

May 28, 2020
Serena, IL

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Thursday, May 28, 2020, in the Serena Middle School Gym. The following members were present: Renee Thompson, Joe Cantlin, Justin DeBolt, Dan McNally, Gary McNelis, Susan McNelis, and Stephanie Thompson.

Also in attendance: Superintendent Spencer Byrd, Principals Randy Goodbred and Angie Merboth, Interim Co-Administrators Megan Adams and Lib Whiteaker, and Brent Thomas.

The meeting was called to order by President R. Thompson at 6:19 p.m. After roll call, the motion was made by S. Thompson with a second by S. McNelis 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 7:15 p.m., was made by G. McNelis, seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, those present voted "aye". Motion carried.

President R. Thompson led the Pledge of Allegiance. She then requested approval of the agenda.

Visitors were Jackie Twait, Angie Pokarney, Becky Gavin, and Dave Hughes.

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

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

Reports –

Enrollment Report – 660 students in the District.

Buildings and Grounds Report – Committee went over maintenance concerns with building principals to address their greatest needs. Tuckpointing has been underway in Serena and should be finished up in the next couple of weeks. The Middle School gym will be focused on this summer. The floor is in need of refinishing, lines need repainting, and mats need to be replaced.

Principals Report –

Principal Merboth – Completed online registrations as of May 23rd: Harding - 57, Sheridan - 64, Serena MS - 64, and Serena HS – 89. Currently there are 122 anticipated students enrolling at Harding for the 2020-2021 school year. 4th Quarter report cards were mailed home on May 18th.

Congratulations to the following end of the year award winners: Perfect Attendance – Reagan Cantlin, Aaliyah Shick, Everett Cantlin, Kolby Mahler, Max Brodbeck, and Caylin Cantlin; All A's – Brayden Backos, Max Brodbeck, Zaydee Bucz, Hudson DeBernardi, Isabella Meyer, Faith Miller, Cayden Niles, Torrey Temple, Caylin Cantlin, Logan DeBolt, Colton Larson, Annabella Miller, Kane Rosengren, Madilyn Sterchi, Clayton Thompson, and Parker Twait; Most Improved – Emery Navarro, Reagan Cantlin, Skylar Decker, Coltin Mikulik, Jessie Broadus, Justin Bolen, Emmett Roth, Mia Bujnowski, Annabella Miller, and Colton Rodrick; Citizenship – Warren Young, Arie Finley, Audree Gregory, Eddie Christensen, Kaleb Duffy, Faith Miller, Colton Larson, Caylin Cantlin, Parker Twait, and Easton Bucz.

Principal Goodbred – Thank you to Deb Fuchs and her cafeteria staff for the outstanding job they have done feeding families in our district. Thank you to Phil Margowski and Logan Forth for all of their hard work keeping the school clean. They have also been painting and getting an early start on summer cleaning. Report cards were mailed out and can be viewed online. Congratulations to the following award winners: All A's for the 2019-2020 school year – 2nd Grade: Ginger Edwards, Anisten LaRock, Fiona Nitsche, Aubrey Thompson, Karter Walters, and Reice Woodin;; 3rd Grade: Molly Benjamin, Faith McCombs, Allison Watkins, Kinley Borris, MacKenna McMahan, Isla Nitsche, and Riley Schuman; 4th Grade: Tyler Cartwright, Kayden Heuser, Kaitlyn Johnson, Caleb Collins, Olivia Kember, and Citali Torres; Most Improved – Peyton Genteman, Hunter Runge, Xavire Alvarez, Riley Wagner, Matthew Erpenbach, Collin Benson, Brody Muffler, Noah Heubel, Violet Johnson, and Abby Hinterlong; and Citizenship – James Troutman, Paislee Schiltz, Jaxson Henderson, Dani Cumins, Vinny Biagioni, Kensley Heuser, Zayne Dunn, Lilly Young, Austin Benson, Abby Walsh, Louie Biagioni, Molly Benjamin, Logan Sanchez, MacKenna McMahan, Ron Evans, Kaitlyn Johnson, Aiden Brown, and Emma Cumins.

Middle School – Remote learning concluded on May 15th. Report cards were made viewable on May 21st. Congratulations to this year's awards winners: Citizenship – Briana Berard, Lily Benjamin, Jaden Anderson, and Tanner Faivre; Most Improved – Jayce Dobo, Aubree Duffy, Angel Glenn, and Lateka Ryckman; Highest 1-3 Quarter Math – Alexa McNally, Levi Denbow, Ava Rosengren, and Richie Armour; Highest 1-3 Quarter ELA – Olivia Kelly, Levi Denbow, Ava Rosengren, and Paisley Twait; Highest 1-3 Quarter Science – Olivia Kelly, Levi Denbow, Addison Kempiaak, and Tanner Faivre; Highest 1-3 Quarter Social Studies – Olivia Kelly, Levi Denbow, Matthew Farrell, and Paisley Twait. The Middle and High Schools held a Locker Content Exchange on May 19-21. Students were able to return chromebooks and other school materials in exchange for their locker contents. We purchased signs for 8th Grade Graduates and delivered, along with gowns (to borrow), on May 15th. Thank you to the teacher and parent volunteers who helped with delivery. A drive-in graduation ceremony is planned for June 2nd at 6:30 p.m. in the high school parking lot. Thank you to Doug Fieldman and Joe Hughes for helping out in the classroom this year.

High School – Thank you to the high school faculty and staff for all of their hard work through this remote learning period. The Food Service staff did a phenomenal job getting meals to our families. The Middle and High Schools combined to organize a Locker Content Exchange on May 19-21. Congratulations to the following IVVC Outstanding Students of the Year: Construction – Bobby Falling; Health Occupations – True Kempiaak; and Graphic Design – Cassandra May. Congratulations to the following FFA members who competed in the Section 7 Public Speaking

Contest: Cole Freebairn (2nd in Creed Speaking), Kara Freebairn (2nd in Extemporaneous Speaking), and Jaiden Mahler (2nd in Prepared Public Speaking). They will all be moving on to the district competition. Congratulations to Kara Freebairn for being elected Section 7 FFA President for next year. Lib Whiteaker thanked the Board, faculty, staff, and community for the support given to her during the time she was an interim administrator.

Superintendent Report – Apptegy will be developing our new district website and mobile app. The launch date is set for July 1st. A PERA committee meeting was held recently to review the PERA document and the teacher evaluation process. Several mentor teacher meetings have been held and plans are underway for the upcoming school year. The final draft of the Collective Bargaining Agreement will be ready for the next board meeting. T

Discussion/Informational Items – There were none.

Action Items –

Motion to approve the employment of Jeana Hebert for the position of Sheridan Title Aide for the 2020-2021 school year, was made by S. McNelis, seconded by S. Thompson. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the employment of Dain Twait for the position of Middle School Soccer Coach, for the 2020-2021 school year, was made by DeBolt, seconded by G. McNelis. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the employment of Chris Bjork for the position of 7th and 8th Grade Volleyball Coach, for the 2020-2021 school year, was made by S. Thompson, seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the employment of Amanda Swartz for the position of Classroom Aide at Harding Grade School, for the 2020-2021 school year, was made by S. Thompson, seconded by S. McNelis. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the employment of Marissa Henkel for the position of Math Teacher at Serena High School, for the 2020-2021 school year, was made by S. McNelis seconded by McNally. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the employment of Marissa Henkel for the position of High School Assistant Volleyball Coach, for the 2020-2021 school year, was made by McNally seconded by S. McNelis. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve Jacob Stark as Volunteer Baseball coach for the 2020-2021 school year, was made by McNally, seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the employment of Kale Duffy for the position of 5th and 6th Grade Girls Basketball Coach, for the 2020-2021 school year, was made by S. Thompson, seconded by McNally. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the employment of Lexi Leiteritz as the 7th and 8th Grade Cheer Coach, for the 2020-2021 school year, was made by S. McNelis, seconded by S. Thompson. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to accept the resignation of Amy Rogowski from the position of Harding Teacher Aide, was made by S. Thompson, seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to accept the resignation of Jenna Goldman from the position of 7th and 8th Grade Volleyball Coach, was made by G. McNelis, seconded by S. Thompson. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to dismiss Classroom Aide, Megan Gavin, effective May 28, 2020, was made by S. McNelis, seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the first reading of the Elementary Student Handbook and Elementary School Improvement Plan for the 2020-2021 school year, was made by S. Thompson, seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

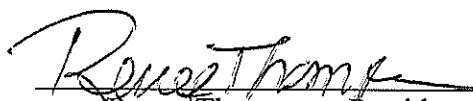
Motion to approve the Intervention Assessment and Resource Handbook for the 2020-2021 school year, was made by S. McNelis, seconded by S. Thompson. On roll call, all present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

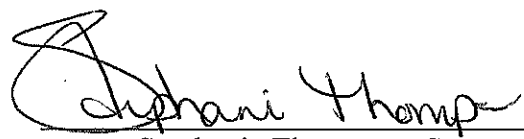
President R. Thompson requested any further public comment. There was none.

Motion to enter back into executive session at 8:13 p.m. 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 was made by S. McNelis, seconded by DeBolt. On roll call, those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to come out of executive session at 11:10 p.m., was made by S. McNelis, seconded by S. Thompson. On roll call, those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn at 11:10 p.m., was made by S. McNelis, seconded by S. Thompson. On roll call, those present voted “aye”. Motion carried.


Renee Thompson, President


Stephanie Thompson, Secretary