

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

**Regular Meeting – April 21, 2025**

The Stark County Community Unit School District #100 Board of Education met Monday, April 21, 2025, at the Stark County Elementary School cafeteria. Members present were Emily Leezer, Ann Orwig, Erin Price, Brian Rewerts, Dane Richards, and Bruce West. Joseph Rediger 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, Unit Clerical/Payroll Clerk; Mike Bunch, IT; several Pride & Excellence Recognition recipients (listed below); 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 Mr. West, seconded by Mr. Richards, to approve the consent calendar. Items approved under the consent calendar were:

- Approval of the March 17, 2025 Board Minutes;
- Approval of the March JH/HS Activity Funds, March Self-Insurance Fund, March Imprest Fund, and March Treasurer's Report;
- Approval of the March LEA checks as follows: City of Wyoming \$509.47, Stark County CUSD #100 \$155,626.30, Guardian \$363.23, Guardian \$3,403.45, Guardian \$554.05, Guardian \$510.96, Joshua Anderson \$1,200.00, NEVCO Sports, LLC \$14,146.50, Next Level Schools \$7,500.00, Stark County CUSD #100 \$180,029.59, Angela Roark \$575.00, Michael Bunch \$375.00, VISA \$1,053.40, VISA \$509.67, VISA \$627.56, VISA \$976.01, Imprest Fund \$7,340.07.

Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Next on the agenda was the approval of April bills. After reviewing the bills, the board had no questions for Mr. Elliott. Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mr. Rewerts, to approve the April bills of \$221,035.34. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

There were several Pride & Excellence Recognition recipients at tonight's meeting. First, President Orwig recognized the 2025 Illinois Principals Association Student Leadership Honors. Each spring the Illinois Principals Association hosts a Student Leadership Honors Breakfast, honoring one boy and one girl who exemplify leadership and academic success at the elementary, junior high and high school levels. This year the following Stark County Students were honored:

SCES: Kelton Steelman, Lucy Denton

SCJH: Trevor Webster (not present), Michelle Lane

SCHS: Lauren Orwig (not present), Adam West

Next, Mrs. Orwig presented Pride & Excellence Recognition to the following fifth grade students who have spent the entire school year assisting Ms. Terrie Patterson with daily cleanup in the cafeteria. These students have taken great pride in their daily work and have been a tremendous help to Ms. Terrie and the cafeteria staff. We thank you for your leadership: Lee Terwilliger, Kelton Steelman, & Sam Plumer.

Mrs. Orwig presented Pride & Excellence Recognition to Mrs. Jenny Acree, who received a 2025 Award of Special Recognition from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). The Those Who Excel program recognizes educators across Illinois who have made outstanding contributions to the state's public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools. The Award of Special Recognition highlights individuals who have demonstrated remarkable dedication, innovation, and positive impact on their students and school community. This year, Mrs. Jenny Acree has been awarded the 2025 Award of Special Recognition from ISBE through their esteemed Those Who Excel recognition program! Jenny's unwavering commitment to her students' success, along with her ability to inspire others, not only enhances the reputation of the teaching profession but also serves as a powerful example of the positive difference that educators make every day. Through her actions and influence, she shows that teaching is not just a job, but a noble calling that can truly change lives. Congratulations Mrs. Acree and thank you for representing the Pride and Excellence of Stark County.

Lastly, Board President Orwig finished the Pride and Excellence Recognitions with a special honoree. Tonight, Brian Rewerts will complete 16 years of dedicated service to Stark County CUSD #100's Board of Education. During his tenure, Brian has served as both the Board Vice-President and President as well as his work on the Education & Extracurricular Committees and serving as board representative on the Stark County Education Foundation. The Board values the expertise and viewpoints that Brian brought to every issue. His passion for all things Stark County is evident in his dedication to this district and this board. He's even been responsible for convincing others, including Mrs. Orwig, to join him in board service. Brian, your presence on the board will be sorely missed. Thank you, Mr. Rewerts, you are the Pride and Excellence of Stark County. Mr. Rewerts thanked the community for trusting him stating that he felt the board had accomplished a lot over the past 16 years.

**Visitor Comments:**

No visitor comments.

**Administrative Reports:**

Stark County Elementary School Principal, Emily Mastin, stated that SCES is ready to start these last 5 weeks and finish this school year strong. She then shared that IAR and ISA testing for grades 3-5 is complete, and our students achieved great results. These assessments in ELA, Math (IAR), and Science (ISA for 5th grade) offer valuable data on student progress aligned with state standards and highlight the dedication of our students and staff. The Instructional Leadership Team (ILT) is actively reviewing our current writing curriculum to ensure alignment with learning standards. This work will inform the development of prioritized instructional strategies and classroom structures aimed at increasing rigor and enhancing writing instruction school-wide. Our 5th-grade students recently participated in an informative presentation focused on recognizing the signs and symptoms of a stroke. This important session aimed to raise awareness and equip our students with potentially life-saving knowledge. Furthermore, staff engaged in a CPR and AED refresher course that directly supports our school's Cardiac Response Plan, ensuring preparedness in emergency situations. The Parents Club Auction was a resounding success, raising \$27,748.48, with over \$10,000 for Project Playground thanks to their hard work in organizing a fun event and providing all the food.

The SCES Parents Club's dedication and efforts will significantly contribute to the enhancement of our playground facilities for our students. Our recent Reading Bingo initiative saw nearly all students enthusiastically participate and achieve a spot at the pre-spring break celebration after completing their Bingo cards over the past two months. This engaging program encouraged a love of reading and fostered a school-wide culture of literacy. Thank you, Mrs. Rennick and Mrs. Kunkel, for putting together such a great event. The 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teachers nominated students and the staff voted... We proudly congratulate Kelton Steelman and Lucy Denton on receiving the IPA Student Leader award on April 11th. Their selection recognizes their outstanding leadership within the school and their consistent embodiment of the PHEARCE philosophy, truly representing the Pride and Excellence of Stark County. There were no questions for Mrs. Mastin.

Stark County Junior High/High School Principal, Megan McGann, shared that our 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade students completed the IAR Reading and Math Assessments this month. Our 8th grade students also completed the ISA Assessment for science. Since science is now included on the ACT, Juniors no longer take the ISA Assessment. Students were incentivized for positive testing behaviors and were able to pie our Superintendent in the face as a reward. Our 9th-11th grade students completed the ACT and PreACT on April 2nd. Students have already been notified of their results. Next year's scheduling is wrapping up for all high school students. This does not include dual credit classes. Junior High students will be scheduled after Spring Break. All High School students attended a Driver's Safety Presentation hosted by the Stark County Farm Bureau at the Stark County Jr. Fairgrounds in Wyoming, IL. Students were educated on Driver's Safety with Farm Vehicles on the open road. Congratulations to Lauren Orwig, Adam West, Michelle Lane, and Trevor Webster who were recognized at the Illinois Principals' Association banquet on Friday, 4/11/25 with the IPA Student Leadership Award. Stark County Education Foundation Scholarship Interviews were conducted this month with 30 Seniors that applied for Scholarships. Thank you to John Leezer, Lynette Stevens, and Doug Parrott for volunteering their time to our seniors and school community. There were no questions for Ms. McGann.

Stark County Superintendent, Brett Elliott, shared that the Stark Council for Continuous Improvement (SCCI) has been hosting bi-weekly committee meetings the past three months in regards to "Housing Development" here in Stark County. We are looking to build a new subdivision in Toulon while exploring senior living in Wyoming. In addition, there is a pursuit of sober living housing via the Society of Growth. A survey has been shared with the community to gather additional information for the committee to use going forward. Please look for the link to the survey on our socials. We will return to our regular schedule tomorrow, Tuesday, April 22nd to complete the final weeks of the school year. Here are a few upcoming dates: April 26: SCHS Prom, April 29: First Home SCHS Home Track Meet, April 30: SIP Day: 11:00 am dismissal, May 5-9: Teacher Appreciation Week, May 6: Senior Honors Day/Senior Signing Day/National Honors Society, May 15: 8th Grade Last Day/Promotion, May 18: High School Graduation, May 23: Last Day of School with an 11:00 am dismissal. Mr. Elliott finished with a budget update on expenditures through 75% of fiscal year 2025 noting that we are on track. There were no questions for Mr. Elliott.

**Unfinished Business:**

In a national teacher shortage, many districts are moving to “Grow Your Own” programs that help fund the educational process for support staff currently employed within the district to become certified teachers. In order to continue to be innovative, Superintendent Elliott recommended a Pilot program that would allow support staff, successfully employed for at least two years, to maintain their salary and position during their student teaching experience. This would come with a four year teaching commitment if hired by the district or the salary paid during student teaching would be reimbursed to the district on a prorated basis if the four-year commitment is not met. Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve the Stark County #100 “Grow Your Own” Pilot Program for the 2025-26 school year as presented. Seconded by Mr. Richards and approved 6-0.

Ms. McGann and Mrs. Mastin presented an overview of the value and the teacher’s request to continue our partnership with BIST (Behavior Interventions and Support Team) at the March board meeting. This is a continued investment in our students and staff working with student behaviors and accountability. All funding is provided via Title I funding. The 2025-26 contract is a reduction from previous years and includes monthly on-site consulting, parent virtual sessions and resources, Vision Team Facilitation, and the Annual BIST Leadership Conference at a total of \$20,800. Mr. West made a motion to approve the 2025-26 BIST contract as presented. Mrs. Leezer seconded. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

President Orwig announced the April 1, 2025 election results as certified by the County Clerks: Ann Orwig – 569 votes, Erin Price – 577 votes, and Emily Leezer – 575 votes.

The newly-elected members of the school board were sworn into office by Mr. Elliott. Ann Orwig, Erin Price and Emily Leezer took the oath of office.

Motion was made by Mr. West, seconded by Mr. Rewerts, to adjourn sine die at 6:25 pm. Motion was approved by a 6-0 vote. Mr. Rewerts left the meeting.

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

**Re-Organizational Meeting– April 21, 2025**

The Stark County Community Unit School District #100 Board of Education met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, April 21, 2025, at the Stark County Elementary School cafeteria. Members present were Ann Orwig, Emily Leezer, Erin Price, Dane Richards, and Bruce West. Joseph Rediger 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, Unit Clerical/Payroll Clerk; Mike Bunch, IT; a member of the community; and a member of the press.

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent, Brett Elliott, at 6:26 pm.

Motion was made by Mr. West, seconded by Mr. Richards, to elect Mr. Elliott as President Pro-Tempore. Motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mrs. Price, seconded by Mr. West, to establish two-year terms for the offices of President, Vice-President, and Secretary. Motion was approved by 5-0.

Mrs. Orwig was nominated for the office of President by Mrs. Price. Ann Orwig was elected Board of Education President by a 5-0 vote.

Mr. West was nominated for the office of Vice-President by Mrs. Leezer. Bruce West was elected Board of Education Vice-President by a 5-0 vote.

Mrs. Leezer was nominated for the office of Secretary by Mrs. Price. Emily Leezer was elected Board of Education Secretary by a 5-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mr. West, seconded by Mrs. Price, to appoint Rebecca Lane as District Treasurer and Recording Secretary, and to designate the State Bank of Toulon, Speer Branch of Morton Community Bank, Better Banks/Wyoming Branch, and the Illinois Liquid Asset Fund as depositories of district funds. Motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mr. Richards, seconded by Mrs. Leezer, to set the regular school board meetings for the third Monday of each month (except for January and February, meetings to be held on the third Tuesday, due to holidays; and the September meeting will be held on the fourth Monday), at 6:00 p.m. in the Stark County Elementary Cafeteria, effective July 1, 2025, as follows:

July 21, 2025

August 18, 2025

September 22, 2025 \*4<sup>th</sup> Monday

October 20, 2025

November 17, 2025

December 15, 2025

January 20, 2026 \*Tuesday

February 17, 2026 \*Tuesday

March 16, 2026

April 20, 2026

May 18, 2026

June 15, 2026

Motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mr. West, seconded by Mrs. Price, to adopt all existing policies of the old Board of Education. Motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

After a brief discussion, committee assignments were tabled until a seventh Board of Education member is chosen.

**New Business:**

Superintendent Elliott presented a draft of the Annual Summer Project List that includes various projects and updates to prepare for the new school year. Some projects will move into the new school year. This list was created by Facilities Director Bob Bohm with the input of the administrative team. Mr. Elliott noted that the SCES Window Project, which has already received board approval, was started over spring break and that some of the old windows had crumbled when removed by the contractor. Mr. Elliott has requested that Mr. Bohm add approximate costs next to each item on the list. Mr. Richards asked if there had been any discussion regarding additional sound dampening in the new high school gym because parents and community member have been complaining that they cannot understand the announcers in the new gym. This is the first reading of the Summer Project List with approval up in May. No action taken.

Next was annual approval to continue to participate in IESA athletics/activities at a total renewal of \$1,440. Mrs. Orwig made a motion to approve the 2025-26 IESA Contract as presented. Seconded by Mr. West. Passed 5-0.

The final item of new business was the annual request to grant Superintendent Elliott permission to begin budget planning for Fiscal Year 2026. Mr. Richards made a motion to approve Superintendent Elliott to begin planning for the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget. Motion seconded by Mr. West and motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

**Items for Next Meeting:**

Approval of the Summer Projects List; Possible First Reading of PRESS Policy Updates; Strategic Plan Update.

**Executive Session:**

Motion was made by Mrs. Price, seconded by Mrs. Leezer, to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing employee compensation, employee performance, resignations, retirements, and/or employment at 6:40 p.m. Motion was approved 5-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mr. West, 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 5-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mrs. Price, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of March 17, 2025, Not for Release. Motion was approved 5-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Ella Williams as Elementary Teacher beginning the 2025-26 school year. Mrs. Orwig seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Claire Wieland as Elementary Teacher beginning the 2025-26 school year. Mr. West seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve Tim Vigor as Second Shift Custodian for the fiscal year 2025-26. Mrs. Price seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Whitney Michanicou as Elementary Teacher beginning the 2025-26 school year. Mr. Richards seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mrs. Leezer announced the resignation of Brittany Venzon as Rebel Reporter Editor effective at the conclusion of the 2024-25 school year.

Mrs. Leezer announced the resignation of Jenny Acree as High School Student Council Assistant Sponsor effective at the conclusion of the 2024-25 school year.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer to approve John L. Carroll as High School Student Council Assistant Sponsor beginning the 2025-26 school year. Mr. West seconded. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mrs. Leezer made a motion to approve Jackie Carroll as Special Education Teacher beginning the 2025-26 school year. Mrs. Orwig seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion was made by Mrs. Leezer, seconded by Mrs. Orwig, to adjourn at 7:11 p.m. Motion was approved 5-0.

Ann Orwig  
President

Emily Leezer  
Secretary

Approved 5/19/2025