

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

**Regular Meeting – August 18, 2025**

The Stark County Community Unit School District #100 Board of Education met Monday, August 18, 2025, at the Stark County Elementary School cafeteria. Members present were Emily Leezer, Ann Orwig, Erin Price, Joseph Rediger, and Chelsea Streitmatter. Dane Richards 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; Mike Bunch, IT; Dusty Browning, High School Teacher; Andrea Terwilliger, Mary Jo Groter, and Sarah DeBord, Elementary Teachers; 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.

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

- Approval of the July 21, 2025 Board Minutes;
- Approval of the July Self-Insurance Fund, July Imprest Fund, and July Treasurer's Report;
- Approval of the July LEA checks as follows: City of Wyoming \$351.97, Midwest Bus Leasing, LLC \$24,538.12, Unland Insurance \$118,408.00, Accident Fund Insurance Company of America \$49,963.00, Gerber Life Insurance Co. \$4,168.00, Guardian \$363.23, Guardian \$3,503.57, Guardian \$580.21, Guardian \$491.06, Stark County CUSD #100 \$134,674.97, State Bank of Toulon \$19,122.02, State Bank of Toulon \$4,000,000.00, State of Illinois Fire Marshall \$75.00, Stark County CUSD #100 \$130,679.21, Stark County High School Activity Fund \$2,773.00, VISA \$275.00, VISA \$2,117.27, VISA \$2,952.05, US Postal Service \$500.00, United State Treasury \$399.28, Imprest Fund \$2,946.26.

Motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Next on the agenda was the approval of August bills. Mrs. Orwig asked about the check to Pacific One Source. Mr. Elliott responded that it was for the purchase of touchscreen panels as funded by a STEM grant. Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mrs. Price, to approve the August bills of \$310,142.02. Motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

President Orwig presented Pride & Excellence Recognition to Dusty Browning. Mr. Browning is the kind of guy who can take our breath away with his commitment to our school. Whether it's the need for speed on a transcript review during the summer, a high-flying approach to the Instructional Leadership Team, or creating the Hype Video for SC News and our back-to-school festivities, he's a Maverick who always goes above and beyond. We are so lucky to have him as our wingman! Thank you, Dusty, for all that you do. Ms. McGann added that Mr. Browning helps with so many things around the school that are not his responsibility, he is a great colleague to work with.

Next, President Orwig presented Pride & Excellence Recognition to the SCES Summer BIST Leadership Team. We recognized Mary Jo Groter, Andrea Terwilliger, and Sarah DeBord for their outstanding dedication to our school community. These three teachers spent countless hours rewriting our BIST First 10 Days lessons, breaking them into grade bands to ensure they are intentional and age-appropriate. Their work explicitly teaches our schoolwide expectations, builds community, and provides valuable resources for staff and students alike. Their commitment reaches far beyond their own classrooms, supporting every student and staff member in our school. We are grateful for their vision, teamwork, and dedication to excellence. Mrs. Mastin added that these three are very hard working teachers, who support their fellow teachers and all of the students, and we are happy to have them working here with us.

The honored teachers and members of the community left the meeting, leaving just the press in the crowd.

**Visitor Comments:**

There were no visitor comments.

**Administrative Reports:**

Stark County Elementary School Principal, Emily Mastin, shared that our School Improvement Team met before school started to review our 2024-25 data to establish our two school improvement goals for the 2025-26 school year. We will monitor and report on these goals throughout the year. Literacy Goal: From Spring 2025 to Spring 2026, the percentage of students at or above the 60th percentile will increase by 3% on STAR Early Literacy and Reading Assessments. Math Goal: From Spring 2025 to Spring 2026, the percentage of KG-5th grade learners at or above the 60th percentile will increase by 3% on STAR Math Assessments. Mrs. Down, Mrs. Ford, Mrs. Hildebrandt, Mrs. Colgan, and Mrs. Mastin attended a 2-day workshop at the ROE this summer to analyze many data sets from the 2024-2025 school year and work to write our School Improvement Plan for this school year. This plan is intentional and targeting areas of need identified in our data analysis. We hosted Meet the Teacher Night in conjunction with the SCES Parents Club Back to School Picnic to welcome our families back into the building to start the year off strong. We also hosted Pre-K orientation last week. All events were well attended. Our New Teacher Orientation was a success with our six 1<sup>st</sup> year teachers attending. Our mentors have been hard at work supporting our new teachers and helping make sure they feel like part of our SCES family. Our team is full of optimism and eagerness to be mentored/coached and build their capacity as educators. Our new teachers attended a week long basic BIST training to equip them with the knowledge to start their year strong. We had three teachers (Mrs. Duckworth, Miss Milburn, and Miss Berchtold) who attended a week-long OG training this summer. We are excited to have Mrs. Stage, our interventionist, attend this training in the coming weeks. We have three focuses for our building this year that fall under Earn Your Stripes. We are focusing on providing more intentional math instruction, rolling out a new writing framework in all KG-5th grade classrooms, and focusing on intentional common language, responses, and expectations through the BIST philosophy and framework. Thank you to Mrs. Kunkel who spent many hours and days synthesizing our current writing practices and developing a framework for writing instruction that we are excited to launch this school year. Thank you to Mrs. DeBord, Miss Groter, and Mrs. Terwilliger

who spent many hours rewriting our BIST 10-day lesson plans. They developed specific plans for grade level bands, and created resources to support in teaching. These plans set the foundation of the culture in our building and how we set up our entire learning community for success. Our custodial and maintenance team has worked tirelessly all summer to clean up our building and make it shine for our staff and students' return! Thank you, custodial staff! Mrs. Price asked Mrs. Mastin a question about the literacy goals for this year. There were no other questions for Mrs. Mastin.

Stark County Junior High/High School Principal, Megan McGann, shared that they were still waiting on data from the state regarding student test results before the Junior High/High School can set their data goals for the year. We hosted a Back to School Open House & Orientation for all incoming new students, 6th graders, and 9th graders last week – moving to an all in one inclusive night for students and families to come visit their classrooms, drop off supplies, and ask questions. Our New Teacher Orientation was a success with our 1<sup>st</sup> year teachers attending alongside their assigned mentors. We have six new teachers ranging from their first year in the classroom to veteran status. They all have brought in expertise, high energy, positive outlooks, and demonstrate a willingness to be mentored/coached and grow as educators. Our three building focuses this year fall under our umbrella of Earn Your Stripes and Got Your Six mentality with specific focuses on Coachability, Collective Responsibility, and Intentional Response. We also hosted a Parent Extracurricular Meeting led by our Athletic Director and Admin team – reviewing the Extracurricular Parent Code of Conduct with all students and families that are involved in athletics and arts this school year. IHSA eligibility was also discussed. The Extracurricular meeting was very well attended. Congratulations to our FFA students and sponsors, Ms. Wilkinson and Mr. Parrish. SC FFA has been recognized as a 3 Star Chapter – which is the top 10% in the nation recognition. Our FFA students also finished as National finalists in the 2025 Agriscience Fair. Congratulations to Emma Howell, Addison Nowlan, Preston Hillier, Chelsey Stotler, Toby Williams, Darilis Knobloch, and Jake Primo. They finished 11th in the nation overall! SC Alumni, Chelsey Stotler is also a national finalist for her records on her Ag Science projects. Shout out to Dusty Browning, Dillon Steelman, Kenna Newton, and Emily Demetreon for their efforts in creating the SC 2025 Hype Video! There were no questions for Ms. McGann.

Stark County Superintendent, Brett Elliott, shared that we had a great opening to the 2025-26 school year as we “Earn Our Stripes”. We again want to thank our maintenance/custodial staff, unit office staff, transportation director, and building administration for all of their efforts preparing for the opening of the school year. We take great pride in our communication here at SC100 and encourage our parents and families to listen and/or read the principals and superintendent weekly messages to set every student up for daily success. We want to wish our students, faculty, staff, administration and student-athletes a successful new school year as we “Earn Our Stripes” in the new year. We want to remind the community that we have Reserved “Red Seats” available for home Rebels Football. You can reserve your seats by contacting Cindy Jenkins at the high school. Mr. Ballentine (press) asked what Mr. Elliott meant by “Earn Your Stripes.” Mr. Elliott responded that it was our theme for this school year, which includes a points system for staff to earn stripes throughout the year. There were no other questions for Mr. Elliott.

**Unfinished Business:**

PRESS Issue #119 is a five year review with no significant policy changes. Mrs. Orwig made a motion to approve PRESS Policy Issue #119 as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Leezer, passed with a 5-0 vote.

**New Business:**

Superintendent Elliott presented the Fiscal Year 2026 tentative budget. He shared assumptions in regards to funding, rising health insurance costs, reduction in transportation reimbursements, CPS returning to Tier I status and SC100 remaining Tier III funding, and the future of federal and state funding including Title funding cuts projected up to ⅔ beginning next year that would impact our education fund. Mrs. Leezer asked Mr. Elliott if he could pull some figures from last year's budget so that the board could compare them side by side to this tentative budget. Mrs. Price asked why the Fund 90 ending balance was so low. Mr. Elliott explained that he prepared the budget with a "worst case" scenario, projecting spending higher than planned so that if unexpected expenditures arise, then we shouldn't have to amend the budget because we have already budgeted extra monies in each fund. This is how he has prepared the budget for the past several years. Mr. Rediger made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2026 Tentative Budget as presented and place the budget on display for the next 30 days and hold a public hearing and approval on September 22, 2025. Seconded by Ms. Streitmatter. Motion passed with 5-0 vote.

Due to Senate Bill #28, the student growth portion of the teacher evaluation tool has been removed unless the PERA Joint Committee elected to continue this process. The PERA Joint Committee voted unanimously to remove student growth from the teacher evaluation tool effective at the start of the 2025-26 school year. An MOU that was verbally agreed upon between the teacher association and the district is up for approval tonight based on the committee recommendation. Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the teacher association and board of education to remove student growth from the teacher evaluation tool effective at the start of the 2025-26 school year as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Price. Passed 5-0.

Next was an annual approval to let fuel bids for December 2025 through November 2026. Mrs. Orwig made a motion to approve the superintendent to let fuel bids as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Leezer. Passed 5-0.

Mr. Elliott recommended the following dates for High School Graduation and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion for the Class of 2026:

Senior Class of 2026 Last Day of School: Friday, May 8, 2026

Class of 2026 Graduation: Sunday, May 17, 2026 at 1:00 pm in the New High School Gym, All High School Staff Required to Attend.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion & Last Day of School: Wednesday May 13, 2026 with the ceremony at 6:00 pm in the Old High School Gym, All Junior High Staff Required to Attend.

Mr. Elliott noted that High School Graduation would fall on the weekend after Mother's Day, not on Mother's Day. President Orwig noted that her son would be graduating from college on the same day as graduation so she will not be able to attend.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve the 2026 Graduation and Promotion dates as presented. Seconded by Ms. Streitmatter. Passed 5-0.

As a follow up to the July board retreat, the board has reviewed and revised short term and long term goals beginning this school year. Mrs. Orwig reminded the board that this is not a guarantee that all of these things will happen, these are just goals to work towards. Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve the Board Goals beginning the 2025-26 school year as presented. Seconded by Mr. Rediger. Motion passed 5-0.

In order to stay competitive along with the LTC approved football officials' rates, your packet includes a recommendation from Athletic Director Brown. Mr. Rediger made a motion to approve the official's rates as presented for the 2025-26 school year. Seconded by Mrs. Leezer. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mr. Elliott shared that the City of Toulon has applied for a \$250,000 "Safe Routes to School" IDOT Grant that would improve sidewalks and handicap accessibility on Miller St. and Jefferson St. leading to the public library. This competitive grant is on a points system and the school district's support is a way to earn additional points through this board discussion, a letter of support, offering open public comments, and parent and student surveys. No action taken.

President Orwig led a discussion in regards to individual board members visiting each campus first and second semester to replace the annual winter retreat as implemented last year. President Orwig encouraged board members to reach out to each Principal in order to schedule a visit in the upcoming semester. No action taken.

**Items for Next Meeting:**

Approval of FY26 Budget; Award Fuel Bids.

**Executive Session:**

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Ms. Streitmatter, to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing employee compensation, non-renewals, employee performance, employment of personnel, and/or resignations at 6:43 p.m. Motion was approved 5-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to reconvene from Executive Session at 6:47 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 Mrs. Price, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of July 21, 2025, Not for Release. Motion was approved 5-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Alexa Germosen as Junior Class Sponsor for the 2025-26 school year. Mrs. Orwig seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Mrs. Leezer announced the resignation of Cole Hartley as High School Yearbook Sponsor.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Betsy Duneheew as High School Yearbook Sponsor for the 2025-26 school year. Seconded by Mrs. Price, passed 5-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to Nathanael Hernandez as a Long Term Substitute Teacher for Spanish and ESL, pending paperwork. Mrs. Orwig seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Jeff Appenheimer as a van driver. Mr. Rediger seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Rick Schertz as a Junior High/High School AM Supervisor. Seconded by Ms. Streitmatter, passed 5-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Jackie Carroll as Freshman Class Sponsor. Mrs. Orwig seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Jason Clark as a Junior High/High School Lunch Supervisor. Mr. Rediger seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Charity Turnbull as BIST Aide Consultant at the Junior High/High School. Seconded by Mrs. Orwig and passed by a 5-0 vote.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Diana Gilles as a Part-Time SCES RTI Specialist. Mrs. Price seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve the following fall volunteer coaches: James Owens (High School Cross Country), Joe Charvat (High School Football), Michael Schott (Junior High Baseball), Tim/TJ Giesenhagen (Junior High Baseball), Jordan Walton (Junior High Baseball student volunteer, not coach), Bruce West (Junior High Softball), Lauren West (Junior High Softball), and Rob Finney (High School Golf). Seconded by Mrs. Orwig, passed by a 5-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mrs. Price, to adjourn at 6:50 p.m. Motion was approved 5-0.

Ann Orwig  
President

Emily Leezer  
Secretary

Approved 9/22/2025