

STARK COUNTY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #100
Stark, Knox, Marshall, Henry & Peoria Counties, Illinois

Regular Meeting – June 16, 2025

The Stark County Community Unit School District #100 Board of Education met Monday, June 16, 2025, at the Stark County Elementary School cafeteria. Members present were Emily Leezer, Ann Orwig, Erin Price, Dane Richards, and Bruce West. Joseph Rediger was absent. Also present was Brett Elliott, Superintendent; Rebecca Lane, District Clerical/Payroll Clerk; Mike Bunch, IT; Chelsea Streitmatter, Board of Education Applicant; High School Track Coaches, Clint Terwilliger and Bob Rennick; High School Track Athletes; members of the community; and a member of the press.

With a quorum present, President Orwig called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance, and the Mission and Vision statements were recited.

The board decided that they would not move into Executive Session. After interviews and discussion at the last board meeting, they had already chosen an individual for appointment to the empty board seat.

Mrs. Orwig made a motion to approve Chelsea Streitmatter to fulfill the vacancy on the Stark County CUSD #100 Board of Education for the remainder of the vacancy term of two years. Mr. Richards seconded and the motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

The newly appointed board member, Ms. Streitmatter, was sworn into office by President Orwig. Ms. Streitmatter took the oath of office.

Motion was made by Mr. West, seconded by Mrs. Price, to approve the consent calendar. Items approved under the consent calendar were:

- Approval of the May 19, 2025 Board Minutes;
- Approval of the May JH/HS Activity Funds, May Self-Insurance Fund, May Imprest Fund, and May Treasurer's Report;
- Approval of the May LEA checks as follows: City of Wyoming \$464.80, Guardian \$358.88, Guardian \$3,403.45, Guardian \$554.05, Guardian \$491.06, Stark County CUSD #100 \$160,283.27, Stark County Education Foundation \$2,000.00, Grace Catering \$462.00, U.S. Postal Service \$500.00, Angela Roark \$600.00, VISA \$1,035.22, VISA \$2,809.43, VISA \$2,261.87, VISA \$473.12, Stark County CUSD #100 \$167,974.81, State Bank of Toulon \$397,000.00, IHSA \$220.00, Imprest Fund \$8,580.08.

Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Next on the agenda was the approval of June bills. Mr. West asked if the payment for the building of the new gym was the final payment for the project. Mr. Elliott confirmed that it was the final payment and that our architect, Farnsworth, would sign off on the final amount before the check would be mailed. Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mr. West, to approve the June bills of \$265,400.34. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

President Orwig presented Pride & Excellence Recognition to Tim Colgan, Stark County Elementary School Volunteer. Mr. Colgan has graciously volunteered for many years to assist in keeping the grounds at SCES first class with mowing and a variety of other duties. Mr. Colgan goes above and beyond, taking great pride in his volunteer work. Recently, that work has included the annual pruning of trees and cleaning up after storms. He communicates often with Superintendent Elliott on any needs and recommendations. We are so grateful for your service to our community and Stark County Elementary.

Next, President Orwig presented Pride & Excellence Recognition to Stark County High School Boys and Girls Track State Finalists. She congratulated the SCHS Boys and Girls who qualified for the 2025 IHSA Track State Finals. We are so proud of your accomplishments and the impact that you have made on your team, school, and community. Nolan Snider placed 35th in shot put. Evan Knobloch placed 26th in the 3200M. Evan also broke three school records with times of 2:03.89 in the 800M, 4:34.05 in the 1600M, and 9:54.71 in the 3200M. Claire Bowser tied for 16th in the high jump. The 4x800M Relay Team of Cheyenh Smith, Paytin Terwilliger, Sarah Kraklow, and Dusti Smith set a new school record time of 4:45.44 at the varsity conference meet and placed 4th at the state meet. That same relay team also placed 10th in the 4x400M Relay. Dusti Smith set new school records of 5:04.29 in the 1600M and 11:38.61 in the 3200M. Dusti placed 11th in the 1600M at the state meet. Cheyenh Smith placed 7th in the 800M, setting a new school record of 2:16.97 at the state finals. Lauren Orwig placed 7th in the state in discus, with a 38.59M (126 foot, 7.25 inch) toss, a new school record. Chelsey Stotler is the 2025 Shot Put State Champion, with a school record toss of 13.22M (43 foot, 4.5 inches). Congratulations to all of the student athletes and coaches, Clint Terwilliger and Bob Rennick. Mr. Terwilliger added that this is a very dedicated and talented group who put in a lot of time and effort towards their successes. Mr. Elliott added that this is a tremendous achievement that should not be taken for granted.

Coaches, student athletes, and members of the community all left after the recognitions.

Visitor Comments:

There were no visitor comments.

Henry Stark Executive Board Report:

Superintendent Elliott provided an update from the June Henry Stark Special Education Cooperative Executive Board meeting. An architect presented options for the new building recently purchased by Henry Stark, bidding will start soon with a \$6-7 million budget.

Insurance Committee Update:

Superintendent Elliott shared that the Annual Insurance Committee interviewed three health insurance agents for the upcoming renewal. The committee has recommended moving to Midwestern Insurance Associates, Steve Leesman, while remaining in the Pareto Self-Funded Program with Consociate Health for the 2025-26 school year. Midwestern Insurance Associates also works with Guardian, so they would be able to assist with the district's current life, dental, and vision plans as well.

Stark County Education Foundation Report:

Superintendent Elliott shared that the Education Foundation held its June quarterly meeting where we discussed the upcoming Foundation Golf Outing that will be held on Friday, July 25, 2025 at Midland Golf Club. This is the foundation's largest fundraiser. This year we are encouraging the high school to add a boys' team and girls' team at a reduced rate. We also discussed adjustments to the scholarship interview process, exploring a point system to ensure that the most deserving students are honored. This year the Foundation paired with the SCES Parents' Club for the annual fundraising auction. Next year the auction will be run 100% by the Parents' Club to help their fundraising efforts towards a new playground at SCES.

Administrative Reports:

Superintendent Elliott read the Stark County Elementary monthly update as provided by Principal, Emily Mastin. Our Instructional Leadership team is currently attending a workshop at the ROE to support the development of our school improvement plan for the upcoming year. We are excited to analyze data and pinpoint the most impactful focus areas for our continued growth and progress. The 2024-25 5Essentials Survey results have been received, and we are excited to share that our school demonstrated growth in almost all evaluated areas. This positive trend reflects our collective efforts. For the upcoming year, we will continue to focus on two main areas: consistently providing rigorous instruction in every classroom and subject, and strengthening the implementation of the BIST program and philosophy to further decrease student disruptions and foster a positive learning environment. Even with unexpected rain, our Field Days were a fantastic way to end the year. We quickly adjusted our activities, and in the end, every one of our learners had a great time! Our last day of school was a wonderful celebration of student achievement and community. We honored our 5th-grade class with the annual 5th Grade Clap Out and recognized our dedicated retirees. A special thank you to Mrs. DeBord for creating a memorable slideshow celebrating each 5th grader. We also enjoyed a slideshow highlighting the remarkable growth of all our learners this year. This year, we were proud to introduce the new PHEARCE Award, recognizing students nominated by their teachers for consistently upholding its pillars.

Next, Superintendent Elliott read the Stark County Junior High/High School monthly update as provided by Principal, Megan McGann. Smart Goal #1 was met with 3% growth on both STAR Reading and STAR Math for Junior High and High School Fall-Winter assessments. We have received our unofficial ACT Scores and IAR Scores. We are currently waiting for the state to develop cut scores to determine our success rate and students at grade level on those assessments. For Smart Goal #2, our Skyward data shows that our JH students "Did Not Meet" and our HS students "Met" when considering attendance rates and chronic absenteeism. The ILT will meet in August to review all of our EOY data and revisit our SIP Plan to develop goals and objectives for the 2025-26 school year. There has been discussion of monthly attendance incentives, possibly sponsored by the State Bank of Toulon. We have attended trainings for Emotional Intelligence, ACT, and Edgenuity (new Credit Recovery program), in addition to meeting with our representatives from SchoolLinks (post secondary and college/career readiness program) to support our High School students. Congratulations to FFA

IL FFA members receive this honor. Congratulations to our state-winning Agriscience Fair project individuals on their recognition: Darilis Knobloch, Toby Williams, Preston Hillier, Jake Primo, Addison Nowlan, Emma Howell, Klaire Bays, Hailie Ales, and Chelsey Stotler. Additional congratulations to Emily Hurst who finished 1st in the Supervised Occupational Experience award area of Finance and Business; and to Darilis Knobloch who finished 5th in the IL FFA Spanish Creed Speaking contest.

Finally, Stark County Superintendent, Brett Elliott, shared his superintendent's report. He reminded everyone that we will hold a special meeting and public hearing for the Fiscal Year 2025 Amended Budget on Thursday, June 19, 2025 at 5:30 pm here at SCES in order to meet the state guidelines of posting the tentative amended budget for 30 days since our May board meeting. We want to applaud our unit clerical staff as they close out the fiscal year with numerous reports as they prepare for the Fiscal Year 2025 annual audit later this summer. This is the busiest time for our unit clerical transitioning from one fiscal year to another and we greatly appreciate their relentless efforts. Mary Streitmatter, Rebecca Lane, and Jenny Denton are the best in the business. We would like to take a moment to congratulate our building leadership for an incredibly successful year. With new team members to the district and new positions, they have gelled together and continue to take us to new heights. We want to publicly thank Megan McGann, Emily Mastin, Jackie Colgan, and Michael "Fergie" Jenkins for their commitment to excellence. It is also a time to thank our directors as they close out the school year with many tasks continuing throughout the summer. Mike Bunch, Bob Bohm and custodial team, Toni Nowlan and her transportation team, and Michelle Morrissey and the kitchen staff do an outstanding job of leading our efforts to support all students and staff. Mr. Elliott announced that the Stark County Education Foundation will host their 8th Annual Golf Outing on Friday, July 25, 2025 at Midland Golf Club. Anyone can sign up a foursome or become a sponsor through our mailings, postings, or by emailing Mr. Elliott at belliott@stark100.com. We are proud to announce that we are closing out our new gym construction project, including the extended parking lot, coming in at \$105,000 under projected overall budget. Mr. Elliott finished with a budget update on expenditures through 91.7% of fiscal year 2025. There were no questions for Mr. Elliott.

Unfinished Business:

Superintendent Elliott shared an update from the Annual Insurance Committee earlier in the meeting. He reminded the board that the committee recommended moving to Midwestern Insurance Associates, Steve Leesman, while remaining in the Pareto Self-Funded Program using Consociate Health, and also keeping Guardian Insurance coverages for the 2025-26 school year. Mrs. Price made a motion to approve the recommendation from the Annual Health Insurance Committee to elect Midwestern Insurance Associates as our health care insurance agency for the 2025-26 school year, as presented. Seconded by Mr. West and passed 6-0.

The first reading of PRESS Policies, Issue #118 was held in May. In addition to annual five-year updates, the focuses of this issue are: policies reverting back to the 2020 Title IX language in regards to the recent change that we have already adopted; and Ai language for usage in schools. Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve the PRESS Policy

updates from ISSUE #118 as presented. Seconded by Mr. Richards. Passed with a 6-0 vote.

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Next was the annual approval to award bids for the new fiscal year. Mr. Elliott asked the board to review the bids summary and his recommendations as included in their board packet. The summary includes no bread bid; two trash bids; one milk bid; and one Rebel Reporter bid. Superintendent Elliott reported a flat rate with a three-year option for GFL trash, an overall flat rate for milk, and a \$150 increase for Rebel Reporter. Mr. Elliott recommended awarding Prairie Farms the milk bid; Lampe Publications the Rebel Reporter bid; and signing a three-year contract with GFL for trash. Mrs. Orwig made a motion to award the bids for milk, trash, and the Rebel Report for the 2026 fiscal year as presented. Seconded by Mr. West and the motion passed 6-0.

Superintendent Elliott shared the principal's recommended revision to the approved 2025-26 High School curriculum guide to clearly define the required number of classes to be considered full time and how that applies to home school students earning dual credit board paid tuition. A copy of the revision was provided in the board packet. After some questions and discussion, Mr. West made a motion to approve the revised language to the high school curriculum guide as presented. Mrs. Leezer seconded. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

New Business:

Imagine Learning will provide us with on line courses to be used for credit recovery and additional elective options. It will replace the Apex Learning program that we have been using. The new contract is less than Apex and will provide more rigorous virtual course offerings to our students at a cost of \$15,108.02 for Fiscal Year 2026. Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve the Imagine Learning Contract for Fiscal Year 2026 as presented. Seconded by Mr. West. Motion passed 6-0.

We have received great support working with Miller, Hall and Triggs, LLC for our board legal counsel. Mr. Elliott recommended that we continue to utilize their legal services for the 2025-26 school year. Included in the board packet is a formal quote showing a \$9/hr. increase. President Orwig made a motion to approve continued legal counsel through Miller, Hall and Triggs for the 2025-26 school year as presented. Mrs. Price seconded. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

Next was an annual update of our extracurricular code. Using samples from area districts, we have added a parent component that formally addresses current practices for adult behaviors in regards to extracurricular attendance and behavior. This will be discussed in further detail at our board retreat with the athletic director and principal prior to July approval. No action taken.

Superintendent Elliott recommends attendance at the TLC Instructional Coaches Conference in Phoenix, Arizona, October 5-7, 2025 for up to two instructional coaches including registration cost of \$1,049 per person plus lodging and travel. This will allow our coaches to take their year one experience and add resources, knowledge, and networking as they head into our year two implementation. Mr. West made a motion to approve attendance at the National Instructional Coaches Conference in Phoenix,

Arizona including registration, travel and lodging for up to two instructional coaches as presented. Seconded by Mr. Richards. Passed 6-0.

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Another annual process is to update language for the transportation and support staff handbooks. No major changes for the new year outside of updating dates. These will be up for approval in July. No action taken.

It requires annual approval to close the previous senior class account. Mr. Richards made a motion to approve closing the class of 2024 senior activity account and to move any existing funds to the vending account. Seconded by Mrs. Leezer. Passed 6-0.

After closing one class's account, we also need approval to open a new activity account for the rising freshman class. Mr. West made a motion to approve opening a Class of 2029 activity account as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Price. Passed 6-0.

Lastly, an annual action to maintain authority to transfer interest from one applicable fund to another applicable fund is needed. The board needs to pass a resolution each year renewing this authority. Mrs. Orwig made a motion to approve the renewal of authority to transfer interest as presented for FY26. Seconded by Mr. West. Passed 6-0.

Items for Next Meeting:

Summer Board Retreat; Approval of the 2025-26 Extracurricular Code; Approval of 2025-26 Support Staff Employee Handbook and Bus Personnel Transportation Handbook; Summer Project List Update.

Mrs. Orwig reminded the board that there needed to be a quorum at the June 19th Special Board Meeting for the Amended Budget approval. Four board members confirmed that they would be in attendance.

Executive Session:

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mr. West, to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing employee compensation, non-renewals, employee performance, employment of personnel, and/or resignations at 6:51 p.m. Motion was approved 6-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mr. West, to reconvene from Executive Session at 7:16 p.m. and to hold the Executive Session minutes, Not for Release. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of May 19, 2025, Not for Release. Motion was approved 6-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Daymon McDowell as 6-12 Math Teacher for the 2025-26 school year. Mrs. Price seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Cindy Jenkins as Junior High/High School Principal's Secretary. Mrs. Orwig seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve James Owens as Volunteer High School Cross County Coach. Mr. West seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

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Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Maddie Myers as Pre-School Aide for the 2025-26 school year. Mr. Richards seconded, motion passed 6-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Jordyn Minder as Junior High/High School BIST Aide for the 2025-26 school year. Mrs. Orwig seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Alisha Lee as High School Assistant Volleyball Coach. Mrs. Price seconded. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Kyla Cassidy as High School Assistant Volleyball Coach. Mr. West seconded. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve a one-time clerical stipend of \$2,500 for the fall semester of 2025 for Trisha Berchtold as "acting Principal's Secretary" as presented. Mrs. Price seconded. Passed 6-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve a new contract for Stark County Junior High/High School Principal Megan McGann for 2025-2030. Seconded by Mrs. Orwig. Passed 6-0.

Mrs. Leezer announced the resignation of Kiersten Johnson, Junior High Teacher, effective at the conclusion of the 2024-25 school year.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to adjourn at 7:19 p.m. Motion was approved 6-0.

Ann Orwig
President

Emily Leezer
Secretary

Approved 7/21/2025