

August 1, 2019
Serena, IL

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Thursday, August 1, 2019, in the library at Serena High School. The following members were present: Joe Cantlin, Justin DeBolt, Kale Duffy, Dan McNally, Gary McNelis, and Stephanie Thompson. Renee Thompson was absent.

Also in attendance: Superintendent Spencer Byrd, Principals Aaron Rios, Ann Hoffmann, Randy Goodbred, and Angie Merboth. Mike McCoy, Bobby Falling, Paige Hamill and Jessica Smith were also present.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Duffy at 6:17 p.m. After roll call, the motion was made by McNelis with a second by DeBolt to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body; school safety; student discipline, sale or disposal of real estate; and review of executive session minutes. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to come out of executive session at 7:49 p.m., was made by DeBolt, seconded by McNally. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Vice President Duffy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice President Duffy requested any changes to be made to the Agenda. There was none.

Vice President Duffy requested public comment. There was none.

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

Reports:

Finance Committee – The committee met to review last year's budget.

Insurance Committee – Joe Roberts from First Insurance Group met with employees to discuss health insurance options for the upcoming year. Teachers union is in favor of changing from Cigna to Blue Cross Blue Shield. BCBS needs to know by August 10th whether we want to transfer to them.

Enrollment – None

Principals Report –

Principal Rios announced Unpack the Backpack will be held on August 12th from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Freshman Open House will be held August 12th from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Transportation will be available for those who want to take advantage of it. Clubs and athletics will have a chance to

promote their programs. He also thanked Mike and the custodian summer work crew for their fantastic work done over the summer.

Assistant Principal Ann Hoffmann reported on the Husker Way. Two meetings have already been held. They have received a lot of great donations for prizes for students including: White Sox tickets, movie tickets, and spirit wear.

Principal Merboth gave an update on summer projects at Harding Grade School: HVAC above library has been replaced, water heater replaced, fence will be installed around playground prior to the start of school and pea gravel has been ordered for the playground. United Way has donated school supplies.

Balanced Literacy Update: 4th and 5th will attend classes this year. Mrs. Connell's class is fully implemented.

Preschool Update: Morning session is developmental preschool and students will attend Monday through Friday. Afternoon session is split between 3 and 4 year olds. 3 year olds will attend on Tuesday and Thursday. 4 year olds will attend on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Principal Goodbred gave an update on summer projects completed at Sheridan Grade School: new blacktop behind the school, parking and playground areas are sealed, new mulch around the building and trees courtesy of Harvest Chapel, and new gym lights to be installed soon. He also thanked Phil and Wyatt for all of their hard work this summer. Current enrollment is 138 students. Teachers have been working in their classrooms getting ready for new school year. Unpack the Backpack is scheduled for August 12 from 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Middle School Sports: Girls Softball started practice on July 29th. Currently, there are 13 girls on the team and coached by Kelly Baker. Boys Baseball is coached by Chad Baker and will start on August 5th. Middle School Soccer will start on August 14th and is coached by Bridget Faivre. 7th/8th Grade Volleyball will start on August 14th and is coached by Jenna Goldman. 5th/6th Girls' Basketball will start August 19th and is coached by Kale Duffy.

Superintendent Report –

Superintendent Byrd invited Maintenance Director Mike McCoy to give a report on the summer work completed and what is still left to do.

Discussion/Informational Items – Aaron is the principal who will be attending the School Board Convention this year in Chicago. Angie gave an update on Student Registration held today. Preregistration was successful in the spring: therefore, there was not a large turnout today. The secretaries will discuss options for next year to better utilize their time for registration.

Action Items –

Motion to approve the resignation of LaDonna Gale, Special Education and Transportation Secretary, effective July 31, 2019, was made by S. Thompson, seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the resignation of Driver, Tammy Rainbolt, effective immediately, was made by Cantlin, seconded by S. Thompson. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the resignation of Teacher Aide, Deanna Stropoli, effective July 1, 2019, was made by McNally, seconded by McNelis. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the resignation of Social Studies Teacher, Amanda Obenland, effective August 1, 2019, was made by DeBolt, seconded by S. Thompson. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to accept the retirement request of Diane Ball, as an elementary teacher effective June 30, 2023, was made by S. Thompson, seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the employment of Jessica Smith as IEP Counselor for the 2019-2020 school year, was made by McNally, seconded by S. Thompson. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to employ Bobby Falling as Full-Time Night Custodian for the 2019-2020 school year, was made by S. Thompson, seconded by McNelis. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to employ Austin Cullinan as Middle School/High School Social Studies Teacher for the 2019-2020 school year, was made by S. Thompson, seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to employ Renae Vollman as Special Education Support Staff for the 2019-2020 school year, was made by McNally, seconded by McNelis. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to employ Angela Konzal as a volunteer Junior High Girls Volleyball Coach for the 2019-2020 school year, was made by S. Thompson, seconded by McNally. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to employ Ruth Kowalski as Part-Time Special Education Driver for the 2019-2020 school year, was made by DeBolt, seconded by S. Thompson. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to employ Amy Rogowski as Guidance Counselor for the 2019-2020 school year, was made by McNally, seconded by McNelis. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

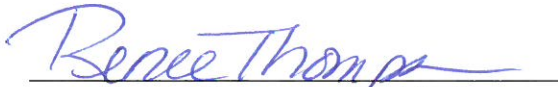
Motion to employ Megan Gavin as a Special Education Paraprofessional for the 2019-2020 school year was made by McNelis, seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

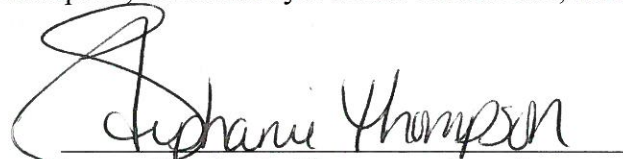
Motion to approve the promotion of James Helling to Lead Night Custodian effective for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year was made by S. Thompson, seconded by McNally. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the employee contracts for the 2019-2020 school year as presented was made by S. Thompson, seconded by Duffy. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Vice President Duffy requested any further public comment. There was none.

Motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. was made by S. Thompson, seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.


Renee Thompson, President


Stephanie Thompson, Secretary