

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

Regular Meeting – September 23, 2024

The Stark County Community Unit School District #100 Board of Education met Monday, September 23, 2024, at the Stark County Elementary School cafeteria. Members present were Emily Leezer, Ann Orwig, Erin Price, Brian Rewerts, Dane Richards, and Bruce West. Joseph Rediger was absent. Also present were Brett Elliott, Superintendent; Emily Mastin, Elementary Principal; Jackie Colgan, Elementary Assistant Principal; Thomas Blumer, Acting Jr./Sr. High School Principal; Rebecca Lane, Unit Clerical/Payroll Clerk; Mike Bunch, IT; 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.

Mrs. Orwig opened a public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget. Superintendent Elliott presented an overview of the proposed budget for FY25, there have been no significant changes since the tentative budget was presented in August. Seeing no visitor's comments or questions, President Orwig closed the public hearing.

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

- Approval of the August 19, 2024 Board Minutes;
- Approval of the August Elementary Activity Funds, August JH/HS Activity Funds, August Self-Insurance Fund, August Imprest Fund, and July & August Treasurer's Reports;
- Approval of the August LEA checks as follows: City of Wyoming \$234.89, Stark County CUSD #100 \$126,497.44, Guardian \$344.75, Guardian \$3,140.89, Guardian \$570.38, Guardian \$422.31, Nelson Auto Sales \$5,695.00, State Bank of Toulon \$650,000.00, Midwest Transit Equipment \$25,195.00, Stark County CUSD #100 \$132,164.97, Midwest Transit Equipment \$21,922.00, VISA \$354.00, VISA \$744.58, VISA \$1,431.54, VISA \$5,137.97, State Bank of Toulon \$16,996.22, Stark County CUSD #100 \$1,700.00, Imprest Fund \$11,947.61.

Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Next on the agenda was the approval of September bills. Mrs. Leezer asked if the new vape detectors require an annual license. Mr. Bunch responded that the district paid for 5 years of license up front and got a 6th year for free. Mrs. Orwig asked if the amount to be paid for HUDL is for the year. Mr. Elliott responded that it is for the year and that this was the district's portion due after the Athletic Boosters paid \$4,000 towards HUDL. Motion was made by Mrs. Price, seconded by Mrs. Leezer, to approve the September bills of \$738,855.60. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Both the students and the staff that were going to be honored at tonight's meeting were unable to attend so Mr. Elliott noted that their Pride and Excellence Recognition was being postponed. A new addition to the Pride and Excellence agenda item is the recognition of all of the staff who have received the Golden Sledgehammer recognition since the last meeting.

Mr. Elliott explained that for the 2024-25 school year, our mantra is to “Protect This House.” As a way to fuel this energy all school year, we have implemented the “Golden Sledgehammer” Recognition. The Golden Sledgehammer is a peer nominated recognition for those staff who are representing the elements of PHEARCE (Process, Humility, Energy, Adversity, Relationships, Culture, Excellence) or Protect This House (which include Trusting Our Process; Avoiding Distractions (Decluttering); Avoiding Complacency; Preparation; and Second Chances). The following staff have been honored thus far by their peers via the SC News or at the elementary morning assembly: Diana Gilles, Leslie Rennick, Ashlie Hamilton, Elizabeth Dietz, Courtney Kunkel, Mary Beth Kelly, Beth Chapman, and Clint Terwilliger.

Visitor Comments:

No visitor comments.

Building and Finance Committee Report:

Committee Chair West provided an overview of the committee meeting including a tour of the new high school gym construction and the new track. The gym project continues to run on schedule while the track still has a few punch list items that need to be wrapped up. There was also discussion regarding the upcoming parking lot project. An overview of the final FY25 budget was shared and is up for approval tonight.

Board of Education Building Visits Reports:

Three board members visited campuses in September. Mr. West visited the Junior High/High School campus and spent his morning with Assistant Principal Jenkins. Their day started with greeting students at the door when they arrived to school for the day and included Mr. Jenkins checking in with each classroom throughout the morning to make sure that his presence and support is known. Mrs. Orwig and Mr. Richards visited Principal Mastin and Assistant Principal Colgan at the Elementary campus. Their visit also started with greeting students at the door, seeing lots of smiles and high fives. Next up they attended the morning assembly in the gym and observed students in class throughout the morning. The board members expressed gratitude for the opportunity to visit each campus and observe the every day processes within the schools.

Administrative Reports:

Stark County Elementary School Principal, Emily Mastin, shared that PLCs have started strong with a focus on establishing team norms, identifying our own strengths and weaknesses, and developing collective efficacy as a team. Our teams have started their first cycle inquiry and are in the problem identification stage. We have worked collaboratively to analyze data from multiple sources, including assessments, classroom observations, and student work, to identify key strengths and areas of need. By engaging in data-driven discussions, we are aligning our instructional strategies to address specific learning gaps while also leveraging student strengths. This approach will allow us to tailor interventions, adjust instruction, and continuously monitor progress to ensure we are moving student learning forward effectively. Our BIST consultant, Mr. Jefferson, has been back for a second visit at SCES. His day was spent visiting classrooms, modeling processing with students and staff, and discussing the importance of caring confrontation throughout the school building. We have 6 teachers attending monthly BIST classroom management sessions to collaborate with teachers across the

country to support and grow their toolbox when it comes to classroom management. We have some classrooms who are awarding Golden Sledgehammers to students who are representing elements of PHEARCE and Protect This House. Students in these classrooms have to nominate their peers and then they use the democratic process to vote for the winner. We want to expand the Golden Sledgehammer awards to more of our classrooms. Ag in the Classroom is back this school year at SCES. Our staff and students love this monthly visit to learn more about agriculture and the impact it has on their daily lives. Lastly, Mrs. Mastin congratulated Coleson Knowles and Elaina Berchtold for being chosen as this year's Stark County Homecoming Crown Bearers. There were no questions for Mrs. Mastin.

Stark County Junior High/High School Principal, Megan McGann, is currently on maternity leave and Assistant Principal, Michael Jenkins, is supervising tonight's home volleyball game so Acting Principal, Thomas Blumer, shared their report. PLCs have hit the ground running at SCJSHS, with a focus on Cycles of Inquiry and aligning our instruction to our standards and assessments. Dara Carr will be joining us from the ROE throughout Semester 1 to lead this focus. We are extremely fortunate to have Dara working with our campus this semester. Todd Jefferson, our new BIST consultant, will be spending his second day with us this week – visiting both Junior High and High School classrooms. Mr. Jefferson has already provided great feedback and insight to our 6-12 BIST Vision Team and better implementation of our BIST practice this school year. Mr. Parrish and two students, Toby Williams and Garrett Bruecks, spent last week in Salt Lake City for the Next Generation FFA Conference on Natural Resources. They got to meet with industry leaders, tour major facilities in Utah, and study how to become the next generation of leaders in the ag and natural resources industries. Mr. Elliott and Miss McGann are working with local volunteers to develop a peer mentoring and peer tutoring program at the High School this school year – with a focus on High School students becoming peer mentors for our Junior High students. We are excited for this collaboration with our local community, our High School leaders, and Junior High classrooms. Mr. Blumer added that this was only his 4th day at Stark County and his first impression is that everyone, students and staff, are all very kind. There were no questions for Mr. Blumer.

Stark County Superintendent, Brett Elliott, shared that we are excited to welcome Mr. Thomas Blumer to Stark County as the acting principal at SCJSH during Ms. McGann's maternity leave. Mr. Blumer spent 40 years in education as a teacher and administrator. The past 30 years was in Peoria Public Schools as a middle school teacher and principal at numerous schools within the district including Calvin Coolidge Middle School, Woodruff Career and Technical High School, and most recently Lincoln K-8 where he retired this past spring. Mr. Blumer brings great experience and a passion for the growth of all students and staff. We are proud to have participated in the Stark County Town Hall event in Wyoming, which was organized by The Society of Growth. A panel discussion was held at the Paramount Theatre. Mr. Elliott and two high school student leaders were included on the panel. The event featured a kid center facilitated by several high school student leaders. We enjoyed this collaborative venture as we continue our relentless pursuit of excellence for our entire community. We want to thank our students: Lauren Orwig, Adam West, Piper Tyree, Emily Hurst, Lucie Colgan, Anna Nagode, Abby Nagode, Maeve Colgan and Garrett Bruecks for their leadership and for representing the

Pride and Excellence of Stark County. Homecoming 2024 is coming! September 29-October 5 is our annual homecoming week led by our student council with float decorations, parade, pep assemblies, spirit week, dance, the big game and more. This year both campuses will be able to participate in the homecoming spirit week to crank up the energy. We encourage all students and staff to participate in the many events that help shape the high energy culture here at SC100. This year's parade is in Wyoming beginning at 2:30 pm and we will also have a 1:45 pm student dismissal for all students on that Friday, October 4 so that students can participate and watch the parade. A reminder that our annual fall parent-teacher conferences are to be held on October 15 and 17 with 1:45 pm dismissal as previously approved by the calendar committee and board of education. This will lead to a 1:45 pm dismissal October 15, 16 and 17. No school on Friday, October 18 for fall break. There were no questions for Mr. Elliott.

Unfinished Business:

Superintendent Elliott presented the FY25 final budget including potential negative balances in numerous funds because the budget was built as if all funds were exhausted for emergency usage. Mr. Elliott does not anticipate negative spending outside of emergency usage except for covering the remainder of cost in fund 20 for the final Track/Gym Project. Mr. West made a motion to approve the FY25 Budget as presented. Mr. Richards seconded and the motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

We only received one bid for fuel for FY25. It was from AgView, our current vendor: Gasoline: \$2.889/gallon (was \$3.316 in FY24), Diesel: \$3.294 (was \$4.101 in FY24), and the below 20 degrees additive: \$0.04 per gallon. Mrs. Leezer made a motion to award the FY25 fuel bid to AgView as presented. Seconded by Mr. Rewerts and approved 6-0.

New Business:

Superintendent Elliott reported a steady enrollment over the past eight years with this year falling in the same 2% range as last year with a total enrollment of 675 for the 2024-25 school year. Mr. West made a motion to approve the 2024-25 6-Day Enrollment Report as presented. Mrs. Leezer seconded and motion passed 6-0.

As we look to utilize our contingency funding for our construction bonds to complete the south high school parking lot, we want to offset part of the cost by utilizing the \$50,000 ISBE Matching Maintenance Grant. Mr. Richards made a motion to approve the superintendent to write a FY25 Matching Maintenance Grant as presented. Mrs. Leezer seconded and the motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

Superintendent Elliott provided an overview of the FY24 Administrative and Teacher Salary and Benefits Report provided in the board packet. This is an annual presentation and will be posted on the district's website. No action taken.

Items for Next Meeting:

FY24 Audit Report; Follett/Destiny Library Network Presentation; College Board National Recognition; Unit Office Recognition; High School IGA; Junior High Athletics IGA.

Executive Session:

Motion was made by Mr. West, seconded by Mrs. Leezer, to adjourn to Executive

Session for the purpose of discussing employee compensation, non-renewals, employee performance, employment and resignations at 6:33 p.m. Motion was approved 6-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to reconvene from Executive Session at 7:12 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 Mr. West, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of August 19, 2024, Not for Release. Motion was approved 6-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Preston Parrish for PM Supervision at the Junior High/High School for the 2024-25 school year. Mr. Richards seconded and motion passed 6-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mr. West, to approve Andrew Collins as Assistant Junior High Football Coach for the 2024-25 school year. Passed 6-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Emma Miller as the Junior High/High School Detention Supervisor for the 2024-25 school year. Mrs. Orwig seconded, passed 6-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Taylor Libby as SCES After Care Supervisor for the 2024-25 school year. Mr. West seconded and the motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

Mrs. Leezer announced the resignation of Sandra Carter as Junior High and High School Cheer Coach, effective immediately.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Kali Breese as High School Cheer Coach for the 2024-25 school year. Mr. West seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Mrs. Leezer announced the resignation of Christine Cole, Elementary Second Shift Custodian, effective August 28, 2024.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve the termination of employment of Annabelle Young, Kitchen Staff, effective immediately. Mrs. Orwig seconded and motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. Motion was approved 6-0.

Ann Orwig
President

Emily Leezer
Secretary