

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 Thursday, September 20th, 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 7:02 pm in the school Library. Roll was taken: Board members John Renner, Scott Skertich, Janice Kinder, Dave Lamore and Chris Tingle were present. Stephanie Legendre, Kim Peterson absent. Administration in attendance were Superintendent Dan Cox, Grade School Principal Nancy Werden, High School Principal Brett Allen, and Jr High Principal Ryan McGowen.

B. Approval of agenda

Lamore made a **motion** to approve the regular agenda as presented. Tingle seconded the motion. On a roll call vote: Renner, Skertich, Kinder, Lamore and Tingle voted to approve the agenda as presented. Legendre and Peterson absent.

II. Recognition of Public/Visitors

President Tingle acknowledged Kelly Costa, reporter from the Staunton Star Times and Kevin Meyer representing FGM Architects.

III. Consent Agenda

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

B. Approval of Minutes Regular and Closed from August 2018

C. Authorization to post the Administrative Salary Compensation Report and Teacher Salary Compensation Report

D. Acceptance of Donations-

- Band Boosters- donation of a Wireless Microphone System worth approximately \$2,000 for the Band Department
- Mr. Rollie Lorenz- donation of books to the Library.
- Kevin and Tricia Carroll - \$11,000 donation in memory of Tori Carroll to help upgrade the lighting in the SHS Auditorium.

All donations are accepted by the Board with much thanks and gratitude.

E. Destruction of Closed Session recordings older than 18 months

The superintendent recommended the consent agenda be approved as presented. Kinder made a **motion** to approve the consent agenda as presented. Renner seconded the motion. On a roll call vote: Renner, Skertich, Kinder, Lamore and Tingle voted to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Legendre and Peterson absent.

IV. Administrator Reports

A. Principal reports-

Grade school Report- Nancy Werden

- STAR testing has been completed to get baseline data for the school year. This gives administration a general idea of student reading and math levels and we can use this as a tool, in conjunction with grades and student growth assessments in various areas, to determine what interventions may be needed for students. These tests are run throughout the year so we can gauge how the students are doing and what strategies we can put in place to help them become more successful in areas that they may be struggling.
- The Staunton PTO just wrapped up Book Fair week. Once again, they had great attendance and the students loved purchasing new books and other items. She thanked the PTO for running the fair.
- Once again, we have the churches in town donating time, supplies and manpower to supply our students with Friday Backpacks. Their generosity is much appreciated.

- PTO will be hosting the Wizards Basketball game Sunday, September 30, 2018. Doors open at 1:00. She predicted that this will be a fun and exciting day.

Jr High Report-Ryan McGowen

- Softball won first round of regional action and play Saturday. Baseball is finishing up the regular season and getting ready for regional action. 7th grade girls' basketball has started. 8th grade girls will start after the softball season is finished.
- Donation: Mr. Ben Gillen and the Staunton Storm travel baseball team have donated \$4,000 to the Staunton Junior High Baseball program. We would like to thank Mr. Gillen for his gracious donation. These funds will be used to purchase baseball equipment for years to come.
- Official enrollment for the beginning of the year is 304. Seventh graders have the biggest class with 122. 6th Grade: 95, 8th Grade: 87. Class meetings were held on August 22. Students voted on positions for student council.
- September 14th was 12:30 dismissal. Faculty focused on student safety with students in the morning.
- On September 19, the junior high will have an assembly on digital safety presented by a program through the State of Illinois. Cyberbullying will be a topic of emphasis.
- Sunday, September 30th the PTO will be hosting a fundraiser. Faculty members will participate against the Wizards in a basketball game. A big crowd is expected.
- Friday, October 19th is the date set for Ninja Warrior. It will be held on the football field. This is the biggest fundraiser for the junior high. It is put on by the PE department and Student Council. It supports local causes, community-based needs, and the P.E. Department.

High School Report- Brett Allen

Mr. Allen gave a brief report on the new software "Navigation Prepared".

- Homecoming week starts on Sunday September 23rd. The week begins with the Homecoming Play, Crowning, Powder Puff Football Game, and Bonfire and it comes to an end with the Homecoming Dance on Saturday September 29th. This year's theme is "Once Upon a Homecoming."
Student Dress Up Days:
Decade Day - Monday
Myself in 20 Years Day - Tuesday
Country vs. Country Club Day - Wednesday
Fairy Tale Day - Thursday
Red and White Day/Toga Day for Seniors - Friday
He thanked the Student Council Members, Mrs. Baima, and Mrs. Larsen for a wonderful job of planning our Homecoming Week, crowning and dance. In addition, he thanked Mrs. Costello and Mrs. Heyen for their dedication to the Homecoming Play. Special recognition also needs to be given to the class sponsors and other staff members for the time and energy, because they will be devoting to float building and all activities for the week.
- Staunton High School will be continuing the Student of the Month Program this year. This program is meant to honor the student(s) that have shown improvement or hard work in one or all of their classes. Teachers will nominate a student and a team of faculty members will decide who wins the award each month. Additionally, SHS will be recognizing students for positive attendance each month.
- The Fall Choir Concert is Wednesday, October 17th @ 7:00 PM in the High School Auditorium. Additionally, several choir students are preparing for ILMEA (Illinois Music Educators Association) District 4 Senior Choir. They will attend a workshop on September 25th to help them with the audition process. They audition on October 8th at PORTA schools. The choir will be singing the national anthem at some volleyball games in October as well.

- SHS will offer the PSAT on Wednesday, October 10th. The PSAT is a necessary assessment in preparing students for the SAT that they are now required to take in the spring of their Junior year per the State Board of Education. Additionally, this test is required to be entered into the National Merit Scholarship competitions and to be eligible for some employer sponsored scholarships.
- SHS is offering the SAT on Saturday, October 6th and the ACT on Saturday, October 27th.
- Picture retake day for the high school is Friday, October 12th.
- The end of the 1st Quarter is Friday, October 19th.
- October is National Bullying Prevention Month and Staunton High School is joining schools and organizations across the country to STOMP Out Bullying™ in observation of National Bullying Prevention Month. The goal is to encourage communities to work together to stop bullying and cyberbullying by increasing awareness of the prevalence and impact of bullying on all children of all ages. On Friday, October 5th, the National Guard will be conducting an assembly with all 9th-12th grade students. More information will be available as we enter October.
- The PTO is hosting the Harlem Wizards on Sunday, September 30th in the Main Gym. He encouraged everyone to come out and support the PTO and watch the Staunton Schools Staff vs. the Wizards.

B. Superintendent Dan Cox

1. Discussion of School Board Elections- Board of Education members are elected at the consolidated election held of the first Tuesday in April in odd-numbered years. Dates to remember:

- September 20, 2018 – First day to circulate petitions.
- December 10, 2018 – First day to file petitions with County Clerk to be on the ballot.
- December 17, 2018 – Last day to file petitions with County Clerk to be on the ballot.
- April 2, 2019 – Consolidated Election Day

Incumbents whose terms are up include: Scott Skertich, Chris Tingle, Stephanie Legendre, and Dave Lamore. Petition packets will be available to pick up from the Superintendent's office.

2. Review of FOIA Request(s)-Josh Fine, Senior Segment Producer HBO Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel.

3. Illinois Association of School Boards will meet Tuesday, October 23rd, 2018 at Nokomis Schools

Superintendent Report

The school year is off to an outstanding start and we have much to be proud of as our teachers and students are back into the full swing of the school year. Mr. Cox told the Board that each year he is amazed at the work our teachers and students accomplish together and this year is no different. Through our District Improvement Plan we will be communicating the good we do in our District by “telling our story” in multiple ways i.e. social media, website, newspaper, video, meetings and more. Additionally, with Evidence Based Funding in place and through ESSA we have the opportunity to drive our resources where they are needed the most. During our upcoming Board meeting he plans to share a draft of our Evidence Based Funding Spending Plan to begin generating discussion about where we head next.

ESSA/EBF

Mr. Cox told the Board that with Evidence Based Funding (EBF) in place and through the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the District has hired five new teachers, three support staff, and has purchased Chrome Books for 5th and 9th Grade students. Senator Andy Manar, one of the main architects of the new funding bill, was given a two-hour tour of our school to experience first hand how EBF is helping our school benefit from this new funding mechanism.

This past month has been spent on our budget (specifically EBF) and ESSA. We are using these initial dollars to our most under-resourced area first while staying aligned with our mission and vision. A large amount of time has been spent on learning the latest updates and revisions to ESSA which has been done through face-to-face meetings, workshops, webinars, and telephone conferences. At the end of the month, the District Improvement Team will convene. The purpose of this meeting will be to align our

strategic plan with the quality frameworks via ESSA and solicit feedback from stakeholders. Recommendations for revisions to the strategic plan will be made as needed. The team will rank and prioritize the quality frameworks and formulate an action plan for presentation to the board of education on no more than two indicators.

A significant tool available to the school will be a strategic dashboard to “tell our story” to stakeholders. We have access to this dashboard now, but it will take a significant amount of time to set up. The goal is to have the dashboard completed by the end of the first semester.

Parent/Teacher Home Visit Pilot

Our district has partnered with the Southwestern School District to form a PTHV cohort where teachers from both districts are going to join together for training to learn the most effective home visit strategies. Teams will then conduct coordinated home visits during the week of PT conferences. PTHV is aligned with our school culture/climate quality indicator. Our goal is to improve upon the ways we engage families with the greatest needs.

Supervisory Aide Position Posting

As instructional aide responsibilities continue to grow with providing services and interventions with students combined with increased numbers of students eating, covering direct supervision responsibilities during “unstructured time” is a growing challenge. Administration plans to post a supervisory aide position to recommend to the board to hire during the October meeting. The wages for this position are to be paid via risk management/tort (Fund 80). The position has been written into the risk management plan in the past, but insurance premiums have utilized the vast majority of funds. This year there was significant savings with insurance premiums allowing dollars to be accessed for this position. Mr. Cox stated that the greatest benefit will be in cafeteria supervision. He will recommend a candidate next month, the pay will be slightly less than a starting aide’s salary, and the position will be ruffed every spring because of the unknown availability of funds in the Tort Fund to sustain the position.

V. Financial Report

A. Adoption of Staunton CUSD #6 District Budget 2018-2019

The Board of Education is expected to adopt an operating budget \$9,956,664 in revenues and \$9,964,981 in expenditures, which results in an unbalanced budget but does not require a deficit reduction plan. With Evidence Based Funding only in its’ second year, revenues have been underestimated for the purposes of this budget, specifically tier funding is estimated at 50%. It is also customary to overestimate expenditures with the goal of coming in much lower than originally budgeted. The revenue from EBF has been much welcomed relief, however, it is important to note that this new influx of dollars is not be an overnight solution. Years of proration have done great harm and it will take years to reverse the negative effects. The District will continue to be fiscally conservative and work towards a balanced budget by the close of the fiscal year on June 30th. A balanced budget is possible to achieve this year but state revenue will need to arrive in a timely manner in order to achieve this goal. The superintendent recommends approval of the 2018-2019 District #6 Budget. Renner made a **motion** to approve the Staunton School District’s 2018-2019 District Budget as presented. Tingle seconded the motion. On a roll call vote: Renner, Skertich, Kinder, Lamore and Tingle voted to approve the 2018-2019 District Budget as presented. Legendre and Peterson absent.

VI. Unfinished Business

A. Student Learning/District Improvement/Strategic Planning

The Board continuously monitors student achievement and the quality of the District’s work. The Superintendent shall supervise the following quality assurance components, in accordance with the State law and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) rules, and continuously keep the Board informed:

1. Prepare each school’s annual recognition application and quality assurance appraisal, whether internal or external, to assess each school’s continuous school improvement.
2. Continuously assess the District’s and each school’s overall performance in terms of both academic success and equity. This includes, without limitation, a thorough analysis of ISBE’s balanced

accountability measure and each school's Multiple Measure Index and corresponding Annual Measurable Objective provided by ISBE.

3. If applicable, develop District and School Improvement Plans, present them for Board approval, and supervise their implementation.
4. Prepare a school report card, present it at a regular Board meeting, and disseminate it as provided in State Law.
5. Administer annually a survey of learning conditions on the instructional environment within the school to, at minimum, students in grades 6 through 12 and teachers.

The Superintendent shall make regular assessment reports to the Board, including projections whether the District and each school is or will be making adequate yearly progress as defined in State law. The Superintendent shall seek Board approval for each District and/or school improvement plan and otherwise when necessary or advisable.

1. Discussion of Comprehensive School Climate Inventory

Starting with the current school year, statute requires all districts to administer a climate and culture survey annually. The District has elected to utilize an approved alternate survey to the State 5 Essentials Survey. This alternate survey is the Comprehensive School Climate Inventory (CSCI). The CSCI is a nationally-recognized school climate survey that provides an in-depth profile of our school community's particular strengths and needs. With the CSCI the District will be able to quickly and accurately assess student, parent, and school personnel perceptions, and get the detailed information needed to make informed decisions for lasting improvement. Students in grades 3-12, all employees, and families will participate in the CSCI. The CSCI will be administered no more than once every two years at the District's expense paid via grant funding for school improvement. During the "off years" the District will participate in the 5 Essentials Survey.

B. Approval of 10 Year Health Life Safety Plan

The purpose of the Health Life Safety Code is to establish minimum standards for public school facilities which will protect the health, safety, and general welfare of the pupils, school personnel, and others who use them. The Board shall maintain and operate every facility under its jurisdiction in full and continuous compliance with the requirements of the statute and shall visit and inspect schools for this purpose as the interests of the District may require. Mr. Kevin Meyer, school architect from FGM, told the Board that after going through our school (looking for code violations/deterioration from the last 10-year health Life Safety Plan), he found several items that needed to be updated/replaced. He told the Board that we have five years to update items totaling \$550,000. He told the board that these can be corrected by submitting paperwork to ISBE to access funds. The superintendent recommends approval of the 10-year Health Life Safety Plan as presented by the architectural firm, FGM with the plan written. Lamore made a **motion** to approve the 10-year Health Life Safety Plan as presented. Skertich seconded the motion. On a roll call vote: Renner, Skertich, Kinder, Lamore and Tingle voted to approve the 10-year Health Life Safety Plan as presented. Legendre and Peterson absent.

VII. New Business

A. First reading of Updates and revisions to Board Policies

All policy revisions and the PRESS memo sheet will be looked over and recommendations will be made at our next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

B. Discussion of SHS Auditorium Lighting

Our gym lights are obsolete and replacement bulbs are nearly impossible to find. The District last sought designs and estimates for upgrades to auditorium lighting in 2017. At that time plans to make any upgrades were tabled to time and cost restraints. Recently, the District was the recipient of a donation of \$11,000 from the family of Tori Carroll in her memory with the intent to upgrade lighting in the auditorium. Mr. Cox will contact Matt Keller, GHP, to put together a package to determine size, scope, and timing of any such project. He told the Board that they will probably need to decide at next month's meeting whether to accept the Carroll's generous donation and add school money to complete the

upgrade this year, or wait until other donations are added to the fund and completely pay off the lighting upgrade with all donation funding.

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

Lamore made a **motion** to go into executive session at 8:12 pm in the unit library. Tingle seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Renner, Skertich, Kinder, Lamore and Tingle (Legendre and Peterson absent) voted to go into executive session to discuss:

- A. 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.**
- B. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6) – The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body.**

Roll call to Open Session

Lamore made a **motion** to return to the regular order of business at 8:29 p.m. Tingle seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Renner, Skertich, Kinder, Lamore and Tingle voted to return to the regular order of business. Legendre and Peterson absent.

IX. Action as a Result of Closed Session

A. Approval of Personnel Report

a. Recognition of Resignation(s) and Retirements-

1. The Board recognizes the resignation of Tina Posey as a cook. Ms. Posey will accept a position with Opaa! Food Services and remain a cook with Staunton CUSD #6.

b. Recommendations for Hire-

1. Custodian- Laurie Bernardini

c. Approval Volunteers- Model United Nations Sponsor – Brad Fulk

d. Approval of Maternity/Paternity Leave request:

- The Board recognizes the maternity leave request for Kara Schulte from January 4, 2019-March 29-2019
- The Board recognizes the paternity leave request for Steve Shor from February 22, 2019 – March 8, 2019.

e. Approval of Employee(s) 30 Day Unpaid Leave of Absence-

- The Board approves an unpaid leave of absence for Diane DalPazzo from September 21, 2018 through October 15th, 2018
- The Board approves an unpaid leave of absence for Lori Hassard from September 21, 2018 through October 15th, 2018

f. Approval of extension of Transportation Director Contract- Brandon Ray Effective July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019 with an automatic annual renewal.

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

X. Correspondence

A Thank You note from Net Community Church expressing appreciation to the school for allowing them to temporarily use the school facilities for their congregational meetings was read. They will open their new church to the public on September 23, 2018.

XI. General Discussion

A question was raised about the lack of reporting (by our coaches) of team scores on the new school app.

XII. Adjournment

With no further business Kinder made a **motion** for adjournment. Renner seconded the motion. All members present voted for adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, October 15th, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the high school library.

Dave Lamore, Secretary Staunton School District.