

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

Regular Meeting – August 16, 2021

The Stark County Community Unit School District #100 Board of Education met Monday, August 16, 2021 at Stark County High School. Members present were Emily Holman, Ann Orwig, Erin Price, Brian Rewerts, David Steward and Bruce West. Also present were Brett Elliott, Superintendent; Megan McGann, Jr.High/High School Principal; Anne Snyder, Jr.High/High School Asst. Principal; Mike Bunch, IT Director; Kate Swise, Attorney; staff and citizens of the district and a member of the press. (Matthew Nagode was absent.)

With a quorum present the meeting was called to order by President, Mrs. Orwig, at 6:06 p.m.

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

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

- Approval of the July 19, 2021 minutes;
- Approval of the July Self-Insurance;
- Approval of the July LEA checks as follows: City of Wyoming \$212.94, James Unland & Company, Inc. \$85,559.00, Accident Fund \$46,326.00, Gerber Life Insurance Company \$4,114.00, Stark County CUSD 100 \$117,390.81, Guardian \$359.32, Guardian \$2,995.52, Guardian \$554.91, Guardian \$495.87, State Bank of Toulon \$3,000,000.00, Stark County CUSD #100 \$123,041.94, U.S. Treasury \$99.06, VISA \$1,240.18, VISA \$45.34, VISA \$2,353.58, Imprest Fund \$1,522.07.

Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Mr. Elliott explained due to time involved in preparing the budget and ESSER III grant, the bills were not available for the meeting, but would be completed by the end of the week. Motion was made by Mr. Steward, seconded by Mrs. Price, give Mr. Elliott the authority to approve the August bills. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Public Comments:

Chris Hatfield addressed the Board regarding concerns regarding the mask mandate and the effect on students' health. She recently created a Facebook group called "Unmask the Students" in an attempt to push the school board to not follow the mandate. She requested a half-day school schedule be considered if the mandate is followed.

Gloria McCauley addressed the Board with concerns regarding the mask mandate. She asked that the Board consider not following the mandate, or if following the mandate to consider going back to last year's half-day schedule.

Mr. Elliott asked Kate Swise, attorney from Miller, Hall & Triggs, to address the board regarding the mask mandate. She stated the public act for public schools had been issued recently (after the public act for non-public schools). Each of the public acts have possible sanctions including accreditation, loss of funding, loss of diploma status and

loss of athletics through the IHSA and IESA. She recommended the board follow the mask mandate and reiterated that the mandate is law. The district would put itself in jeopardy of possible law suits for not following the mandate where they are protected from such lawsuits by following the mandate which is law.

Pride and Excellence recognition were awarded to the custodial staff and summer crew: Terrie Mercer, Jailynn Mercer, Terrie Patterson, Caleb Otten, Tim Faber, Morgan Coats, Mackenzie Tilch Jacob Best, Kylee Frisby, Jack Winans, Marley Hillan, Freddy Painter, and Andrew Hurst –and- the summer tech support team Mike Bunch and Matthew Roark.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: Mr. West reported on the Insurance Committee meeting held August 6th. The Insurance Committee agreed to continue with the Self-Funded Health Insurance plan with a 10% increase in premium.

Henry-Stark Special Education: Mrs. Orwig reported a meeting is scheduled for this coming Thursday.

Mrs. Orwig distributed the final application packet for the 2021 School Board Governance Award submitted for the Stark County CUSD #100 Board of Education.

Administrative Reports:

Mr. Elliott shared Mrs. Bibb's report in her absence (she was at the Elementary "Meet the Teacher Picnic"). Enrollment at the Elementary is 306, a slight increase over last year. The staff is continuing the implementation of the Orten-Gillingham Curriculum, Eureka Math, English-Language Arts series, and Heggerty phonemic awareness.

Ms. McGann reported the enrollment for grades 6-12 is 385 students. Jr. High ELA teachers spent the summer working on the new curriculum. High School teachers are implementing new tech programs to implement their curriculum, including IT and HS Science courses. There are forty high school students enrolled to take Dual Credit courses at Black Hawk East fall semester. New Teacher Orientation was held August 10th for first and second year teachers in the District. A "Back to School" night will be held September 9th for students and families in grades 6-12. A Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) will be implemented for the 2021-2022 school year. An open house for 6th graders, 9th graders and any student new to the district will be held August 17th. A staff committee "Sunshine Club" has been created by the Building Leadership Team.

Mr. Elliott reported on the Opening Day Institute. He reported that after the adoption of the *Return to Learn Plan* in July, the Governor implemented a Mask Mandate for all Pre-K – 12 Schools. He recommended following the mask mandate to protect the district's good standing with ISBE, protecting students and staff, while also protecting the liability and finances of the district. He highlighted the five new laws impacting school districts that the Governor signed into law. The Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Toulon renovation project was held August 10th. He reported on the list of summer project completed: fence installed at the Gary Johnson Football Field, installation of the

rooftop chillers at Toulon, progress of the drop ceiling and lighting at the Jr. High, bus barns and buses cleaned, Elementary sheds cleaned out with some of the items recycled, garage doors open installed at the Ag Shop and Toulon bus barn, 110 to 220 amp conversion completed in the Ag Shop, three additional split AC units installed at the Elementary, new mulch and playground chips at the Elementary, bleacher inspection repair checklist has been completed, the high school office painted, temporary fencing installed for construction and temporary parking lot is being rocked for the first day of school new website is live, Chromebooks are ready for student distribution, Future Green has begun surveying and plotting the layout of the SCES solar panel install, administration and nursing staff worked to create the COVID quarantine and testing procedures in conjunction with the EOM. A Professional Learning Community Boot Camp lead by the ROE was held involving twenty-two teachers and administrators and will implement PLC's district-wide this school year. The non-certified and bus handbooks have been updated. A MOU regarding Certified/Non-Certified COVID Leave for 2021-2022 has been agreed upon. The Return to Learn plan includes mandatory 25 minute mask breaks, 6-12 physical education outside (weather permitting), lunch period of 30 minutes.

Motion was made by Mr. West, seconded by Ms. Holman, to approve Policy 7:345 Administrative Procedure as presented at the July meeting. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mrs. Price, seconded by Mr. Steward, to approve the 2021-2022 High School Curriculum Guide. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Ms. Holman, seconded by Mr. West, to approve the 2021-2022 Non-Certified Handbook. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mrs. Orwig, seconded by Ms. Holman, to approve the 2021-2022 Bus Handbook. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mr. West, seconded by Mr. Steward, to approve continuing with the Self-Funded Health Insurance Plan through the Wyman Group for FY22. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Mr. Elliott presented the FY22 tentative budget. Motion was made by Mr. Rewerts, seconded by Ms. Holman, to approve the FY22 tentative budget as presented and place the budget on display for the next 30 days, hold a public hearing on the budget and final approval of the FY22 budget at the September 20, 2021 meeting. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Mr. Elliott presented information on COVID contract tracing and onsite BinaxNOW Rapid testing as one of three options for students who are close contacts with a positive student. The testing would take place onsite and the parent consent form has been approved by the board attorney. Motion was made by Mrs. Price, seconded by Mr. West, to approve BinaxNOW Antigen Testing onsite by our nurse health aides for FY22 as presented. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Mr. Elliott recommended an increase in substitute teacher pay due to a shortage of substitute teachers and we are currently on the low end of the daily pay rate. Motion was made by Mr. Steward, seconded by Mr. Rewerts, to increase the daily substitute rate from \$85.00 to \$100.00, effective immediately. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Mr. Elliott presented the MOU for COVID leave for FY22 providing all staff five (5) COVID leave days and unlimited days with a primary care medical note for certified staff enrolled in the retirement incentive as of August 16, 2021. Motion was made by Mr. West, seconded by Ms. Holman, to approve the MOU for FY22 regarding COVID leave time as presented. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Due to combining the Jr. High Activity Account and the High School Activity Account into one account, Mr. Elliott presented the Jr. High/High School Activity Fund requests as follows:

- * eliminate the Jr. High “Student Incentive” account since it has not been used for some time and has a zero balance;
- * combine the “Library”, Speer Grant” and “NOW Interest” from two accounts into one;
- * transfer funds from the “SCES Activity” in the old Junior High Account to the new established Elementary Activity Account as well as a percentage of the interest incurred;
- * close “Renaissance” of “Renaissance/Production Class” and transfer “Renaissance” funds of \$53.61 to the “Vending” account per administrative procedures;
- * close Jr.High “Reimbursed Activity” account and transfer funds to “Soda Fund”.

Motion was made by Mr. Steward, seconded by Mrs. Price, to approve the Jr. High/High School Activity Fund requests as presented. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mrs. Orwig, seconded by Mr. West, to approve the superintendent to let bids for gas and diesel. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Mr. Elliott presented a proposal created by the Athletic Director to increase pay for referees and officials to stay competitive during an official shortage. Motion was made by Mrs. Orwig, seconded by Mr. Steward, to approve the referee and official pay as presented for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mr. West, seconded by Mr. Steward, to approve a Jr. High Co-ed Cross Country Club for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

At the Athletic Activities Committee meeting in July, there was discussion regarding getting back “on schedule” with the replacement of the athletic uniforms and the replacement of football helmets. Mr. Elliott proposed the purchase of home and away football uniforms along with the prescribed team uniforms from 2020 through 2023, leaving room in the future to begin to purchase football helmets. Motion was made by Mr. Steward, seconded by Mr. West, to approve the purchase of football and athletic uniforms per the uniform purchase schedule as presented. Discussion to add golf to the schedule, purchasing shirts annually. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Items for the next meeting: Public Hearing and Approval of FY22 Budget, Award Gas/Diesel bids, Audit Presentation by Gorenz, Presentation of 2021-2022

Administrative Goals, Presentation of ESSER III Tentative Budget, Let Snow Bids, Solar Install Update, Set Graduation and Promotion Dates; Set Last Day for Seniors and 8th grade.

Motion was made by Mr. West, seconded by Mr. Steward, to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing employee compensation, performance, resignations, retirements and hirings at 7:18 p.m. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Ms. Holman, seconded by Mr. West, to reconvene from Executive Session at 7:31 p.m. and to hold the Executive Session Minutes, Not for Release. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Ms. Holman, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to approve the July 19, 2021 Executive Session Minutes, Not for Release. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Ms. Holman, seconded by Mr. Steward, to hire Jamie Hess as Elementary 2nd shift custodian, effective immediately. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Ms. Holman announced the resignation of Terry Mercer, Director of Maintenance, effective August 24, 2021.

Motion was made by Ms. Holman, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to hire Bob Bohm as Director of Maintenance with full-time beginning October 4, 2021 and part-time hourly effective immediately. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Ms. Holman, seconded by Mrs. Price, to hire Sarah Stieghorst as High School clerical aide for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Ms. Holman, seconded by Mr. Steward, to hire Jacob Siekmann as Jr. High football assistant coach for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Ms. Holman, seconded by Mr. West, to hire Katelyn Rumbold as Jr. High and High School Cheerleading coach for 2021-2022. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Ms. Holman, seconded by Mr. Steward, to hire Brenda Macke as High School speech coach for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Ms. Holman, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to hire Deb Nelson as Sophomore Class sponsor for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Ms. Holman, seconded by Mr. West, to hire Brittany Venzon as

Sophomore Class sponsor for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Ms. Holman, seconded by Mrs. Price, to hire Pat Finnegan as a bus driver for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Ms. Holman announced the retirement of Ronda Woodford-Storey, Elementary paraprofessional, effective immediately.

Motion was made by Ms. Holman, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to move Kylie Schaub from part-time to full-time Elementary paraprofessional for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Ms. Holman, seconded by Mr. Steward, to hire Deann Rewerts as a part-time High School library aide for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Ms. Holman, seconded by Mr. West, to hire Brenda Balice as a bus aide for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Ms. Holman announced the resignation of BrieAnna Fletcher as Elementary crossing guard and noon/playground supervisor, effective immediately.

Ms. Holman announced the resignation of Darcy McCommons as Jr. Class sponsor for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion was made by Ms. Holman, seconded by Mr. West, to approve the following volunteer coaches:

- * HS Football – Dylan Miller
- * JrH Baseball – Phil Daum and Dustin Browning
- * JrH & HS Cheerleading – Casey Musselman
- * Jr. High Softball – Jessica Wood
- * HS Golf – Rob Finney and Dave Wallace
- * HS Girls Basketball – Dave Wallace
- * HS Volleyball – Sarah Stieghorst
- * Jr. High Cross Country COED Club – Gary Frail

Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mrs. Orwig, seconded by Mr. West, to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

President

Secretary

Approved: September 20, 2021