

August 25, 2022
Serena, IL

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Thursday, August 25, 2022, in the Serena High School Board Room. The following members were present: Joe Cantlin, Justin DeBolt, LaDonna Gale, Scott Govednik, Dan McNally, Gary McNelis, and Susan McNelis. Superintendent Lisa Gifford was also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by President G. McNelis 6:05 p.m. After roll call, the motion was made by Govednik, with a second by S. McNelis, to go into executive session for the purposes of: (1) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body; (2) school safety; (3) student discipline; (4) review of executive session minutes; and (5) litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent pursuant to the authority granted by 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1), (6), (8), (9), (11), and (21) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to come out of executive session at 7:03 p.m. was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President G. McNelis. He then requested approval of the agenda. A motion was made by S. McNelis, with a second by Gale, to approve the agenda. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Public Hearing:

Minutes are attached.

Presentations:

BCA Architects and Bernardi Securities presented the upcoming project scope, explained the bonding process, and answered direct questions from the audience.

President G. McNelis requested public comment. There was none.

Items of correspondence included thank you cards from the Mendota School District for the donation of two whiteboards and from several parents thanking the District for the positive impact and support shown to their students.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda Items A through G was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Reports:

Academic Goals – The new curriculum still has some back ordered items and digital access needs additional explanation Early release days will allow time for professional development and for teachers to work through new curriculum. The Middle School's summative designation on the Illinois Report Card will move from Targeted Support to Comprehensive Support if test scores do not improve. There were discussions on Advanced Placement, Honors classes (weighted grades), Dual Credit, and Fast Start programs. There was a request to allow Middle School students to remain in their exploratory rotations so that twice a week band students can practice by grade level and once a week with dual grade levels (5/6 and 7/8).

Discussion/Informational Items:

A request was made to move the 9/22/2022 Board meeting to 9/29/2022, since the tentative budget needs to sit on display for 30 days prior to being adopted. There is not enough time from the current board meeting to the next scheduled meeting to fulfill this statute.

There was a motion to enter back into executive session at 9:35 p.m. for the purpose of: (1) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body; (2) school safety; (3) student discipline; (4) review of executive session minutes; and (5) litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent pursuant to the authority granted by 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1), (6), (8), (9), (11), and (21) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act was made by S. McNelis and second by DeBolt. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to come out of executive session and enter back into open session at 10:44 p.m., was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Action Items:

Motion to approve the resignation of regular route driver, Melissa Christoffel, was made by Cantlin and seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the resignation of paraprofessional, Beth Garbelman, was made by Govednik and seconded by S. McNelis. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the resignation of secretary, Garnetta Krug, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the resignation of Technology Director, Keegan Hayes, effective July 29, 2022, was made by DeBolt and seconded by Gale. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the resignation of business teacher Lexis Leiteritz, effective August 18, 2022, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by McNally. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of a long-term substitute, Chris Gunier, for Serena Middle and High School in-school suspension room and building substitute for the 2022-2023 school year, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, McNally passed and all others present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of a long-term substitute, Angie Pokarney, for the second Kindergarten classroom at Harding for the 2022-2023 school year, was made by McNally and seconded by Gale. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to hire a High School P.E. teacher, Josh Myers, for the 2022-2023 school year, was made by McNally and seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to hire a Technology Coordinator, Julie Timm, for the 2022-2023 school year, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to hire a Library Coordinator, Jen Shugrue, for the 2022-2023 school year, was made by Govednik and seconded by S. McNelis. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to hire an 8th grade Volleyball coach, Jenna Goldman, for the 2022-2023 season, was made by McNally and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve an 8th grade volunteer Volleyball coach, Shannon Larson, for the 2022-2023 season, was made by DeBolt and seconded by McNally. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of 5th and 6th grade Boys Basketball coach, Chris Gunier, for the 2022-2023 season, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve action for the Board Determination on a Student Disciplinary case, was made by G. McNelis and seconded by Gale. On roll call, McNally passed and all others present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the 2022-2023 Crisis Plans for all buildings, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the 2022-2023 Threat Assessment Plan for Serena CUSD2, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Cantlin. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the 2022-2023 stipend listing as presented, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the tentative budget for FY23, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve PRESS Policy five-year review updates for policy 3:70 on Succession of Authority, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve PRESS Policy five-year review updates for policies: 4:60-AP4, 4:70, 4:110-AP2, 4:170-AP1, E1, 4:170-AP1, E2, and 4:170-AP4 regarding Operational Services, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve PRESS Policy five-year review updates for policies: 5:70, 5:80, 5:110, 5:130-AP, 5:140, 5:220-E, 5:140, 5:220-E, 5:240, and 5:270-E related to Personnel Services and Employment Notifications, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn at 11:05 p.m. was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.



Gary McNelis, President



Justin DeBolt, Secretary

**Minutes of the Public Hearing
Serena Community Unit School District #2
LaSalle County, Illinois
August 25, 2022**

The Public Hearing was called to order at 7:00 p.m. held in the Serena High School Library of the Serena Community Unit School District #2, LaSalle County, Illinois (the "District"), 2283 North 3812th Road, Serena, Illinois regarding a plan to issue not to exceed \$15,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of the District's General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2022 (the "Bonds").

Gary McNelis, President, as Hearing Officer read the following statement:

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. This hearing will come to order. Let the record reflect that this is a public hearing being held pursuant to the requirements of Sections 10 and 20 of the Bond Issue Notification Act of the State of Illinois, as amended. Notice of this hearing was published on August 4, 2022, in The Times, a newspaper of general circulation in the District. This is a hearing regarding a plan to issue not to exceed \$15,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of the District's General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2022 (the "Bonds"). The proceeds of the Bonds will be used to (i) pay certain claims of the District in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000, said claims being the District's outstanding General Obligation (Limited Tax) Debt Certificates, Series 2022, dated July 26, 2022, (ii) to create or increase the working cash fund of the District in an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000, and (iii) pay certain costs of issuance of the Bonds.

The Bonds will be issued by the District in accordance with the provisions of Article 19 of the School Code of the State of Illinois, as supplemented and amended, and shall constitute a general obligation of the District, payable from ad valorem property taxes levied against all of the taxable property in the District without limitation as to rate or amount.

This public hearing is required by Sections 10 and 20 of the Bond Issue Notification Act of the State of Illinois, as amended. At the time and place set for the public hearing, residents, taxpayers and other interested persons will be given the opportunity to express their views for or against the proposed plan of financing, the issuance of the Bonds and the purpose of the issuance of the Bonds.

The Hearing Officer asked if there was anyone who wished to submit written comments.
[Please insert comments here] _____

_____. The Hearing Officer asked all residents, taxpayers or other interested persons attending the hearing and desiring an opportunity to express their views for or against the proposed Bonds, to please stand so that they may have an opportunity to make those comments or statements. [Please insert comments here] _____

The Hearing Officer concluded the public hearing regarding a plan to issue not to exceed \$15,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of the District's General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2022.

Let the Record further reflect this public hearing was concluded at the hour of 7:52 p.m., August 25, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

By: 
Gary McNelis, President

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