

December 19, 2019
Serena, IL

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Thursday, December 19, 2019, in the library at Serena High School. The following members were present: Renee Thompson, Justin DeBolt, Dan McNally in at 6:10 p.m., Gary McNelis, Susan McNelis, and Stephanie Thompson. Joe Cantlin was absent.

Also in attendance: Superintendent Spencer Byrd, Principals Angie Merboth, Randy Goodbred, and Assistant Principal Ann Hoffmann.

The meeting was called to order by President R. Thompson at 6:07 p.m. After roll call, the motion was made by S. McNelis with a second by J. DeBolt 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) pending litigation; and (5) review of executive session minutes 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 7:18 p.m., was made by S. McNelis, seconded by G. McNelis. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

President R. Thompson led the Pledge of Allegiance. She then requested approval of the agenda. The agenda was approved as presented.

President R. Thompson requested any changes be made to the Agenda. There were none.

There were no items of correspondence.

FFA Advisor Chad Mahler and the FFA Officers presented poinsettias and fruit baskets to the board members and administrators and thanked them for all of their support. In addition, they presented their second quarterly report, which included a synopsis of activities that took place in November and December.

President R. Thompson requested public comment. The following individual addressed the Board: Ben Beal.

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

Reports –

Enrollment Report – 656 students in the District.

Finance Committee Report – The committee met with John Vezzetti from Bernardi Securities who presented the 2019 Annual Report. Some of our bonds will be coming off the books in the next couple of years, so there will be some decisions to make regarding capital projects. A survey needs to be completed in order to decide what project to do next.

Principals Report –

Principal Merboth congratulated December Ace Award recipients: Kindergarten – Braxton Boe, 1st Grade – Deegan Kelly, 2nd Grade – Kaleb Duffy, 3rd Grade – Mia Bujnowski, and 4th Grade – Ryne DeBernardi. Harding students participated in the 2nd Quarter celebration on December 19th. Christmas rotations will be held on December 20. The PTO room moms will head up activities for students throughout the morning. The Annual Paul Miller Raffle will also be held on December 20th with over 100 donations from families and Community members. A local donation was given to provide Christmas gifts and dinners for families in need throughout the district.

Assistant Principal Ann Hoffmann recognized December Students of the Month: 5th Grade – Maddie Domin, 6th Grade – Lily Benjamin, 7th Grade – Maddie Schramm, 8th Grade – Kenzie Manke, 9th Grade – Alexis Linder, 10th Grade – Jenica Peura, 11th Grade – Jackie Lee, 12th Grade – Elly Kuhn. Congratulations to our State Scholars: Macy Rodrick, Ashton Rodrick, Cheyenne Banister, and Tara Dejacimo. Congratulations also to IVVC Outstanding Winter Students: True Kempiaak, Robert Falling, and Cassandra May. Mrs. Hoffmann thanked the following individuals: Mrs. Kempiaak for organizing a successful career fair; Mrs. Dierzen for organizing the Feed My Starving Children field trip for the middle school; and Mrs. Hohenberger for working with the Student Council who collected canned good and monetary donations for the Sheridan Food Pantry.

Principal Goodbred – Congratulations to December A.C.E. Students: Kindergarten – Danni Cummins and Emily Sanchez, 1st Grade – Lilly Young and Vinnie Biagioni, 2nd Grade – Fiona Nitsche, 3rd Grade – Kate Hoffman and Adelyn Stark, 4th Grade – Tyler Cartwright and Olivia Kember. December Cardinal Award Winners: Kindergarten – Nova Esparza and Declan McMahan, 1st Grade – Noah Latsch and Ruby Chelsen, 2nd Grade – Makayla Henderson, 3rd Grade – Faith McCombs and Brody Muffler, 4th Grade – Noah Heubel and Emma Cummins. PTO sponsored their Santa's Workshop for students on December 18th, where students were able to buy presents for their parents. PTO had a very successful Holiday Raffle, which is their largest fundraiser. They donated money to each classroom so each student received a book as a Christmas gift. The students, staff, and community collected many items for the Sheridan Food Pantry. Over \$200 was donated as well. The Christmas program held on December 12th was well attended for both performances. Donations were distributed to families in need this holiday season.

Middle School Athletics – The 5th/6th Grade Boys Basketball team finished up their season on December 19th. Mr. Goodbred thanked Chris Bjork for coaching both boys teams and Sarah Hoffman for all of her hard work with the cheerleaders. The 6th Grade took 4th place in the Wallace Tournament. The 7th Grade Basketball team finished 12-4 in the Jr. 10 Conference for 3rd place. The 8th Grade Basketball team finished 14-2 in the Jr. 10 Conference for 2nd place. They also took 2nd place in the Al Stegman Holiday Classic. The Junior 10 Conference Tournament was held December 16-19. Mr. Goodbred also thanked Kale Duffy and Jacob Stark for all of their hard work

with the boys and Amber Skinner for coaching the cheerleaders. Awards night for the basketball season will held on January 14 at 5:00p.m. in the Vintage Gym.

Superintendent Report – Dave Mathis, the Health Life Safety inspector from the Regional Office of Education, visited all of the schools with Mike McCoy on December 18th - 19th. No major issues were found.

The School Maintenance Project Grant application period is open from December 9, 2019, through February 14, 2020. There is approximately \$44 million available for the FY 2020. Any school district, cooperative high school, Type 40 area vocational center, or special education cooperative may apply for the grant. There is a HLS project coming up this summer. Tuckpointing for the entire District will cost \$113,150. If the approved for this grant, the state will award the District \$50,000.

Discussion/Informational Items – There were none.

Action Items –

Motion to approve the employment of a full-time cafeteria worker, Paula Hicks, for the 2019-2020, was made by McNally, seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the SADD stipend employment of Pete Morsovillo, for the 2019-2020 school year, was made by S. Thompson, seconded by S. McNelis. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the posting of an Instructional Interventionist at the Middle School for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, was made by S. McNelis, seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Bus Driver Training proposal for new substitute bus drivers for the 2019-2020 school year, was made by DeBolt, seconded by G. McNelis. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the second and final reading of the 2020 Meeting Calendar for the Board of Education, was made by G. McNelis, seconded by S. McNelis. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.


Motion to approve the FFA overnight trip request form from February 7th to February 8th, 2020, to attend the 212-Degree Leadership Conference in Decatur, was made by S. Thompson, seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

President R. Thompson requested any further public comment. The following addressed the Board: James Beal, Julie Ajster, Elizabeth Kempiaak, and James Helling,

Motion to enter back into executive session at 8:14 p.m. was made by DeBolt, seconded by S. McNelis. On roll call, those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to come out of executive session at 11:12 p.m., was made by S. McNelis, seconded by G. McNelis. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn at 11:12 p.m., was made by S. McNelis, seconded by G. McNelis. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.



Renee Thompson, President



Stephanie Thompson, Secretary