

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

Regular Meeting – September 22, 2025

The Stark County Community Unit School District #100 Board of Education met Monday, September 22, 2025, at the Stark County Elementary School cafeteria. Members present were Emily Leezer, Ann Orwig, Erin Price, Dane Richards, Chelsea Streitmatter, and Bruce West. Joseph Rediger was absent. Also present were: Brett Elliott, Superintendent; Emily Mastin (virtually), Elementary Principal; Jackie Colgan, Elementary Assistant Principal; Megan McGann, Jr./Sr. High School Principal; Rebecca Lane, District Clerical/Payroll Clerk; Mike Bunch, IT; Courtney Kunkel, Elementary Rtl Teacher; members of the community; and a member of the press.

With a quorum present, President Orwig called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

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

Board President Orwig opened a public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget. Superintendent Elliott presented an overview of the proposed final budget. Since the tentative budget was presented in August, there have been a few changes in the Education Fund Expenditures and Revenues. Mr. Elliott explained those changes. In closing, Mr. Elliott reminded everyone that the budget is set up to provide for a worst-case scenario and we do not plan to expend every dollar budgeted. Seeing no visitor's comments or questions, President Orwig closed the public hearing.

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 August 18, 2025 Board Minutes;
- Approval of the July & August Elementary Activity Funds, July & August JH/HS Activity Funds; August Self-Insurance Fund, August Imprest Fund, June Revised (Post Audit) Treasurer's Report; and July & August Treasurer's Reports;
- Approval of the August LEA checks as follows: City of Wyoming \$210.41, Guardian \$367.58, Guardian \$3,503.57, Guardian \$580.21, Guardian \$491.06, Stark County CUSD #100 \$132,521.08, Midwest Transit Equipment \$133,900.00, Midwest Transit Equipment \$6,150.00, Stark County CUSD #100 \$136,188.81, VISA \$354.00, VISA \$1,431.24, VISA \$146.50, VISA \$569.93, Amazon Capital Services \$17,939.72, Stark County CUSD #100 \$1,700.00, State Fire Marshall \$75.00, Imprest Fund \$10,541.00.

Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Next on the agenda was the approval of September bills. Mr. West asked if the junior high water heater replaced by Illini Plumbing was a planned expense. Mr. Elliott responded that it was not planned, but that it was on Maintenance Director Bohm's list of goals. Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mr. West, to approve the September bills of \$298,163.34. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

President Orwig presented Pride & Excellence Recognition to our Pre-K team (not in attendance at tonight's board meeting). As recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education, we are pleased to recognize the Circle of Quality that our Preschool for All/Preschool for All Expansion (PFA/PFAE) program has achieved in ExceleRate Illinois, the state's quality recognition and improvement system for early learning and development programs. ExceleRate unifies all the state's early learning programs under a common set of standards across multiple settings to provide families with important information about quality early learning programs in their community. ExceleRate Illinois is anchored by a set of standards that focus on early learning and development and places a high priority on instructional excellence, family services, staff qualifications, professional development, and program administration. Central to its design is the recognition of multiple forms of evidence to meet the universal standards. Evidence is obtained through the monitoring visits conducted through National Louis University's contract with the Illinois State Board of Education. During these monitoring visits, assessors collect evidence using the Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale-Third Edition (ECERS-3) and the ISBE Compliance Checklist. Each program site is awarded an ExceleRate Circle of Quality based on its Compliance and ECERS-3 scores. Based on the most recent monitoring results for Stark County Elementary School, our Pre-K program has achieved the "Gold Circle of Quality". A certificate to recognize this award was received from Illinois Network of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies (INCCRRA). Congratulations to Mrs. Helms, Mrs. Dauck, Mrs. Winans, and Mrs. Morgan. Assistant Principal Colgan expressed her appreciation of the Pre-K team for all of their efforts to support our littlest learners.

Next, President Orwig presented Pride & Excellence Recognition to Mrs. Courtney Kunkel. Through her outstanding initiative and dedication, she independently researched and blended resources from the Wonders and OG programs to create a dynamic, school-wide writing curriculum for our 1st–5th grade classrooms. Her work is a true celebration of excellence and will enrich the learning experience for every student. Assistant Principal Colgan thanked Mrs. Kunkel for all of the time and labor that she put in to this project; it demonstrates how greatly Mrs. Kunkel wants the best for all of our learners at Stark County Elementary.

Executive Session:

Mrs. Orwig made a motion to amend the agenda and adjourn into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing employee compensation, non-renewals, employee performance, employment of personnel, and/or resignations at 6:16 pm. Seconded by Mr. West. Motion was approved 6-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Orwig, seconded by Mr. West, to reconvene from Executive Session at 6:55 p.m. and to hold the Executive Session minutes, Not for Release. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

The regular meeting agenda resumed where the board had left off.

Visitor Comments:

There were no visitor comments.

Board Building Visits Reports:

Mr. West shared details from his recent visit at SCES. He started the day observing and participating in the morning procedures including greeting students at the door upon arrival and morning announcements. He then met with Mrs. Mastin and Mrs. Colgan for great discussions, including the SCES Parents Club's efforts towards a new playground.

With this being Ms. Streitmatter's first building visit as a board member, Mrs. Orwig tagged along to show her the ropes. Ms. Streitmatter shared details from their recent visit to the Junior High/High School campus noting that the new building looked beautiful and that she observed a lot of positive energy between the administration and students.

Administrative Reports:

Stark County Elementary School Assistant Principal, Jackie Colgan, shared that the Elementary School has begun hosting quarterly data meetings with all teachers to strengthen our focus on student achievement. Mrs. Mastin and Mrs. Colgan developed a comprehensive meeting form that guides staff through each step of the process—data analysis, problem identification, SMART goal development, and coaching feedback—to ensure a consistent, results-driven approach across the building. All new classroom teachers, along with their grade-level teams, are currently engaged in coaching cycles focused on Orton-Gillingham (OG) instruction. This work supports the consistent implementation of our core reading curriculum and strengthens how we teach students to read. In alignment with our School Improvement Plan (SIP) goals, we have dedicated PLC time to intentional instructional planning that targets grade-level standards and specific student needs. Our math focus, guided by consistent instructional data collection and monthly data analysis during PLCs, is helping us better meet students' learning needs. Teachers are visiting one another's classrooms to observe and learn, creating valuable opportunities to share expertise and strengthen instructional practice. Congratulations to our Preschool team for earning the Gold Circle of Excellence designation following last year's state preschool monitoring review—a recognition of their outstanding commitment to quality early-childhood education. Congratulations to all of our staff who are earning their stripes this year. We are proud of the dedication and extra effort our team demonstrates each day to go above and beyond for our students and community. There were no other questions for Mrs. Colgan.

Stark County Junior High/High School Principal, Megan McGann, shared that PLCs began in September, kicking off with a strong focus on assessments and building our emotional intelligence and awareness. Teachers will continue to meet weekly to engage in data discussions, along with brainstorming instructional strategies, and taking a closer look at formative and summative assessments. Our BIST Coach, Todd Jefferson, was in the building at the beginning of September to visit all classrooms and our newly developed Recovery Room. Mr. Jefferson will continue to support our BIST journey throughout the school year, visiting us each month and as needed. Data Meetings are scheduled for October with teachers focusing on their formative/summative assessment percentages – identifying specific skills that they are targeting in their classroom instruction, based on their Cycle of Inquiry process. Our Instructional Coach continues to work and meet with Year 1-2 teachers to provide ongoing support in all areas of need based on individual teachers. Our Peer Mentoring group is off to a great start! Over 20 High School students have been trained by leadership guru, Mr. Elliott, on

how to establish and build positive relationships and mindsets with our Junior High students. The whole group plans to meet this week to meet their mentee and begin getting to know each other and goal setting for the year. Homecoming Week is here! Our High School Student Council has put together a wonderful Retro Rewind week for our community full of spirit days, a JV Tailgate, Powderpuff game, Skit Night, Homecoming Parade, and an exciting Homecoming weekend! The Student Council has brought some great ideas back with them after attending student council conferences. Thank you to Student Council Sponsors, Ms. Jackson and Mr. Carroll, along with our class sponsors for all their hard work in preparation of this high energy week for our students. Thank you to Mrs. Orwig and Ms. Streitmatter for visiting SCJSHS campus last week to check out our new facilities and classrooms! Our doors are always open to stop in and observe the great things that are occurring in all of our classrooms. We have kicked off our SBT Attendance Advantage Program with the support of Mr. Parrott and his team at the State Bank of Toulon. This month will be hosted by Lucy Dot's and West Main Coffee to provide delicious treats to our students that meet 95% attendance for the month and/or show growth from their August attendance. The 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 yearbooks have been delivered and distributed to families and students. We would like to thank the community and the Board of Education for their patience with this process. We are working diligently to get back on track with our yearbook production and will update our families with expected delivery for the 2024-2025 yearbooks. Ms. McGann noted that SCHS graduate, Paige Rewerts, was a big help with the yearbooks this summer. Mr. Richards asked about the new peer tutoring program. Ms. McGann explained that there have only been 2 days of the program so far, and students did not show up for either day. Staff and student tutors are brainstorming ideas to encourage other students to take advantage of the extra help. There were no other questions for Ms. McGann.

Stark County Superintendent, Brett Elliott, started his report by congratulating and thanking our Unit Office Staff of Mary Streitmatter, Rebecca Lane and Jenny Denton, for earning top marks with no findings on the Fiscal Year 2025 audit report. These ladies are the ultimate professionals, meticulous, and take great pride in their work. We are so lucky to have them on our team. A reminder of all of the Homecoming Events this week including spirit days, volleyball, tailgate, Powder Puff Football, Pep Assemblies, Parade, Game, and Dance. Friday, September 26th, will be a 1:45 pm student dismissal to prepare for the Annual Homecoming Parade in Wyoming starting at the Athletic Complex at 2:30 pm. We will be hosting a staff flu vaccination clinic on October 15th. Our Annual Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held from 4:00 – 7:00 pm on Tuesday, October 14th and Thursday, October 16th. On October 17th there is no school for our Annual Fall Break with students and staff returning Monday, October 20th. Another reminder, the October Board Meeting date was changed to Tuesday, October 21st. There were no questions for Mr. Elliott.

Unfinished Business:

Superintendent Elliott presented the Fiscal Year 2026 Final Budget including potential negative balances in numerous funds, as a worst-case scenario, if all funds were exhausted for emergency usage. Mr. Elliott does not anticipate negative spending outside of the Transportation Fund (which is due to the purchase of a mini-van to add to our transportation fleet). Mr. Elliott indicated that the budget is tighter due to flat funding for Title I, II and IV, with the anticipation of a potential freeze in Fiscal Year 2026; and

due to the increased cost of health insurance and salaries. Mr. Elliott predicts to be under budget if emergency funds are not needed. Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2026 Final Budget as presented, and to instruct the Superintendent to submit it to all county clerks and upload it for ISBE approval. Seconded by Mr. West, passed with a 6-0 vote.

New Business:

We received two bids for fuel for FY26, one from Ag View (our current vendor) and one from a new bidder, River Valley. Ag View's bid is \$2.928/gallon for gasoline and \$3.294/gallon for diesel. River Valley's bid is \$3.044/gallon for gasoline and \$3.489/gallon for diesel. Mr. Elliott recommended that we continue with our current vendor, Ag View, since their bid came in at a lower rate per gallon for both gas and diesel. Mr. Richards made a motion to award the FY26 fuel bid to Ag View as presented. Seconded by Mrs. Price. Motion passed with 6-0 vote.

Superintendent Elliott reported a steady enrollment over the past eight years with an increase of 0.5% from 675 to 680 for the 2025-26 school year. Mr. West made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 6-Day Enrollment Report as presented. Seconded by Ms. Streitmatter. Passed 6-0.

Mr. Elliott recommended approving Instructional Coaching Consultant, Kelly Stewart, to provide our instructional coaches with resources, support and guidance in year two of implementation of instructional coaching at a cost of \$75/hour for 3-6 hours per month. Kelly Stewart is a retired teacher and instructional coach from a large district. Mrs. Orwig made a motion to approve Kelly Stewart, Instructional Coaching Consultant as presented. Seconded by Mr. West. Passed 6-0.

The FY26 ISBE Matching Maintenance Grants for up to \$50,000 will be released this month. This is an annual grant we write to offset facility upgrades, Mr. Elliott would like to pursue the grant for assistance with our SCES window project. Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve the superintendent to write a FY26 Matching Maintenance Grant as presented. Seconded by Mr. Richards. Passed 6-0.

Next up was the approval to edit our Bullying Procedures that are utilized by parents and students and are available on our website. Only dates have been edited for the 2025-26 school year. Mr. West made a motion to approve the 2025-26 Bullying Procedures as presented. Seconded by Ms. Streitmatter. Motion passed 6-0.

Junior High/High School Principal's Secretary, Cindy Jenkins, with the direction of Principal McGann, has requested the following activity account adjustments: 1) combine JH Baseball and HS Baseball; 2) change NHS/Student Incentive to Student Incentives; 3) Close the Renaissance Fund and transfer balance to Student Incentives; 4) close Speer Grants and transfer balance to Student Incentives; 5) close JH Stark Smart and transfer balance to Student Incentives. Mr. West made a motion to approve the activity account adjustments as presented. Seconded by Mr. Richards. Passed with a 6-0 vote.

Mr. Elliott noted that the annual Fiscal Year 2025 Administrative and Teacher Salary and Benefits Report was provided in the board packet and will be posted on our website. This is an annual presentation, no action taken.

Items for Next Meeting:

FY25 Audit Report; Approval to begin Tax Levy Process; Approval of Snow/Emergency Day Procedures.

Executive Session:

Since the board had already adjourned to Executive Session earlier in the meeting, they continued with any actions to be taken following executive session.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of August 18, 2025, Not for Release. Motion was approved 6-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Kane Mastin as Junior High Assistant Football Coach. Mrs. Orwig seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Jason Clark as Junior High Boys Basketball Coach. Seconded by Mr. West, passed 6-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Kyle Cantwell as Junior High Boys Basketball Coach. Mr. Richards seconded. Motion passed 5-0, Mrs. Price abstained.

Mrs. Leezer announced the resignation of Kyle Cantwell as High School Assistant (Fresh-Soph) Boys Basketball Coach.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Aaron Pratt as High School Assistant (Fresh-Soph) Boys Basketball Coach. Mrs. Orwig seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Jason Clark as AM Supervisor at the Junior High/High School. Seconded by Mrs. Price, passed 6-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Zach Maher as Volunteer Junior High Football Coach. Mr. West seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Kelsey Berchtold as High School Assistant Girls Basketball Coach. Ms. Streitmatter seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Lori Wineland as Junior Class Sponsor. Seconded by Mrs. Price and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Hannah Sparks as Kitchen Staff. Mr. Richards seconded and the motion passed 5-0, Ms. Streitmatter abstained.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Patty Wilkinson as Rebel Reporter Sponsor. Mr. West seconded, motion passed 6-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Jim McMillen as a bus driver. Seconded by Mrs. Orwig. Passed 6-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Alisha Lee as a part-time school nurse. Mrs. Price seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Zack Snyder as Junior High Head Track Coach. Seconded by Ms. Streitmatter and passed 6-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Tim (TJ) Geisenhagen as High School Assistant Baseball Coach, pending student participation. Mrs. Orwig seconded, motion passed 6-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve James Owens as Junior High Cross Country Volunteer Coach. Seconded by Mrs. Price. Passed 6-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Michael Schott as High School Volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach. Mr. Richards seconded. Passed 6-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approved Jason Clark as High School Baseball Assistant Coach. Seconded by Mrs. Orwig and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to adjourn at 7:24 p.m. Motion was approved 6-0.

Ann Orwig
President

Bruce West
Vice President

Approved 10/21/2025