

MINUTES OF MEETING - - BOARD OF EDUCATION - - District No. C-4

Clark County, Illinois

In Regular Session at 7:00 P.M. on date of November 20, 2023

- 1) The Casey-Westfield Board of Education met in regular session at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, November 20, 2023 at the Unit Office, 401 E. Main, Casey, IL. Upon roll call, members present were Fain, Gelb, Hickox, Perie, Sharp and Todd. Administrators present were Linda Campbell, Kacie Rhoads, Dalton McFarland, Jim Sullivan and Dee Scott.
- 2) President Gelb recognized visitors Hannah Todd, Julie Tutewiler, Haley Honselman and Jennifer Harris.
- 3) Act upon the following consent agenda items:
 - A. Minutes of the regular meeting of October 16, 2023;
 - B. Financial and budgetary reports and current invoices for payment;
 - C. Destruction of the verbatim record of those meetings 18 months and older as authorized by Board Policy 220 and 220-E1;
 - D. Policy updates and revisions in Exhibit A;
 - E. School Report Cards (illinoisreportcard.com) and Improvement plans.

Motion by Perie and seconded by Sharp. Upon roll call, members voting yea were Fain, Gelb, Hickox, Perie, Sharp and Todd. The President declared the motion carried.

- 4) Review of the Proposed 2023 Tax Levy—Dee Scott reviewed the proposed levy, noting that all five counties are predicting significant increases in EAV (equalized assessed valuation). She recommended an increase in the levy over the previous year of approximately 10%. The levy will be finalized and approved at the December 18 board meeting.
- 5) Administrator Reports
 - A. Maintenance Project Lists—projections for maintenance throughout the district were reviewed. It was noted that the district has a 10-year Health Life Safety review in 2025 and many projects will be accomplished through that process. The board discussed improvements needed at Monroe gym and asked for more information on potential cost for improvements.
 - B. Monroe Wall Installation—the district is ready to go out for bids for this project to be completed in the summer of 2024. Walls and doors will be installed in the 1972 addition to improve the learning environment and increase safety.
 - C. The building principals shared written reports. The board noted that the test scores for our students were very good this past year and expressed gratitude to the teachers and principals for their hard work. Tracy Gelb commented that both Veteran's Day programs were very moving and well done.

Minutes Submitted By Secretary _____

Ordered Approved by President _____

Date of December 18, 2023

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- 6) Addendum—Tracy Gelb noted that five board members attended the Joint Annual Conference in Chicago this past weekend. She felt it was a good conference but needed more focus on rural district issues. The need for more thorough cleaning at Roosevelt was discussed as well as concerns with the scoreboard and PA systems functionality. Jeremy Perie asked to discuss the possibility of adding a 5th/6th grade basketball team. Jim Sullivan noted that he would have Josh Roberts look into it. A scoreboard proposal will also be provided for Monroe School.
- 7) Act upon approval to adjourn to closed session under c1 (employment) and c21 (discussion closed meeting minutes) of section 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq. of the Illinois Open Meetings Act at 7:35 p.m.

Motion by Sharp and seconded by Todd. Upon roll call, members voting yea were Fain, Gelb, Hickox, Perie, Sharp and Todd. The President declared the motion carried.

- 8) Act upon approval to reconvene to regular session at 8:19 p.m.

Motion by Todd and seconded by Perie. Upon roll call, members voting yea were Fain, Gelb, Hickox, Perie, Sharp and Todd. The President declared the motion carried.

- 9) Act upon the following consent agenda items:

- A. Act upon approval of closed session minutes of October 16, 2023.
- B. Act upon approval of employment recommendations.
 1. Act upon approval of resignations from:
 - i. Julie Wortman as Unit Secretary effective November 3, 2023.
 2. Act upon approval of employment of:
 - i. Joie Ridge as JSHS Secretary;
 - ii. Stephanie Lamb as 1:1 Student Aide;
 - iii. Amy Hines as Classroom Aide;
 - iv. Jeannine Roseberry as 5th Grade Teacher effective January 3, 2024;
 - v. 2024-2025 Contract for Elementary Principal Kacie Rhoads; and
 - vi. Extension of Sandy Hibschan's retirement date to June 30, 2024.

Motion by Hickox and seconded by Sharp. Upon roll call, members voting yea were Fain, Gelb, Hickox, Perie, Sharp and Todd. The President declared the motion carried.

- 10) Addendum—Tracy Gelb noted that she attended a meeting last week on Hickory Grove Wind Farm. She noted that wind farms generate considerable tax revenues and this one is proposed to be in Coles, Clark and Edgar counties. Shane Todd inquired as to whether the blue mound solar farm is still going in.

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11) Act upon approval to adjourn at 8:29 p.m.

Motion by Perie and seconded by Hickox. Upon roll call, members voting yea were Fain, Gelb, Hickox, Perie, Sharp and Todd. The President declared the motion carried.

Minutes Submitted By Secretary _____

Ordered Approved by President _____

Date of December 18, 2023

Casey-Westfield Jr./Sr. HS

Building Report

November 20, 2023

Academics:

- **Biology:** Anatomy and physiology, along with health occupation students attended. As a follow-up, each A&P student contributes to a class presentation explaining a specific disease they learned about with causes, effects, treatment, and prevention information.
 - **The Anatomy Class** visited the Body World RX Exhibit at the Peoria Riverfront Museum on November 7th.
- **HS ELA:** The ELA department plans to have students write to military members for the holidays. They will be sent to the military through a company that will disperse them. We hope to spread some holiday cheer to our service members!
- **JH ELA:** 7th-grade English students have been working on a unit on adversity. 8th graders are doing a unit on suspense. Both graders will start persuasive essays before the end of the month.
- **JH Social Studies:** 7th-grade social studies students are finishing up their studies of the geography of North America. Last week, they created their map of North America as a week-long in-class project. They will finish the unit and have a unit test at the end of November. 8th-grade social studies students are continuing their study of the Constitution. While there is no homework during this unit, students must study for their constitution quizzes and tests. Constitution Quiz 2 will take place on November 28th. The final Constitution Test is scheduled for December 12th.
- **WIN** is still going well; this week, Sophomores participated in community service opportunities around the school. Classmates cleaned lockers, windows, and trophy cases. They also swept and cleaned the bleachers in the gym. Students picked up sticks and raked leaves in front of the school, while others picked up trash on the school grounds. Hay was also dispersed on the practice football field. They all did a great job and accomplished a lot in a short time!
- **The Veterans Day Program** was a success. All the students could shake hands with the Veterans and thank them for their service. Additionally, veterans received community service coupons they could use from the students, and our Student Council and FCCLA members served lunch to the veterans.
- **Vocational:** Mr. Bennett took students to LLC to tour their trade programs. They could see the equipment used and meet students and staff in the programs.
- **Physics:** On Thursday, November 2nd, 2023, the Physics classes traveled to the First Robinson High School Engineering Competition and STEM event. They built mousetrap cars, catapults, flying machines, and bridges for the competition. The event hosts a wild card build and a STEM fair, giving the students opportunities to speak with colleges and STEM programs in the area. They were able to hear from a few guest speakers as well.
- **Senior student leaders** have attended Monroe each week and helped mentor struggling students. These high school students each lunch with the Monroe students and help encourage attendance, positive behavior, and self-esteem in the younger students.
- Carpentry 2 class completed the ramp for the band room. It will help the band department load and unload band equipment for field competitions. Marshall Goble, Chase Potter, and Andrew Rodriguez did an excellent job on this project.
- The high school incentive students to The Great Pumpkin Patch for the first quarter incentive trip. Although the weather was not ideal, the students made the best of it and enjoyed their time. We also stopped in Charleston on the way back and let the students eat at local restaurants. It was a fun day!

Arts:

- **Art:** The Art department is progressing well with Art Appreciation and learning about the artwork of different periods and cultures.
 - We recently created artwork for the building, which is slowly being displayed in different parts.

Casey-Westfield Jr./Sr. HS

Building Report

November 20, 2023

- **Band:** Brandon Ritter made the District 5 band. We will have the 5th,th, JH, and HS Christmas Concert on December 10th at 2:00 pm. The Jazz Concert is on December 19th at 6:30 pm with a Catered dinner.
- **Choir:** Chorus junior high and high school students attended EIU on November 17th to participate in the District Choir Festival. Our Christmas concert is on Sunday, December 17th at 2:00 pm.

Athletics:

- The **JH girls' basketball team** is wrapping up the season. They attended "field trip day" at the U of I. It's geared to 2nd-8th grade students and encourages them to think about college attendance, AND they got to see the U of I women win by 70. The team had a great day. The 8th grade team is currently in regionals that start on November 18th.
- Coach High took several student-athletes to the **ISHA Leadership Conference**. These students represented our school well and came back with leadership skills they could help model to their teammates.

Clubs:

- **FCCLA news:** FCCLA mailed over 100 pounds of candy to the troops through Soldiers Angels. Candy was collected in exchange for toys on trick-or-treat night.
 - Our students continue unloading and preparing Blessings in Backpack items.
 - Our students have accepted some catering orders for Christmas cookies in the community.
 - We will again make about 15 Gingerbread houses to display at Monroe, but this year the top 6 or 7 will also be entered in the Candy Canes on Main Gingerbread Contest.
 - FCCLA plans to be part of the Candy Canes on Main parade with the "big head" reindeer and Santa's sleigh donated to us by the CIA.
- The **High School Student Council** will hold a Sock Hop on December 15th

Monroe Elementary School Board Report - 11.20.2023

Great things at Monroe:

- The updated curriculum in reading and math purchased the last couple of years have been widely touted as wonderful. The staff are appreciative of the district for upgrading and/or purchasing programs that are current in their practices and format and that are also student friendly. The teachers love the additional programs such as IXL that reinforce and support skills for math.
- Monroe held a wonderful Veterans Day program on Nov. 10. We had approximately 30 Veterans and their family members in attendance. The 6th grade students created a program that included information about each branch of the service, music and a tribute to fallen soldiers with Taps being played by CWS Delaney Coffey. Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Collins classes also used sign language to say the Pledge of Allegiance. The kitchen staff and Mrs. Kibler's class provided a wonderful breakfast for the Veterans and their family members. Mrs. Kusterman asked students and staff to help create the eagle on the backdrop in the first picture. The feathers are all individually designed and colored. Pictures follow.
- Mrs. McFarland's second grade class have been working on comparing different versions of different fairytale stories. Students are using venn diagrams for the first time. They are also really working on writing this year. They have been working on an introduction sentence, three detail sentences, and a conclusion sentence in all of our writings.
- Mrs. Tutewiler's class read the story, "Why is the Statue of Liberty Green?" in ELA. They then did an experiment with pennies, vinegar, and salt to turn the pennies green, just as the statue did due to snow, rain, wind, and the sun. This was a great visual example for students to see how a copper penny could turn green. This experiment also helped them answer the question on their quiz about why the statue changed from brown to green. She noted that her students enjoyed the activity, except for the smell of the vinegar! Pictures follow.
- 5th grade is having fun learning and manipulating decimals place values, different forms such as standard, word, and expanded form, and converting decimals to fractions. In Social Studies they just finished the Road to the Revolutionary War. They completed a STEM project inspired by the Boston

Monroe Elementary School Board Report - 11.20.2023

Tea Party! In science we have been exploring Newton's Laws of Motion! Pictures follow.

- Monroe had a guest speaker on Thursday. Mr. Keith shared ways to encourage kids to read with his Get Kids to Read assembly. Mr. Keith is a ventriloquist and magician. Pictures follow.
- Monroe held a Family Reading Night on Thursday, Nov 16. Students and parents were treated to a favorite - Chili and Cinnamon roll meal - as well as reading time and activities with a Campfire theme. Students were able to make a s'more treat bag and test on AR books. We had 88 students register. PTO gave away a camping theme gift to one lucky student! Pictures follow.

Monroe School Improvement Plan

Monroe IAR Assessment Scores - 2023

****In the top 20 schools in the area with 2 attendance centers, Monroe is ranked third high for best overall IAR scores.**

Upcoming Events:

Nov 16 - "Get Kids To Read" assembly in gym

-K-2 will be at 12:30, 3-6 will be at 1:30

Nov 16 - Family Reading Night - time TBD

Nov 21 - 2:00 Dismiss for Thanksgiving

Nov 22 - 26 Thanksgiving break - no school

Nov 27 - Dec 8 - Winter Benchmarking

Dec 4 - 8 – PTO Holiday Shop

Dec 4 - Dental visits

Dec 11 - Dental visits

Dec 14 - Christmas program at HS gym - 6:30 pm

Dec 19 - Faculty Christmas meal provided by Cafeteria staff

Dec 20 - Holiday Dismissal 2:00 pm

Dec 21 - Jan 2 Christmas Break

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Veterans Day Program 2023

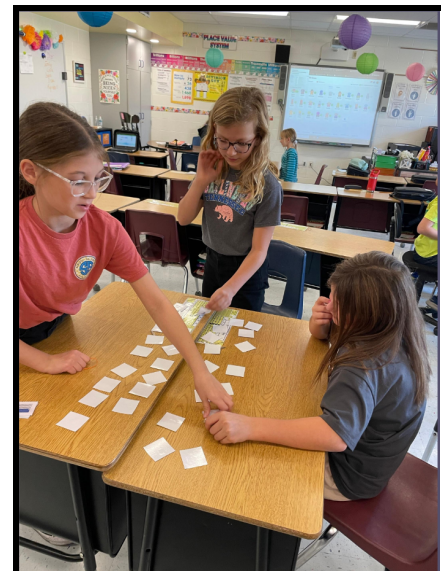
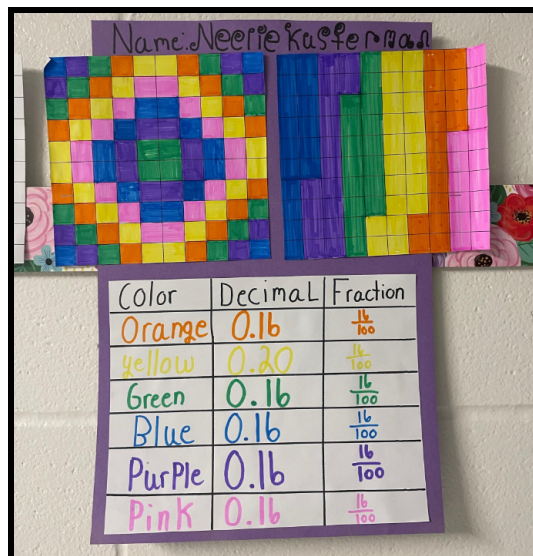
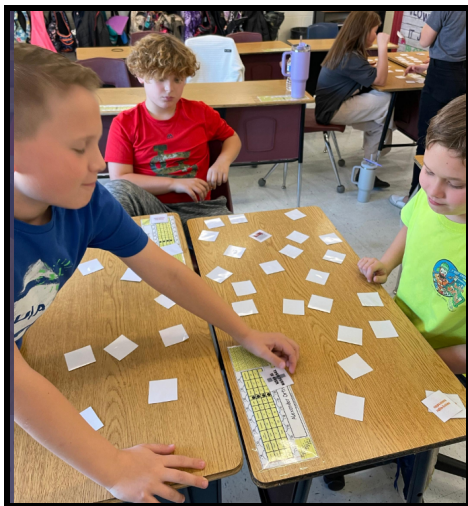


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4th grade Statue of Liberty experiment



5th Math the fun way! Learning about decimals!

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5th Road to the Revolutionary War - STEM project inspired by the Boston Tea Party!



5th Experimenting with Newton's Laws of Motion



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Family Reading Night



Monroe Elementary School Board Report - 11.20.2023

Mr. Keith - Get Kids to Read assembly

