

October 24, 2019
Serena, IL

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Thursday, October 24, 2019, in the library at Serena High School. The following members were present: Renee Thompson, Joe Cantlin, Justin DeBolt, Gary McNelis, Stephanie Thompson, Dan McNally in at 6:16 p.m., and Susan McNelis in at 6:10 p.m.

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

The meeting was called to order by President R. Thompson at 6:03 p.m. After roll call, the motion was made by S. Thompson with a second by 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 and (2) review of executive session minutes pursuant to the authority granted by 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) and (21) of the Open Meetings Act. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to come out of executive session at 7:28 p.m., was made by McNally, seconded by Cantlin. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

President R. Thompson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

FFA Officers Kara Freebairn, Ashton Rodrick and Rilan Rosengren presented their first quarterly report which included a summer recap, fall activities and upcoming events. They thanked the Board for supporting their organization.

Transportation Director Janice Jones shared information about current transportation concerns.

Tom Pepper from Gorenz & Associates presented the 2019 Annual Audit Report.

President R. Thompson requested public comment. There was none.

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

Reports –

Enrollment Report – 658 students in the District.

Finance Committee – A meeting was held and the following was discussed: investment portfolios, total surplus for all funds is over \$14 million, PMA investment balances, revenue from interest on investment was more than expected, EAV is increasing, and the tax levy.

Principals Report –

Principal Rios introduced SHS teacher Austin Cullinan who presented a sample District website. This was created using Google Sites, a more user-friendly and lower cost alternative to the current website the District uses. Principal Rios thanked teacher Jessica Kempiaik and students for helping clean up Camp Tuckabatchee after the recent storms.

Principal Goodbred congratulated October Cardinal Award Winners: Kindergarten - Owen Govednik and James Troutman, 1st Grade - Elle Peters and Eli Benjamin, 2nd Grade - Karter Walters, 3rd Grade - Louie Biagioni and Knoah Mosell, 4th Grade - Tucker Whiteaker and Olivia Kember. Parent-Teacher Conferences had a great turnout. Halloween Family Reading Night will be held on October 29 from 5-6 p.m.

Middle School Athletics – 7th Grade Volleyball team had a perfect 13-0 conference record and a perfect 19-0 regular season record. Soccer team finished 2nd place in the Jr. 10 Conference and placed 4th in the conference tournament. 8th Grade Volleyball placed 4th in the Junior 10 Conference as well. 5th Grade Girls Basketball finished up 15-0 and 6th Grade Girls Basketball 11-5. Boys' basketball has started practicing.

Principal Merboth congratulated October Ace Award recipients: Kindergarten – Warren Young, 1st Grade – Olivia Sterchi, 2nd Grade – Max Brodbeck, 3rd Grade – Kelsi Miller, and 4th Grade – Kane Rosengren. Harding Grade School was selected the recipient of a grant through the Starved Rock Yacht Club for the Developmental Preschool Program. They will be awarded \$500 on November 10th. Principals Merboth and Goodbred developed a screencast regarding Parent-Teacher Conferences and Standards Based Report Cards. This was shared on Harding and Sheridan's Facebook pages on October 18th, to provide information prior to Parent-Teacher Conferences.

Assistant Principal Ann Hoffmann recognized October Students of the Month: 5th Grade – Jared Dormer, 6th Grade – Marcus Baker, 7th Grade – Matthew Farrell, 8th Grade – Stephanie Wormsley, 9th Grade -William Woeltje, 10th Grade – Kaylin Kitzman, 11th Grade – Eugene Neustader, 12th Grade – Cheyenne Banister. Staffuly of the Month: Dean Derango (SHS) and Nikki Dierzen (SMS) and Brock Harp (SMS).

Superintendent Report – Superintendent Byrd thanked Transportation Director Janice Jones for sharing transportation concerns with the Board regarding the Preschool bus routes. The increasing number of preschool students is projected to be more than the capacity our current fleet of vehicles can safely transport. The potential solution is to lease a 9-passenger curriculum bus from Central States. It will take 90 days for this vehicle to come in. The snow bid process is complete. The lone bid was from Mike's Snow Removal. We used them last year and there were no concerns. Discussion took place as to whether to use the flat or hourly rate. It was decided to use the flat rate.

Discussion/Informational Items –

Veterans Day celebration plans are underway. The presentation will begin at 9:30a.m on November 11th. This is the first time there will be a district wide celebration. There was a great

turnout at the planning committee meeting. Plans include: breakfast for Veterans and community members in the high school cafeteria, 4th grade poem readings, quilt presentation for veteran, MS/HS band will play medley of all service songs for each military branch, 8th grade choral reading. The Joint Annual Conference is November 22-24. Please let us know if you would like to sign up any additional workshops. The rough draft capitol project survey was presented for review.

Action Items –

Motion to approve the resignation of James Helling, effective November 1, 2019, was made by DeBolt, seconded by Cantlin. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve Tad Kubinski’s resignation from the stipend position of Head Track Coach for the 2019-2020 season, effective immediately, was made by S. McNelis, seconded by S. Thompson. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the employment of Austin Cullinan as a substitute School Bus Driver for the 2019-2020 school year, upon completion of his CDL permit training, was made by S. Thompson, seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the employment of Valerie Martin as a Special Education one-on-one student aide 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 postings for the Sheridan and Serena High School teacher vacancies due to retirements, was made by S. Thompson, seconded by McNally. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the audit reports submitted by Gorenz & Associates, Ltd. for FY19, was made by G. McNelis, seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the first reading of the Tax Levy FY19, was made by S. McNelis, seconded by McNally. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Snow Removal Bid, flat rate, for the 2019-2020 school year, was made by G. McNelis, seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the second and final reading of the Press Policy updates Issue 101, as presented, was made by S. Thompson, seconded by G. McNelis. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Serena High School Band overnight trip to Eastern Illinois University, (They will be departing on 12/06/2019 and returning on 12/07/2019), was made by S. Thompson, seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Health Life Safety 2020 Tuckpointing and Masonry Repairs project and contract as presented, (This project includes Health Life Safety work to be completed on all

buildings within the district during the summer 2020 and at total cost of \$124,465.00.) was made by G. McNelis, seconded by McNally. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to approve the 2-year lease agreement for a multi-passenger vehicle that will service preschool students as presented, was made by DeBolt, seconded by G. McNelis. On roll call, all present voted "aye". Motion carried.

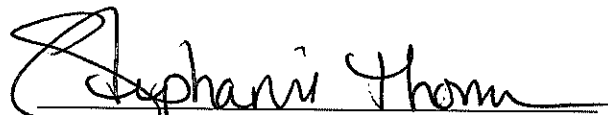
President R. Thompson requested any further public comment. There was none.

Motion to enter back into executive session at 9:21 p.m. was made by S. Thompson, seconded by McNally. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to come out of executive session at 1:10 a.m. on 10/25/2019, was made by S. McNelis, seconded by S. Thompson. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn at 1:10 a.m. on 10/25/2019, was made by S. McNelis, seconded by S. Thompson. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.


Renee Thompson, President


Stephanie Thompson, Secretary