

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

**Regular Meeting – April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

The Stark County Community Unit School District #100 Board of Education met Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at the Stark County Elementary School cafeteria. Members present were Emily Leezer, Ann Orwig, Joseph Rediger, Dane Richards, and Chelsea Streitmatter. Erin Price and Bruce West were absent. Also present were: Brett Elliott, Superintendent; Emily Mastin, Elementary Principal; Jackie Colgan, Elementary Assistant Principal; Megan McGann, Jr./Sr. High School Principal; Michael Jenkins, Jr./Sr. High School Assistant Principal; Rebecca Lane, District Clerical/Payroll Clerk; Karen Lisota and Allison Leezer from the SCES Parents Club; representatives from Byrne & Jones Parks Construction; Stark County Students and Staff; and members of the community.

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.

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

- Approval of the March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026 Board Minutes;
- Approval of the March Elementary Activity Funds; March JH/HS Activity Funds; March Self-Insurance Fund; March Imprest Fund; and March Treasurer's Report;
- Approval of the March LEA checks as follows: City of Wyoming \$502.02, Humana \$148.55, Humana \$2,973.70, Humana \$681.25, Humana \$613.45, Stark County CUSD #100 \$177,719.11, Joshua Anderson \$1,350.00, Michael Bunch \$375.00, Stark County CUSD #100 \$194,475.81, Angela Roark \$650.00, Coaching by Concept \$3,837.50, VISA \$106.19, VISA \$285.08, VISA \$248.81, VISA \$5,083.05, Imprest Fund \$6,325.17.

Motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Next on the agenda was the approval of April bills. There were no questions for Mr. Elliott regarding the bills. Motion was made by Mr. Rediger, seconded by Mrs. Leezer, to approve the April bills of \$288,065.44. Motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Pride and Excellence Recognition was presented to the 2026 Illinois Principals Association Student Leadership Honorees. Each spring the Illinois Principals Association (IPA) hosts a Student Leadership Honors Breakfast, honoring one boy and one girl who exemplify leadership and academic success at the elementary, junior high and high school levels. These outstanding students were recognized during a special ceremony at the Vibrant Arena in Moline, IL, on Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. This prestigious award is a reflection of their hard work and commitment to excellence within our school community. The IPA Student Leadership Award is unique because recipients are voted on by their teachers based on a consistent demonstration of academic leadership, character, and integrity. These students have shown dedication to their studies while inspiring their peers, modeling kindness and resilience, and serving as trustworthy role models for the entire student body. We are incredibly proud to have these students representing Stark County. Please join us in celebrating their achievements and the exemplary leadership they bring to our halls every day! SCES: Rennon Morrissey-Copeland and Luke Down. SCJH: Abigail Hildebrandt and Colby Gentle. SCHS: Claire Bowser and Owen Mercer.

Mrs. Mastin and Ms. McGann shared a few kind words, speaking highly of the IPA Student Leadership Honorees from each of their campuses.

Next, President Orwig presented a second Pride and Excellence Recognition to Colby Gentle, who was recently named the Division F winner of the prestigious IESA Scholar Attitude Award. For over 25 years, this award has recognized exceptional scholar-athletes across the State of Illinois who demonstrate excellence both in their sports and in the classroom. Colby's achievement is truly remarkable, as he is one of only 15 students in the entire state to receive this honor this year. This award highlights his dedication to academic success, sportsmanship, and a positive community attitude. To celebrate this milestone, Colby will be officially recognized at the IESA Celebration of Excellence event in Bloomington, Illinois, on April 28<sup>th</sup>. In addition to the ceremony, his achievements will be featured on the IESA website and their various social media platforms. Please join us in congratulating Colby and his family on this incredible statewide recognition. We are proud to have him representing the Rebels! Ms. McGann shared that she was proud of Colby's sportsmanship and attitude this year, especially since it was a difficult year for him due to injuries that moved him to the coaching staff this season.

Lastly, President Orwig presented a second Pride and Excellence Recognition to Luke Down, a 2025-26 Elementary Cafeteria Helper. Luke Down, a fifth grade student, has spent the entire school year assisting Custodian Terrie Patterson with daily cleanup in the cafeteria. Luke took great pride in his daily work and has been a tremendous help to Ms. Terrie and the cafeteria staff. We thank you for your leadership, Luke Down.

Most of the Stark County students, staff, and members of the community left the meeting after the completion of the Pride and Excellence agenda items.

**Visitor Comments:**

There were no visitor comments.

**Administrative Reports:**

Stark County Elementary School Principal, Emily Mastin, shared that staff is hard at work during this busy time of year, wrapping up the current school year and prepping for the next school year. There has been a lot of communication between grade levels as the teachers prepare for transitioning students to their next grade level. Our BIST Vision Team is currently leading staff through comprehensive transition planning to ensure every learner is set up for success in the coming school year. Their dedication to continuity will provide a seamless handoff of supports and strategies from one grade level to the next. To better prepare our 5th graders for the structure of Junior High, the team has successfully transitioned to a departmentalized instructional model for the remainder of the year. This shift allows students to practice navigating different schedules and teaching styles within a supportive elementary environment. Congratulations to our 4th graders on an exceptional Wax Museum; we are incredibly proud of the research and poise they displayed. In a wonderful show of civic-mindedness, the students voted to donate all funds raised from the event to the SCES Parents Club for Project Playground. That donation came to just over \$1,000!

On Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, we will host our beloved Annual Book Character Contest and invite all learners to dress as their favorite literary figures. We look forward to welcoming families to join us for this celebration of literacy and creativity. We extend our gratitude to the 5th-grade cafeteria clean-up crew, with a special commendation for Mr. Luke Down. As the only student to serve on the team consistently from the start of the year to the end, Luke's commitment and follow-through set a fantastic example for his peers. We are proud to announce that Luke Down and Rennon Morrissey-Copeland received the Illinois Principals Association Student Leadership Award on April 10<sup>th</sup>. Nominated by teachers and confirmed by a full staff vote, these students serve as exemplary models of character and leadership for our entire school community. There were no questions for Mrs. Mastin.

Stark County Junior High/High School Principal, Megan McGann, shared that IAR Testing for all 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students was completed last week. Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will participate in the Illinois Science Assessment this week to complete our Junior High State Testing. High School Students, Freshmen through Juniors, will complete the PreACT and ACT on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. This will be a non-attendance day for all Seniors. Course registration for next school year has been completed for all High School students with plans to host a Dual Credit Informational Night for parents and students. We recognized our 4 IPA Student Leadership Award winners at the IPA Student Leadership Banquet in Moline, IL on April 10<sup>th</sup> and earlier at tonight's meeting. Congratulations again to Colby Gentle, Abbi Hildebrandt, Claire Bowser, and Owen Mercer – all outstanding students who represent Stark County with Pride & Excellence. Congratulations again to Colby Gentle, who will be recognized as 1 of 15 students in the State of Illinois as the IESA Division F Scholar Attitude Award winner. Colby will be recognized next week in Bloomington, Illinois by the IESA at their annual Celebration of Excellence. Ms. McGann provided a reminder that our Senior Honors Day will be on Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM. The entire staff and student body will attend to recognize the successes of our Senior class. The Stark County Education Foundation (SCEF) Scholarship Committee has worked hard to provide hundreds of thousands of dollars to our students to support their secondary plans. Thank you to our SCEF Interview Committee: Doug Parrott, Ryan Kelly, and Sharon Cauthon for their support of our students. There were no questions for Ms. McGann.

Stark County Superintendent, Brett Elliott, shared that we are proud of the efforts of our SCCI team working in tandem with the county board and all three townships on economic development that is positively impacting our school district and future enrollment growth. Please check out the SCCI Facebook page and the monthly newsletter available on Facebook and in the Rebel Reporter. As we approach many upcoming celebrations including administrative assistants, kitchen staff, custodial, transportation, faculty, support staff and administration, we want to thank everyone who pours the heart and soul into our district and community truly making in the Pride and Excellence of Stark County. Mr. Elliott provided a reminder of some important upcoming dates:

April 22<sup>nd</sup>: ACT & Pre-ACT for 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

April 22<sup>nd</sup>: Seniors College/Career Exploration Off Campus (No School)

April 29<sup>th</sup>: SIP Day, 11:00 am student dismissal

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May 5<sup>th</sup>: 9:00 am, Senior Honors and (Athletics Only) Signing Day  
May 13<sup>th</sup>: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion, 6:00 pm, SCHS Gym  
May 17<sup>th</sup>: High School Graduation, 1:00 pm, SCHS Arena  
May 21<sup>st</sup>: Last Day of School with 11:00 am dismissal for a Staff Institute.

Lastly, Mr. Elliott gave a budget update on expenditures through 75% of fiscal year 2026. He noted that after working with the auditor, it was determined that a budget amendment would not be required this year.

President Orwig asked if there was much damage at the Toulon campus after last Friday's hail storm. Mr. Elliott stated that there had been a lot of hail damage to district vehicles and buildings, and that district staff is currently working with insurance to file a claim. There were no other questions for Mr. Elliott.

President Orwig reminded the board that 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion is May 13<sup>th</sup>, she and Mrs. Leezer plan to attend to represent the board that evening. High School Graduation is May 17<sup>th</sup>, and board members should plan to arrive around 12-12:15 pm.

**Unfinished Business:**

Ms. McGann and Mrs. Mastin presented an overview of the value and the teacher's request to continue our partnership with BIST (Behavior Interventions and Support Team). This is a continued investment in our students and staff working with student behaviors and accountability. All funding is provided via Title I funding. The 2026-27 contract is a reduction from previous years and includes monthly on-site consulting, parent virtual sessions and resources, Vision Team Facilitation and the Annual BIST Leadership Conference at a total of \$19,100. Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve the 2026-27 BIST contract as presented. Ms. Streitmatter seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Board Member Bruce West joined the meeting virtually during the following playground presentation.

Ben Brown and Victor Mullen from Byrne & Jones Parks Construction presented a playground proposal for SCES Parents Club and Board of Education consideration. After previously meeting with Mr. Elliott and Mrs. Mastin to collect details on the potential playground project, Mr. Brown was able to provide two quotes. The first quote was for \$399,000 and included certified installers from Byrne & Jones completing the build start to finish. The second quote of \$263,000 was for a community build requiring 5-10 community volunteers directed by a Byrne & Jones Project Manager and Project Superintendent. Discussion between the board, parents club, and Byrne & Jones included the following details: an increase in swing count, having an inclusive swing on hand for possible future need, details regarding inclusive equipment, the inclusion of a communication board, the possibility of a phased purchase and installation approach, manufacturer lead time required, promotional pricing, etc.

Byrne & Jones indicated that if one of the proposals was approved at tonight's meeting, it would be possible to have the new playground installed and tested before school resumes in August of this year.

After the Byrne and Jones representatives left, the board along with SCES Parents Club President, Karen Lisota, and Secretary, Allison Leezer, discussed this playground presentation versus the previous playground presentation by Team Reil, Inc. back in February of this year. After comparing the two presentations, it was noted that the biggest concern at this time is the replacement of the largest piece of playground equipment. SCES Parents Club President Karen Lisota confirmed that the club could fund \$40,000 towards playground upgrades this year. There was also discussion of a possible donor to sponsor the communication board for the playground. At this time the Board of Education chose not to take action, as there are more questions to ask and research to be done.

The SCES Parents Club officers and the remaining audience left the meeting.

**New Business:**

The first item of new business was an annual approval related to our Title I, II and IV funding for the upcoming school year. Mrs. Mastin provided a brief overview of the Fiscal Year 2027 Consolidated District Plan, including examples of where the Title Funds are used (Rtl, and BIST). Mr. Richards made a motion to approve the 2026-27 Consolidated District Plan and direct the superintendent to submit to ISBE as presented. Seconded by Mr. Rediger. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Next was an annual action to increase the lunch and breakfast fees by 10 cents to ensure affordability to the district in future years. Currently, lunch and breakfast are free to all students thanks to CEP funding.

- Breakfast \$1.70 to \$1.80
- Adult Breakfast \$2.20 to \$2.30
- K-5 Lunch \$2.90 to \$3.00
- 6-8 Lunch \$3.15 to \$3.25
- 9-12 Lunch \$3.40 to \$3.50
- Adult Lunch \$4.00 to \$4.10
- Adult Salad \$3.40 to \$3.50

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve a 10 cent increase on lunch and breakfast fees for the 2026-27 school year. Mrs. Orwig seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Superintendent Elliott presented a second reading of the Annual Summer Project List that includes various facilities projects and updates to prepare for the new school year. Some projects will move into the new school year. This list was created by Maintenance/Facilities Director Bob Bohm with the input of the administrative team. Mr. Richards asked if the hail damage would affect the Summer Project List. Mr. Elliott did not think so, since the materials and labor for hail repairs should be covered by insurance. Mr. Rediger made a motion to approve the 2026 Summer Project List as presented. Seconded by Mr. Richards and passed by a 5-0 vote.

PRESS Policy Issue #121 provides updated language on Student Records, Reorganization and Parent/Family Engagement along with annual five year reviews. This is a first reading and will be up for approval in May. No action taken.

Next was an annual approval to continue to participate in IESA athletics and activities at a total renewal of \$1,365, the cost is slightly down from last year. Mrs. Orwig made a motion to approve the 2026-27 IESA Contract as presented. Ms. Streitmatter seconded. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Superintendent Elliott requested that the board grant him permission to begin budget planning for Fiscal Year 2027. Mrs. Orwig made a motion to approve Superintendent Elliott to begin planning for the 2027 Fiscal Year Budget. Seconded by Mr. Rediger. Passed 5-0.

With the addition of Aflac payroll deduction options for employees, Superintendent Elliott and the District Office have been working with Aflac and the District Attorney to update the District's Section 125 Flexible Benefits Plan for District Employees. Mrs. Orwig made a motion that the new Aflac Plan Document for the District's Section 125 Flexible Benefits Plan for District Employees be approved and effective on May 1, 2026 – subject to any revisions recommended or made by the School District's Attorney – and thereby replacing in its entirety the District's current 125 Plan Document dated Sept 21, 1992. Seconded by Mrs. Leezer. Passed 5-0.

**Items for Next Meeting:**

Approval of PRESS Policy Updates; Final Approval of 2025-26 School Calendar; Possible Approval of FY26 Audit Contract; Approval to let bids for milk, bread, trash, and Rebel Reporter(FY27); Playground Update; Schedule Summer Board Retreat.

**Executive Session:**

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing employee compensation, employee performance, employment of personnel, retirements, and/or resignations at 7:21 pm. Seconded by Mr. Richards. Motion was approved 5-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to reconvene from Executive Session at 7:35 p.m. and to hold the Executive Session minutes, Not for Release. Motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mr. Rediger, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026, Not for Release. Motion was approved 5-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Madelyn (Maddy) Overstreet as the 6-12 Band/Choir Teacher for the 2026-27 school year. Seconded by Mr. Rediger. Motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Mrs. Leezer announced the resignation of Kali Breese, Head High School Cheer Coach, effective immediately.

Mrs. Leezer announced the resignation of Sawyer Newton, Custodian, effective May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to adjourn at 7:36 p.m.  
Motion was approved 5-0.

Ann Orwig  
President

Emily Leezer  
Secretary

Approved 5/18/2026