

**NORTH CLAY COMMUNITY UNIT #25 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**Thursday, September 19, 2013**

The North Clay Community Unit #25 Board of Education met in regular session on Thursday, September 19, 2013 at 6:30 P.M. in the North Clay Unit Office.

Before the meeting, a public hearing was conducted on the 2013-14 budget.

President Worthey called the meeting to order at 6:41 P.M.

President Worthey opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and Tony Smith led prayer.

Roll Call was taken with the following members present: Ryan Ballard, Darrell McKnelly, Tony Smith, and Mike Worthey.

Members absent: Cecil Cochran and Cara Rinehart. David Simmons arrived at 8:35 P.M.

Others present were: Superintendent, Monty Aldrich, Principals, Julie Healy and Penny Arnold, Special Education Coordinator, Jody Aldrich, and Recording Secretary, Ben Farleigh

President Worthey placed the treasurer's report for August, 2013 on file.

A motion was made by Smith, seconded by Ballard, to approve all sick leave and personal leave requests presented plus board bills covered by checks #45469 through #45584 were in the following amounts: Educational Fund: \$71,058.57; Building Fund: \$9,589.21; Transportation Fund: \$38,412.45 IMRF/SS Fund: \$9,219.63; plus the May payroll of \$205,798.22 less deductions of \$52,596.97 making a total of \$281,481.11. Ayes: McKnelly, Smith, Ballard, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

- a. Following public comments, Board Member and Board Secretary Darrell McKnelly then asked to speak. He proceeded by reading a letter to the Board of his own. After reading his letter which included his resignation as a board member, he requested that this be included in the minutes and media. His letter follows:

**NORTH CLAY COMMUNITY UNIT #25 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**Thursday, September 19, 2013**

Dear Fellow Board Members and Administration:

When I made my decision to run for the North Clay School Board, I felt this would be an opportunity to be a part of leadership where I could give back to our school district and our community. After being elected, I joined with many of you agreeing and sometimes disagreeing on topics that were brought before us. Let me make it clear, I understand that this is what makes a good board; not agreeing on every issue all the time, but coming together at the end of every meeting agreeing that the decisions we made were for the betterment of all students and employees at North Clay.

I have always felt it is very important that the decisions that I make personally should be based on my own values, morals, and standards in which I try to live and expect my children to do the same. Right, wrong or indifferent, that is how I cast my votes. I was elected to represent all students of our district and feel that each decision should be made public regardless if it causes criticism or praise. I will accept both knowing my decision was based on the previously mentioned. The decision that was made by the majority of this board at the meeting held on September 6, 2013 to overturn what we previously agreed upon is a contradiction, in my opinion. Our policy that we previously established was put in place with very high standards and expectations because that's what makes our school and staff accountable to a level higher than any other. I feel that as a board we have to stand strong and must be consistent on the decisions we make. I feel very strongly that we failed to do either. I'm not suggesting that this has to be my way or the highway, but feel that I am accountable in the public eye for the decision the majority of this board made. I voted "no" to overturn the discipline that was in place not because I wanted to see the players punished, but because this was something that we as a board, as well as the players and parents had agreed to. I feel we have opened a door to an endless list of future policy rules being challenged.

After much thought and consideration, it is with much regret my passion and desire to continue to serve on this board has been exhausted. I feel that it is in the best interest of the board and myself that I resign my seat on the North Clay Unit #25 School Board of Education effective, September 19, 2013. I have had and always will have high expectations for our students, coaches, staff and administration of North Clay.

I would like to thank the administration, staff and community for your support and giving me opportunity to have served in this capacity.

Respectively,  
Darrell McKnelly

**NORTH CLAY COMMUNITY UNIT #25 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**Thursday, September 19, 2013**

After Darrell McKnelly read his letter and resigned, it was 7:08 p.m. and the existing board meeting was then suspended and recessed due to no longer having a quorum. Board Member Simmons was currently officiating an athletic event and was able to make it to the meeting at 8:35 p.m. The board then resumed the meeting officially with a quorum

A motion was made by Smith, seconded by Simmons, to approve the minutes from the August 8, 2013 Regular Board Meeting, August 30, 2013 Emergency Special Board Meeting, and the September 6, 2013 Special Board Meeting. Ayes: Smith, Ballard, Simmons, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ballard, seconded by Smith, to approve the agenda. Ayes: Ballard, Simmons, Smith, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Smith, seconded by Ballard, to ban Phillip Thomas from school district property for one calendar year. Ayes: Simmons, Smith, Ballard, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Smith, seconded by Simmons, to accept a bid from Peters Roofing for the repair of the Bus Barn and Track Shed. Ayes: Smith, Simmons, and Worthey. Nays: None. Abstain: Ballard. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Simmons, seconded by Smith, to grant administration the authority to advertise for bids on a new propane school bus. Ayes: Ballard, Simmons, Smith, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made Ballard, seconded by Simmons, to purchase Prolink IQ diagnostic equipment for bus fleet maintenance. Ayes: Simmons, Smith, Ballard, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ballard, seconded by Smith, to purchase ShopKey internet based diagnostic service for bus fleet maintenance. Ayes: Smith, Ballard, Simmons, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Simmons, seconded by Ballard, to approve the following field trip requests:

- a. Senior Trip to Tampa, FL
- b. High School Band and Chorus to Nashville, TN, March 18-21, 2014.
- c. FCCLA Peer Education and Leadership Training, Springfield, IL.

Ayes: Ballard, Simmons, Smith, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Smith, seconded by Simmons, to adopt the District's budget for the 2013-14 fiscal year. Ayes: Simmons, Smith, Ballard, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**NORTH CLAY COMMUNITY UNIT #25 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
Thursday, September 19, 2013**

A motion was made by Smith, seconded by Simmons, to approve adding Jami Lewis and Ben Farleigh for North Clay Academic Foundation signature cards, and deleting Cheryl Kuhlig and Rosalie Wildbur at Clay County State Bank. Ayes: Smith, Ballard, Simmons, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Simmons, seconded by Smith, to approve Ben Farleigh as authorized agent for IMRF effective October, 2013. Ayes: Ballard, Simmons, Smith, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Smith, seconded by Ballard, to approve the following donations with thanks:

- a. Lisa Erbacher with Country Financial, for high school volleyball warm-ups.
- b. Andy Griffy from Summer Traveling Baseball Team, to North Clay baseball programs.

Ayes: Simmons, Smith, Ballard, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ballard, seconded by Simmons, to approve a letter of request from Henkels & McCoy to transfer their donation from privately funded athletics to the North Clay Sportsboosters. Ayes: Smith, Ballard, Simmons, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ballard, seconded by Simmons, to approve the following fundraiser requests:

- a. Jr. High Cheerleaders, "Initials, Inc." sales, September-October, 2013.
- b. Post Prom Committee, Rhodes Fish Fry, October 17, 2013.
- c. Volley for the Cure, Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> during the volleyball game vs. Clay City. Proceeds go to the Susan G. Komen Foundation.
- d. Class of 2015 fundraiser, Rada Sales
- e. Class of 2016 fundraiser, Spaghetti Supper, 50/50 raffles @ Basketball Games/Pasta Sales
- f. Class of 2017, Butter Braid sales.

Ayes: Ballard, Simmons, Smith, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Smith, seconded by Ballard, to place the following Board Policy Changes on first reading for the October, 2013 Board Meeting:

- a. 2:105 Ethics and Gift Ban
- b. 2:120 Board Member Development
- c. 7:340 Student Records

Ayes: Simmons, Smith, Ballard, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ballard, seconded by Simmons, to appoint Tony Smith as temporary secretary for this board meeting. Ayes: Smith, Ballard, Simmons, and Worthey.

A motion was made by Ballard, seconded by Simmons, to enter closed session for the purpose of:

- a. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, security, or dismissal of specific employees of the district 5 *ILCS 120/2© (1)*

Ayes: Smith, Ballard, Simmons, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**NORTH CLAY COMMUNITY UNIT #25 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
Thursday, September 19, 2013**

The board met in closed session from 9:24 P.M. to 10:55 P.M.

A motion was made by Simmons, seconded by Smith, to enter open session. Ayes: Ballard, Simmons, Smith, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Upon returning to open session, the following motions were made:

A motion was made by Ballard, seconded by Simmons, to accept the resignation of Gean Hembree as a custodian effective September 17, 2013. Ayes: Simmons, Smith, Ballard, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ballard, seconded by Simmons, to accept the resignation of Jade Huber as Jr. High Head Volleyball Coach, effective immediately. Ayes: Smith, Ballard, Simmons, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Simmons, seconded by Smith, to approve Shawna Poe as a student teacher in special education for the second semester of the 2013-14 school year. Ayes: Ballard, Simmons, and Smith, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Simmons, seconded by Smith, to approve the resignation for the purpose of retirement from Cheryl Kuhlig effective October 22, 2013, and keep on as a substitute if needed.. Ayes: Simmons, Smith, Ballard, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Smith, seconded by Simmons, to hire Ben Farleigh as High School Head Boys Basketball Coach for the 2013-14 school year. Ayes: Smith, Ballard, Simmons, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Simmons, seconded by Smith to hire KayLynn Beppler as Assistant High School Girls Basketball Coach. Ayes: Simmons, Smith, and Worthey. Nays: Ballard. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Smith, seconded by Simmons, to grant administration the authority to hire a personal aide and bus aide. Ayes: Ballard, Simmons, Smith, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Smith, seconded by Ballard, to accept the resignation of Board Member, Darrell McKnelly, effective immediately. Ayes: Simmons, Smith, Ballard, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Simmons, seconded by Smith, to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: Smith, Ballard, Simmons, and Worthey. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**NORTH CLAY COMMUNITY UNIT #25 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
Thursday, September 19, 2013**

President Worthey adjourned the meeting at 11:00 PM.

---

**President**

---

**Secretary**