

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

Regular Meeting – April 15, 2024

The Stark County Community Unit School District #100 Board of Education met Monday, April 15, 2024, at the Stark County Elementary School cafeteria. Members present were Ann Orwig, Erin Price, Brian Rewerts, and Dane Richards. Emily Leezer, Joseph Rediger, and Bruce West were absent. Also present were Brett Elliott, Superintendent; Jenna Bibb, Elementary Principal; Megan McGann, Jr./Sr. High School Principal; Mike McGovern, Jr./Sr. High School Assistant Principal; Rebecca Lane, Unit Clerical/Payroll Clerk; a member of the press; a few SCES staff members; Jackson Osborn, an SCES student; and members of the community.

After waiting for a quorum to be present, the meeting was called to order by President, Mrs. Orwig, at 6:19 p.m.

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

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

- Approval of the March 18, 2024 Board Minutes and March 25, 2024 Special 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 \$625.60, Guardian \$344.75, Guardian \$3,098.28, Guardian \$576.06, Guardian \$454.31, Stark County CUSD #100 \$149,436.56, Michelle Loeffler \$437.50, Stark County CUSD #100 \$173,923.45, Michelle Loeffler \$437.50, Angela Roark \$1,100.00, VISA \$1,312.25, VISA \$709.83, VISA \$1,470.34, VISA \$1,527.36, Raptor Technologies \$1,250.00, Imprest Fund \$7,715.11.

Motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.

Next on the agenda was the approval of April bills. Seeing no questions, a motion was made by Mr. Rewerts, seconded by Mrs. Price, to approve the April bills for the total of \$492,691.90. Motion was approved 4-0.

President Orwig presented Pride and Excellence Recognition to our SCES Title I teacher, Courtney Kunkel, for her work planning and hosting this year's Family Literacy Night. She organized 9 "cafes" with staff baristas who shared samples of books and drinks. Her attention to detail and creativity seen through our photo booth are second to none! She and her husband even baked 400 cake pops for the cake pop walk. Mrs. Orwig, on behalf of the board, thanked Mrs. Kunkel for her creativity, organization, and hard work that come from her enthusiasm for literacy. We appreciate her and her team's hard work putting on this great event. Thank you, Mrs. Kunkel.

Next, President Orwig presented Pride and Excellence Recognition to SCES 5th grade student, Jackson Osborn, for his ongoing volunteer work in the SCES cafeteria. Throughout the year, Ms. Terrie has a variety of fifth grade volunteers who help clean the cafeteria following the last lunch. Jackson has been the one consistent volunteer who has persisted throughout the year in helping. We appreciate his leadership and service.

Visitor Comments:

There were no visitor comments.

Administrative Reports:

Stark County Elementary School Principal, Jenna Bibb, shared that our state testing is completed, including Illinois Assessment of Readiness, Illinois Science Assessment, Dynamic Learning Maps, and ACCESS. We are currently celebrating School Library Month with daily Library Trivia and the Book Character Contest. We have concluded other literacy activities including our Reading Bingo Celebration and Family Literacy Night. Thanks to Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Kunkel, and Mrs. Rennick for planning these events! Our PLCs are wrapping up their Cycles of Inquiry school improvement projects under the direction of our ILT. The fourth grade team hosted the annual Wax Museum last Thursday! It was well attended and complemented by families. Our fourth graders did a great job presenting historical figures to the community. Congratulations to Tryson Blakey and Hailey Lane for being awarded the Illinois Principals' Association Student Leadership Awards from SCES! We attended a breakfast and program on Friday, April 11th in celebration. Emily Mastin, Jackie Colgan, Kellie Wilke, and Lexi Davis will represent SCES at the BIST Vision Team Conference on April 26-27. Upcoming events include Kindergarten Signing Day on Monday, April 22 from 3:30-5:30 pm, 5th Grade is taking a Field Trip to Spring Planting Days on Thursday, April 25th, 4th Grade will go to the Stark County Historical Society on Thursday, April 25th, the Children's Book Character Contest will be on Friday, April 26th at 1:30 pm, the 2nd Grade Field Trip will be to the Orpheum Theater on Friday, May 3rd, 1st Grade Storyteller Day is Monday, May 6th, 1st Grade's Field Trip to Elevate will be on Tuesday, May 14th, 5th Grade students will visit the Junior High on Tuesday, May 14th. There were no questions for Mrs. Bibb.

Stark County Junior High/High School Principal, Megan McGann, shared that IAR, PSAT, SAT, and ISA testing are all taking place during the month of April. Students and staff have spent SIP/PD days preparing to put their best towards the tests. We continue to push the growth mindset for all students to show improvement and raise their score from the previous year. Fine Arts students participated in both the LTC Art Festival and Henry/Stark Art Festival. Several of our students took home recognition in multiple areas. We are very proud of their talent and the support from Mrs. DeBolt. We want to recognize our SC students who participated in the Martin Motion Robotics Competition season. This is a non-SC based program, but one where our students find valuable problem-solving skills and success. The Martin Motion Team is very supportive of the school team and we want to recognize the hard work and success that they have each year. Over this past weekend we hosted the musical, *Mean Girls* with productions on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. We want to recognize Mrs. Bush and Miss Elswick for their hard work putting on the production, as they each took on their very first high

school musical. Additional recognition goes to Mr. Bunch who assisted with all musical tech and Mr. McGovern who had a starring role! There were no questions for Ms. McGann.

Stark County Superintendent, Mr. Elliott, shared that we have been working with Farnsworth on our Electric Bus Grant in anticipation of the release of the funding to begin our bus barn project on the SCES campus. Funding should be coming mid-May. Fencing has been installed at the Toulon campus and work on the new gym project will begin this month with steel and precast starting in June. The track project will continue in the upcoming weeks once the asphalt companies reopen for the season. We have gathered all feedback from our stakeholders via our Strategic Plan/Guiding Coalition Survey and will be sharing that feedback with our subcommittees to utilize for our April SIP day. Mr. Elliott reminded the board and those in attendance of some upcoming dates. SAT/PSAT is scheduled for April 18; Prom/After Prom will be on April 20; 8th grade ISA testing will take place April 22-26; 11th grade ISA testing will take place April 23, April 24 is a SIP day with 11:00 am student dismissal; May 7 we will host Senior Honors Day (Ms. McGann added that Senior Signing Day has been scheduled for right after the Senior Honors Day event.); May 8 will be this year's Senior's Last Day; High School Graduation is on Sunday, May 12; 8th Grade Last Day and Promotion ceremony will be on May 15; the last day of school for all students is May 24 with 11:00 am student dismissal. Mrs. Orwig reminded the board that all members should be present at High School Graduation. The board then determined that Mrs. Price would represent the board at 8th Grade Promotion. Mr. Elliott concluded his report with a budget update on expenditures through 75% of fiscal year 2024. There were no questions for Mr. Elliott.

Unfinished Business:

Mr. Elliott presented an annual approval to continue participation in IESA athletics and competitions at a total cost of \$1,440.00. Mr. Richards made a motion to approve the IESA contract for the 2024-25 school year as presented. Mrs. Price seconded and motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

New Business:

Superintendent Elliott shared an overview of the March 2024 PRESS Policy Issue #114. Updates focus in the areas of Bullying, Racism-Free Schools, Title IX, and Violence Prevention in regards to policy, administrative procedures and exhibits. The board will review these in more detail at a Policy Committee Meeting to be held prior to the May board meeting. This was a first reading of PRESS Policy Issue #114, no action was taken.

Each year the district increases the lunch and breakfast fees by 10 cents to ensure affordability to the district. Mr. Rewerts made a motion to approve a 10 cent increase on lunch and breakfast fees for the 2024-25 school year. Mr. Richards seconded. Passed 4-0. This increase brings the 2024-25 breakfast fee to \$1.60, K-5 lunch fee to \$2.80, 6-8 lunch fee to \$3.05, 9-12 lunch fee to \$3.30, and adult lunch fee to \$3.80.

Our current CEP Grant for free breakfast and lunch for all students ends at the conclusion of this school year. The criteria has been reduced from 40% to 25%. If approved, we will be able to provide free lunch and breakfast to all students for

four more years. Mrs. Orwig made a motion to approve the submission of the application for the CEP Grant for 2024-2028. Mr. Rewerts seconded. Motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Mrs. Bibb shared that the SCES Instructional Leadership Team would like to request \$1,495 for a one-year pilot for Mystery Science. This request comes as a response to last year's curriculum alignment work that identified gaps between our current science materials and the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). This year, each of our ILT members has utilized Mystery Science free trials. They have found the materials to be high-interest, hands-on, and more aligned with NGSS. The lessons are shorter and more manageable for the time allotted to science in our master schedule. We plan to utilize existing materials from our FOSS kits to support the Mystery Science curriculum. Mr. Rewerts made a motion to approve the Mystery Science curriculum pilot as presented at a cost of \$1,495 for the 2024-25 school year. Seconded by Mrs. Price and approved by a 4-0 vote.

Mr. Elliott shared that the silver track shed is in dire need of repair and redesign to prepare for the new track equipment. We have received a local quote from Skip Turnbull to rehab the front of the shed and remove and replace the large door that is currently unsafe for use. The cost of labor, supplies and equipment is \$7,814. Mrs. Orwig made a motion to approve the track shed upgrade project at a cost of \$7,814 as presented. Mr. Richards seconded and the motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

With Ms. McGann expecting a baby this fall (It's a boy!), Mr. Elliott would like to pursue a retired administrator (or administrators), with the ability to conduct teacher evaluations, to manage the day-to-day operations of the school at SCJSH during her maternity leave. Mr. Rewerts asked for clarification; Mr. Elliott confirmed that if two retired administrators were found then would they split the days in order to keep one administrator in the building each day. Mr. Richards made a motion to approve the superintendent to seek administrative maternity coverage for the fall of 2024 at SCJSH as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Price and approved by a 4-0 vote.

Superintendent Elliott shared the 2024 Summer Maintenance Project List Draft created in collaboration with Facilities Director, Bob Bohm. The draft list was provided for board member review and will be up for approval at the May meeting. No action taken.

Mrs. Orwig asked if any student workers would be hired for the summer to help with the tasks on the Summer Maintenance Project List and if those students would be paid by a grant through CareerLink again this year. Mr. Elliott responded that they did plan to hire summer student workers and he is hoping to find out soon if there is any grant money available. If not, the plan is for the student workers to be hired by the district. Student workers will be up for approval at the next meeting.

Mrs. Price asked which shed was to be torn down per the Summer Project List Draft. Mr. Elliott responded that it is the one by the dug out that doesn't have a door. Mr. Rewerts agreed that the shed is an eye sore.

Per the recommendation of the District Insurance Committee, Mr. Elliott shared that they would like to set up a date to reach out to health insurance agencies to consider our options for the upcoming school year. Annually this has been held in the fall, but the recommendation of the committee is to move it up in case a change of provider would occur thus providing enough time for a smooth roll over. A date of either May 21, 22, or 23 will be explored. No action taken.

Items for Next Meeting:

Approval of Solar Grant bids; Second Reading and Possible Approval of PRESS Update; Approval of Auditor Contract; JFL Donation Recognition; Education Committee; First Reading of the 2024-25 Handbooks; Possible Art/Music Student Recognition; First Reading of Budget Amendment.

Executive Session:

Motion was made by Mrs. Price, seconded by Mr. Richards, to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing employee compensation, non-renewals, employee performance, future employment of personnel and resignations at 6:51 p.m. Motion was approved 4-0.

Motion was made by Mr. Richards, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to reconvene from Executive Session at 7:04 p.m. and to hold the Executive Session minutes, Not for Release. Motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mr. Richards, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of March 18, 2024, Not for Release. Motion was approved 4-0.

Motion was made by Mr. Richards, seconded by Mr. Rewerts, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of March 25, 2024, Not for Release. Motion was approved 4-0.

Motion was made by Mr. Richards to approve Alexa Beharelle as Junior High Social Studies Teacher for the 2024-25 school year. Mrs. Orwig seconded and the motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Richards made a motion to approve Joe Charvat as High School Football Assistant Coach for the 2024-25 school year. Mr. Rewerts seconded; motion passed 4-0.

Motion was made by Mr. Richards, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to adjourn at 7:05 p.m. Motion was approved 4-0.

Ann Orwig
President

Emily Leezer
Secretary