

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 Tuesday, February 19th, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Vice President Renner acknowledged Kelly Costa, reporter from the Staunton Star Times, and Derrick Taylor (school board candidate).

## **III. Consent Agenda**

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

### **B. Approval of Minutes Regular and Closed Meetings from January 2019 and Public Hearing for the Sale of Bonds**

### **C. Acceptance of Donations:** None this month

### **D. 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, and Peterson voted to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Lamore, Legendre, and Tingle absent.

## **IV. Administrator Reports**

### **A. Principal reports**

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

- **Family Engagement:**

Mrs. Newton has been working with our Pre-K parents and holding Family Engagement Events. This month she had a Food and Meal Planning on February 4<sup>th</sup> and she will have an all family event on February 21<sup>st</sup> with Dot the Story Teller. Events are well attended. She is also running the Parent Lending Library and she has had several families check out materials to work with their children.

- **Olympiad and Spelling Bees:**

Our students in the elementary will be competing in the Olympiad and Spelling Bee that the Regional Office of Education 40 has each year. Grades 3-8 competed in teams of four for the Olympiad and each grade 4-8 held a spelling bee and the top two students will move on to the regional competition. The Olympiad competitions are a good way for students to work in teams and solve problems using reasoning skills, designing and building structures, and learning how to solve problems in new and innovative ways.

- Spelling Bee Qualifiers 2019:

4th Grade: Matthew Brister and Brielle Mitchelar

5th Grade: Mason Vollentine and Luke Tebbe

- Olympiad Teams Grades 3-5:

3rd Grade: 4th Grade: 5th Grade:  
Grace Cline Madelyn Davin Aadi Patel  
Aiden Saracco Cadence Miller Vera Townsend  
Emily Eldred Izzabell Janus Matthew Weitzel  
Blaine Sievers Luke Moore Brooklynne Barnes

- **Work with consulting firm:**

The Elementary team began work with the AIR, American Institute for Research, to start the process of school improvement for our areas identified as underperforming. One of the representatives began working with all teachers and staff districtwide on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 during our half-day in-service.

### **Jr High Report-Ryan McGowen**

#### **Sports:**

- Both teams in Volleyball are undefeated in conference. Each team has 1 loss on the season. Staunton Junior High will be hosting 8th grade regionals. Scholastic Bowl has a record of 3-1 for the A squad and 2-2 for the B squad. Boys basketball has completed their season. Track will be hosting a county meet on April 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- 5K challenge is set for Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 pm.
- Dates for the 2019 Olympiad have been set. 5th/6th grade competed on February 12<sup>th</sup>. 7th/8th will compete on February 25<sup>th</sup>. Both events are held in Brighton.  
6th graders: Cole Rucker, Michael Brand, Priya Siegfried, Lilly Bandy  
7th graders: Lilly Burke, Taylor Nolan, Blake Parish, Sarah Wright  
8th graders: Trent Becker, Maia Dothager, Jacob Dillon, Brenna Horton
- **State testing** may begin March 11<sup>th</sup>. Students will be testing on ELA and Math. They will be taking the test on Chromebooks and computers.
- **Dance:** Junior High will be hosting a dance for all students grades 6-8 on Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Dance will start at 6:30 and end at 9:00 pm.
- **Terrier Night** will be May 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm.
- Junior high started working with American Institute for Research. We have been working on areas identified by the state which we are underperforming. See PLAN.
- On February 15<sup>th</sup>, faculty had a school improvement in the pm. AIR presented on MTSS (multiple tiered support services).
- 8th grade promotion has been set for Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 9am.

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

- FFA Week is underway (February 19<sup>th</sup> - February 22<sup>nd</sup>)  
Monday – No School  
Tuesday – Muddiest Truck Day / Camo Day  
Wednesday – Redneck Day  
Thursday – Drive Your Tractor Day / Faculty Appreciation Day / FFA T-Shirt Day  
\*Lunch will be provided to all teachers and staff in the Ag Shop  
Friday – Flannel Friday / Barnyard Day
- Students have completed the registration process for next school year. Mrs. Cress and Mr. Allen will start developing the schedule and deciding on the course offerings over the next few weeks.
- Mr. Allen congratulated Lydia Roller on being named ‘Runner of the Year’ by the Springfield Road Runners Club. The club donated \$250 to the SHS cross country program in Lydia's honor.
- On February 14<sup>th</sup>, members of the Bulldog Business Club attended the Macoupin County CEO B.O.L.D. Conference in Carlinville which featured motivational speaker Eric Thomas.

- The National Honor Society Induction Ceremony will be held at 7:00 PM in the Auditorium on Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>.
- The Spring Choir Recital will be held on Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Auditorium.
- The Student Council Talent Show will be held on Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Auditorium.

**Professional Development:**

- SIP Day - High School Staff received introductory training on implementing a Multi-Tiered System of Support for students. Additionally, the High School Improvement Team met and rated SHS on the quality frameworks rubric.
- Staff will be attending a training on a new program entitled ‘Capturing Kids Hearts’ which focuses on restorative justice methodologies to implement for discipline.

**B. Superintendent Dan Cox Report**

**Kaskaskia Division Meeting**

Superintendent Cox informed the Board that the Kaskaskia Division of the Illinois Association of School Boards will conduct their spring meeting on Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at Carlinville High School. The main speaker will be Dr. Julie Murray-Jensen, President of Blackburn College.

**Finance**

**Grant/Transportation Audits:** The Illinois State Board of Education has completed its’ audit of the District’s Title I, Title II, and Early Child Grants as well as the regular and special education transportation programs. There were no findings for any of the grants. There were some minor findings in transportation as a result of some long-standing historical practices in pre-k route reimbursement. These findings will result in an adjustment of \$11,694. Much work has been done over the past three years to improve all of these programs and many people deserve recognition for that but Mr. Cox especially wanted to recognize the hard work of Nancy Werden, Leslie Gusewelle, Trish Steelman, Angie Abernathy, and Brandon Ray for the incredible work they have done.

**TRS Audit:** A TRS audit was conducted on February 11<sup>th</sup>. There were no findings. Mr. Cox commended Trish Steelman for the excellent work she does in maintaining all employment records.

**Property Tax Relief Grant**

The awards for the Property Tax Relief Grant have been announced. Staunton CUSD #6 was not awarded any funds, finishing 366 of the 373 District eligible to apply. Eligibility is calculated at Local Capacity Percentage (28%) along with several other factors. A quick analysis shows 28 districts were awarded the funds of which a total was \$56,956,530. Of those four districts are Tier 4 (spending over 100% adequacy), two are Tier 3, and seven are Tier 2. These districts will get more dollars moving forward as a result of their base funding minimum being increased from the grant.

**Moody’s Investors Service Annual Comment on Staunton CUSD #6**

Staunton CUSD 6's credit position is favorable. Notable credit factors include a very strong financial position, a small pension liability and a light debt burden. It also reflects a healthy wealth and income profile and a narrow tax base.

**School Improvement**

**Grade Level/Department Meetings**

Meetings with grade level and departments are completed. Discussions about various things that are going well, on-going needs, and ideas of how to address those needs have been productive and on-going.

## **ESSA/School Report Card Focus Group**

Mr. Cox was asked to be a part of a focus group of superintendents, union representatives, and regional superintendents to meet with ISBE officials to discuss potential changes to ESSA requirements and the School Report Card. Mr. Cox stressed the importance for our District to be represented and have voice in these types of discussions as the decisions impact our ability to serve our students. Many things were discussed but one of particular significance was the funding for designated schools (targeted/comprehensive). Currently schools receive funding only for each year of designation. The discussion centered around providing three years of funding for designated schools to provide for sustained school improvement.

## **District/School Leadership Team Meetings**

District and school leadership teams are meeting regularly for school improvement. Quality Framework Rubrics, detailed work plans, and goals have been developed.

## **Legislation/Advocacy**

**SB 1** would increase the minimum wage to \$15 per hour by 2025. The increase would be incremental until it reaches \$15 per hour. Our District would not be impacted until 2021. The total cost by 2025 based on today's wages is \$78,376 and does not account for compounding effects or collective bargaining implications. As long as the bill continues to include TRS as part of the minimum salary it would have minimal impact on Staunton Schools.

**Representative Bourne** visited Staunton Schools on February 11<sup>th</sup>. She was given a first-hand look into how we have used evidence-based funding for student learning during the current year. Mr. Cox said that it is important to communicate with our public and lawmakers about the difference evidence-based funding is making in our schools and why it is important that the state continues to work to fully fund schools by 2027.

### **1. Student Learning/District Improvement/Strategic Planning**

Work plans are required to be submitted to ISBE/IL Empower as part of the school improvement process to receive Title 1003a funds. Leadership Teams will meet monthly to support alignment to the district leadership plan, the implementation and monitoring of the school improvement plan including data protocols, monitoring, feedback processes. Two half-day sessions for all staff will be facilitated to support planning and implementation of an effective MTSS (Multi-Tiered Systems of Support) process. MTSS is more than RTI it looks at the whole child.

#### **a. Approval of SES & SJH School Improvement Work Plans**

The superintendent recommends approval of the school improvement work plans. Kinder made a **motion** to approve the school improvement work plans. Skertich seconded the motion. On a roll call vote: Renner, Skertich, Kinder, Legendre, Peterson and Tingle voted to approve the school improvement work plans as presented. Lamore, Legendre, and Tingle absent.

## **V. Financial Report**

### **A. Presentation of Cash Flow Projections**

The superintendent informed the Board of the cash flow analysis reports that he put together for the Board and to help him to look at the current budget and/or to guide planning for the upcoming fiscal year budget. While reminding the Board that this is just a projection and unforeseen problems made arise, he was very optimistic. In summary, he projects an Ending Cash and Investment Balance on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 of \$3,297,472.

## **VI. Unfinished Business**

### **A. Consideration and Possible Approval of Interior/Exterior Lock Replacement Bids**

Upon completion of the project all classroom doors will lock from the interior and will be master keyed. A bid opening was held on Monday, 11/19/2018. There were only two bids and there was a big discrepancy in the total bids. Superintendent Cox recommended last month that we reject all bids and begin anew on this project, new bid specs need to be written up.

### **Stephanie Legendre entered the meeting at 7:45pm**

#### **B. Approval of Updates and revisions to Board of Education Policies**

All policy revisions and the PRESS memo sheet were reviewed. The Board considered preferred options presented with policies.

Policies for Adoption Include:

- 2:80 Board Member Oath and Conduct – Six responsibilities were added to the oath of office.
- 2:120 Board Member Development – Updated in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/10-22.6
- 4:130 Free and Reduced-Priced Food Services – Reflected changes to the Hunger-Free Students’ Bill of Rights Act
- 4:170 Safety – Updated in accordance with 105 ILCS 128/20
- 5:30 Hiring Process and Criteria – Updated in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/10-16.7, 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(b), 105 ILCS 5/21B-10.
- 5:60 Expenses – **Option** – “The District is not responsible for losses due to an employee’s own negligence, losses due to normal wear, or losses due to theft, unless the theft was a result of the District’s negligence. Recommended to include.
- 5:100 Staff Development Program – Updated in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/10-22.39.(b), 105 ILCS 5/10-22.6(c-5).
- 5:220 – Substitute Teachers– 105 ILCS 5/21B-20(4) – governs Short-Term Substitute Teaching Licenses, which may be issued from 7/1/1 until 6/20/23. Licenses are not eligible for endorsements. Applicants must hold an associate’s degree or have completed at least 60 credit hours from a regionally accredited institution of higher education. Individuals may not be hired for teacher absences lasting six or more days. A training program for short-term substitute teachers and is subject to board approval. Training is to include information on curriculum, classroom management techniques, school safety, and district and building operations. Training is subject to collective bargaining and must be coordinated with the union.
- 6:20 – Instructional Day Defined – Updated to reflect changes to current school calendar. Note, this policy may be changed again pending current legislation.
- 6:60 – Curriculum Content – Driver Education will include instruction necessary for the safe operation of motor vehicles, including motorcycles, required safety and driving precautions that must be observed at emergency situations, highway construction and maintenance zones, and railroad crossings and their approaches.
- 6:220 - Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT); Responsible Use and Conduct – Legal reference update.
- 6:310 – Credit for Alternative Courses and Programs, and Course Substitutions – defines interscholastic and extracurricular athletic programs as “those programs that are sponsored by the school district as defined by school district policy.”
- 7:70 – Attendance and Truancy – Updated in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/10-22.6(c-5) and 105 ILCS 5/26-12 – A truant minor may not be expelled for nonattendance unless he or she has accrued 15 consecutive days of absences without valid cause and the student cannot be located by the school district or the school district has located the student but cannot, after exhausting all available support services, compel the student to return to school.
- 7:100 – Health, Eye and Dental Examinations, Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students – Updated in accordance with The Communicable Disease Prevention Act and the School Code.
- 7:190 – Student Behavior – 105 ILCS 5/22-33 (Ashley’s Law) provides that school districts “shall authorize a parent or guardian or any other individual registered with the Ill. Dept. of

Public Health as a designated caregiver of a qualifying patient to administer a medical cannabis infused product to the student on the premises of the child's school or on the child's school bus if the both the student and the parent or guardian or other individual have been issued registry identification cards under the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act.”

- 7:250 – Student Support Services - Updated for Continuous Improvement
- 7:260 – Exemption from Physical Education – Updated in accordance to 23 Ill. Admin. Code 1.425 – The Board may adopt additional edits if desired.
- 7:270 – Administering Medicines to Students – **Option** – Please read School District Supply of Undesignated Asthma Medication Carefully. At this time consultations on this entire policy or ongoing with school legal counsel and the school nurse.
- 7:290 – Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention – Updated in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/10-22.39.
- 7:305 Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries – Updated in accordance with 20 ILCS 2310-307 – A concussion brochure is required to be distributed to any student or parent/guardian of a student who may have sustained a concussion, regardless of whether or not the concussion occurred while the student was participating in an interscholastic athletic activity.
- 7:340 – Student Records – Optional Sentence – “State and federal law grants students and parents/guardians’ certain rights, including the right to inspect, copy, and challenge school student records.”

The superintendent recommended approval of the updates and revisions to Board of education policy as presented, except for 5:220 and 7:270 they will be brought back to the Board after more discussion with union and council. Kinder made a **motion** to approve the updates and revisions to Board of education policy as presented. Renner seconded the motion. On a roll call vote: Renner, Kinder, Legendre, Peterson, and Skertich voted to approve the updates and revisions to Board of education policy. Lamore and Tingle were absent.

### **C. Approval of Gasoline Bid**

The Board agreed at their last regularly scheduled meeting to accept the gasoline bid from Sieveking. Upon final review of the bids it was noticed that Sieveking did not include fuel tax in their gasoline bid and M&M Fuel Service did include fuel tax. The M&M Cost plus tax is .351. When figuring in tax to the Sieveking bid the total cost is .381. Therefore, the Board rejects their motion to accept the gasoline bid from Sieveking, and instead accept the bid from M&M. The superintendent recommends approval of the M&M Fuel Services bid of .351 for gasoline. Kinder made a **motion** to approve M&M Fuel Services bid of .351 for gasoline. Renner seconded the motion. On a roll call vote: Renner, Kinder, Legendre, Peterson, and Skertich voted to approve the M&M Fuel Services bid of .351 for gasoline. Lamore and Tingle were absent.

## **VII. New Business**

### **A. Discussion of Closed Campus Lunch for SHS Freshmen**

The Board was given information to consider eliminating open campus lunch for SHS Freshmen beginning the 2019-2020 school year. Reducing risk factors (‘on track’, chronic absenteeism, and truancy) for freshmen is paramount to their continued success through high school. Students who finish the ninth-grade year on track are almost four times as likely to graduate from high school as students who are not on track. The cafeteria does have the capacity to hold all freshmen during lunch. With the improved food service program and additional options planned for high school students next year the overall quality and experience of on-campus dining options is high. Closing campus for freshmen will reduce opportunities for off-campus discipline, truancy, and chronic absenteeism.

## **B. Discussion of Adding a School Resource Officer**

A school resource officer (SRO) is a full-time law enforcement officer with sworn law enforcement authority, trained in school-based policing and crisis response, assigned by the employing law enforcement agency to work with the school using community-oriented policing concepts. According to the Department of Justice, in addition to serving as law enforcement, SROs can also serve the role of informal counselor, educator, and emergency manager. Specific duties and responsibilities of the SROs a school district should be detailed in a Memorandum of Understanding between the local law enforcement agency and the school district. The Board was informed about the roles and responsibilities of a school resource officer. The cost would be approx. \$60,000 for the full school year.

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

Skertich made a **motion** to go into executive session at 8:35pm in the unit library. Kinder seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Renner, Skertich, Kinder, Legendre, and Peterson (Lamore and Tingle were 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.**
- C. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) – Litigation, when and 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 in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting**

## **Roll call to Open Session**

Legendre made a **motion** to return to the regular order of business at 9:25 p.m. Kinder seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Renner, Kinder, Legendre, and Peterson voted to return to the regular order of business. Lamore and Tingle were absent.

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

### **A. Approval of Personnel Report**

- a. Recognition of Resignation(s)/Retirement(s)-Kyle McBrain as HS Girls basketball Coach**
- b. Approval of Recommendations for Hire**
  - 1. Counselor- Sarah Kilpatrick will assume full time duties within Staunton Elementary/Jr High School upon termination of an Intergovernmental with Southwestern CUSD #9 for shared service**
  - 2. Custodians- Mary Griffith and Ida Iris Hubert**
  - 3. Bus driver-Kelly Streubel**
  - 4. SJS Track Coach-Joshua Clark**
  - 5. Substitute teacher- Leisa Grimm**
- c. Approval of volunteers**
  - 1. SHS Track Coach-Neil Guetterman**
- d. Approval of Sequence of Honorable dismissal List**
- e. Recognition of Maternity leave-Tiffany Schwalb effective April 23, 2019**

Renner made a **motion** to approve the Personnel report as presented. Skertich seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Renner, Skertich, Kinder, Legendre, and Peterson voted to approve the Personnel Report. Lamore, and Tingle were absent.

**X. Correspondence: none**

**XI. General Discussion:** Just an FYI, boys' basketball coop with Mt. Olive is a topic of discussion at the Mt. Olive School Board meeting.

**XII. Adjournment**

With no further business Peterson made a **motion** for adjournment. Renner seconded the motion. All members present voted for adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 9:28 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the high school library.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Peterson, Board member.