintendent, George Stockero, applied to the M.H.S.A.A. for our 6th grade to participate on our 7th grade basketball teams and Chassell was granted permission.
- The juniors and seniors will be going to a college fair at M.T.U. on Wednesday, September 21.
- The 7th Grade class went to Chassell Beach and did a major clean-up last week. Details were provided. A summary will be given to Chassell Township.

- School Rankings – the high school can not be ranked (not enough students). The elementary and junior high ranked in the 72nd percentile, which means Chassell finished higher than 72% of all Michigan school ranked.
- The Michigan Department of Education did pass the new MEAP and MME cut scores. Chassell must be prepared to see drastically lower scores.
- The bell system stopped working, the first day of school. A replacement system has been ordered through Amazon.com. The principal's office is anxiously awaiting the new system.
- The Class Schedule is one of the best since Mr. Stockero started working in Chassell. The majority of the electives have equal number of students.

B. Superintendent's Items

- MDOT has removed the flashing light for the 45 mph speed limit on U.S. Hwy 41 and has replaced it with a sign that has times that the 45 mph speed limit is to be in effect (ie: 7:20 a.m. to 8:20 a.m. and 3:15 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.).
- Lunch time supervision – Todd VanKleeck did not feel he could handle the supervision duty this year, so Barb Suojanen has taken his place. Barb was working a seven hour day as a custodian, now she will be working an eight hour day.
- The House of Representatives is expected to take action on a bill that would limit school elections to only November. In prior years, there was a choice between November and May election months.
- The local superintendents met last Friday and one of the major topics was the Best Practices incentive. Each school district can receive an additional \$100 per student if they achieve 4 out of 5 "Best Practices". During the next several months, Mr. Stockero will prepare board resolutions in which the school district will state that it is meeting "Best Practice Standards".
- Mr. Stockero will be in Marquette on September 27 and 28 to learn more about the Tenure Act and then participate in a legislative summit.
- On Wednesday, September 28, there will be an in-service for new board members at the ISD.
- On Friday, November 11, the ISD is trying to set up a meeting between State Representative Matt Huuki, State Senator Tom Casperson, the local superintendents and local school board members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. CCISD Report – no report this month.
- B. CCASB Report – A new board member orientation will be held on Wednesday, September 28, 2011, at 6 p.m. at the ISD.

A legislative luncheon will be held on Friday, November 11, 2011, at 11:30 a.m. at the ISD. The luncheon will feature a discussion with Senator Casperson and Representative Huuki. All school board members and Superintendents are invited to attend.

- C. Education Committee – Marcia Messer reported the committee had met on Monday, August 29, 2011, at 4 p.m. The committee discussed the high school music program. The band director, Sara Alvord, would like to discontinue membership in the MSBOA (Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association) and MSBOA-District 14 for one year. Savings from the memberships would be: MSBOA-\$500.00; Solo Ensemble-\$50.00; MSBOA District 14-Festival Fee-\$165.00. Ms. Alvord would like to use the savings from these memberships to

be used for local musicians to come into the classroom to work with individual students and groups of students to help build the band back up. The recommendation of the committee was to take a one year hiatus from the MSBOA and MSBOA District 14 membership.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Teacher Evaluations – The “Working Document – Standards for Instructional Practice and Professional Values” that was introduced to the board last month, is still a “working document”. After reviewing the document and through discussions with staff, the “distinguished category” was taken out of the document. The remainder of the document will be used as a tool for teacher evaluations beginning this year.
- B. BHK – Preschool Program - The preschool program that is run by BHK, got off to a “rocky start” this school year. Prior to the program starting, Mr. Stockero met with staff from BHK and learned that funding had been cut and there were less seats available to students. The current program has an enrollment of 10 students. Through discussions with the BHK staff, it was suggested that better communication be developed between the BHK Preschool Program, families in the district and the district itself to help alleviate the “rocky start” that ensued this year.
- C. Parking Lot Painting - The school district received a bid from JCS, Inc. for repainting the parking lot lines. The district has not had the lines painted in approximately 7-8 years. The bid was for \$896.00. More than one bid had been attempted, however, the second vendor said they would not be able to be competitive, therefore, chose not to bid.
- D. Logging Staging – The school district received a request from S&S Logging, to use the area in front of the old drive-in, as a “staging” area for a logging project that will be done on two adjacent pieces of property own by the Gazvoda family and Anderson Welding.

ACTION ITEMS

- a. MSBOA and MSBOA-District 14 Membership – Marcia Messer moved, seconded by Dana Johnson, to take a “one year hiatus” from the MSBOA and MSBOA-District 14 memberships. The savings from these memberships will be used for local musicians to come into the classroom to work with individual students and groups of students to help build the band back up. Motion carried with all members voting AYE.
- b. Girl’s Varsity Basketball Coach - Resignation – Dana Johnson moved, seconded by Suzanna Tuomi, to send a letter of “thank you” to Russ Ryyanen for his dedicated service to the school district as the girl’s varsity basketball coach. Motion carried with all members voting AYE.
- c. Girl’s Varsity Basketball - Coach – Dana Johnson moved, seconded by Ken Kytta, to hire Brandi Hainault, as the new Girl’s Varsity Basketball Coach. Motion carried with all members voting AYE.
- d. Quiz Bowl - Coach – Ken Kytta moved, seconded by Dana Johnson, to hire Sarah Hoekstra, as the new Quiz Bowl coach. Motion carried with all members voting AYE.
- e. Parking Lot Painting – Ken Kytta moved, seconded by Suzanna Tuomi, to hire JCS, Inc. to paint the parking lot lines at a cost of \$896.00. Motion carried with all members voting AYE.

- f. Logging - Staging – Dana Johnson moved, seconded by Ken Kytta, to authorize the property committee to review and authorize if they deem necessary, the request from S&S Logging regarding staging in front of the former drive-in theater. Motion carried with all board members voting AYE.
- g. Next board meeting – Monday, October 17, 2011, 5:30 p.m., School Library.

Dana Johnson moved, seconded by Ken Kytta, to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 p.m. Motion carried with all members voting AYE.

President:

Approved:

Secretary: