

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 22, 2020

7:30 p.m. Jr. High School Library

CALL REGULAR BOARD MEETING TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL.

President Chad Ruppert called the regular board meeting to order and roll call was taken with seven board members present. Board members present were Janssen, Ruppert, Eisenbarth, Bauman, Fesser, Tarter, and Gasparich. Also present were Superintendent Doerr, Principal McDowell, Assistant Principal McDonald, and Principal Reedy.

Guests present included Ellen Christner, Dan DeWerff, Jennifer Doyen, Jill Huddlestun, Bonnie Brownback, Gia O'Malley, Janelle Stolte, Dylan Perkins, Sarah McCookey, Megan Mehochko, Rebecca West, Theresa Cruthis, Yvonne Ward, Brandon Engelman, Melissa Satterlee, Tara Follis, and Jodi Marty. Also present via Google Meets was Melissa Shalter, Julie Friesland, Hannah Riedle, Taylor Bergman, and Jennifer Endsley.

I MOVE TO APPROVE THE BOARD MEETING AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 22, 2020 AS PRESENTED.

Motion by Janssen seconded by Tarter to approve the Board Meeting Agenda for September 22, 2020 as presented. Motion passed by voice vote.

Those public comments included the following:

- Jennifer Doyen – Told the Board about her personal experience with remote learning and live-streaming.
- Dan DeWerff presented to the Board the results of a survey provided to the teachers via the NEA and discussed the difference with remote learning between the JH/HS and elementary.
- Tara Follis – Discussed the issues facing teachers with temporary remote learners.
- Theresa Cruthis – Discussed her time planning and preparation with remote learners and gave an elementary perspective.
- Wendy Goodwin – Discussed the time and preparation needed to work with remote learners.
- Gia O'Malley told the Board about the positive aspects of the September 4 training and was happy to see so many teachers giving presentations on what they are doing.

The Consent Agenda included the regular and closed minutes, bills, payroll, Treasurer's Report, Administrative Salary Compensation Report (PA. 96-0434), and Certified Staff Compensation Report for approval.

I MOVE TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 22, 2020 CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

Motion by Gasparich, seconded by Fesser to approve the September 22, 2020 Consent Agenda as presented.

Bauman – YEA, Fesser – YEA, Tarter – YEA, Gasparich – YEA, Janssen – YEA, Ruppert – YEA, Eisenbarth – YEA. Motion passed.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Doerr took the opportunity to thank all of the faculty and staff for their hard work in this unique year and going above and beyond with working with students either in-person or with our remote learners.

Also, Dr. Doerr reported that the District met all of their accountability outcomes for FY 19 and special education indicators as reported by ISBE.

Finally, Dr. Doerr stated that since the IASB are not holding their quarterly meetings right now, they forward 2 Board awards to him to be presented. The first went to Carl Fesser as a Level I Master Board member and Chad Ruppert as a Level II Master Board member.

Dr. Doerr reported that we had 2 payments from FY 20 that were still not paid by the State last month – an Early Childhood payment and a Driver's Education payment. We received the EC payment, but not the DE payment in the amount of \$2, 373.71. As for FY 21, ISBE still has not uploaded several items in the portal, including Transportation, Driver's Education, and some Special Education programs. In addition, they have not even released the Ag Supplement Grant or the Ag Three Circles Grant yet. Both Early Childhood payments for this fiscal year are late as well. The Governor released information last week that State Departments need to start cutting 5% of their budgets for this fiscal year and working on cutting another 10% for next year. A lot of this, as I have stated in the past, is dependent on two things that I don't know will happen – the change of the Illinois Constitution for the Progressive Income Tax and a federal bailout with COVID money working its way through Congress. So, Illinois is going to see several more fiscal year issues over the next 2 - 5 years.

I have included our 6th day enrollment numbers for you to review. Overall, we are down 23 students over last year, but we have 10 out right now – being “home-schooled” through this mess, I assume we will get them back at some point.

On a positive note, the first year NPT was in existence, we had no audit findings and the audit came back very good, despite some of the financial issues we had with Taylorville. Taylorville is still not cooperating with the FACeS program. They are taking students 2 days a week and we are educating them 3 days a week at North School with our teachers/aides. Their teachers are supposed to be providing 2.5 hours of remote instruction on those three days, but they have been told not to do this, but rather provide education packets to kids in lieu of their normal services. NPT is still providing their related services, such as OT, PT, Speech, etc., but on the days there are with us. They have violated the remote learning plan that they provided by them with Nokomis and Pana amending it, and they voted in favor of it. I know several parents have threatened litigation at this time against Taylorville, but I am not quite sure where that is at. Also, ISBE has been involved as well. The next NPT meeting is on the 23rd. The district leadership is intimidating the NPT employees and requiring them to sign-in everyday, but not their own employees. I have been told that they want out of the cooperative and run their own programs.

The United States Department of Agriculture has extended the SFSP Breakfast and Lunch Program from this past spring to allow ALL students, regardless of their socioeconomic status, to be provided a FREE breakfast and lunch during the day. So, beginning Monday, September 21, 2020, all students will receive a free breakfast and/or lunch through December 18, 2020.

However, if a student (JH or HS) takes an extra meal, they will be charged for the extra meal or any a la carte items. All students will be charged for an extra milk if they select one or want one when

they bring their own lunch to school. The SFSP program only covers one class A meal per child per day (breakfast and lunch), whether that is a hot meal, a cold meal, or a salad.

For ALL remote learners that choose to have meals picked-up, the parent needs to call Tammy at 217-563-8521 at North School by 9:30 a.m. every Friday for meals to be prepared for each day of the following week. Meals, which will include a breakfast and lunch in each bag, can be picked up for all remote learners at the high school by using the old gym foyer entrance at 12:30 each day.

Lastly, Opaa is still looking for a part-time cook for the high school. They have posted it, we have posted it. So, if you know anybody, please have them contact us. Lastly, so far our breakfast number have increase 537% since the 1st day of school – which means it has gone up from 8 to 43 students just in the JH. I have received great reviews from the students and staff on the quality of the food. We will present comparison numbers in January after the 1st semester.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Principals provided the Board with written reports.

OLD BUSINESS

I MOVE TO APPROVE THE FINAL ADOPTION (2nd READING) OF THE UPDATED BOARD POLICIES, EXHIBITS, AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES AS PRESENTED AND APPROVED BY THE POLICY COMMITTEE.

Motion by Janssen, seconded by Eisenbarth to approve the final adoption (2nd reading) of the updated Board Policies, Exhibits, and Administrative Procedures as presented and approved by the Policy Committee.

Fesser – YEA, Tarter – YEA, Gasparich – YEA, Janssen – YEA, Ruppert – YEA, Eisenbarth – YEA, Bauman – YEA. Motion passed.

I MOVE TO APPROVE THE FINAL ADOPTION OF THE FY21 REMOTE LEARNING PLAN.

Motion by Eisenbarth seconded by Fesser to approve the final adoption of the FY21 Remote Learning Plan.

Tarter – YEA, Gasparich – YEA, Janssen – YEA, Ruppert – YEA, Eisenbarth – YEA, Bauman – YEA, Fesser – YEA. Motion passed.

The Principals and Dr. Doerr provided the Board with a lot of data regarding remote learning, temporary remote learners, grade level remote learning, and class period remote learning. As of September 17, the data indicated the following: So, we have a total of 73 regular remote learners or 13% and 19 short-term remote learners for a total percentage equal to 16%. The Board reviewed the data along with the Principals and Dr. Doerr. After some discussion, Dr. Doerr recommended that we remain dismissing students at 2:30 p.m. throughout the rest of the semester to allow teachers to work with their remote learners. The Board has no objections.

NEW BUSINESS

I MOVE TO APPROVE THE FY21 BUDGET AS PRESENTED.

Motion by Gasparich seconded by Janssen to approve the FY21 Budget as presented.

Gasparich – YEA, Janssen – YEA, Ruppert – YEA, Eisenbarth – YEA, Bauman – YEA, Fesser – YEA, Tarter – YEA. Motion passed.

I MOVE TO APPROVE THE SUB RATE INCREASE EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020.

Motion by Tarter seconded by Eisenbarth to approve the sub rate increase effective October 1, 2020.

Janssen – YEA, Ruppert – YEA, Eisenbarth – YEA, Bauman – YEA, Fesser – YEA, Tarter – YEA, Gasparich – YEA. Motion passed.

I MOVE TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED 50 YARD LINE ADDITION, AT NO COST TO THE DISTRICT, PENDING APPROVAL OF THE ARCHITECT OR STRUCTURAL ENGINEER.

Motion by Gasparich seconded by Tarter to approve the proposed 50 yard line addition, at no cost to the District, pending approval of the architect or structural engineer. Motion passed by voice vote.

I MOVE TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF KRISTEN WHITLATCH EFFECTIVE AUGUST 24, 2020.

Motion by Fesser seconded by Eisenbarth to accept the resignation of Kristen Whitlatch. Motion passed by voice vote.

I MOVE TO APPROVE THE EMPLOYMENT OF JANELLE STOLTE AS A SPECIAL EDUCATION AIDE EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020 FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR.

Motion by Tarter seconded by Janssen to approve the employment of Janelle Stolte as a special education aide effective October 1, 2020 for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.

Ruppert – YEA, Eisenbarth – YEA, Bauman – YEA, Fesser – YEA, Tarter – YEA, Gasparich – YEA, Janssen – YEA. Motion passed.

I MOVE TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION AT 9:03 P.M. FOR THE PURPOSE OF EMPLOYMENT, EVALUATIONS, COMPENSATION, APPOINTMENT AND DISCIPLINE OF PERSONNEL AND LITIGATION.

Motion by Janssen seconded by Tarter to enter into closed session at 9:03 p.m. for the purpose of employment, evaluations, compensation, appointment and discipline of personnel and litigation.

Janssen – YEA, Ruppert – YEA, Eisenbarth – YEA, Bauman – YEA, Fesser – YEA, Tarter – YEA, Gasparich – YEA. Motion passed.

I MOVE TO RE-ENTER REGULAR SESSION AT 9:27 P.M.

Motion by Janssen seconded by Eisenbarth to re-enter regular session from closed session at 9:27 p.m. Motion passed by voice vote.

I MOVE TO ADJOURN

Motion by Fesser seconded by Tarter to adjourn. Motion passed by voice vote.

Chad Ruppert, President

Denny Bauman, Secretary