

January 27, 2022
Serena, IL

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Thursday, January 27, 2022, in the Serena High School Library. The following members were present: Joe Cantlin, Justin DeBolt, LaDonna Gale, Scott Govednik, Dan McNally (in at 6:17 p.m.), Gary McNelis, and Susan McNelis.

Also in attendance: Superintendent Lisa Gifford.

The meeting was called to order by President G. McNelis at 6:03 p.m. After roll call, the motion was made by DeBolt with a second by S. McNelis to go into executive session 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. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to come out of executive session at 7:08 p.m. was made by S. McNelis and seconded by DeBolt. 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 Cantlin, with a second by S. McNelis, to approve the agenda. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

President G. McNelis requested public comment. Kelly Hunt addressed the Board.

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

Reports:

Enrollment – 647 students in the District

Finance – The Finance Committee met with our district bonding agent John Vezzetti, Vice President at Bernardi Securities. Renovation, restoration, or rebuild decisions need to be finalized in August or September 2022 to rebond appropriately. The District wishes to keep tax rates the same in order to rebond and provide for 21st century learning for the students..

Superintendent Report – The ROE inspection and walkthrough of all three campuses took place on 1/6/2022. We passed all inspections and our buildings are compliant with all state codes for operation and safety. The Foundation Scholarship packets are anticipated to be distributed on February 1 and all applications are due April 8, 2022. The 5Essentials Survey is now open for all staff, students, and parents to complete. A Summer School survey will be sent to families soon to help guide decisions for June 2022. Curriculum committees are reviewing materials and should conclude by the end of February. Registration will be online this year for returning students with more information to come. SB 1577/HB 0576: Student Mental Health Days - states that students may be absent for five days due to mental or behavioral health. Class Action Lawsuits regarding masking mandates and exclusionary guidelines have had no ruling at this time.

Action Items:

Motion to approve the facility usage for the FFA Toy Show March 12-13, 2022, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the FFA overnight travel to the Ground Zero Conference in Champaign, IL, February 4-5, 2022, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Gale. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve May 21, 2022, as the High School graduation date was made by Gale and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of a substitute social worker, Stacy Aubry, for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year was made by DeBolt and seconded by S. McNelis. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of a middle school track coach, Jen Shugrue, for the 2022 season was made by DeBolt and seconded by McNally. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of a high school JV volleyball coach, Jen Shugrue, for the 2022-2023 season was made by Govednik and seconded by S. McNelis. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve a volunteer high school softball coach, Ron Johnson, for the 2022 season was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Cantlin. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the hire of a full-time custodian, Joe Sanchez, was made by DeBolt and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the resignation of a custodian, Phil Margowski, effective May 27, 2022, was made by Gale and seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the resignation of the middle soccer coach, Dain Twait, was made by DeBolt and seconded by Gale. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Superintendent to prepare the budget in tentative form (105 ILCS 5/17-1) for FY 2023, was made by McNally and seconded by S. McNelis. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the \$49,860 bid to repair the high school gym rooftop unit from Helm to be paid for through the 2021-2022 Maintenance Grant, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the \$48,500 bid to replace the middle school rooftop unit from Helm to be paid through district funds, was made by Gale and seconded by S. McNelis. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the \$10,650 bid for an additional high school rooftop unit from Helm to be paid through district funds, was made by McNally and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

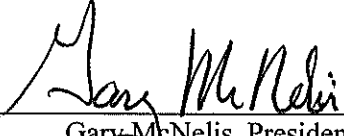
Motion to approve the \$2,000 bid from The Tree Guy for additional tree trimming by the greenhouse and pavilion, was made by S. McNelis and seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the first reading of the 2022-2023 course catalog for Serena High School, was made by McNally and seconded by Gale. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

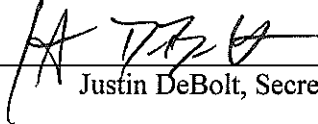
Motion to enter back into executive session at 8:08 p.m. for the purpose of: (1) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body; (2) school safety; (3) student discipline; (4) review of executive session minutes; and (5) litigation, 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 McNally and second by S. McNelis. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to come out of executive session at 10:16 p.m., was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Govednik. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn at 10:17 p.m., was made by S. McNelis and seconded by Gale. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.



Gary McNelis, President



Justin DeBolt, Secretary