

April 27, 2017
Serena, IL

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held Thursday, April 27, 2017, in the Serena High School library. The following members were present: Neal Rosengren, Lesley LaRock, Don McNelis, Susan McNelis, Randy Murley, David Myer, and Renee Thompson, Superintendent Marty Felesena, Principals Steve Hanson, Joe Landers, and Aaron Rios were also in attendance. Randy Goodbred came later to the meeting.

The meeting was called to order by President Rosengren at 6:15 p.m. After roll call, the motion was made by R. Thompson, and seconded by Murley to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel, student discipline and review of minutes.

It was moved by LaRock and seconded by R. Thompson to come out of executive session and enter into the regular meeting at 6:56 p.m. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

President Rosengren requested approval of the agenda. Visitors were John Vezzetti, Ann Hoffmann, Jeanne Felesena and five District parents.

President Rosengren asked for public comment. There was none.

There was no correspondence.

Motion was made by R. Thompson and seconded by Myer to approve Consent Agenda 042717a Items IX A thru G. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

The board meeting was adjourned and the board reorganization meeting began.

Roll call was taken with new board members. Neal Rosengren served as President Pro Tem to oversee agenda items XIII and XIV.

The new members (Kale Duffy, Dan McNally, Stephanie Thompson and Lesley LaRock) took the Oath of Office. President Rosengren reviewed the Code of Conduct, Conflicts of Interest, Ethics and Gift Ban, Travel Reimbursement Procedures and Mandated Board Trainings with the new members.

New officers were elected for a 2-year term.

President – Neal Rosengren was nominated. Motion was made by McNelis, seconded by LaRock. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Vice President – Don McNelis was nominated by R. Thompson and Lesley LaRock was nominated by Rosengren. Motion was made by Rosengren, seconded by Duffy. On roll call, Rosengren and LaRock voted for LaRock; Duffy, McNally, McNelis, S. Thompson and R. Thompson voted for McNelis. McNelis received 5 votes to LaRock's 2 votes. Don McNelis was elected Vice-President.

Secretary – R. Thompson was nominated. Motion was made by Rosengren, seconded by LaRock. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Treasurer – Gerald Castelli. Motion was made by McNelis, seconded by R. Thompson. On roll call, those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Committee Appointments

Finance Committee – Neal Rosengren and Dan McNally (*August, October, January, April*)

Academic Goals Committee – Stephanie Thompson and Lesley LaRock (*August, May*)

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Renee Thompson and Dan McNally (*September, February*)

Faculty and Board Discussion Committee – Kale Duffy and Lesley LaRock (*November or December*)

Enrollment and Development Committee – Neal Rosengren and Renee Thompson (*March*)

Health Insurance Committee – Stephanie Thompson and Renee Thompson (*fall and spring*)

Support Staff Salaries Committee – Renee Thompson and Kale Duffy (*June*)

Policy Committee – Stephanie Thompson and Don McNelis (*ongoing*)

IVVC Representative – Don McNelis

IASB Delegate – Neal Rosengren (*November Conference*)

Motion to reaffirm the 2017 Board Meeting Calendar, as presented, was made by S. Thompson, with a second by LaRock. On roll call, those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda 042717b Item A was made by LaRock, seconded by R. Thompson. On roll call, those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Reports –

Enrollment Report – As of March 31, 2017 the District total was 673 students. That was down 1 from last month. Supt. Felesena talked about the Disappearing Enrollment Phenomenon.

Finance Committee Report – President Rosengren reported that the CPPRT payment was more than expected. \$283,000 was received in early April. The local property tax payment is almost 100% received. State revenue is way behind, but trickling in. Money has been released to the Comptroller’s office. The Comptroller will not release it. No reason has been given. The District received \$244,000 this week. Expenses should come out within budget. Projected budget was \$10 million. Actual at this time is \$7 million. O and M might go over a little due to the recent Sheridan brownout.

Supt. Felesena urged everyone to write State legislators urging them to release funds to the schools. The District is 110% funded this year and 77% funded for next year.

President Rosengren said the District has \$3.6 million to pay off by 2023. He said the District should be able to maintain a stable tax rate for the next four years.

Supt. Felesena said there continues to be no State budget at this time.

John Vezzetti from Bernardi Securities (Municipal Bond Specialists) talked about an opportunity to refinance half of the District bonds from 2007 to save approximately \$120,000.

IVVC Report – Don McNelis reported the awards night will be May 11th at Timber Creek in Plano. The Fire Science class will hold a mock school bus crash. Three CTI disbursements were released. There are four to go. CNA students went to a Health Occupation competition in Decatur. Many students placed in the top ten. (1300 students attended.)

Policy Committee – The Illinois School Board Association recommends policy changes for the committee to vote on. Tonight is the first reading for that group of policies.

Principal Reports

Principal Hanson reported that Mock Prom will be held May 1st. There will be a senior meeting on Tuesday morning. Prom Walk is at 5:00 on Friday, May 5th. Graduation is on Saturday, May 13th in the gym.

Principal Landers recognized the students who went to Grand Bear Lodge for the Young Authors Awards Banquet. He also recognized the April ACE students of the Month. He invited everyone to visit the Jr. High Science Fair on Friday, May 12th at 12:00. He reported that the end of year Awards Breakfast will be held on Wednesday, May 24th at 8:20a.m. He said they will select 2 Eagleriffic recipients from the year to win a Kindle Fire donated by the 6-7-8 Club.

Principal Rios reported that the 5th graders have their solar system projects on display in the hallway. The 4th and 5th graders will be skyping with park rangers from Yellowstone National Park next Friday. The rangers will talk about wildlife at the park and teach the students about why it's important to protect the Earth. The 8th graders went to Springfield today. They met Representatives Keith Wheeler and Jerry Long. He thanked Colleen Perez and Bonnie McCaslin for coaching Scholastic Bowl this year. He congratulated this year's young Authors winners. He said that SGS will be raising money for tornado victims next week by having students pay to do different activities. They can break rules, wear hats, chew gum and tape Principal Rios to the wall next Friday. He recognized Excellence in Education award winner Nicole Znaniecki.

Supt. Felesena said the Harding roof repair bids are due May 9th at 2:00 p.m, at the architect's office. He recognized the Excellence in Education award winners Kelly Baker, Carrie Browder, Nicole Znaniecki, Julie Brown, and Marci Glade, He also recognized Jim Wajrowski, Evelyn Fullmer, Jim Farson and Dave Myer (12-yr. School Board member) who are retiring this year. Teacher Board Discussion Items – things were resolved without having a formal meeting. There were concerns about the reorganization including compensation for the move. There were also concerns about storage in the new classrooms. State funding – Supt. Felesena encourages taxpayers to write their legislators. He reminded everyone to send their Economic Interest Statements to Donna Maurer.

Dan McNally brought up the water fountain drinking water. Supt. Felesena said that all water in the District has passed the required tests.

Discussion/Informational Items –

Board Session Work Date – a date in May for board members to go over the policies and procedures was discussed. Possible dates include May 2, 9, 11 (4:00 p.m.), 13, 15, 16, 17, or 18. Student Services Contract – the District renewal contract with Hillman Pediatric for OT and PT was discussed.

8th Grade Trip – Principal Landers said that Key Lime Cove will be undergoing renovations in May. A new hotel could not be found. Instead, they will do an all-day trip to Six Flags on Friday, May 19th. They will use charter buses, stop for breakfast and give each student some spending money. Letters were sent to parents explaining the change. No principals have received any calls from parents at this point in time.

Reorganization Update – Supt. Felesena said that teachers got together on the April 17th Teachers' Institute to talk about next year. Teachers will hand in supply requests shortly. Letters

have been sent home to parents with next year's assignments. Letters were sent to all MS students with each student's class information. Principal Landers talked about consistency and structure for all schools. Teams have been meeting to discuss curriculum and new programs. There will be more digital lessons. Field trips will be the same for each grade level. Principal Rios talked about the MS plans for a new structure with Purple, Gold and White teams. Exploratory programs will mix the teams. Supt. Felesena said that teachers must be finished packing by June 5th and not allowed back in school until August 1st. Projects to be done over the summer include gym floor refinishing, a new sound system in the vintage gym, a wall in the GS library, new bathroom fixtures, new scoreboards in the vintage gym, lockers refinished and a new sign in front. As of today there are 19 kindergarten students expected at Sheridan and 14 kindergarten students expected at Harding.

Action Items –

Motion to accept the resignation of Jennifer Leonard as School Social Worker, effective immediately, was made by S. Thompson and seconded by LaRock. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to accept the resignation of Geoff Pierce as Transportation Director, effective June 30, 2017, was made by R. Thompson and seconded by McNelis. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to employ Alexis Coultrip as 5th and 6th grade Cheerleading Coach for the 2017-2018 school year was made by McNelis and seconded by R. Thompson. On roll call, all those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the 8th Grade Trip, as presented, was made by Duffy and seconded by S. Thompson. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to renew the District's contract with Hillman Pediatric for OT and PT services, as presented, was made by R. Thompson and seconded by McNally. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.


Motion to approve board Policies 2:100, 3:70 (w/option), 4:15, 4:130-E, 5:120, 5:230, 5:285, 5:300, 6:70 and 7:100 (w/both options) for a first reading was made by LaRock, seconded by R. Thompson. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to adopt Board Resolution 2017-C authorizing the issuance of General Obligation School Refunding Bonds, Series 2017, of Serena Community Unit District 2, LaSalle County, Illinois not to exceed \$1,450,000 for the purpose of refinancing certain outstanding indebtedness of the District and paying the costs related thereto was made by McNelis, seconded by R. Thompson. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.


Motion to approve the bond and interest payment not to exceed \$103,688 to Heartland Bank & Trust on or before June 1, 2017 was made by R. Thompson, and seconded by S. Thompson. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

President Rosengren asked for any other public comment. There was none.

Motion to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. was made by S. Thompson, seconded by LaRock. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.



Neal Rosengren, President



Renee Thompson, Secretary