

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

Regular Meeting – April 17, 2023

The Stark County Community Unit School District #100 Board of Education met Monday, April 17, 2023, at the Stark County Elementary School cafeteria. Members present were Emily (Holman) Leezer, Matthew Nagode, Ann Orwig, Erin Price, Brian Rewerts, and David Steward. Bruce West was 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; Mike Bunch, IT; members of the community; and a member of the press.

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by President, Mrs. Orwig, at 6:01 p.m.

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

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

- Approval of the March 20, 2023 minutes;
- Approval of the March Elementary Activity Funds, March JH/HS Activity Funds, March Self-Insurance Fund, March Imprest Fund, and February Treasurer's Report;
- Approval of the March LEA checks as follows: City of Wyoming \$517.81, Guardian \$333.94, Guardian \$2,946.78, Guardian \$528.31, Guardian \$392.70, Stark County CUSD #100 \$145,187.10, Illinois Department of Employment Security \$2,395.75, Michelle Loeffler \$437.50, ALCO Design Group \$2,970.00, Stark County CUSD #100 \$161,009.51, Michelle Loeffler \$437.50, Mary Meaker \$225.00, Midwest Bus Sales \$190.37, Amazon \$3,734.98, VISA \$19.58, VISA \$1,028.61, VISA \$368.70, Turnbull's Precision Painting \$5,860.00, Imprest Fund \$5,171.24.

Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Next on the agenda was the approval of April bills. Mr. Nagode asked if Green Street Schools was a new vendor. Mr. Elliott responded that Econergy had changed their company name to Green Street. Mrs. Price asked if the purchase of the batting cage was for softball or baseball. Mr. Elliott responded that it was for softball. Mr. Steward commented that he did not see a payment for the new building on this month's bills and asked if that meant they were at 100% with the building payments. Mr. Elliott responded that there would still be another payment because of the wall that was rebuilt over spring break. Motion was made by Mrs. Price, seconded by Mrs. (Holman) Leezer, to approve the April bills of \$214,267.44. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Mrs. Orwig presented Pride and Excellence Recognition to the following students: Sarah Kraklow, Caleb Klemm, Mark Wagner, Alexis Martinez, Emily Hurst, Olivia O'Bryant, and Piper Tyree. At the 2023 Illinois Music Education Association Contest held in March, these seven Stark County High School students were awarded "Best of Day" honors. We are so proud of these students and appreciate the efforts of our Music Director, Angie Roark.

Principal McGann shared a few notes from Mrs. Roark who explained that the judges voted this ensemble as “Best of Day” meaning that after watching performances for 7 hours that day, they voted this performance as the best they saw all day.

President Orwig then presented special board honors to Mr. Nagode and Mr. Steward, including a plaque and gift from the board. Mr. Nagode and Mr. Steward served eight years on the board of education and have been valuable assets during this time. Tonight is their last board meeting. Mr. Nagode spoke, noting that eight years went by fast and that he had learned a lot in his time on the board. He looks forward to continuing being a part of Stark County, now from a parent’s point of view. Mr. Steward spoke, stating that it was an honor to be a member of the board over the past eight years and through the construction of the new high school.

Visitor Comments:

There were no visitor comments.

Board President Report:

President Orwig provided an update on the upcoming seating of the new board of education members that will be held at a special board meeting on Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 6:00 pm at the Stark County Elementary School cafeteria. The voter results have not yet been certified, therefore we will hold this special board meeting next week.

Committee Report:

No report.

Administrative Reports:

Stark County Elementary School Principal, Jenna Bibb, shared that March and April PLCs are continuing to focus on alignment between learning standards, curriculum materials, and report card assessments. The fourth grade hosted an in-person Wax Museum for the first time since 2019. It was well attended and complimented by families. Our fourth graders did a great job presenting historical figures to the community. Congratulations to Carter Down and Autumn Endress for being awarded the Illinois Principals Association Student Leadership Awards from SCES. They attended a breakfast and program with Mrs. Bibb on Friday, April 14th in celebration. There are a lot of events coming up in the last two months of the school year, including the Children’s Book Character Costume Contest on Friday, April 21st and several field trips.

Mr. Nagode added that the Wax Museum was fun and that he could feel the tension towards the end as students were ready to be done after a long evening. Mrs. Bibb added that several different skills are included in this one event: researching, writing, and memorizing a short speech as well as performing that speech for the community.

Stark County Junior High/High School Principal, Megan McGann, shared that master scheduling for both high school and junior high courses is in progress. Counselors have met with each individual high school student to input their course requests for the Fall 2023 semester. Four of our student leaders were recognized at the Illinois Principals’ Association Leadership Breakfast in Moline on Friday, April 14th. Congratulations to Caleb Gentle, Selah Stubbs, Andrew Hurst, and Lauren West. IAR Testing, PSAT, and

SAT testing is mostly completed, with just a few makeups that need to take place. The Illinois Science Assessment will be taken by our 8th grade and Junior classes next Friday. The Stark County Education Foundation scholarship application interviews took place on April 13, 2023 with Mr. Mueller, Mr. Parrott, and Mrs. Hampton on the interview panel. We had 18 outstanding applicants apply and interview to qualify for scholarships this year. Ms. McGann mentioned that it was humbling to be a part of this interview process, as it is hard to sit in front of three strangers and talk about yourself. The most common answer to one of the questions was that the students wished they had gotten more involved sooner. Our high school track teams continue to build up recognition in both girls' and boys' track. We had several top times at indoor track and continue to record personal records and break school records in multiple events for both teams. Senior Signing Day took place on Friday, April 14th recognizing five Senior athletes that signed letters of intent to compete at the next level. Congratulations to Ryne Hillan (Wartburg College – Baseball), Paige Rewerts (Elmhurst University – Track/Cross Country), Colby Stotler (University of Wisconsin-Platteville – Football), Xander Swank (Quincy University – Football), and Cam Watson (Quincy University – Sprint Football). There are several important dates coming up, including Senior Awards, NHS Ceremony, Graduation, Junior High Awards, and 8th grade promotion. There were no questions for Ms. McGann.

Stark County Superintendent, Mr. Elliott reminded everyone that we are holding a Community Open House for the Junior/Senior High campus this Wednesday, April 19, 2023 from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm. We have invited all previous Superintendents as part of our 30th Anniversary Celebration. This event will include tours of the new high school and junior high renovations including the recently opened campus library. We want to thank Bob Bohm and the custodial team of Terrie Patterson, Jailynn Mercer, Caleb Otten, Tim Faber, Kasey Juskiv, and our student workers for their efforts over spring break which included a thorough cleaning of both campuses. Some additional facility projects were completed since our last board meeting, including the rebuild of the corridor wall behind the junior high gym, new signage at the entrance of the junior/senior high, a commemorative plaque for the opening of the new high school, new LTC banners installed at the main gym and complex, the complex gym painting project was completed in late March, the junior/senior high school grounds were graded and seeded, painting of the junior high stairways completed, rock has been brought in and digging has begun on the junior high parking lot project with a projected June completion. This week we are sending administrators and a few teachers to a two-day BIST Leadership Training as the next step in our implementation process. This builds capacity beyond administrators, creating teacher leaders with the BIST process. Out of 18 Bradford eighth grade students, 16 plan to attend Stark County High School next school year. A reminder of a few upcoming important dates: April 26 - SIP Day with 11:00 am dismissal, May 6 - Prom, May 9 - Senior Honors Day, May 10 - Seniors last day, May 14 - Graduation, May 17 - 8th Grade Promotion, and May 26 - last day of school with 11:00 am student dismissal. Mr. Elliott concluded with a budget update on expenditures through 75% of fiscal year 2023 and reminded the board that we will need to amend the budget before the end of the year because we received more interest than anticipated in one of the funds. There were no questions for Mr. Elliott.

Unfinished Business:

Superintendent Elliott provided an update regarding the commercials produced by the Stark Council for Continuous Improvement. In the fall of 2020, the Stark Council for Continuous Improvement was formed of local community leadership working collaboratively with the school district leadership for continuous improvement throughout our entire community. Throughout the past three years, new partnerships have been formed, old partnerships reunited, and new energy formed for growth of our community. On April 3, 2023, Elle Benway, VP of Marketing from Discover Peoria presented to SCCI an opportunity for further marketing of Stark County. This fits with the efforts of SCCI over the past couple of years. A follow up presentation will be held on May 10th, hosting over 70 local business and leadership individuals from throughout the community to join in this marketing effort. In addition, SCCI has produced a second professional commercial with a feature on local manufacturing. A third and fourth commercial are in the works. Mr. Elliott then showed the second commercial and noted that they had heard a lot of positive feedback. Mrs. Orwig thanked Mr. Elliott for the update.

New Business:

An annual action is taken to increase the lunch and breakfast fees by 10 cents to ensure affordability to the district. This district is currently participating in free breakfast and lunch programs; this annual increase will keep us on track for when we go back to paying for meals. Mr. Steward made a motion to approve increasing lunch and breakfast fees by 10 cents for the 2023-24 school year as presented. Mr. Nagode seconded and motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

Mr. Elliott provided copies of the PRESS Policy Updates to the board. There are several language changes to policies and procedures in the March 2023 ISSUE 111 from PRESS that we will look to adopt in May. The majority of the changes center on the new legislation requirements for reporting sexual misconduct. There will be some additional clerical work to go along with these requirements. We currently have Lynette Stevens assisting in the district office, so this may become one of her tasks. No action taken.

Superintendent Elliott presented the proposed Professional Development Plan for ongoing BIST implementation for the 2023-24 school year. Via survey, teachers reported BIST training as the top need for the upcoming year. This plan provides a two-day full staff training, visits throughout the semester, and a leadership conference in January 2024. Up to 100% of the cost will come via Title I funding in fiscal year 2024 at a total cost of \$27,200. This is also part of the approved Board Goals for FY24 and beyond. Mrs. Orwig added that she has heard a lot of positive feedback from teachers, including some saying that BIST is some of the best professional development they'd had. Mr. Rewerts made a motion to approve the BIST Professional Development Plan for fiscal year 2024 as presented at a cost of \$27,200. Mrs. Price seconded and the motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

Superintendent Elliott presented the formation of the District Coalition Team and Strategic Planning Project. The plan is to explore all aspects of the district which center on a "Community of Learners". He stated that numerous sub-committees will be formed and that they will be made up of faculty, staff, parents, board members, and administrators. Through COVID we learned that including staff and the community in the decision making process, has resulted in less resistance and more ownership in the decisions that are made. Work over the next eight months will lead to a 3-5 year strategic plan. The cost to the district will be payroll costs for additional hours worked over the summer. Mrs. Orwig asked for clarification that there will be opportunities for board members to be on a committee. Mr. Elliott responded, that board members can be on a committee and that there will also be surveys in which the board members can participate if they did not want to be on a committee. No action taken.

Another annual action item is to renew our membership to compete in IESA athletics with a cost of \$1,385 for the 2023-24 school year. Mrs. Orwig made a motion to approve the annual IESA contract for the 2023-24 school year at a cost of \$1,385 as presented. Motion was seconded by Mr. Nagode and passed with a 6-0 vote.

Superintendent Elliott presented a design for refinishing the Athletic Complex Gym floor. It has been decades since the last sanding and refinishing. This will add years of life to the floor and complete the internal upgrades to the complex gym. This is another approved Board Goal and can be completed in the near future. He recommended the approval of Quality Floor Care at \$18,073 to be completed in the summer of 2023 utilizing the fiscal year 2024 budget. The design is a simple two color design with a large SC logo in the center of the floor and "Lady Rebels" on each endline. Mr. Nagode asked how many sandings were left on the gym floor. Mr. Elliott answered that it had been so long since the floor was last refinished that they could not find record of how many sandings were left, but once the floor is sanded they should be able to tell us how many sandings are left. Mr. Rewerts asked if stain counted as a paint color as the quote mentions 3 colors. Mr. Elliott responded that he would have to ask. Mr. Rewerts pointed out that a coaching box and center line are required by IHSA but missing from the draft design. Everyone agreed that if we are going to go through with the project, we want to do it right and not have to use tape on the floor to meet IHSA requirements. Mr. Elliott plans to bring those items to the company's attention and get new drafts of the design. Mrs. Price stated that she would also like to see block lettering for the "Lady Rebels" endlines instead of cursive as the cursive font can be difficult to read on the floor. Mr. Nagode asked if there would be scheduling conflicts during the completion of this project. Mr. Elliott responded that the sooner the project is approved, the easier it will be to work around all the summer sport schedules. Mr. Ballentine (member of the press) added that there was not a 10 second line on the draft shown in the presentation. Mr. Rewerts replied that the 10 second line is the coaching box that he was talking about earlier. Mrs. (Holman) Leezer made a motion to approve the Athletic Complex Gym Floor project, pending clarifications and drafts of the block lettering at a cost of \$18,073 by Quality Floor Care. Mr. Steward seconded and motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

Items for Next Meeting:

Budget Amendment First Reading and Public Hearing; Possible approval of Auditor Contract; Approval to let bids for bread, milk, Rebel Reporter, and trash pick-up.

Executive Session:

Motion was made by Mr. Nagode, seconded by Mr. Rewerts, to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing employee compensation, performance, and resignations at 6:50 p.m. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mr. Nagode, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to reconvene from Executive Session at 7:08 p.m. and to hold the Executive Session minutes, Not for Release. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mr. Nagode, seconded by Mr. Steward, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of March 20, 2023, Not for Release. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Mr. Nagode made a motion to approve Jackie Carroll as summer technology support worker for 2023. Mrs. Orwig seconded and motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

Mr. Nagode made a motion to approve Lori Wineland as High School ELA Teacher for the 2023-24 school year. Mrs. (Holman) Leezer seconded. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mr. Nagode, seconded by Mr. Steward, to approve Brooke Lancaster as the 2023 Summer School Junior/Senior High School APEX Coordinator and Tutor. Motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

Mr. Nagode announced the resignation of Seth King as lunch supervisor, due to schedule conflicts, for the remainder of the 2022-23 school year.

Motion was made by Mr. Nagode, seconded by Mr. Steward, to adjourn at 7:11 p.m. Motion was approved 6-0.

Ann Orwig
President

Matt Nagode
Secretary

Approved 4/26/2023