

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 8, 2023

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 1, Coles and Cumberland Counties, Illinois conducted their regular session meeting on Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at the Administration Building – 410 West Polk Avenue, Charleston, Illinois 61920.

At 6:30 p.m., President Coe called the meeting to order and asked Secretary Daniels for roll call.

The following board members were present:

Jason Coe, President
Scott Clarke, Vice President
Susan Daniels, Secretary
Charles Jarrell, Treasurer
Brian Gough

The following board members were absent:

Eva Ritchey
Brandon Wright

The following staff members were present:

Chad Burgett, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services
Kristen Holly, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services
Chelsey Bennett, Recording Secretary

The following staff members were absent:

Todd J. Vilardo, Superintendent of Schools

Visitors 19 and 0 Members of Press

Under public comments, written communications: President Coe asked if there were any comments, questions or written communications. There was one request to address the Board of Education.

Levi Nelson and Maddie Wilson, members of the Jefferson Student Lighthouse Team, invited the Board and members and those in the audience to their Community Day that will take place on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 from 8:45 – 10:15am. They passed out a flyer with more information that is located in the official board book.

Under Consent Agenda, President Coe asked if there were any items under the consent agenda that the Board of Education would like to remove for discussion. There were no requests from the Board of Education.

At that time, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services Chad Burgett reviewed the recommendations under the consent agenda.

IV. Consent Agenda: Standard Items

- Approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of February 9, 2023, Regular Meeting of February 15, 2023, and Special Meeting of February 22, 2023.
- Approve the bills and payrolls for the month of February 2023.
- Approve the Activity Fund Reports from CUSD #1 attendance centers, period ending February 2023.
- Approve the summary of revenues and expenditures year to date as presented by Assistant Superintendent Chad Burgett.

VI. Consent Agenda: New Business

- Continue the service arrangement with the firm of Kemper CPA Group, LLP to perform the annual audit for Community Unit School District No. 1 and to prepare the school district's Annual Financial Report for the Illinois State Board of Education.
- Continue to use the legal services of William J. Warmoth, Attorney at Law, to seek legal advice when determined appropriate by the Board of Education and/or the superintendent.
- Continue to use the law firm of Miller, Tracy, Braun, Funk & Miller, Ltd. to seek legal advice when determined appropriate by the Board of Education and/or the superintendent.

VII. Consent Agenda: Employment

Leave of Absences:

- Grant a Family Medical Leave of Absence to Amber Spitz, a Media Specialist at Jefferson Elementary School and Ashmore Elementary School.
- Grant an intermittent Family Medical Leave to Judy, a 12-month secretary at Carl Sandburg Elementary School.

Resignations:

- Accept a letter of resignation from Ashlyn Hudson as a 1st Grade teacher at Carl Sandburg Elementary School, effective at the end of the 2022-2023 school year.
- Accept a letter of resignation from Madison Collins as a 1st Grade teacher at Carl Sandburg Elementary School, effective July 1, 2023.
- Accept a letter of resignation from Kayla Janes as 1st Grade teacher at Carl Sandburg Elementary School, effective at the end of the 2022-2023 school year.
- Accept a letter of resignation from Michelle Barnes as a 2nd Grade teacher at Carl Sandburg Elementary School, effective at the end of the 2022-2023 school year.
- Accept a letter of resignation from Caitlin Wingler as a 4th Grade teacher at Jefferson Elementary School, effective March 1, 2023.
- Accept a letter of resignation from Alicia Jones as a Kindergarten teacher at Mark Twain Elementary School, effective at the end of the 2022-2023 school year.
- Accept a letter of resignation from Ash Shamhart as a Music and Library Teacher at Mark Twain Elementary School, effective at the end of the 2022-2023 school year.
- Accept a letter of resignation from Jayme Petty as a Speech Language Pathologist at Mark Twain Elementary School, effective at the end of the 2022-2023 school year.

Employments 2022-2023 school year:

- Approve the employment of Levi Reynolds as a paraprofessional at Mark Twain Elementary School. This employment is contingent upon the receipt of all information required for employment.

Transfer(s) 2023-2024 school year:

- Approve the voluntary transfer of Hannah Hudson to the 1st Grade teaching position at Carl Sandburg Elementary School, effective for the 2023-2024 school year.

Employments 2023-2024 school year:

- Approve the employment of Michael Stanley as a full-time Physical Education teacher at Mark Twain Elementary School. This employment is contingent upon the receipt of all information required for employment.
- Approve the employment of Kristi Lowell in the extra-curricular assignment as the Head Trojet coach at Charleston High School.

Mr. Gough moved and Dr. Clarke seconded the motion to approve items under IV through VII inclusive on the Consent Agenda.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Gough, Clarke, Jarrell, Daniels, Coe

NAY: none Abstain: none

Motion carried

Under the Superintendent's Report: K-12 Summer School Planning for 2023

Summer school will be 4 weeks, beginning the first week and ending the last week of June. Students in grades K-6 will attend the program at Jefferson Elementary School with 2 sessions offered: 8:00am-10:00am and 10:00am-12:00pm. Students in grades 7-12 will attend at Charleston Middle School with one morning session from 7:30am-12:00pm.

Assistant Superintendent Kristen Holly and Building Principals have been planning a 2023 Summer School program for students in grades K-12. There will be no cost for summer school participation this year. District ESSER grant funds will be allotted to pay summer school teachers, support staff, and supervisors for instructional resources. Transportation will be provided for all summer school students. Mrs. Holly reported that enrollment is still to be determined and she will be working with building principals in the coming weeks to develop schedules and identify staffing needs. A more specific plan will be provided at the April 2023 board meeting.

Pre-School Round Up Update

This year, pre-school round up was held at Mark Twain Elementary School on February 6th, 7th, and 8th 2023. On February 6th and 8th, screenings were scheduled from 9:00am – 3:00pm and on February 7th from 12noon – 7:00pm. For appointments or more information, individuals were able to call 348-7700, extension #1244. This screening provides the opportunity for parents to discover how their child is developing in the area of speech, language, concepts, and motor skills. Vision and hearing screenings are also provided free of charge.

Later in the spring, a virtual “1st Step” Registration will be held for students that will be attending Mark Twain Elementary School. To register parents will complete registration on the district website under Mark Twain Elementary School. Details will be released at a later date.

Pre-School screening and Kindergarten pre-registration will also be held for Ashmore Elementary School on March 7th from 12noon – 7:00pm in the Ashmore Community Center. Appointments can be made at 349-3000. Children entering Kindergarten are encouraged to participate. Physicals, immunization records, birth certificates, and social security numbers are needed for registration.

Additionally, CUSD #1 staff helped to support six half days to screen children that attend local daycare centers: Immanuel Lutheran round-up was held on February 2nd and 3rd from 8:15am – 12:30pm, Charleston Community Early Learning Center at Wesley was held on February 13th from 8:15am – 12:30pm, Cornerstone Christian Academy was held on February 16th and 17th from 8:15am – 12:30pm, and Stepping Stones was held on February 22nd from 8:15am – 12:30pm.

Mr. Gough moved and Dr. Clarke seconded a motion to accept the Superintendent's Report.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Gough, Clarke, Jarrell, Coe, Daniels

NAY: none Abstain: none

Motion carried

Under New Business: Action on Student Disciplinary Hearing

On February 9, 2023, the Board of Education conducted a student disciplinary hearing in closed session. It was the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education uphold the

Board's decision that Student # 85256 be found to have violated school rules and to adopt the Superintendent's written decision detailing the justification for Student # 85256's expulsion. Mr. Gough moved and Mr. Jarrell seconded the motion.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Gough, Jarrell, Clarke, Daniels, Coe

NAY: none Abstain: none

Motion carried

Action on Student Disciplinary Hearing

On February 9, 2023, the Board of Education conducted a student disciplinary hearing in closed session. It was the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education uphold the Board's decision that Student # 85971 be found to have violated school rules and to adopt the Superintendent's written decision detailing the justification for Student # 85971's expulsion. Dr. Clarke moved and Mr. Gough seconded the motion.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Clarke, Gough, Jarrell, Daniels, Coe

NAY: none Abstain: none

Motion carried

Action on Student Disciplinary Hearing

On February 22, 2023, the Board of Education conducted a student disciplinary hearing in closed session. It was the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education uphold the Board's decision that Student # 85918 be found to have violated school rules and to adopt the Superintendent's written decision detailing the justification for Student # 85918's expulsion. Mr. Gough moved and Dr. Clarke seconded the motion.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Gough, Clarke, Jarrell, Daniels, Coe

NAY: none Abstain: none

Motion carried

Evidence Based Funding Staffing Level Shifts 2023-2024 - Reduction in Force of Licensed Positions

The superintendent has met with CEA President Angel Warman on upcoming Reduction in Force of positions at the March Board Meeting. A recommendation will be presented to the Board of Education to approve the proposed Reduction in Force of 1.0 FTE LBS1 teaching position at Charleston High School and 1.0 FTE Kindergarten teaching position at Mark Twain Elementary School, effective for the 2023-2024 school year. Mr. Wright moved and Mr. Gough seconded the motion.

Discussion ensued regarding how the reduction in force of an LBS1 position at the high school would affect special education class sizes related to special education law with number of caseloads per class.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Clarke, Gough, Daniels, Coe

NAY: Jarrell Abstain: none

Motion carried

Action on Resolution Reference to Dismissal of Licensed Employee

Due to financial planning and the uncertainty of funding for the Title 1 program, the superintendent recommended that the Board of Education approve a Resolution Authorizing Notice of Non-Renewal

of Contract for Hannah Hudson, a Title 1 teacher at Carl Sandburg Elementary School for the 2022-2023 school year. Further, that the Board of Education approve the sending of written notice of dismissal to Hannah Hudson. Mr. Gough moved and Mr. Wright seconded the motion.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Gough, Clarke, Daniels, Coe

NAY: Jarrell Abstain: none

Motion carried

Renewal of Licensed Staff for 2023-2024 School Year

It was the recommendation of the superintendent that the Board of Education employ the following licensed individuals as listed for the 2023-2024 school year.

Remain First Year Status

Darin Doughty – CHS

Bill Brown – CHS

Corbin Schwable – CMS

Emma Schmidt – JES

Second Year

Heather Siegel – CHS

Paige Scamihorn – CHS

Sarah Gisondi – CHS

Brian Deadmond – CHS

Shani Iberg – CHS

Alex Koebele – CHS

Lindsay Smith-Sines – CHS

Abigail Thomas – CHS

Kimi Claerhout – CMS

Brittany Clough – CMS

Ashley Oliver – CMS

Dalton Veach - CMS

Theresa Bates - AES

Hannah Hudson - CSES

Ashlee Robinson – CSES

Kaylee Hampton – CSES

Kim Pounds – CSES

Samantha Rogers – CSES

Sarah Schultz – CSES

Lindsay Babcock – JES

Cerys Boston – JES

Megan Buescher – JES

Kayci Coulibaly – JES

Taylor Diskin – JES

Brianna Gaston – JES

Michelle King - JES

Logan Schmidt – JES

Dave Zanton - MTES

Third Year

Justin Gunther - CHS

Katherine Gallaher - CHS

Elvira Stark – CHS

Ben Zuber - CHS

McKenzie Snoddy - CHS

Danielle Pendergast-White - CHS

Tracy Cole - CHS

John Belleau - CHS

Hannah McMahan - CMS

Jordan Bess - AES

Hannah Evans – AES/MTES

Elizabeth Sweeney - CSES

Sarah Brown - CSES

Jenny White - CSES

Ellen Homann - JES

Lisa Robertson – JES

Tia Sawyer - JES

Krista Snider – JES

Katrina Thompson - MTES

Hannah Wolff - MTES

Michelle Zigler - MTES

Fourth Year

Derrick Zerrusen - CHS

Brian Shamhart - CHS

Colin McInerney - CHS

Hannah Wolfe - CHS

Inga Enyart - CMS

Spencer Spear - CMS

Jessica Coffman - CSES

Madison Goodwin - CSES

Allie Engelkes - CSES

Lauren Mellott - JES

Tenure Status

Ben Oakley – CHS
John Wengerski – CHS
Allison Meeker – CHS
Alicia Gowin – CHS
Daniel Bennett – CMS
Doug Kanouse – CMS
Michael Mellott – CMS
Andrea Miller – CMS
Michael Pitcher – CMS
Darbie Thompson – CMS
Kendra Barker – AES
Katie Howell – CSES
Devon Aranda – JES
Katie Kousma – JES
Eric Mueller – JES
Amber Dennis – MTES
Abigail Garcia – MTES
Ashley Hernandez – MTES
Veronica Ready - MTES

Mr. Gough moved and Dr. Clarke seconded the motion.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Gough, Clarke, Jarrell, Daniels, Coe

NAY: none Abstain: none

Motion carried

Establish Special Board Meeting/Organization of Board of Education

The school board election will be held on April 4, 2023. It was the recommendation of the superintendent that to the Board of Education establish a Special Board meeting for the organizational meeting of the Board of Education for 6:00pm on Wednesday, May 3, 2023. Mr. Gough moved and Dr. Clarke seconded the motion.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Gough, Clarke, Jarrell, Daniels, Coe

NAY: none Abstain: none

Motion carried

Rescheduling of June 21, 2023 Board Meeting

Due to a scheduling conflict among the district's administrative team, the June 21, 2023 Regular Board meeting will need to be rescheduled. As Monday, June 19 is a legal holiday, the Board is advised to avoid scheduling its meeting on June 19. It was the recommendation of the superintendent that to the Board of Education establish a new date meeting for the June 2023 Regular Board meeting.

After discussion, the Board decided on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 as the new date for the June 2023 Regular Board meeting.

Dr. Clarke moved and Mr. Jarrell seconded the motion.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Clarke, Jarrell, Gough, Daniels, Coe

NAY: none Abstain: none

Motion carried

Award Proposal – Diesel Fuel Bid 2023-2024 School Year

It was the recommendation of the superintendent that the Board of Education award the contract to provide B5 SME BIODIESEL diesel fuel for school bus transportation purposes to The Equity of Effingham, IL for the 2023-2024 and the 2024-2025 school years as outlined in the bid specifications. Mr. Jarrell moved and Mr. Gough seconded the motion.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Jarrell, Gough, Clarke, Daniels, Coe

NAY: none Abstain: none

Motion carried

Award Proposal – Mowing Services Bid 2023-2024 School Year

It was the recommendation of the superintendent that the Board of Education award the mowing and shrub trimming service to Pflaum Perfect Lawn Care for the term of the March 1, 2023 to February 28, 2025 mowing seasons as outlined in the bid specifications. Mr. Gough moved and Mr. Jarrell seconded the motion.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Gough, Jarrell, Clarke, Daniels, Coe

NAY: none Abstain: none

Motion carried

Contractual Services

It was the recommendation of the assistant for business services that the Board of Education approve the employment of Dr. Todd J. Vilardo as the Human Resources Director for Charleston CUSD #1 for a period of up to 120 days during the period commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025.

Mr. Burgett relayed to the Board that the fee structure of this contract was based on past contracts and the District would save around \$65,000. Mr. Jarrell moved and Dr. Clarke seconded the motion.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Jarrell, Clarke, Gough, Daniels, Coe

NAY: none Abstain: none

Motion carried

At 7:23pm, Mr. Jarrell moved to adjourn from the board meeting. Mr. Gough seconded the motion.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Jarrell, Gough, Clarke, Coe, Daniels

NAY: none ABSTAIN: none

Motion carried

Jason Coe
President, Board of Education

Susan Daniels
Secretary, Board of Education