

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

Regular Meeting – May 19, 2025

The Stark County Community Unit School District #100 Board of Education met Monday, May 19, 2025, at the Stark County Elementary School cafeteria. Members present were Emily Leezer, Ann Orwig, Erin Price, Joseph Rediger, and Dane Richards. Bruce West was 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; John Leezer, Leezer Insurance Agency; Stark County Junior High State Track Qualifiers and Coach Seth King; 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. Leezer, seconded by Mrs. Price, to approve the consent calendar. Items approved under the consent calendar were:

- Approval of the April 21, 2025 Board Minutes;
- Approval of the March and April Elementary Activity Funds, April JH/HS Activity Funds, April Self-Insurance Fund, April Imprest Fund, and April Treasurer's Report;
- Approval of the April LEA checks as follows: City of Wyoming \$494.66, Stark County CUSD #100 \$154,525.89, Guardian \$358.88, Guardian \$3,403.45, Guardian \$554.05, Guardian \$491.06, Stark County CUSD #100 \$180,739.86, Angela Roark \$1,125.00, Headon & Sons, Inc. \$14,485.60, Bill's Auto Body, LLC \$3,217.99, VISA \$333.50, VISA \$2,104.93, VISA \$1,588.97, VISA \$3,631.52, US Postal Service \$500.00, Self-Insurance Fund \$50,000.00, Imprest Fund \$7,085.61.

Motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Next on the agenda was the approval of May bills. Mrs. Orwig asked if the payment to Midland included memberships for our student athletes. Mr. Elliott confirmed that it did and added that the first payment to Midland is from the District account and the second payment comes from the Activity account. Mr. Richards asked a question about the scoreboard payment. Motion was made by Mr. Richards, seconded by Mr. Rediger, to approve the May bills of \$300,762.28. Motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

President Orwig presented Pride & Excellence Recognition to Stark County Junior High Track State Finalists. First, she congratulated the IESA Boys and Girls who qualified for the 2025 Track State Finals. Gia Swearingen qualified in the 8th grade girls 100M, 200M, and long jump. Norah Rorem qualified in the 8th grade girls 1600M. Will Denton qualified in the 8th grade boys 1600M. The 7th grade boys 4x100M Relay also qualified, including Edward Bickett, Levi Sparks, Seth Duttlinger, Brandon Swearingen with alternates Ayden Coons and Joseph Snyder. The boys relay team set a school record time of 53.14. The previous school record of 53.3 was set in 1995 by David Johnston, Alan Schroeder, Wes Maher, and Justin Morrissey. Gia Swearingen finished 24th with a jump of 3.78 meters, 5th place in the 100M, and 3rd place in the 200M including a new school record of 27.49 in the 200M. The 4x100 Relay team of Edward Bickett, Levi Sparks,

Seth Duttlinger, and Brandon Swearingen finished 9th and beat their own school record with a time of 53.05. Will Denton finished 21st with a time of 5:16.16 in the 1600M. Norah Rorem finished 30th with a time of 6:10.25 in the 1600M. Congratulations to Head Coach Seth King and Assistant Coaches, John England and Zach Snyder.

Not on the agenda, but announced at the meeting was a congratulations to Board of Education Member, Erin Price, for her completion of her Doctorate Degree.

Visitor Comments:

There were no visitor comments.

Education/Extracurricular Committee Report:

President Orwig presented an overview of the board seat application review process. At the committee meeting, the board reviewed 9 applications and picked 3 applicants to interview later tonight. The new Board of Education Member will be seated at the June board meeting.

Insurance Committee Update:

Superintendent Elliott shared that the Annual Health Insurance Committee recently held three sessions that included presentations from two insurance agencies including self-funded and fully insured options; an interview of a potential new TPA provider; and an interview of a potential new health insurance agent. Each session concluded with discussions of the various options going forward. A recommendation from the committee will be presented to the board in June. The Insurance Committee is made up of representatives from the Board of Education (Mrs. Orwig and Mr. West), representatives from the Teacher's Union, and Superintendent Elliott. Mrs. Lane, District Clerical/Payroll Clerk, also attended the insurance committee meeting to provide insight from the payroll and insurance processing point of view.

Board of Education Building Visit Report:

Mrs. Orwig visited both campuses during teacher appreciation week. She was able to see all of the teachers and express that the Board of Education appreciates all that they do. The feedback that she received from the teachers was that they feel supported and heard by the current Board of Education.

Administrative Reports:

Stark County Elementary School Principal, Emily Mastin, noted that SCES had been celebrating, and soaking up all the expertise they could get from these last few weeks with two remarkable and dedicated educators, Diana Gilles and Lynne Paxson. Mrs. Gilles and Mrs. Paxson, both retire this year after serving their entire careers at Stark County! Our commitment to new teacher success is already underway! This past month, all six of our incoming SCES teachers visited our building to collaborate with their teams, ensuring a strong and supported start to their careers. We proudly hosted our own BIST Vision Team Conference on a Saturday in early May. This valuable collaboration allowed our team to identify our strengths from this year and proactively plan our implementation goals for the upcoming school year. We are investing in our educators! Three teachers will attend summer Orton-Gillingham (OG) training, enhancing our capacity to meet the diverse learning needs of our students. Our learners experienced enriching opportunities

this past month through a variety of field trips that extended their learning beyond the classroom walls. A sincere thank you to our teachers for their thoughtful planning and to the SCES Parents Club for their generous financial support! Our first graders had an engaging and educational day with a local Native American storyteller, learning about Native American culture and history. We celebrated our incredible teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week! Thank you for your unwavering hard work and dedication to our learners. Your impact is immeasurable. Mrs. Price asked Mrs. Mastin a clarification question regarding the score goals on her printed report. There were no other questions for Mrs. Mastin.

Stark County Junior High/High School Principal, Megan McGann, was excited to share that all 59 of our Seniors graduated with a high school diploma this year, meeting one of our end of year goals of having 100% of all Seniors graduate. We are celebrating the retirements of two of our veteran teachers this month, Mrs. Angela Tuthill and Mr. Jim Langdon. We thank them for their service to Stark County schools and years of service to our community. We provided over \$150,000 to our graduating Senior class through Stark County Education Foundation and community scholarships at our Senior Honors Day this year. Several of our students received full tuition scholarships and recognition at the national level for their academic achievements throughout their four years at Stark County High School. We had a wonderful Prom, Senior Honors Day, Senior Signing Day, NHS Ceremony, JH Awards, JH Talent Show, JH Dodgeball Tournament, 8th Grade Promotion, and HS Graduation this month! Thank you to all that have assisted in making all of our events a success. Thank you to our custodial staff (Bob, Jailynn, and Caleb) for all of their assistance in setting up for all of the events and for making sure that the campus looks great for our students, staff, community, and visitors during the events. Six of our FFA Agriscience competitors were selected as state winners! They will receive their honors onstage this June at the Illinois FFA State Convention. Thank you to the teachers, parents, and students for making these projects a success. Mrs. Chapman and Mrs. Guelde have collaborated with FFA Advisors Ms. Wilkinson and Mr. Parrish to support these student FFA projects. Three of our Stark County High School Student Council members were elected to serve on the 2025-26 Hopewell Executive Board. Congratulations to Sophie Finnegan, Abby Nagode, and Piper Tyree. There were no questions for Ms. McGann, but Mrs. Orwig noted that the events she attended had all been done very well and that she has heard a lot of positive feedback from the community. Mr. Richards added that he was initially unsure about having Senior Honors, Senior Signing Day, and National Honors Society Induction all in the same day, but it was well executed and he also has heard a lot of positive feedback from the community.

Stark County Superintendent, Brett Elliott, started his report by congratulating the Senior Class of 2025 for leaving a legacy of excellence, for living up to the PHEARCE philosophy, and the mission and vision of SC100. Congratulations to our State Bound Lady Rebels Track and Field athletes that will represent Stark County High School at the State Finals this week with an all-school send off on Wednesday at 10:45 am. Congratulations also to our Junior High Track State Finalists who just competed at the IESA State Track Finals. We are fortunate to have such a successful track program at Stark County, sending athletes to the state finals year after year is not the norm and we cannot take it for granted. A special thank you to our students, faculty, staff and building administration for another incredible year navigating through adversity to reach our

relentless pursuit of excellence. We are thankful to have a supportive Board of Education who makes decisions based on what is best for the students and is very supportive of our staff in the process. We have accomplished so much together this year. A special congratulations to three of our board members, President Orwig, Vice President West and Board Member, Mr. Richards, who each have a graduating senior in the Top 10 of the Class of 2025. Mr. Elliott finished with a budget update on expenditures through 83.3% of fiscal year 2025 noting that he will present the amended budget later in tonight's meeting. There were no questions for Mr. Elliott.

Unfinished Business:

Superintendent Elliott provided an overview of the summer project list created by Facilities Director, Bob Bohm in conjunction with the administrative team. Some items will flow into next school year. Mr. Rediger made a motion to approve the 2025 Summer Project List as presented. Seconded by Mr. Richards and passed with a 5-0 vote.

Next was an annual approval of the final school calendar with all e-learning days from this winter updated, the March Teacher Institute date adjusted, and all unused emergency days removed. Once approved, Superintendent Elliott will send the updated 2024-25 calendar to the ROE for final approval. Mrs. Price made a motion to approve the final school calendar for the 2024-25 school year as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Leezer. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

Superintendent Elliott and the building principals provided an update on the progress of the three-year District Strategic Plan as we finish up the first year of the plan. The update included information on Grading Policy Updates, Student Ambassadors, Legacy Committee, Instructional Analysis, Cultural Relevancy, Student Engagement, Teacher Mentoring, and more! Details of completed tasks and upcoming tasks were shared, including policy updates, surveys, meetings, new daily routines, and more! At both campuses, ILTs will be ensuring adequate progress toward goals and adjusting next steps as needed.

New Business:

John Leezer for the Leezer Insurance Agency presented the annual renewal quote for property, casualty, and workers compensation insurance policies. There were no questions from the board. Mr. Rediger made a motion to approve the annual insurance renewal for property, casualty, and worker's compensation insurance as presented for FY26. Seconded by Mr. Richards. Motion passed 4-0. Mrs. Leezer abstained.

Next was a first reading of PRESS Policies, Issue #118. In addition to annual five year updates, the focus of this issue are: policies reverting back to the 2020 Title IX language in regards to the recent change that we have already adopted; and Ai language for usage in schools. We will review Issue #118 this month in preparation of a June adoption. No action taken.

Superintendent Elliott presented the tentative budget amendment that includes adding revenues and expenditures as recommended by the auditor. This amendment will be posted for 30 days and we will host a special board meeting and public hearing on Thursday, June 19, 2025 to meet the state guidelines.

The Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Amendment includes:

Revenue Adjustment

Fund 40: \$50,000 increase – Received Bus to Grid Grant Reimbursement.

Expenditure Adjustments:

Fund 10: \$18,000 decrease - To reduce superintendent expenses to meet state administrative cap guidelines.

Fund 40: \$127,745 increase - Increased Bus to Grid outlay expenses (as reflected in revenue adjustment above); increased special education bus route salary and insurance benefit; increased capital outlay for vehicle balance and garage door opener; increased lease return expenses.

Fund 50: Small adjustments made within subcategories.

Fund 60: Increased purchase service line due to excess funds (interest).

Since we were required to amend due to the receipt of unexpected grant funds, our financial auditor recommended that we clean up a few other small items as well. Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve the tentative amended budget for FY25 as presented and place the tentative amended budget on display for the next 30 days, hold a public hearing on the FY25 tentative amended budget and approve the final budget at the June 19, 2025 special board meeting. Seconded by Mrs. Price and passed by a 5-0 vote.

In order to receive Title I, II, and IV and IDEA funding for the upcoming school year, a Consolidated District Plan is required to be submitted to ISBE. Mrs. Mastin provided an overview. Title I funds our RTI staff and curriculum needs, Title II will be used to continue BIST implementation, Title IV funds Dual Credit for our high school students, and IDEA supports our special education staff. Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve the 2025-26 Consolidated District Plan and direct the superintendent to submit it to ISBE as presented. Seconded by Mr. Richards. Passed 5-0.

Superintendent Elliott presented the annual agreement with Gorenz and Associates Ltd. for audit services for the upcoming FY25 audit. Mr. Rediger made a motion to approve the contract agreement with Gorenz and Associates for the FY25 audit as presented. Mrs. Price seconded. Passed 5-0.

Next was an annual approval to let bids for the new fiscal year. Mrs. Orwig made a motion to approve the superintendent to let bids for milk, trash, bread, and the Rebel Report for the 2026 fiscal year. Mrs. Leezer seconded and motion passed 5-0.

President Orwig led a discussion on the process for the board to attend the Annual Triple I Conference in Chicago in the Fall of 2025. This is a bi-annual commitment by the board of education. This year's conference is November 21-23. Mrs. Orwig made a motion for the board of education, superintendent, and principals to attend the Annual Triple I Joint Conference in Chicago on November 21-23 including registration and lodging expenses. Mr. Richards seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Each year action is taken to increase the lunch and breakfast fees by 10 cents. Lunch and breakfast are currently free to the students due to CEP funding, but we continue to increase the fees each year to ensure affordability to the district if we ever go back to students paying for meals. During our ISBE School Nutrition Program Resource Management Review (audit), we were informed that the adult lunch fee must be no less than \$4.00 for the upcoming school year. This requirement results in a 20 cent increase to the adult lunch fee.

Breakfast \$1.60 to \$1.70

Adult Breakfast \$2.10 to \$2.20

K-5 Lunch \$2.80 to \$2.90

6-8 Lunch \$3.05 to \$3.15

9-12 Lunch \$3.30 to \$3.40

Adult Lunch \$3.80 to \$4.00 **\$0.20 increase due to audit.

Adult Salad \$3.30 to \$3.40

Mr. Richards made a motion to approve a 10 cent increase on lunch and breakfast fees, and a 20 cent increase on the adult lunch fee for the 2025-26 school year. Mr. Rediger seconded and the motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

In order to remain competitive, Superintendent Elliott recommended a \$5.00 increase to the daily substitute teacher rate, the increase would be from \$135 to \$140 per day. Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve the daily substitute teacher rate of \$140 per day as presented for Fiscal Year 2026. Mrs. Price seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Items for Next Meeting:

Approval of FY25 Budget Amendment; Approval of PRESS Policies; Award Bread, Milk, Trash, and Rebel Reporter Bids; First Reading of the 2025-26 Extracurricular Code; Approval of Support Staff and Transportation Handbooks; Possible Insurance Committee Recommendation.

Executive Session:

Motion was made by Mrs. Price, seconded by Mr. Rediger, to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing employee compensation, non-renewals, employee performance, employment of personnel, resignations, and/or interviews of board candidates at 7:15 p.m. Motion was approved 5-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mr. Richards, to reconvene from Executive Session at 7:23 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 Mr. Rediger, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of April 21, 2025, Not for Release. Motion was approved 5-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Maddie Myers as Summer Seasonal Custodian. Mrs. Orwig seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Jack Colgan as Summer Seasonal Custodian. Mr. Rediger seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Rick Schertz as High School Boys Basketball Varsity Assistant Coach. Mrs. Orwig seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Aaron Pratt as High School Boys Basketball Junior Varsity Volunteer Assistant Coach. Mrs. Price seconded, motion passed 5-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Jason Clark as High School Football Assistant Coach. Mr. Rediger seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Megan Lane as a Long-Term Substitute Teacher for Junior High Science for the 2025-26 school year. Mrs. Orwig seconded. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mrs. Leezer announced the resignation of Christina Grusy, High School Administrative Assistant, effective May 20, 2025.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Lindsey Garcia as Junior High/High School Building Secretary for the 2025-26 school year. Mrs. Orwig seconded. Passed 5-0.

Mrs. Leezer announced the resignation of Elizabeth Chapman as Junior Class Sponsor effective at the conclusion of the 2024-25 school year.

Mrs. Leezer announced the resignation of Taylor Wilkinson as Junior Class Sponsor effective at the conclusion of the 2024-25 school year.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Jackie Carroll as Summer Technology Support. Mrs. Price seconded. Passed 5-0.

Mrs. Leezer announced the resignation of Sandra Carter, Junior High/High School Nurse, effective at the conclusion of the 2024-25 school year.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to return to Executive Session at 7:27 pm for the purpose of interviewing potential board members for the open board seat, seconded by Mrs. Orwig. Passed 5-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to reconvene from Executive Session at 8:34 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. Orwig, to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Motion was approved 5-0.

Ann Orwig
President

Emily Leezer
Secretary

Approved 6/16/2025