

Board of Education  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
Oak Grove School  
6018 W Lancaster Rd.  
Bartonville, IL 61607  
May 19, 2021 – 6:00 pm

1. Mr. Bender led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. The regular meeting was called to order by Mr. Bender, Board President, at 6:00 p.m.
3. Roll call: Board members in attendance were Mr. Bender, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Fehl, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Quine, and Mr. Strausbaugh with Mr. Heuermann being absent. Others in attendance were Dr. Baele, Mrs. Almasi, Jackie Farmer, Debbie Martin, Lenora Bright, and Kendall Malmberg.
4. Communications & Presentations – Dr. Baele provided the election results certificates to those members that were elected as Board of Education members in the April election. He also informed the Board of Education of the resignation of Mrs. Schindler and provided information on the PFA renewal.
5. Consent Agenda  
**ACTION:** Mrs. Quine made motion to approve the consent agenda which included the minutes of the April 28<sup>th</sup> Regular and Closed Sessions, the April Financial Report, as well as the April Treasurer's Report, the motion was seconded by Mr. Strausbaugh. Motion carried with all aye votes.
6. May Bills  
**ACTION:** Mrs. Quine made the motion to approve the May bills and any additional bill that may come due by May 31, 2021, seconded by Mr. Miller. Motion carried with all aye votes.
7. Presentation from Audience on Agenda Items: None
8. Superintendent's Report: Dr. Baele provided the final enrollment for the 20-21 school year with 273 students enrolled. Current enrollment for 21-22 Kindergarten is at 20 students for next year. Dr. Baele informed the BOE that for the remainder of the school year, students and staff will continue to wear masks since most of the student population is unvaccinated. Dr. Baele also let the Board know that Dunlap School District 323 is seeking to withdraw from the Special Education Cooperative of Peoria County (SEAPCO) which will require the approval of all Peoria County school district's that are current members of SEAPCO. Dr. Baele also shared his participation with Mrs. Almasi with Ms. Sego's class in a mystery hangout on May 14<sup>th</sup> as well as participating in the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade Dairy Queen walk as a reward for test completion. Key dates were presented to the Board of Education and the next BOE meeting is June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021.
9. Principal's Report: Mrs. Almasi presented her last Principal's report to the Board of Education. She had no student discipline to report. She informed the Board of the progress of the Math curriculum pilot. The math curricula in review are Ready Math, Envision, and Illustrative Math. Professional development will be provided as part of the pilot process. NWEA MAP testing showed that our students did grow in their academic performance in 20-21. Data meetings were conducted and students who may need additional support were determined for summer programming. Upcoming activities include graduation on the 20<sup>th</sup>, device collection on the 21<sup>st</sup>, grade level planting along with positive behavior awards (ice cream sandwiches) on the 24<sup>th</sup>, and field day/Kona Ice on the last day of school the 25<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Almasi thanked the Board

of Education for their support this school year and as she transitions to her new role within the district! She is excited to continue her work as an Eagle!

10. Old Business – Discussion Items

- a. Strategic Planning Examples – Dr. Baele provided two examples of strategic planning documents used by local districts and sought feedback from the Board on the two. Mr. Miller appreciated the condensed, high level approach to the one-page document. All liked the simplicity of the one-page document and ensuring that the Board goals and the school improvement goals are aligned. Dr. Baele will seek a cost for consulting services associated with the development of the strategic plan moving forward.
- b. Committee Assignments – Mr. Bender discussed the committee assignments for the next two-year cycle with Mrs. Quine and Mr. Miller making up the finance committee, Mr. Fehl and Mr. Strausbaugh on the building committee, Mr. Heuermann and Mr. Taylor will make up the policy committee, and Mr. Bender and Mr. Taylor serving on the negotiations committee. Mr. Bender thanked the members for their service on these committees.

11. Old Business – Action Item(s)

- a. Oak Grove 2021-22 School Calendar

**ACTION:** Mr. Miller made the motion to approve the 2021-2022 Oak Grove School Calendar and to submit it to the ROE for approval, seconded by Mr. Strausbaugh. The motion was approved with all aye votes.

- b. CIES Exterior Light Pole Project

**ACTION:** Mr. Taylor made the motion to approve the 3 exterior light poles and associated work for the rear turn-about lights by CIES for \$11,800, motion seconded by Mr. Strausbaugh. Motion carried with all aye votes.

12. New Business – Discussion Item(s)

- a. Public Comment – ESSER III Needs & Budget – Public comment was provided for the use and implementation of the CARES / ESSER III money allotted to the School District. As part of the public comment, Mrs. Martin stated that some use of funds could be used to compensate staff, especially those that are on an hourly rate as they could leave Oak Grove and seek other places of employment for more than they are making here. She stated that we have very talented paraprofessionals within the district. All agreed that we appreciate the service of our staff and that they do great work for Oak Grove students. There was no additional public comment.

13. New Business – Action Item(s)

- a. Treasurer 2 Year Contract

**ACTION:** Mr. Taylor made the motion to approve the 2-year contract with Karen Beverlin in the amount of \$2,750 per year as the Oak Grove District Treasurer, seconded by Mrs. Quine. Motion carried with all aye votes.

- b. Tentative Amended Budget

**ACTION:** Mr. Strausbaugh made the motion to approve the tentative amended budget and to post the notice of public hearing in the Limestone Independent News, seconded by Mr. Fehl. Motion carried with all aye votes.

- c. Principal Job Description

**ACTION:** Mr. Taylor made the motion to approve the changes to the Oak Grove Principal's job description, seconded by Mrs. Quine. Motion carried with all aye votes.

14. Closed Session

**ACTION:** Mr. Miller made the motion at 6:36 pm to enter into closed session to discuss student discipline, litigation, personnel matters, and to review closed session minutes, seconded by Mrs. Quine. Motion carried with all aye votes.

15. Return to Open Session

**ACTION:** Mr. Miller made the motion at 7:01 pm to return to open session, seconded by Mr. Strausbaugh. Motion carried with all aye votes.

16. Action from Closed Session

a. Physical Education Teacher

**ACTION:** Mr. Miller made motion to approve the hire of Christian Cramer as a Physical Education teacher at Oak Grove School for the 2021-22 school year contingent upon the results of his background check, seconded by Mr. Strausbaugh. Motion carried with all aye votes.

b. Elementary Teacher – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

**ACTION:** Mrs. Quine made motion to employ Alexis Jewell as a teacher at Oak Grove School for the 2021-22 school year with a placement in 4<sup>th</sup> grade contingent upon the results of her background check, seconded by Mr. Fehl. Motion carried with all aye votes.

c. Review of Closed Session Minutes – November 2020 to April 2021

**ACTION:** Mrs. Quine made motion to keep the closed session minutes from November 2020 to April 2021 closed, seconded by Mr. Miller. Motion carried with all aye votes.

17. Presentation from Audience on Non-Agenda Business: Ms. Jackie Farmer spoke to the Board of Education regarding the retention of her 8<sup>th</sup> grade daughter and the impact this will have on her. She shared personal testimony and reasoning for some of the behavior associated with her daughter's performance. She stated that she did not believe that retention is the answer for assisting her daughter to get back on track and she is concerned about her daughter not being in the same peer group any longer with her friends as they move on to the high school.

18. Presentation from Board Members / Administration on Non-Agenda Business: None

19. Motion for Adjournment

**ACTION:** Mr. Strausbaugh made the motion to adjourn at 7:08 pm seconded by Mr. Taylor. Motion carried with all aye votes.



Board President – Matthew Bender



Board Secretary – Chad Taylor