

May 25, 2023  
Serena, IL

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Thursday, May 25, 2023, at Sheridan Grade School. The following members were present: Joe Cantlin, Justin DeBolt, LaDonna Gale, Scott Govednik, Susan McNelis, and Neal Rosengren. Dan McNally was absent. Interim Superintendent Jim Whitmore and Rich Faivre were also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by President DeBolt at 6:00 p.m. After roll call, the motion was made by S. McNelis, with a second by Rosengren, 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 7:15 p.m. was made by Govednik and seconded by Rosengren. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

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

#### Presentations:

Students of the Month from Harding and Sheridan were recognized.

President DeBolt requested public comment. There was none.

Items of Correspondence include a Certificate of Appreciation from the Serena FFA Chapter.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda Items A through E was made by Govednik and seconded by Gale. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

#### Reports:

Building and Grounds Committee – Construction is currently running on schedule. Several Change Order Requests were submitted for the construction project at the high school and are on the agenda for approval.

#### Discussion/Informational Items:

##### Board of Education Committee Appointments:

Finance – Justin DeBolt and Scott Govednik

Academic Goals – Joe Cantlin and Neal Rosengren

Building and Grounds – Dan McNally and Susan McNelis

Faculty/Board Discussions – Justin DeBolt and Susan McNelis

Enrollment and Development – Justin DeBolt and Neal Rosengren

Policy – Joe Cantlin and Dan McNally

Health Insurance – Joe Cantlin and LaDonna Gale

Wage Committee – LaDonna Gale and Scott Govednik

IVVC Representative – Neal Rosengren

IASB Delegate – Justin DeBolt

Action Items:

Motion to accept the resignation of Austin Cullinan, e-Sports coach, effective April 28, 2023, was made by Govednik and seconded by Rosengren. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to accept the resignation of Jennifer Cole, Paraprofessional, effective the end of the 2022-2023 school year, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Rosengren. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to accept the retirement of Marilyn Vance, Paraprofessional, effective the end of the 2022-2023 school year, was made by Gale and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to accept the resignation of Kaili Faber, Middle and High School Social Worker, effective the end of the 2022-2023 school year, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Gale. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of Amanda Shelton, Special Education Teacher, beginning the 2023-2024 school year, was made by Rosengren and seconded by S. McNelis. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of Dorothea Clark, Preschool Teacher, beginning the 2023-2024 school year, was made by Rosengren and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of Hailey Hunter, Elementary School Teacher, beginning the 2023-2024 school year, was made by Govednik and seconded by S. McNelis. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of Tiffany Dukes, Elementary School Teacher, beginning the 2023-2024 school year, was made by Govednik and seconded by S. McNelis. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of Eric Englert, High School English Teacher, beginning the 2023-2024 school year, was made by Gale and seconded by S. McNelis. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of Nathan Walker, High School English Teacher, beginning the 2023-2024 school year, was made by Govednik and seconded by Rosengren. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of Benjamin Temple, High School Science Teacher, beginning the 2023-2024 school year, was made by Rosengren and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, S. McNelis passed and all others present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of Christina Witkowski, Paraprofessional, beginning the 2023-2024 school year, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of Jennifer Van Gelder, Paraprofessional, beginning the 2023-2024 school year, was made by Gale and seconded by Rosengren. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.



Motion to approve the hire of Jessica Warren, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Volleyball Coach, beginning the 2023-2024 school year, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Rosengren. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of Adam Kuelto as High School Principal for the 2023-2024 school year was made by Govednik and seconded by Rosengren. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of Chris Bjork as Middle School Principal for the 2023-2024 school year was made by Govednik and seconded by Rosengren. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of Paul Taeuber as Assistant Principal for the 2023-2024 school year was made by Rosengren and seconded by Cantlin. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of the following students for temporary 2023 summer help (May 30-June 2, June 5-9, August 7-11, August 14-18. No weekends or holidays.): Aubrey Duffy, Marcos Huerta, Blake Johnson, Hannah McNelis, Macy Mahler, Michael Parker, Finn Rosengren, Jennifer Sanchez, Rebekah Shugrue, Carlos Sotelo, and Hunter Staton was made by Cantlin and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, S. McNelis passed and all others present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve Gorenz and Associates, Ltd. as the District auditors for 2023-2024 was made by S.McNelis and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the annual stipend listing for the 2023-2024 school year was made by S.McNelis and seconded by Cantlin. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the extra duty pay for Acting Transportation Director Adam Kuelto was made by Rosengren and seconded by Gale. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the annual Illinois High School Association membership for the 2023-2024 school year was made by Govednik and seconded by S. McNelis. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the renewal of the Student Accident Catastrophic policy was made by S.McNelis and seconded by Cantlin. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the renewal of the Illinois Public Risk Fund (IPRF) Workers compensation plan was made by S.McNelis and seconded by Gale. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the renewal of the Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust (ICRMT) property and casualty plan was made by S.McNelis and seconded by Cantlin. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the change orders from BCA Architects for the 2023 Building Renovation Project was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried. Motion to adjourn at 7:57 p.m. was made by Rosengren and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, all those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

  
Justin DeBolt, President

  
Susan McNelis, Secretary