

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

**Regular Meeting – October 17, 2022**

The Stark County Community Unit School District #100 Board of Education met Monday, October 17, 2022, at the Stark County Elementary School. Members present were Emily Holman, Matthew Nagode, Ann Orwig, Erin Price, Brian Rewerts, and Bruce West. David Steward was absent. Also present were Brett Elliott, Superintendent; Jenna Bibb, Elementary Principal; Megan McGann, Jr./Sr. High School Principal; Mike Bunch, IT; Rebecca Lane, Unit Clerical/Payroll Clerk; Gary Frail, Jr. High Cross Country Coach; citizens and students of the district; and a member of the press.

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by President, Mrs. Orwig, at 6:07 p.m.

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

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

- Approval of the September 19, 2022, minutes;
- Approval of the September Elementary Activity Funds, July/August/September JH/HS Activity Funds, July/August/September Self-Insurance Fund, and September Imprest Fund, July/August/September Treasurer's Report;
- Approval of the September LEA checks as follows: City of Wyoming \$249.28, Stark County CUSD #100 \$126,226.63, Guardian \$337.57, Guardian \$2,998.16, Guardian \$518.92, Guardian \$425.57, Heart Technologies \$7,858.02, Triple D Roofing \$25,500.00, Stark County CUSD #100 \$149,703.58, Jonathan Alsheimer \$6,500.00, Casa De Arte, LLC \$700.00, Sam's Club/Synchrony Bank \$96.30, VISA \$126.33, VISA \$1,051.50, VISA \$3,004.77, Imprest Fund \$9,299.60.

Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

During the review of the October bills, Mrs. Orwig asked the reason for the block grant repayment. Mrs. Bibb answered that not all of the grant monies allocated for subs were used and therefore had to be repaid back to the State Board of Education. Mr. Elliott confirmed that this was the reason. Mrs. Bibb also mentioned that for the current year's grant, more of the budget was allocated to transportation instead of subs because that was where the need was.

Mrs. Orwig also questioned if this would be the last payment to Rogue Fitness and if all of the ordered equipment for the weight room had been received. Mr. Elliott answered that it was the final payment and that all the equipment had been delivered.

Motion was made by Mr. Nagode, seconded by Mrs. Price, to approve the October bills of \$692,440.10. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

At the September meeting, Mr. Elliott presented Pride and Excellence Recognition to Andy Hurst and Jack Colgan, two Stark County High School students who received an award for their excellent PSAT scores. Mr. Hurst was present at the September meeting. Mr. Colgan was present at the October meeting and was recognized by Mr. Elliott and High School principal, Ms. McGann for his outstanding achievement and hard work throughout the school year.

Mr. Elliott also presented Pride and Excellence Recognition to all of the volunteer coaches for the 2022 fall athletics programs, including board member Mr. West. He thanked them for their time, energy, and dedication to our student athletes. Their positive impact on our student athletes and athletic programs is greatly appreciated.

The final Pride and Excellence Recognition was presented to Junior High student athlete, Dusti Smith and Junior High Cross Country coach, Gary Frail. Ms. Smith had an amazing year winning every JH CC meet in 2022 and is the 2022 IESA State Champion with a two-mile time of 12:00. This was the first official season for our Junior High Cross Country team, thanks to Mr. Frail and all of the student athletes who worked hard this year. Mr. Frail also spoke very highly of Ms. Smith and her teammates.

**Visitor Comments:**

There were no visitor comments.

**Committee Reports:**

Education/Extracurricular Committee: Mrs. Orwig reported that the committee discussed course offering, and staffing for next school year; as well as updates on the NFHX and HUDL broadcasts. Seeing no questions, the meeting proceeded.

**Stark County Education Foundation Report:**

No report, the meeting proceeded.

**Administrative Reports:**

Stark County Elementary School Principal, Mrs. Jenna Bibb, shared an update of the current school improvement goals and progress at the elementary school. October PLCs are focused on math instructional strategies and assessment cohesion, including support from Marissa Romanelli and Kate Kies from the BHS ROE. Kindergarten teachers are finishing up their KIDS observations for our annual report to ISBE. Our RTI team hosted Tier 2 progress monitoring data review meetings and Tier 3 parent meetings. New this year, we have incorporated weekly typing lessons through media classes. We feel it is beneficial for the students to be able to type on a computer, not just a mobile device. Three teachers have participated in professional development training or workshops through the BHS ROE. Ms. Bibb and the special education team have renewed or are in the process of renewing their certifications for Non-Violent Crisis Intervention. Fire Safety Day with our local fire departments and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Matthew and Michelle presentations with the Hult Health Education Center were both successful events in early October. Upcoming events include a dental health assembly, Red Ribbon Week including a costume day, and fall parties.

Stark County Junior High/High School Principal, Ms. McGann, shared that teachers recently attended STAR training in order to better analyze STAR data and utilize that data to guide instruction to meet students' individual needs. Counselors have spent time with Seniors to assist with FAFSA and FSA ID completion per graduation requirements. Stark County will host a College/Career Fair for all SC High School students on Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. This event has grown quickly with over 30 local universities, trade schools, military branches, and employers committed to having a booth with the intent of offering internships and free college applications. PLCs continue to focus on developing teaching and learning strategies, with the goal of meeting the students' needs. Sara Nowlan has spent time with SCES and the HS team to revisit and restructure our RtI program at SCJSH. Homecoming 2022 was a huge success with student assemblies, a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser, Volley-Tennis, Talent Show/Skit Night, community bonfire, parade, dance, and football game. The Homecoming dance was moved to the High School gym and was our highest attended Homecoming dance to date. School Social Worker, Molly Carlton, organized two food trucks to visit SCHS this month. The food trucks were available to all staff and certain students based on attendance and discipline incentives. Ms. McGann also recognized Dusti Smith for her State Championship and Coach Frail for completing the first season as a competing IESA Cross Country program.

Stark County Superintendent, Mr. Elliott announced that the Illinois School Report Card will be released at the end of the month. We are proud of the preliminary data and plan to share the official report in November. As a part of our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, we are looking forward to honoring Mr. Glenn Beall, Wyoming High Class of 1952, as our new 2022 Inductee to the Stark County Alumni Hall of Fame this Thursday, October 20, 2022 at 10:00 am at the Glenn Buchert Gymnasium at SCHS. The ceremony will be held in front of the entire SCJSH student body, faculty, staff, and guests. The next 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration is tentatively scheduled for December 2, 2022 at the boys basketball game. We are planning a ceremony to honor those who donated to the SC Weight Room and Athletics Fundraiser led by Leslie Bowser and Joni Kinsella. We are nearing 50% of their goal, with over \$46,000 donated. We are planning a hospitality room before the game, revelation of our new donor board outside of the gym, offering tours of the new weight room, and honoring the donors at half time. We continue to make progress on our final semester of construction. New signage has been installed with another round scheduled for this month; we are working on new outdoor signage for the athletic complex; we have planted new landscaping (including 3 new trees) at the high school. Two of the trees were designated as movement of memorials from trees that had to be removed during the demolition of the old high school. Our new gym windows have been ordered with an estimated December delivery date. Our new gym wall pads for the high school gym and athletic complex are scheduled to arrive in the next few weeks. Bob Bohm, our maintenance director, continues to add new paint in various areas of the campus. We are proud of our teachers, who continue to dig deep into teaching and learning during our weekly Professional Learning Communities on Wednesdays. They continue to focus on designing engaging lessons that improve student achievement and enjoyment of the learning process. Mrs. Bibb, Ms. McGann, and Mr. McGovern also continue to work with faculty on our Student Improvement Data Goals with consistent review and analysis to drive our PLCs. We hosted our annual flu shot clinic thanks to Princeville Pharmacy and our amazing nursing team, where we

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administered 70 shots to staff and students 10 years or older. Mr. Elliott closed with a budget update now that we are 25% through FY23, the Education Fund expenditures year to date are higher than prior years due to one-time payments from ESSER II & III grant funds. The other fund expenditures are similar to prior years.

No questions were stated regarding the Administrators Report.

**Unfinished Business:**

Cory Cowan from Gorenz and Associates, Ltd. presented an overview of the FY22 audit with no findings. Mr. Cowan was new to the audit this year. He provided copies of the audit for each board member, as well as an audit presentation report that he used to point out a few items. The increase in income for FY22 was due to an increase in Illinois Replacement tax as well as ESSER grants awarded and received during the year. The expenditures related to the ESSER grants resulted in an increase in Education Fund expenditures for the year. The change in Debt Service expenditures (to zero) is due to a change in reporting requirements, the bus leases are still an expense for the district; they are just reported in a different place on the financial reports. This is the reason for the increase in Transportation Fund expenditures, since the bus leases are now being reported there. He noted that other income and expenditure items remained steady and that figures were within the norm for Illinois school districts. There has been a surplus of revenues over expenses each year since 2018, resulting in a continued increase in Operating Fund balance. The increase in tax rate was due to the debt services levy. Seeing no questions, Mrs. Orwig and the board thanked Corey for his time and presentation of the audit. There were no questions for Mr. Cowan.

Mr. Elliott announced that there were no snow removal bids received. He plans to discuss exploring other options later in the meeting. No action taken.

**New Business:**

Mr. Elliott present that he and Mr. Langdon, our Drivers Ed Teacher, met with a representative from the Secretary of State's office about implementing the Cooperative Driver Testing Program at Stark County High School. This program offers students that earn an "A" or "B" in both the Driver's Education Classroom, and Behind the Wheel curriculums, the opportunity to take their driving test with Mr. Langdon instead of at the DMV. Some of the qualifying students may still have to take their driving test at the DMV if they are selected through the random birthdate selection. Mr. Langdon will use the same criteria to provide the final driving test. Motion was made by Mr. Rewerts to approve the use of the Illinois State Cooperative Driver Testing Program for the 2022-23 school year as presented, seconded by Mr. West. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Superintendent Elliott provided the board a brief update on beginning the levy process for FY23. We are waiting on the latest EAV estimates from the county clerk, there have been reports of increases ranging from 2%-16% state wide. Mrs. Orwig made a motion to provide Superintendent Elliott approval to begin the Tax Levy process, seconded by Mrs. Price. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Mr. Elliott informed the board that if our tax levy would exceed a 5% increase from the prior year, we would be required to hold a Truth in Taxation Hearing prior to submitting our FY23 levy. As per past practice, Stark County CUSD #100 traditionally holds a Truth in Taxation Hearing regardless of exceeding the 5% threshold. No action taken.

Superintendent Elliott shared the procedures for Snow Day/Emergency Day for the 2022-23 school year via the approved e-Learning Plan. There have been no changes from last year's plan. Mrs. Orwig made a motion to approve the 2022-23 Snow Day/Emergency Day procedures as presented, Mr. Rewerts seconded. Motion approved by a 6-0 vote.

With no bids for snow removal, Mr. Elliott stated that this responsibility could be added to our maintenance director, Bob Bohm's tasks if we had the proper equipment including a new truck and plow. Mr. Nagode expressed his concerns that this may add too much to Mr. Bohm's workload. Mr. Rewerts asked if other employees within the maintenance department would be willing to help out. Mr. Elliott answered that they are already helping shovel the sidewalks and may be willing to assist with the drives. It was discussed that there would need to be a backup person to drive the truck with the snow plow in case Mr. Bohm was unable to be at the schools. Mrs. Orwig mentioned that it would be nice to have the truck with the snow plow whether they contract out the service or not, because it could be used to clean up some of the parking lots and drives throughout the day after the contractor had already plowed the snow for the day. Mr. West agreed that it would be nice to have in order to clean up the drives before school dismissal on the days when it snows all day. He mentioned that in the past, contractors had plowed snow over night or early morning and there was more snow to be cleaned up later in the day. Mr. Elliott acknowledged that these were valid questions and concerns, that there are other items that still needed to be explored, and clarified that he was requesting permission to explore the cost and purchase of a new truck and plow for snow removal as well as the planning and procedures that would go along with providing our own snow removal. Mr. West made a motion to approve the superintendent to explore the idea of purchasing a new truck and plow in order to provide our own snow removal. Motion was seconded by Ms. Holman. Motion approved by a 6-0 vote.

Due to an increase in students at EXCEL, our daily mileage has increased on our 29 passenger lease. Projecting our end of lease mileage, we would be greatly over the leased miles purchased, resulting in an additional cost of \$14,000 - \$20,000. Mr. Elliott recommended that the board consider purchasing the 29 passenger bus at the end of the lease to avoid the overage cost. We are currently working with the lease company on the possible purchase price. Mr. Elliott also mentioned that it would be nice to have the extra bus for days like today, when a bus breaks down. Mr. West questioned if there were too many EXCEL students for them to take a van. Mr. Elliott confirmed that are too many students attending EXCEL and they could not all fit in a van. No action taken.

**Items for Next Meeting:**

Possible PRESS Updates; Award Junior High Parking Lot Bid; Award Gym Painting Bid; Renovation Update; Update on the Levy Process; Review closed session minutes from the past 6 months; School Report Card Update.

**Executive Session:**

Motion was made by Mrs. Price, seconded by Mr. Nagode, to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing employee performance, resignations, students, and hiring at 6:54 p.m. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mr. Nagode, seconded by Mr. West, to reconvene from Executive Session at 7:26 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. Rewerts, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of September 19, 2022, Not for Release. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mr. Nagode, seconded by Mr. West, to approve Rachel Bishop-Carroll as student crossing guard in Toulon for the 2022-2023 school year. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mr. Nagode, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to approve Sam Grigg as Toulon crossing guard for the 2022-2023 school year. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Mr. Nagode announced the resignation of Jim Langdon as high school assistant basketball coach effective immediately.

Motion was made by Mr. Nagode, seconded by Mr. West, to approve Jim Langdon as high school assistant baseball coach for the 2022-23 school year. Motion was approved by 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mr. Nagoda, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to approve the placement of student number 179060504 at the Regional Office of Education #28 Safe School for the remainder of the 2022-23 school year. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mr. Nagode, seconded by Mr. West, to adjourn at 7:28 p.m. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Ann Orwig  
President

Matt Nagode  
Secretary

Approved 11/21/2022