

**MINUTES OF A
REGULAR MEETING
OF
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF
DWIGHT COMMON SCHOOL DISTRICT #232**

**Held in the Dwight High School Cafeteria
On April 14, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**

Board President Bo Partney called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mark Christenson; Michael Cornale; Marc Ellis; Cathy Ferguson; Bo Partney; Eric Scheuer; Nick Stipanovich

ABSENT: None

Also in attendance: Dr. Richard Jancek, Superintendent; Deb Conroy, Secretary; Julie Schultz, Principal; Jeremy Jenkins, Asst. Principal/AD

PUBLIC COMMENT

Suzanne Schall shared information regarding the differences between Pre-K and Kindergarten.

NOTICES, COMMUNICATIONS or RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Jancek met with Nancy Norton from the Grundy County Economic Development Council regarding changes requested in the Blue Sky Solar Project. Since the time that the local taxing bodies met and agreed to a tax abatement agreement of \$2,000,000 over 3 years, the solar company is proposing to ask for the project to be fully assessed for 6 years instead of the 3 that was agreed to; also, it was previously agreed to that the project would be 300 MW or there would be no abatement; Blue Sky is asking for the threshold to be lowered to 150 MW. Dr. Jancek replied that we stick to our original agreement or the abatement offer can be rescinded. He will keep the Board apprised of further developments.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES OR REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. Schultz shared a plan to hold a Kindergarten Rally to try to find all new Kindergarten students to our district for next year. This will be held in May. She also noted that she has 6 interviews scheduled for our open 1st Grade teaching position.

Mr. Jenkins reported that the IESA has decided to cancel the state track meet due to a rise in COVID cases in the Peoria/Tazewell County areas.

Dr. Jancek stated that he has met with Sharon Soto regarding the continuance of serving meals through the summer months. Their plan is to take one week off at the end of the school year and then to resume meal deliveries on Mondays and Wednesdays throughout the summer.

Dr. Jancek reported that he received a request for an impact study for the Village of Dwight regarding a new subdivision that may be planned near the Dwight Country Club. He responded by waiving the study as the impact to our districts would be minimal, and would actually be favorable to our schools.

Dr. Jancek also reported that he met with Kelly O'Brien of ConnectGen, another wind turbine company that is planning a windfarm on the northeast side of Dwight. Their plan is to have between 20-30 turbines in our school districts with the project to start approximately in the Fall of 2022.

Dr. Jancek informed the Board that he met with Tech Director Logan Murray and Buildings and Grounds Supervisor Jack Connor to discuss ongoing work that was scheduled for the Maintenance Grant. This work will include the complete painting of the building, replacement of all old ceiling tiles and the installation of the keycard swipe and door buzz-in system which we hope to have wrapped up this summer.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Dr. Jancek reported that the state currently owes \$67,519.22 in late mandated categorical payments for the 2020-21 school year.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items for consideration on this month's Consent Agenda are as follows:

- 1) Minutes
- 2) Bills
- 3) Affirm Resignation, Chuck Butterbrodt, Track Coach

Moved by Stipanovich, seconded by Ellis, to approve the Consent Agenda, including a bill from LCSSU in the amount of \$84,549.50. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Dr. Jancek informed the Board that Jack Connor has received no further quotes for the specific new refrigeration equipment and conveyor dishwasher for the GS Cafeteria. Therefore, he asked for approval of the quotes that we did receive from Popejoy Plumbing and Heating last month. The refrigeration equipment quote was \$18,921.00 and the dishwasher was 23,468.00. These will be paid for with extra revenue receipts from the Summer Food Service Program.

Moved by Ferguson, seconded by Stipanovich, to approve the quotes for new refrigeration equipment and a new dishwasher for the GS Cafeteria, as proposed. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Dr. Jancek distributed a list of ESSER II grant expenditures that will be submitted in the grant budget shortly. The total funds for ESSER II are \$359,000, and we will soon begin working on a budget for ESSER III, which will open up in July. ESSER II funds must be expended by September of 2023.

Mrs. Schultz reported that we have identified 42 students for possible Summer School services (K-8). She is planning on 11 days, running 9:00-12:00 with an additional hour of plan time for teachers. They may have classrooms blended between 2 grade levels. She will know more towards the end of next month.

Board member Stipanovich inquired about our plans for learning platforms for the 21-22 school year. Dr. Jancek replied that we are currently planning on returning to a regular school day next year, with remote only as an option for doctor-approved, documented conditions.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Jancek announced that the food service bids are ready to go out to The Paper on April 28th. Bid opening will be held in May and he will bring a final recommendation for approval of a new 5-year contract at the June Board meeting.

Dr. Jancek reported that our recent ISBE Food Service Compliance visit went very well, with no corrective actions. We were compliant in all areas and he thanked Food Service Director Sharon Soto for her efforts for this visit.

Mrs. Schultz reported that she is planning on the 8th Grade Graduation ceremony to be as normal as possible. It is being planned for Thursday, May 20th at 7:00 p.m. in the HS gym. The main differences this year are that each student will be allowed 6 tickets for family and families will be grouped together in pods for social distancing. Also, the band and choir portions of the program will be pre-recorded. The Board was in support of the plans for the ceremony.

Moved by Ellis, seconded by Stipanovich, to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 p.m. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Debbie Conroy, Secretary, District #232

Bo Partney, President, District #232