

**CONSTANTINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Constantine, Michigan**

**Organizational Board of Education Meeting**  
**Monday, July 16, 2007**

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Taylor in the High School LGIA at 7:04 PM.

Members Present: Jeffrey Zimont, Mary Smith, Jacob Bergh, Pat Touse, Philip Portinga, Chuck Colley, and John Shuler

Members Absent: None

Superintendent Taylor administered the New Board Member Oath to Pat Touse, Philip Portinga, Chuck Colley and Mary Smith.

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Touse to nominate the following slate of officers: Jeffrey Zimont President,

Voice Vote: J.S. aye, P.T. aye, M.S. aye, J.B. aye, C.C. aye, P.P. aye, J.Z. aye  
7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

Moved by Shuler and seconded by Touse to nominate the following slate of officers: Jake Bergh, Vice President; Mary Smith, Treasurer and Chuck Colley, Secretary.

Voice Vote: M.S. aye, C.C. aye, P.T. aye, J.S. aye, J.B. aye, P.P. aye, J.Z. aye  
7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Smith set the 2007-2008 Board of Education Work Session and Meeting dates, times and locations. Please note that the June – August work sessions will take place in the High School Media Center.

Board Work Sessions

Tuesday, August 7 – CHS Media Center  
Tuesday, September 4 – CMS Media Center  
Tuesday, October 2 – CMS Media Center  
Tuesday, November 6 – CMS Media Center  
Tuesday, December 4 – CMS Media Center  
Tuesday, January 8 – CMS Media Center  
Tuesday, February 5 – CMS Media Center  
Tuesday, March 11 – CMS Media Center  
Tuesday, April 15 – CMS Media Center  
Tuesday, May 13 – CMS Media Center  
Tuesday, June 10 – CHS Media Center  
Tuesday, July 8 – CHS Media Center

Regular Board Meetings (Mondays)

August 13 – CHS LGIA  
September 10 – RS Media Center  
October 8 – Mason Township Hall  
November 12 – CMS Media Center  
December 10 – CHS LGIA  
January 14 – CHS LGIA  
February 11 – ES Gym  
March 17 – CHS LGIA  
April 21 – CHS LGIA  
May 19 – CHS LGIA  
June 16 – CHS LGIA  
July 14 – CHS LGIA

Voice Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Smith to set the maximum number of *paid* meetings (including committee meetings) at 36 for the 2007-2008 Board Year. Board of Education Work Sessions will be held as indicated above and set for 6:30 PM unless changed by proper notice. The Regular Board of Education meetings will be held as indicated above and set for 7:00 PM unless changed by proper notice. The main office of the Board of Education is located in the Superintendent's Office, 664 Canaris St., Constantine, MI 49042-1310.

Voice Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Smith to authorize the Superintendent or Business Manager to invest school funds, and designate the Business Manager as the Electronic Transfer Officer.

Voice Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Smith to designate the following banks as depositories for the 2007-08 school year:

Fifth Third Bank – Three Rivers; Michigan School District Liquid Asset Fund (MILAF); Citizens Bank – Sturgis; LaSalle Bank – Constantine, First National Bank of Three Rivers, Constantine Branch.

Voice Vote: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 1 Abstention  
Motion Carried

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Colley to designate the following signatories on school district bank accounts and require the Superintendent and/or Business Manager to maintain adequate written records of all transactions for the 2007-08 school year:

1. General Fund – Any two of the following: President, Treasurer, Superintendent, Business Manager
2. Payroll – Any two of the following: President, Treasurer, Superintendent, Business Manager
3. Athletic Account (officials) – Any one of the following: Athletic Director, Superintendent, Business Manager, President, Treasurer
4. Lunch Account – Any two of the following: President, Treasurer, Superintendent, Business Manager
5. Activity Accounts – Any two of the following: President, Treasurer, Superintendent, Business Manager
6. Contracts and Agreements – Superintendent or an Administrative Designee

Voice Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Touse to appoint Thrun Law Firm, PC of Lansing, MI as the law firm to represent the Constantine Public School's Board of Education for the 2007-2008 school year.

Voice Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Touse that the Board Secretary, Colley administer the oath and delegate all duties of the district's School Elections Administrator to Superintendent Taylor.

Voice Vote

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Touse to approve continuing Board memberships in the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB), \$3,233.00, the St. Joseph County School Board Association (SJCSBA), \$0.00, and the Michigan Negotiators Association (MNA), \$200.00.

Roll Call Vote: P.P. aye, M.S. aye, J.B. aye, C.C. aye, P.T. aye, J.S. aye, J.Z. aye,

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

President Zimont will wait until after further discussion with members, to appoint the representatives for the Board Standing Committees for the 2007-08 school year.

President Zimont adjourned the Organizational Meeting at 7:22 PM.

Voice Vote:

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

### **Regular Board of Education Meeting**

The meeting was called to order by President Zimont in the High School LGIA at 7:23 PM.

Members Present: Jeffrey Zimont, Phil Portinga, Pat Touse, Mary Smith, Jacob Bergh, Chuck Colley, and John Shuler

Members Absent: None

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Smith to approve the Consent Agenda as presented to include minutes of the June 11, 2007 Regular Board of Education Meeting, Work Session and Finance Committee meeting minutes of July 11, 2007, and bills in the amount of \$45,618.69 for the general fund.

Roll Call Vote: J.B. aye, P.T. aye, P.P. aye, M.S. aye, C.C. aye, J.S. aye, J.Z. aye

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

**Audience with Individuals:**

1. Chris Stacey, MS teacher and parent asked to Board to set a policy to curtail the attacks on individuals during open Board meetings to help make a more positive impact on the audience and community. Secondly she commented on her disappointment of the recent resignations of 5 new teachers to the district. Zimont responded that the Board will continue to respect everyone who wishes to speak, but are concerned about the same issues.
2. Chad Thelen, HS teacher and coach, commented on the change from the SJV to the KVA that it is a positive move. Becoming a member of the KVA will afford our student athletes more opportunities.

**Action Items:**

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Touse to accept with appreciation for their respective years of service to the district, the resignations of RS Special Education teachers Hilary Curtis (4.5 years), Christine Fenner (4 years), CHS Social Studies teachers Debra (Reed) Serwicki (3 years), and CHS Chemistry & Physics teacher Travis Martin (1 year), as presented by the administration. Colley commented that the teachers will be missed and wished them good luck.

Voice Vote:

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Shuler to accept with regret the resignation for the purpose of retirement of CHS Spanish teacher Carol Deller, with sincere appreciation for her 24 years of service to the district's students, as presented by the administration.

Voice Vote:

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Colley to accept the hiring of Beth Wright at BA Step 0 and Christy Bailey at BA+20, Step 6 as new Riverside Special Education teachers, contingent upon successful background verifications, as presented by the administration.

Roll Call Vote: C.C. aye, J.S. aye J.B. aye, P.T. aye, P.P. aye, M.S. aye, J.Z. aye

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Colley to approve the FMLA request of Lori Norton, as presented by the administration.

Voice Vote:

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Smith to approve the contract extensions of the following administrators to June 30, 2009; Seth Parker, Craig Badman, Kristin Flynn, Mike Messner, Jean Logan, Victoria Wentela and Lisa Pointer-Seidner, as presented by the Superintendent.

Voice Vote:

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Touse to approve the athletic league change to the KVA beginning with the 2008-2009 school year, as presented by the Athletic Director and Superintendent.

\*There was some discussion between the Board and audience and no opposition was apparent.

Roll Call Vote: P.T. aye, M.S. aye, C.C. aye, J.S. aye, P.P. aye, J.B. aye, J.Z. aye

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Colley to adopt the MHSAA membership resolution for the Middle School and High School for 2007-08, as presented by the administration.

Voice Vote

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Touse to appoint Colley as the Board's representative to the District School Improvement Team.

Voice Vote:

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Smith to appoint Zimont as Board Legislative Relations Network representative to MASB.

Voice Vote:

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Smith to approve the 2007 debt levy at 6.75 mills, as presented by the Business Manager, and Superintendent.

Roll Call Vote: P.P. aye, C.C. aye, P.T. aye, M.S. aye, J.B. aye, J.S. aye, J.Z. aye

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

Moved by Smith and seconded by Shuler to approve the second reading of these new & revised Board Policies: 3126/4126, 3127/4127, 4139, 4140, as presented by the Policy Committee and the Superintendent.

Voice Vote:

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

Moved by Colley and seconded by Smith to approve changing district banking services to LaSalle Bank, Constantine Branch as the depository for the 2007-08 school year for the following accounts:

General Fund, Payroll, Activity, Capital Projects, Debt Retirement, Money Market, New Health Savings Account, Flex Accounts, Athletic & Lunch Accounts.

Roll Call Vote: J.B. aye, J.S. aye, P.P. aye, C.C. ayes, P.T. aye, M.S. aye, J.Z. abstain

6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent, 1 Abstention  
Motion Carried

**Discussion Items:**

1. Taylor announced a rebate from SET SEG Insurance Company of several thousand dollars for worker's compensation. He also came across an article that supports the use of Nova Net credit recovery which Constantine has been using for two years! The Eastside playground area is 60% damaged due to a fire that took place on 7/15/07 in the evening. It is covered by insurance and no structures were damaged. The district has updated to a higher speed internet server which is currently causing Groupwise issues. Taylor has also looked into several options for the Canaris Street School, and has worksheets detailing those costs available. Zimont added that no plans are currently in the works, but options are up for discussion. Bergh would like to have community input.
2. Taylor reminded the Board of an August Finance Committee meeting to discuss the State Aid loan.

**Additional Audience with Individuals:**

1. Mike Messner, Athletic Director reminded the Board that he would like them to act on the code of conduct.

Moved by Colley and seconded by Smith to approve the 2007-08 Constantine Public Schools Athletics Code of Conduct, as presented by the Athletic Director.

Voice Vote:

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

**Board Member Items:** None

Moved by Bergh and seconded by Touse to go into closed session and return for the purpose of discussing negotiations at 8:10 PM.

Roll Call Vote: C.C. aye, P.T. aye, M.S. aye, J.B. aye, J.S. aye, P.P. aye, J.Z. aye

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

President Zimont brought the Board out of closed session at 10:04 PM.

Zimont adjourned the regular meeting at 10:05 PM.

Voice Vote:

7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Absent  
Motion Carried

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Chuck Colley, Secretary  
Board of Education