

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

**September 28, 2020**

The Chassell Township School Board of Education met on Monday, September 28, 2020, via Zoom. President Roger Tervo called the meeting to order at 5:41 p.m.

Present: B.J. (Brady) Tervo, Tanya Etelamaki, Suzanna Tuomi, Randal Danison, Roger Tervo

Absent: Ken Kytta, Carl Olson

Guests: Marco Guidotti, Trevor Clark, Tricia Tervo, Jodi Paakola, Polly Sue Goddard, Tamara Pietila, Kara LaTendresse, Kelly & Chris Holmes

No comments or discussion topics presented by guests.

Regular Board Meeting – August 13, 2020 – Randal Danison moved, seconded by B.J. (Brady) Tervo, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on August 13, 2020. Motion carried with all members voting AYE.

Treasurer's Report – B.J. (Brady) Tervo reported an Income of \$180,290.17, Expenses of \$93,282.46, leaving a Net Income balance of \$87,007.71.

The General Fund Cash & Investment Balance as of August 31, 2020, was \$784,890.31.

Randal Danison moved, seconded by Tanya Etelamaki, to approve the petty cash report, and to pay the August bills as submitted. Motion carried on a roll call vote:

AYES: Randal Danison, Tanya Etelamaki, B.J. (Brady) Tervo, Suzanna Tuomi, Roger Tervo

NAYS: None

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

- A. Substitute Teacher Pay – a survey was conducted with local school districts to find out what other districts are paying their substitute teachers. Houghton and Hancock are paying \$110.00 per day; Adams and Stanton are paying \$100.00 and Lake Linden is currently paying \$90.00. Chassell seems to be at the bottom of the list at \$80.00 per day plus lunch. The question was posed, did the board want to consider adjusting the pay rate for substitute teachers.
- B. Student Handbook – “Exam – Attendance Reward” (Students who have no more than two tardies, less than five absences <none of which can be unexcused> for the entire school year and a minimum grade of 80% will be excused from taking the final exams for that class, unless it's a semester-long class.) Superintendent Steve Spahn asked for board approval to suspend this reward for the 2020-2021 school year. Students need to adhere to medical guidelines as directed by either their own health provider or the state health department.
- C. Budget – The budget looks good for this year. Student enrollment is steady and funding looks to be adequate.
- D. Masks – A short discussion was held regarding wearing masks in school. The consensus was to table this discussion and see what the Western U.P. District Health Department regulates.
- E. Alumni Update – Prior to the board meeting, Mark Antioho stopped by the school to inform Mr. Spahn of the passing of his son Peter Antioho over the weekend. Peter was a 2005 alumni of Chassell High School and a graduate of West Point Academy.

. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Personnel/Negotiation Committee – Roger Tervo reported they had met on Tuesday, September 15 at 7 p.m. with superintendent, Steve Spahn. The discussion centered around hiring a part-time Special Education teacher and a person to teach the 7/8 grade shop class as Bob Tuomi is needed at the Career & Technical Education Center in Hancock.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. Sub pay, student attendance/exam reward and masks were discussed during the administrative report.

**ACTION ITEMS**

- A. Exam-Attendance Reward – Randal Danison moved, seconded by B.J. (Brady) Tervo, to suspend for the 2020-2021 school year the “Exam-Attendance Reward” as printed in the student handbook. (Students who have no more than two tardies, less than five absences <none of which can be unexcused> for the entire school year and a minimum grade of 80% will be excused from taking the final exams for that class, unless it's a semester-long class.) Motion carried with all members voting AYE.
- B. Substitute Teacher Pay – Randal Danison moved, seconded by B.J. (Brady) Tervo to change the substitute teacher pay to \$105.00 per day. Motion carried on a roll call vote:  
  
AYES: Randal Danison, B.J. (Brady) Tervo, Tanya Etelamaki, Suzanna Tuomi, Roger Tervo  
NAYS: None
- C. Resignation – Randal Danison moved, seconded by Suzanna Toumi, to accept with regret the resignation of Amanda Andress as an elementary teacher. Motion carried with all members voting AYE.
- D. New Hire – Suzanna Tuomi moved, seconded by Randal Danison, to hire Diane Esterline as an elementary teacher. Pay will be according to the CCEA contract. Motion carried on a roll call vote:  
  
AYES: Randal Danison, B.J. (Brady) Tervo, Tanya Etelamaki, Suzanna Tuomi, Roger Tervo  
NAYS: None
- E. 1<sup>st</sup> Year Probation – Randal Danison moved, seconded by Suzanna Tuomi, to approve 1<sup>st</sup> year probation to Special Education teacher Senia Kuntze. Motion carried with all members voting AYE.
- F. Girls Varsity Basketball Coach – Randal Danison moved, seconded by Tanya Etelamaki, to hire Rosalie Kangas as the new Girls Varsity Basketball coach. Motion carried with all members voting AYE.
- G. Girls J.H. Basketball Coaching Team – Randal Danison moved, seconded by Tanya Etelamaki, to hire Jill Tervo and Milly (Allen) Loukus as the new coaching team for the Girls J.H. Basketball team. Motion carried with all members voting AYE except Roger Tervo who abstained. (Roger is Jill Tervo's husband).
- H. October board meeting will be on Monday, October 19.

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Randal Danison moved, seconded by B.J. (Brady) Tervo, to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m. Motion carried with all members voting AYE.

Approved:

President:

Secretary:

Amanda Address  
1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher  
42434 Horseshoe Lane  
Chassell, MI 49916

August 24, 2020

Stephen Sphan  
Superintendent/Principal  
Chassell Township Schools  
41585 U.S. Highway 41  
P.O. Box 140  
Chassell, MI 49916

Dear Superintendent/Principal Sphan,

I am writing to inform you that I am resigning from my position as the first grade teacher for the Chassell Township schools effective August 24, 2020.

Thank you for the opportunities for professional and personal growth and developments. Due to the upcoming school year's many uncertainties and my five young children, I feel resigning is in the best interest of my family and the families of the Chassell Township Schools. I have always admired the family atmosphere and felt right at home. It was a difficult decision to make and I do hope that under better circumstances if I apply in the future, you will consider me a candidate.

If I can be of any assistance during this transition, I am happy to help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amanda Address". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Amanda Address