

**CATO-MERIDIAN BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**July 9, 2007**

**PRESENT:** Kathleen Bratt, President  
Michael Lees, Co Vice President  
Charles Ware, Co Vice President  
Dean Cummins  
Heidi Dennison  
Jill Modafferi  
Rodney Pollock

**ALSO PRESENT:** Deborah Bobo, Superintendent  
Janice Lee, District Clerk  
Crosby Lamont, Jr. – Assistant Superintendent for Business  
Community Members

**WHERE HELD:** District Conference Room

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Lee, District Clerk at 6:30 pm.

Pledge to the flag.

Mrs. Lee administered the Oath of Faithful Performance of Office to re-elected board member Kathleen Bratt. Oath

Mrs. Lee asked for nominations for the office of President of the Board of Education for the school year 2007-08. Mr. Ware nominated Mrs. Bratt, and Mrs. Modafferi seconded the nomination. There being no further nominations, the District Clerk submitted one ballot in support of Mrs. Bratt.

Mrs. Bratt was unanimously elected president for the 2007-08 school year.

Mrs. Lee asked for nominations for the office of VicePresident of the Board of Education for the school year 2007-08. Mrs. Modafferi nominated Mr. Lees, and Mr. Pollock seconded the nomination. Mrs. Bratt nominated Mr. Ware and Mrs. Dennison seconded the nomination. There being no further nominations, the District Clerk asked for a vote for Mr. Lees. Voting for Mr. Lees: Mrs. Modafferi, Mr. Pollock and Mr. Lees. Mrs. Lee asked for a vote for Mr. Ware. Voting for Mr. Ware: Mrs. Dennison, Mrs. Bratt and Mr. Ware. Mr. Cummins asked to amend the motion to retain Mr. Lees and Mr. Ware co-vice presidents for the 2007-08 school year, seconded by Mr. Pollock. The vote was unanimously approved.

Mr. Lees and Mr. Ware were elected co-vice presidents for the 2007-08 school year.

The Oath of Faithful Performance of Office was administered to the president and co-vice presidents by the District Clerk.

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Lees, the agenda was approved as amended. Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	Agenda
On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Pollock, Janice Lee was appointed district clerk at a stipend of \$2,450. Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	Dist. Clerk
On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Modafferi, Lori Petrocci was appointed district treasurer. Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	Dist. Treas
On motion of Mr. Pollock, seconded by Mr. Lees, Mona Thompson was appointed deputy treasurer at the pleasure of the board. Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	Deputy Treas.
On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Dennison, to appoint school attorneys Hancock & Estabrook, Raymond Sant, Bond Schoeneck & King, Harris Lindenfeld, Matthew Fletcher and staff, Timothy McGill, Esq. for the 2007-08 school year was defeated. Yes 2-Bratt, Dennison No 5-Cummins, Pollock, Modafferi, Lees, Ware	Attorney's
On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Modafferi, the following attorneys were appointed for the 2007-08 school year: Raymond Sant, Bond Schoeneck & King, Harris Lindenfeld, Matthew Fletcher and staff, Timothy McGill, Esq. Yes 5-Cummins, Pollock, Modafferi, Lees, Ware No 2-Bratt, Dennison	
On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Modafferi, Hancock and Estabrook was appointed as interim attorney firm to complete any litigation they are currently involved in only. Hancock and Estabrook are not to take on any new Cato-Meridian legal matters. Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	
On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Lees, Bernard Donegan was appointed as financial advisor. Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	Financial Advisor
On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Lees, Raymond Wager, CPA/PC was appointed as independent auditor. Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	Indep.Aud/
On motion of Mr. Pollock, seconded by Mr. Ware, John Eppolito, MD was appointed as school physician with a contract in the amount of \$9,000. Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	Sch.Phys.
On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Pollock, Crosby Lamont, Jr. was appointed as purchasing agent. Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	Pur. Agent

On motion of Mr. Lees, seconded by Mrs. Modafferi, Mona Thompson was appointed as tax collector.	Tax Coll.
Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	
On motion of Mr. Lees, seconded by Mr. Pollock, Janice Chase was appointed as attendance officer.	Attendance Officer
Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	
On motion of Mr. Lees, seconded by Mr. Ware, Lori Petrocci was appointed as central treasurer for extraclassroom activity account.	X-Class.
Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	
On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Lees, Raymond Wager was appointed as auditor of the extraclassroom activity account.	Aud. X-Class
Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	
On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Lees, Patricia Tamburrino was Appointed as internal claims auditor for 150 hours @ \$20.00/hr.	Appt. Int. Claims Aud.
Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	
On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Modafferi, Robert Peters was Appointed as internal auditor for 100 <u>hours@\$35.00/hr.</u>	Appt. Int. Aud.
Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	
On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Pollock, Crosby Lamont, Jr. was appointed as healthcare plan representative.	Healthcare
Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	
On motion of Mr. Lees, seconded by Mr. Ware, Janice Lee was appointed as records management/records access officer.	Records
Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	
On motion of Mr. Lees, seconded by Mr. Ware, Crosby Lamont, Jr. was appointed as asbestos designee.	Asbestos Designee
Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	
On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Modafferi, Community Bank, Chase Bank, HSBC, First Niagara and Five Star were designated as official bank depositories.	Banks
Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	
On motion of Mrs. Modafferi, seconded by Mr. Ware, Margaret Schlegel was Appointed as compliance officer (504 and Title IX).	Compliance Officer
Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Lees, the schedule for the regular monthly business meetings to be held on Mondays unless otherwise noted were approved : BOE Mtgs.

July 9 & 23	January 14 & 28	May 27 (Tues.)
August 13 & 27	February 11 & 25	June 9 & 23
September 10 & 24	March 10 & 25(Tues.)	July 14
October 9 (Tues) & 22	April 7 & 28	
November 5 & 26	May 6 – public budget hearing	
December 10		
Yes 7	No 0	Abstaining

Mr. Cummins stepped out of the meeting.

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Lees, the Post Herald, Post Standard and Citizen were designated as official newspapers. Newspapers

Yes 6 No 0 Abstaining

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Lees, the clerk of the board is authorized to authorize payrolls. Authorize Payrolls

Yes 6 No 0 Abstaining

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Lees, the district treasurer or deputy treasurer are authorized to sign checks as appropriate for the general, federal aid, trust and agency, school lunch and the capital funds. Sign Checks

Yes 6 No 0 Abstaining

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Lees, authorization was granted to the extraclassroom activity treasurer to sign checks as appropriate for the extraclassroom activity account. X-Class.

Yes 6 No 0 Abstaining

Mr. Cummins re-entered the meeting.

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Lees, authorization was granted to the superintendent of schools to require employees to undergo medical examination pursuant to Section 913 of the education law in those cases where it is necessary to determine the employee's fitness to continue in employment. Employee Physicals

Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Modafferi, the superintendent is authorized to approve the attendance of staff at conferences. Authorize Conferences

Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Lees, the Superintendent of Schools is authorized to approve budget transfers in the amount up to \$5,000 per board policy 5330. Bud. Trans.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining

On motion of Mr. Lees, seconded by Mr. Ware, the credit card monetary caps per policy 5422 is as follows: VISA \$5000; Staples \$5000 and Walmart \$3000 for the 2006-07 school year. Credit Cards  
 Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Lees, all policies and codes of ethics in effect during the previous school year were re-adopted. Re-adopt Policies/codes  
 Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining 0

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Lees, all existing board policies for continuation during the 2007-08 school year unless revised, amended or deleted by action of the Board of Education.  
 Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Lees, petty cash funds were established as follows: School lunch (school lunch director \$200; rec center (rec director) \$50; business office (payroll clerkl) - \$100; athletics (athletic director) - \$200. Petty Cash  
 Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Modafferi, the reimbursement rate for use of private vehicles related to school business is set at the IRS rate at the time mileage is incurred. Mileage  
 Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining

On motion of Mr. Pollock, seconded by Mr. Lees, members to the District's Committee on Special Education and Pre-school Special Education are as follows: CSE/CPSE

Margaret Schlegel, Director of Pupil Personnel Services  
 Anne Ventura, School Psychologist  
 Marge Kriese and Patricia Barbato, Parent Representatives  
 Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Lees, the Clerk of the Board is permitted to destroy ballots from the annual district vote held in May, 2005. Destroy Ballots  
 Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining

On motion of Mr. Ware seconded by Mr. Lees, board members will serve on following committees for the 2007-08 school year. Committees

Policy	Mrs. Bratt, Mrs. Dennison, Mr. Pollock
Audit	Mr. Cummins, Mr. Lees, Mr. Ware
District School Improvement Team	Mrs. Modafferi
COSBA	Mrs. Bratt
Technology	Mr. Lees, Mr. Ware
Rec Center Board	Mrs. Bratt, Mrs. Modafferi
Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining	

A listing of volunteers will be approved each year at the re-organization meeting. Also, a letter will to be sent to each volunteer to see if they wish to remain on the list.

On motion of Mr. Pollock, seconded by Mr. Ware, the minutes of the board meeting held on June 25, 2007 were approved

Minutes

Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining

On motion of Mr. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Pollock, the high school assistant principal position was abolished.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Modafferi, the assistant principal/athletic director position was created.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Pollock, RESOLVED, the Cato-Meridian Board of Education of the Cato-Meridian Central School District, pursuant to Section 3012 of the Education Law and in compliance with Part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of Deborah Bobo, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint Louis Chistolini, who holds permanent NYS Certification permitting him to serve as an administrator in the public schools of New York State, to the position of assistant high school principal/athletic director in the tenure area of school district/building administrator, to commence on July 24, 2007 and to expire on June 30, 2008, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Louis Chistolini be paid at the annual salary of \$58,000 (\$38,000 assistant principal; \$20,000 athletic director) plus benefits for the 2007-08 school year.

Appt.  
Chistolini

Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Modafferi, the following appointments were approved:

RESOLVED, the Cato-Meridian Board of Education of the Cato-Meridian Central School District, pursuant to Section 3012 of the Education Law and in compliance with Part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of Deborah Bobo, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint Yvonne Case who holds NYS Certification, to the position of literacy coach for a provisional period of 3 years effective September 1, 2007 and to expire on September 1, 2010; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Yvonne Case be paid at the annual salary \$44,578, step 1 B+30 M for the 2007-08 school year.

Appt. Case

Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining

RESOLVED, the Cato-Meridian Board of Education of the Cato-Meridian Central School District, pursuant to Section 3012 of the Education Law and in compliance with Part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of Deborah Bobo, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint Patricia Taylor-Kay who holds NYS Certification to the position of literacy coach for a provisional period of 3 years effective September 1, 2007 and to expire on September 1, 2010; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Patricia Taylor-Kay be paid at the annual salary \$44,578, step 1 B+30 M for the 2007-08 school year.

Appt. Taylor  
Kay

Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining

Mr. Lees discussed a proposal for 2007-08 board goals.

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mr. Lees, the following are goals approved for the 2007-08 school year:

- Improve academic performance
- Improve the perception of the district by incorporating quality principles in all areas
- Improve cost efficiency and maintain fiscal stability
- Provide a safe, secure, clean environment

Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining

On motion of Mr. Ware, seconded by Mrs. Dennison, the board approved Mrs. Bratt's participation in a workshop.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining

On motion of Mr. Lees, seconded by Mrs. Dennison, the board entered session to at 9:30 pm to discuss the medical, financial credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.

Exec.  
Session

Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining 0

The board moved from executive session and on motion of Mr. Ware seconded by Mrs. Modafferi, the meeting was adjourned at 10:37 pm.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstaining

---

Janice Lee, District Clerk