

**Claymont City Schools  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
February 13, 2023  
5:30 p.m.**

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The Claymont City School District Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, February 13, 2023 at 5:30pm in the Administrative Office with Mrs. Grandison presiding. A recording of the meeting is available for viewing on the Board's page of Claymont's website.

**ROLL CALL:** Present – Mr. Cottrell, Mrs. Grandison, Mrs. Host, Mr. Miles, Mrs. Wolf

**Visitors and Personnel** – The following personnel were present: Brian Rentsch, Superintendent; Kim Beckley, Treasurer; Jodie Miles, Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum Director/Preschool Director; Beth Lint, Director of Operations; Heather O'Connor, Director of Special Services; Amy Conn, High School Principal; Kelsi Barnhart, Assistant High School Principal; Brian Watkins, Middle School Principal, Michele Henry, Assistant Middle School Principal; Richard Page, Elementary School Principal; Kelly Cook, Primary School Principal; Eric Henry, Transportation/Cafeteria Supervisor; and Holly Lloyd, Tyler King and Chad Shumaker, members of the public.

Before the start of the meeting, a moment of silence was given for the passing of Jim Rectanus and Charlie Cottrell, past staff members of Claymont City Schools. Mr. Aaron Cottrell thanked everyone who texted, called, attended calling hours and/or funeral, or sent flowers in memory of his father.

#### **23-014 COMMENDATIONS**

Music students who attended Solo & Assemble

Council for Exceptional Children – Mrs. O'Connor will be serving on the board at the state level

OASSA Conference – Mr. Watkins and Mrs. Henry will be presenting with a team from Leader in Me about "how climate and culture will lead to academic success"

Fine Arts Festival will be held at the High School March 30<sup>th</sup>

Mrs. Grandison read from Boardmanship 101: Roles of a Board Member

#### **23-015 SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Mr. Chad Shumaker from Our City Productions spoke and presented a video created to highlight Claymont City Schools. The video is posted to Claymont's website.

#### **23-016 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Administrators respectfully submitted written updates and were included in the Board packets.

**Director of Operations** – Mrs. Lint

**Director of Curriculum** – Mrs. Miles

**Director of Special Education** – Mrs. O'Connor

**Claymont City Schools**  
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---

**Transportation/Cafeteria** – *Mr. Henry*

**High School Principal** – *Ms. Conn*

**Middle School Principal** – *Mr. Watkins*

**Intermediate School Principal** – *Mrs. Marsh*

**Primary School Principal** – *Mrs. Cook*

**The Nutrition Group/Cafeteria** – *Ms. Burlison*

**Buckeye Career Center** – *Mrs. Host* reported that she attended her first meeting as the representative for Claymont and getting back into it after serving before

**Business Advisory Council** - *Mr. Rentsch* reviewed the power point from the East Central Ohio ESC with updates. He commended Ms. Conn with starting the apprenticeship programs at the High School.

**23-017 BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Bus Driver Shortage/Absences:** Mr. Henry followed up on last month’s discussion with his findings and opinion. He stated that double routing would not allow drivers to take extracurricular trips and a two mile walk radius would eliminate two routes, but would eliminate all in-town bussing. Neither of these solutions solve the problem of not having drivers. After research, the negatives outweigh the positives. He recommends keeping the routes the same and possibly adding insurance benefits to a full-time substitute.

**ESSER Funds:** Mr. Rentsch presented an updated plan to spend the remaining ESSER funds. Projects include masonry work at the Intermediate School, security improvements with changing the office entrances at the Primary, Elementary, Intermediate and High School, and replacing the chillers at each building. Mrs. Lint continued the discussion by explaining a new concept of relocating the office at the Intermediate building to the first-floor side entrance. She also gave an explanation to an email that was sent to the board members from a company that did not receive the bid for the chillers. Mrs. Lint also met with the City of Dennison regarding closing the block of Third Street in front of the Intermediate School during the masonry work project, in which they agreed.

Mr. Cottrell asked about the steps at the Intermediate building and Mrs. Lint responded that it would be more expensive to remove the steps and plant grass because a retaining wall would need built. Gor-Con was the winning bid to replace the steps at \$39,560. This project is scheduled for July. Mr. Cottrell also recommended to make the Welch Street one way for parking. He also stated there are no handicap parking spots at the Middle School or lines on the street for parking. Mrs. Lint will ask Mayor Haney if the city would be willing to stripe the street for parking.

Mr. Cottrell also asked about a request to donate board member pay for the Strategic Planning meetings back to the district. Mrs. Grandison spoke that she thought it would be a good gesture to donate the time, since we are asking community members to volunteer to serve on this committee. She thought it would look negative if they took pay. Mrs. Host stated that she didn’t disagree with

**Claymont City Schools  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
February 13, 2023  
5:30 p.m.**

---

that thought, but thinks the request should have come from Mrs. Grandison, not Mr. Rentsch.

Mr. Cottrell asked if there are free and reduced lunch paperwork available. Mr. Rentsch explained that at this time no because we have been on the Community Eligibility Provision to offer free meals to all students. Ms. Burlison keeps track of our disadvantaged students through direct certification. As a district, we are currently at 36%, but have to be at least 40% to qualify for CEP next school year.

**23-018 TREASURER’S REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS, ITEMS A – D**

Mrs. Beckley presented the financial report for January. Upon the recommendation of the Treasurer, Mrs. Host made the motion, and Mrs. Wolf seconded the motion that the Board approve the recommended items:

- A. **APPROVE** the Financial Report for the month of January 2023, as presented.
- B. **APPROVE** the Payment of Bills for January 2023, as presented.
- C. **APPROVE** the Minutes of the Organizational Meeting and the Regular Board Meeting of January 12, 2023, as presented.
- D. **APPROVE** the Then & Now Certificate, as presented.

On roll call vote: Mrs. Host, yes; Mrs. Wolf, yes; Mr. Cottrell, yes; Mrs. Grandison, yes; Mr. Miles, yes. Motion carried.

**23-019 SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATION – URGENT NECESSITY**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Mrs. Host made the motion, and Mrs. Grandison seconded the motion that the Board approve the recommended item:

The Superintendent recommends that the Board declare an urgent necessity and public exigency, waive competitive bidding, and approve a contract for masonry work with Ameriseal.

Rationale:

1. The District has identified a need to repair and replace existing i beams and brick wall at Claymont Intermediate.
2. The work for the Project needs to be completed with minimal disruption to the school year and within the District’s budget so as to not negatively impact the District’s educational programs. Bidding the work will delay the Project completion, resulting in possible safety concerns, air quality issues, higher costs, and will not guarantee that lower bids will be received for the work, especially in light of the declaration of emergency issued by the

**Claymont City Schools  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
February 13, 2023  
5:30 p.m.**

---

Governor related to COVID-19 and increases in material costs and delays. This situation presents an urgent necessity and public exigency to complete the project and for waiving competitive bidding to contract for work.

3. Is an experienced contractor in the field of repairing masonry work. Ameriseal provided a proposal in the amount of \$338,640 to complete the work, which amount is commensurate with the pricing Ameriseal provides.
4. Based on the urgent need, the Superintendent recommends waiving competitive bidding based upon the urgent necessity exception in ORC Section 3313.46, approving the proposal from Ameriseal, and authorizing an agreement with Ameriseal to perform the work.
5. The improvements may be funded through ESSER III funding. Accordingly, this procurement also complies with noncompetitive procurement under 2 CFR \$ 200.320(c)(3) because the above described facts constitute public emergency.

The Board of Education resolves as follows:

1. Based upon the information provided and exercising the authority given in ORC 3313.46, the Board declares an urgent necessity and waives competitive bidding in order to move forward with the masonry work.
2. Additionally, the Board recognizes that the facts giving rise to urgent necessity constitute a public exigency under 2 CFR \$ 200.320(c)(3), and authorizes the use of noncompetitive procurement.
3. The Board approves the selection of Ameriseal to provide the work and authorizes the Superintendent and Treasurer to execute a contract with Ameriseal in the amount not to exceed \$338,640.

On roll call vote: Mrs. Host, yes; Mrs. Grandison, yes; Mr. Cottrell, yes; Mr. Miles, yes; Mrs. Wolf, yes.  
Motion carried.

**23-020 SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS – ITEMS A - S**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Mrs. Host made the motion, and Mr. Miles seconded the motion that the Board approve the recommended items:

- A. **ACCEPT** the bid from Benchmark Construction for building security improvements at the following amounts per building locations:

Claymont Primary	\$152,000
Claymont Elementary	\$263,800
Claymont High School	\$ 66,550

**Claymont City Schools  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
February 13, 2023  
5:30 p.m.**

---

- B. **ACCEPT** the bid from Gardiner for chillers replacement at the following amounts per building locations:

Claymont Primary	\$150,076
Claymont Elementary	\$150,076
Claymont Intermediate	\$182,724
Claymont Middle School	\$184,853
Claymont High School	\$248,862

- C. **APPROVE** project management contract for building security improvements with Diversified Engineering not to exceed \$46,950.

- D. **ACCEPT** the bid from Gor-Con Construction for Claymont Intermediate steps at the cost of \$39,560.

- E. **AUTHORIZE** Diversified Engineering to design Claymont Intermediate office and entrance.

- F. **ACCEPT** the resignation for retirement purposes for Mary Kay White, Preschool Paraprofessional, effective May 25, 2023 at the end of the business day.

- G. **ACCEPT** the resignation for retirement purposes for Teresa Patterson, Preschool Paraprofessional, effective May 25, 2023 at the end of the business day.

- H. **APPROVE** the following personnel to the district safety committee for the 2022-2023 school year:

Lindsay Jackson

- I. **APPROVE** Lacy Ronald and Kim Potopsky as Extended Learning Tutors to be paid through ESSER Funds.

- J. **APPROVE** the following Kent State students as preschool student teachers for the spring semester as follows:

<b><u>Student</u></b>	<b><u>Student Teacher Mentor</u></b>
Jamon Thompson	April Knisley
Skylar McPeek	Martha Maurer
Makayla Reiger	Ashley Miller

- K. **ACCEPT** the following resignations:

Breanna Brown, preferred substitute effective January 19, 2023  
Bryan Cox, JV Softball Coach for the 2022-2023 season

**Claymont City Schools  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
February 13, 2023  
5:30 p.m.**

---

- L. **APPROVE** the following personnel as coaches for the 2022-2023 season pending proper credentialing.  
  - Benji Greer - JV Softball Coach
  - Kennedy Beckley - MS Track Coach
  
- M. **APPROVE** Alexis Greer as a Volunteer Softball Coach for the 2022-2023 season pending proper credentialing.
  
- N. **APPROVE** the agreement with LearnWell for tutoring services at the rate of \$45.00 per hour retroactive to January 23, 2023.
  
- O. **AUTHORIZE** the 2023-2024 membership into the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) for grades 7-12.
  
- P. **APPROVE** the 2023-2024 Memorandum of Understandings for College Credit Plus (CCP) between Claymont City Schools and Stark State College and Kent State University, as presented.
  
- Q. **APPROVE** the following student handbooks for the 2023-2024 school year, as presented:  
  - Claymont Primary (lunch prices may have to be amended)
  - Claymont Middle School
  
- R. **GRANT** the authorization for the YMCA to use Claymont buses for the purpose of YMCA summer field trips for summer of 2023.
  
- S. **APPROVE** the following substitutes for the 2022-2023 school year pending all proper credentials.

Classified:

Name	Bus Driver	Cook	Custodian	Secretary	Aide
Cortina Schafer, retroactive to 02/02/2023		x	x		

On roll call vote: Mrs. Host, yes; Mr. Miles, yes; Mr. Cottrell, yes; Mrs. Grandison, yes; Mrs. Wolf, yes.  
Motion carried.

**Claymont City Schools  
Board of Education  
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---

**23-021 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mrs. Host made the motion, and Mr. Cottrell seconded the motion that the Board go into Executive Session for discussion on employment and matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or regulations or state statutes with no action to follow, time 7:13pm.

On roll call vote: Mrs. Host, yes; Mr. Cottrell, yes; Mrs. Grandison, yes; Mr. Miles, yes; Mrs. Wolf, yes. Motion carried.

Mrs. Grandison declared the executive session ended at 8:57pm.

**Meeting Adjourned**

Mrs. Host made the motion, and Mrs. Wolf seconded the motion that the regular board meeting of the Claymont City Board of Education be adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 8:58pm.

Next Meeting: Regular Meeting: March 9, 2023 @ 5:30pm at the Claymont Administrative Office

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer