

MINUTES OF THE **Regularly** scheduled MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF STAUNTON COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #6, Macoupin and Madison Counties, Illinois, held in the school Library on Monday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

## **I. Call to Order Regular Meeting**

### **A. Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll call**

President Chris Tingle called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:00 pm in the school Library. Roll was taken: Board members Janice Kinder, Dave Lamore, Stephanie Legendre, Kim Peterson, John Renner, and Chris Tingle were present. Scott Skertich absent. Administration in attendance were Superintendent Dan Cox, High School Principal Brett Allen, Grade School Principal Nancy Werden, and assistant principal Ryan McGowan.

### **B. Approval of agenda**

Kinder made a **motion** to approve the regular agenda as amended (Item III. C b 1 and 2 will be moved to IX. H and I). Peterson seconded the motion. On a roll call vote: Kinder, Lamore, Legendre, Peterson, Renner, Skertich and Tingle voted to approve the agenda as presented. Skertich absent.

## **II. Recognition of Public/Visitors**

President Tingle acknowledged Kelly Costa, reporter from the Staunton Star Times, Barry Deist and his wife Nancy, and Mr. Lotter (Band Director).

Mr. Allen presented Mr. Deist a plaque congratulating him for his induction to the Illinois High School Football Coaches Hall of Fame. In turn, Mr. Deist gave the District a plaque acknowledging his entry into the Illinois High School Football Coaches Hall of Fame to be hung in the trophy case. The Board congratulated Coach Deist on his prestigious honor.

## **III. Consent Agenda**

### **A. Approval of Bills/Payroll/Treasurer's Report**

### **B. Approval of Minutes Regular and Closed from March 2018**

### **C. Approval of Personnel Report:**

#### **a. Recognition of Resignation(s) and Retirements-**

- 1) The Board recognizes the resignation of Mike Korte as Jr High Girls Volleyball Coach with thanks for service.
- 2) Approval of Winter Coaching Assignments:
  - Head HS Boys Basketball: Troy Redfern
  - Asst. HS Boys Basketball: Brian Munson
  - Head HS Girls Basketball: Kyle McBrain
  - Asst. HS Girls Basketball: Ed Hirschl
  - HS Scholastic Bowl: Erin Geringer
  - Red Roses: Open
  - 8th Grade Boys Basketball: Zac Ferguson
  - 7th Grade Boys Basketball: Open
  - 8th Grade Girls Volleyball: Jeanne Lucykow (has applied)
  - 7th Grade Girls Volleyball: Open
  - JH Scholastic Bowl: Erin Geringer
  - JH Cheerleading: Brooke Dugger

#### **b. Recommendations for Hire- **MOVED to IX. H and I****

- 1) Summer Maintenance Workers: Austin Gusewelle & Lucas Meyer
- 2) Substitute Custodian: Angel Flournoy

#### **c. Approval of Employee unpaid leave of absence-Diane Dal Pazzo for a general unpaid leave of absence effective April 17, 2018 through May (corrected from April on agenda) 21, 2018**

#### **d. Approval of IESA Membership Renewal**

**e. Acceptance of Donations-** The Board accepts a donation from Mr. Walter V. Spotte, Class of 1944, for an LED marquee in front of Staunton High School. (added) Mr. Allen recognized and thanked the FFA Alumni for their \$1,000 donation to the Vocational Department to purchase metal.

**f. Destruction of Closed Session recordings older than 18 months**

Superintendent Cox recommended the approval of the consent agenda as amended and corrected. Tingle made a **motion** to approve the consent agenda as amended and corrected. Renner seconded the motion. On a roll call vote: Kinder, Lamore, Legendre, Peterson, Renner, and Tingle voted to approve the agenda as presented. Skertich absent.

#### **IV. Administrator Reports**

##### **Principal reports**

##### **Grade school Report- Nancy Werden**

- **April Assessments:**

PARCC and FitnessGram testing wrapped up and students will be taking the State Science Assessment April 24-5<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grades and April 25-HS.

The PTO was hugely successful in promoting this as a fun week through drawings for prizes and brain treats.

- **Kindergarten Registration/Preschool Screenings**

Kindergarten pre-registration was the first week of April to get preliminary numbers for next year. Preschool screenings took place as well. The teachers will be processing the data to develop rosters for our program for next year.

- **IESA Scholar Attitude Award Nominee for our Building-Sam Best**

The IESA award for Scholar Attitude is done by application and a student from each region is selected. Sam Best was the nominee for Staunton Junior High School this year. While he did not win at the state level, he has excelled in academics and athletics and truly represents what a scholar athlete should be. She congratulated Sam on his nomination.

##### **Events the remainder of the school year:**

April 22 3:00 p.m.-Band Program

April 26-Gallery Night for Fine Arts Day

April 27-Fine Arts Day K-4

May 3-GCS Park Ballgame for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Students

May 4-5 Choir Musical

May 9-Field Day/Choir Concert

May 10-Six Flags Trip 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

May 11-Patriot Club Program

May 14-5<sup>th</sup> Grade AR Rewards

May 15-JHS Awards Night/JHS Dance

May 17-Kindergarten Graduation/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion

##### **High School Report- Brett Allen**

- The SAT was successfully administered to all students in the junior class on Tuesday, April 10th. Additionally, the IL Science Assessment will be given to all Biology I students on Wednesday, April 25th. He thanked Mrs. Cress, Mr. Thiede, Mr. Redfern and all the staff who participated as a test room proctor.
- He thanked Mr. Stephens (and all of his art students) along with Mr. Caldieraro (and his vocational students) for hosting a wonderful Fine Arts/Vocational Arts Gallery displaying the pieces they have created over the course of this school year. The event was held on Friday, March 23rd @ 7:00 PM.
- The Macoupin County CEO Class hosted its annual Trade Show in Carlinville on Saturday, April 21st from 3:00 – 6:00 PM. Next year Staunton High School has 5

students who have been accepted as members of the class out of approximately 20 students from across the county.

- He congratulated the following students who will be honored at the annual Silver Medallion Academic Awards Banquet on Thursday, April 26th at Lewis & Clark Community College: Elizabeth Birdsell, Alexis Cox, Haleigh Hester, Jacob Masinelli, Kailyn Myers, Rose Milcic, and Cody Newcomb
- The Band will host its Spring Concert on Sunday, April 22nd at 3:00 PM in the Main Gym.
- Prom is on Saturday, April 28th. He thanked the Post Prom Committee in advance for all of their work in hosting an outstanding Post Prom event for our students following the dance.
- The Spring Musical will take place on Friday and Saturday, May 4th & 5th at 7:00 PM in the High School Auditorium. The 5th – 12th grade Choir Awards Concert is on Wednesday, May 9th at 7:00 PM in the Auditorium.
- High School Commencement is on Friday, May 18th at 7:00 PM.
- He commended the choir who received a Division 1 Superior rating from all three judges (highest ranking) at the IHSA contest on April 14<sup>th</sup>.

## **B. Superintendent Dan Cox**

He received Freedom of Information request from Natalie Cokic, Michelle Mbekeani-Wiley (Staff Attorney, Community Justice Division), Gabriella Lauricella (Data Acquisition Specialist) and responded to each request.

Scott Skertich entered the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

### **Transportation**

#### **Bus Engine Repair**

The engine on bus #11 needs to be replaced and a replacement engine has been determined to be the best course of action. The cost of the replacement is \$26,000.

#### **A.R. Graiff Demolition Update**

Asbestos abatement has been underway for two weeks. Because of the large amount of material that must have the asbestos removed before it can be thrown in the dumpster, actual demolition (which was expected to begin on April 23<sup>rd</sup>) is now expected to begin in two to three weeks.

#### **Safety and Security**

A second national walkout is planned on April 20<sup>th</sup> to honor the 13 lives lost during the Columbine shootings. In talking with administration, it is anticipated students will participate and there could be as many or more participate this second time. The school's plans are to set the same parameters and protocols as the past, with the exception this time 13 minutes will be allowed. Based on response and feedback from the last walkout Mr. Cox plans to send out a communication via e-mail to families the evening prior.

#### **Food Service Management Invitation for Bid**

The Invitation for Bid Proposal packet has been submitted to ISBE and has been under review since March 6<sup>th</sup>. All has been approved except for one small section dealing with the employee model. Mr. Cox has done extensive work with ISBE and the USDA on this portion. A final determination is expected on or before April 20<sup>th</sup>. He commended Angie Abernathy for all the hard work she has done so far. We are still on track for a June Timeline.

#### **Tuition Waiver Approval**

The tuition waiver to allow children of full-time certified Staunton teachers to attend tuition free. The waiver is approved for five years (2023) at which time the District will be able to reapply. This does not apply to SMASE employees.

## **Personnel**

In working with administration on the FY19 budget and staffing levels Mr. Cox requested the Board to give direction to post two additional positions: Interventionist and Part-Time Music Teacher.

Mr. Allen explained that the Behavior and Interventionist position will be posted as an internal position (we have at least one employee on staff qualified to fill the role and it will evolve from a current position-In school suspension). This position is identified as a need in our gap analysis of our EBF model and is something administration have been building upon for the past two years with the current position. The focus of this position is primarily to teach at the JH/HS level in the areas of character education, restorative justice, and digital citizenship. This is a result of continued progress from the work on adverse childhood experiences and trauma informed practice we have been working on for the past two years.

The part-time music teacher position will be posted externally and will focus on JH/HS music instruction. This conversation first began when Mt. Olive contacted Mr. Cox inquiring about assistance and/or sharing a position so as they maintain a band program. During the course of those conversations we have learned of a highly qualified individual who is available and capable to teach part-time. The conversation sharing with Mt. Olive is likely over. This position will assist in expanding our music program to include a jazz program, reduce class size in the JH by adding an elective, give much needed assistance to Mr. Lotter who now has over 100 students in the band program (270 in grades 5-12), participate in a music scholarship program, and the creation of a special needs music therapy program. Mr. Cox asked Mr. Lotter to discuss why the part-time position can be beneficial and Mr. Allen and Mr. Lotter discussed scheduling and class size reduction benefits.

After the presentations by Mr. Allen and Mr. Lotter, the Board discussed the merits of posting the two additional positions: Interventionist and Part-Time Music Teacher. Everyone seemed in agreement that these are two worthy additions, however the timing of adding the two new classes was a point of discussion. Some members believed instead of adding the two new classes we should add another elementary teacher (to reduce class size in an effort to bring up our low test scores) or replace programs that were cut during the financial crisis (as advocated as a top priority when they were cut) created by the State's failure to meet their financial obligations to the District, or a combination of the three options. After a lengthy discussion Board members Tingle, Renner, Skertich, Legendre, and Peterson favored posting for the two additional positions (Interventionist and Part-Time Music Teacher). Lamore and Kinder opposed. The two positions will be posted.

## **SMASE Classroom Placement**

Mr. Cox informed the Board on problematic placement of SMASE Classrooms. He told the Board that Mt. Olive will not take back the two coop classrooms (Gillespie and Bunker Hill cannot take them). Mr. Cox went on to tell the board that Staunton will not have the space to house the two BD Classes next year because of additional programs and more classes creating a space problem for our school. When he spoke to the Governing Board of SMASE, he informed them of the potential problem next year and urged Mt Olive to take the classes because "we are just kicking the can down the road". Discussing the future of the Coop, Mr. Cox asked the Board if our needs are being met. He hopes to have an answer to that question by the May Board meeting.

## **FY19 Budget Appropriations**

During the afternoon of April 9<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Cox was requested to testify at the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee regarding funding appropriations for the Evidence Based Model in FY19. This was an opportunity to express gratitude to the legislature for the work that has been done and to recognize the shared responsibility that exists between that body and local school districts to fund and utilize the EBM so as to improve student learning

outcomes. While recognizing we have taken a significant step in the right direction to bring equity and adequacy to students throughout the state Mr. Cox also pointed out that we have a tremendous amount of work to do as there are districts at a low of 43% adequacy and some as high as over 240% adequacy. His request was for the constitutional minimum of \$350 million to be placed in the formula next year and beyond and further requested \$400 million. Overall from his experience testifying to the General Assembly well was received .... but it's only April.

### **Legislative Forum**

On Wednesday evening Mr. Cox attended a legislator forum focused on "School Improvement from the ground up." Legislatures present were Senators Bertino-Tarrant, Lightford, Manar, McGuire, Weaver along with Representatives Crespo, Davis, Moeller, Pritchard. Each of these legislatures are leaders in their respective Democratic and Republican caucuses who have expressed bipartisan interest in continuing to develop policy to assist with school improvement and to fully fund the EBF. Others in attendance were collation members who worked to pass the EBF. The keynote was Dr. Nancy Zimpher, who is the former Chancellor at the State University of New York. Dr. Zimpher spoke about how she led a community wide improvement effort to drive regional and local economic development and created seamless cradle-to-career education pipelines in several communities. Secondly, he heard from a panel consisting of Rockford Superintendent Ehren Jarrett and representatives of Alignment Rockford. They discussed the community wide effort that between the community and schools that have led to significant improvement for both the school district and the community at-large.

### **21<sup>st</sup> Century Show**

On Thursday, April 12th Mr. Cox was a guest on the 21<sup>st</sup> Show along with East Moline Superintendent Kristin Humphries to discuss the impact of the new tier dollars on schools.

## **V. Financial Report**

### **A. Presentation of FY 18 Amended Budget**

Due to changes in revenues and expenditures throughout the fiscal year the budget was amended to more accurately reflect the year's transactions. In 2015 our school had a million dollar deficit. This year we are projecting a \$149,661 deficit (and if our district receives one more payment (\$261,000) as promised, we will finish the year with a balanced budget.

### **B. Presentation of Evidence Based Funding**

On August 31, 2017, the Evidence-Based Funding for Student Success Act became law. Five previous grant programs are combined into a single grant program and distributed as evidence-based funding. Those grant programs are General State Aid, Special Education – Personnel, Special Education – Funding for Children requiring Special Education Services, Special Education – Summer School. In this new system, districts receive the same receipts from each of those five programs again in FY18 as a hold harmless provision. On April 12, 2018 the District receive the new tier funding revenue. As a whole the Evidence Based Funding for Student Success Act prioritizes distribution of new funding to the students with the most need and the most poorly funded school districts. This formula and these new dollars provides a roadmap to adequacy and effectively distributes \$366 million in new funding for the 2017-18 school year, of which 99% of new tier funding went to students in districts below 90% adequacy.

Staunton Schools are funded at 56% of adequacy putting the district into the Tier 1 funding distribution (there are four Tiers: Tier 1-Below 64% of Funding Adequacy -313 Districts in State; Tier 2- Between 64% and 90% of Adequacy-347 Districts in the State; Tier 3- Between 90% and 100% Adequacy- 54 Districts in the State; and Tier 4 above 100% Adequacy 139 Districts in the State), meaning Staunton Schools are among some of the neediest and most underfunded schools in the state. The tier funding dollars distributed to Staunton Schools this spring is an additional \$421,336.95 (\$346.20/student). This raise the total state evidence-based funding during FY18 to \$4,622,533 and becomes part of the District's new base funding minimum in FY19, meaning the District cannot receive less than that amount. The Vision 20/20

goals is for tier distributions of a constitutional minimum of \$350 million state wide to be invested into the formula until all districts are at 90% of adequacy within 10 years. It is now up to us as a District and collective community to use these tier dollars to improve student learning outcomes. The District has formed a “District Improvement Team” that will be learning the components of the new funding and accountability models. As we identify needs and gaps that exist within our schools compared to best practice, the team will make recommendations on where and how the dollars will be utilized to drive improved student learning outcomes. The return on investment of these new dollars will take time but as a collective whole we as educators are excited to make recommendations and decisions that will have a long-lasting positive impact on our young people. Mr. Cox went on to say that this is the best funding the state has provided for a long time

## **VI. Unfinished Business**

### **A. Approval of Updates and Revisions to District Wellness Policy.**

Upon the recommendation of the Administration, Tingle made a **motion** to return to approve the Updates and Revisions to District Wellness Policy. Kinder seconded the motion. On a roll call vote: Kinder, Lamore, Legendre, Peterson, Renner, Skertich and Tingle voted to approve the Updates and Revisions to District Wellness Policy.

## **VII. New Business**

### **A. Approval of Bids for the Purchase of School Bus**

Due to the dramatic increase in the cost of used school buses it has been determined the most cost-effective method for purchase is a new school bus. The District advertised for bids and received three. The low/winning bid was submitted by Midwest Bus Sales, Inc. for a new 71 passenger Thomas Freightliner SAF-T-Liner C2 for \$79,393.00 The superintendent recommends the approval of the following motion. Tingle made a **motion** to accept the bid from Midwest Bus Sales, Inc. for the purchase of a 71 passenger Thomas Freightliner SAF-T-Liner C2 School Bus for the price of \$79,393.00. Kinder seconded the motion. On a roll call vote: Kinder, Lamore, Legendre, Peterson, Renner, Skertich and Tingle voted to approve the purchase of a new 71 passenger bus.

### **B. First reading of Updated and Newly Written Board of Education Policies**

All policy revisions and the PRESS memo sheet were reviewed. The Board will have the second reading next month. If additional discussion is not warranted, the policies may be place on the consent agenda during the next regular meeting.

### **C. First Reading of Board Resolution to Prohibit Sexual Harassment**

The School District expects the workplace environment to be productive, respectful, and free of unlawful discrimination, including harassment. District employees shall not engage in harassment or abusive conduct on the basis of an individual’s race, retaliation, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, citizenship status, disability, or other protected status. The second reading will be next month.

## **VIII. Roll call to go into Closed Session of Purposes defined in:**

Lamore made a **motion** to go into executive session at 9:36 pm in the unit library. Peterson seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Kinder, Lamore, Legendre, Peterson, Renner, Skertich and Tingle voted to go into executive session to discuss:

### **5ILCS 120/2(c)(1)- The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body.**

## **Roll call to Open Session**

Lamore made a **motion** to return to the regular order of business at 10:40 p.m. Tingle seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Kinder, Lamore, Legendre, Peterson, Renner, Skertich and Tingle voted to return to the regular order of business.

## **IX. Action as a Result of Closed Session**

### **A. Approval of Resolution Authorizing Honorable Dismissal of Full-Time Educational Support Personnel**

Upon the recommendation of the Administration, Tingle made a **motion** to return to approve the resolution authorizing the honorable dismissal of full time educational support personnel (Denise Ondes, Kathy Fox, Linda Thomas, Kim Masinelli, Jenny Newton, Carissa McBride, Brooke Dugger, Pete Klein, Leanne Heyen, Beth Sievers, Corey Rizzi, Tabitha Miller, Riley Canania, Donna Jarden, and Jo Ellen Zuber). Kinder seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Kinder, Lamore, Legendre, Peterson, Renner, Skertich and Tingle voted to honorably dismiss the educational support personnel.

### **B. Approval of Elementary Teacher Recommendation for Hire**

Upon the recommendation of the Administration, Renner made a **motion** to hire Carlee Bushnell as a Staunton Elementary teacher (contingent upon her receiving her teaching certificate). Kinder seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Kinder, Lamore, Legendre, Peterson, Renner, Skertich and Tingle voted to hire Carlee Bushnell.

### **C. Approval of Special Education Teacher Recommendation for Hire**

Upon the recommendation of the Administration, Tingle made a **motion** to hire Melissa Striegel as a Staunton Elementary Special Education Teacher (contingent upon her receiving her teaching certificate). Peterson seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Kinder, Lamore, Legendre, Peterson, Renner, Skertich and Tingle voted to hire Melissa Striegel.

### **D. Action on Classified Personnel Pay and salary raises for 2018-019.**

Upon the recommendation of the Administration, Tingle made a **motion** to give classified Personnel Pay and salary raises of 2.84% for 2018-019. Renner seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Kinder, Lamore, Legendre, Peterson, Renner, Skertich and Tingle voted to increase the pay of Classified Personnel by 2.84% for 2018-2019.

### **E. Action on Elementary and Assistant Principal Salary Increase**

Upon the recommendation of the Administration, Tingle made a **motion** to increase the salary of Grade School Principal Nancy Werden by 2.84%. Renner seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Kinder, Lamore, Legendre, Peterson, Renner, Skertich and Tingle voted to increase the salaries of Grade School Principal Nancy Werden by 2.84%.

Upon the recommendation of the Administration, Tingle made a **motion** to increase the salary of Assistant principal Ryan McGowen by 2.84%. Skertich seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Kinder, Lamore, Legendre, Peterson, Renner, Skertich and Tingle voted to increase the salary of Assistant principal Ryan McGowen by 2.84%.

### **F. Action on Extension of Elementary Principal Employment Agreement**

Tabled till next meeting.

### **G. Approval of Administrative Assignments for 2018-2019**

The principals approached Mr. Cox with the need to assign duties differently in order to meet the demands of each individual building. The proposed assignments are to assign the positions as the following:

- Elementary School Principal: Nancy Werden
- Junior High School Principal: Ryan McGowen
- High School Principal: Brett Allen

Upon the recommendation of the Administration Tingle made a **motion** to make Nancy Werden Elementary School Principal (K-5), Ryan McGowen Junior High School (6-8) Principal, and Brett Allen as High School Principal (9-12) beginning in the 2018-2019 school year. Renner seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Kinder, Lamore, Legendre, Peterson, Renner, Skertich and Tingle voted to make Nancy Werden Elementary School Principal (K-5), Ryan McGowen Junior High

School Principal (6-8), and Brett Allen as High School Principal (9-12) beginning in the 2018-2019 school year.

**H. Recommendation for Summer Workers for Hire**

Upon the recommendation of the Administration Tingle made a **motion** to hire 2018 Summer Maintenance Workers Austin Gusewelle and Lucas Meyer at \$10.00 per hour. Kinder seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Kinder, Lamore, Legendre, Peterson, Renner, Skertich and Tingle voted to hire Austin Gusewelle and Lucas Meyer as 2018 Summer maintenance Workers.

**I. Recommendation for Substitute Custodian for hire**

Upon the recommendation of the Administration Tingle made a **motion** to hire Angel Flournoy as a Substitute Custodian for the Staunton School District. Renner seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Kinder, Lamore, Legendre, Peterson, Renner, Skertich and Tingle voted to hire Angel Flournoy as a Substitute Custodian for the Staunton School District.

**X. Correspondence**

None

**XI. General Discussion**

None

**XII. Adjournment**

With no further business Lamore made a **motion** for adjournment. Tingle seconded the motion. All members present voted for adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 11:05 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the high school library.

Dave Lamore, Secretary Staunton School District.