

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

Regular Meeting – June 20, 2024

****NO QUORUM****

The Stark County Community Unit School District #100 Board of Education met Thursday, June 20, 2024, at the Stark County Elementary School cafeteria. Members present were Ann Orwig, Dane Richards, and Bruce West. Emily Leezer, Erin Price, Joseph Rediger, and Brian Rewerts were absent. Also present were Brett Elliott, Superintendent; Megan McGann, Jr./Sr. High School Principal; Rebecca Lane, Unit Clerical/Payroll Clerk; Mike Bunch, IT; a member of the press; coaches, student athletes, and members of the community.

President Orwig called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

President Orwig opened a public hearing on the proposed Amended Budget for Fiscal Year 2024. Mr. Elliott presented an overview of the amendments to be made due to the receipt of bond money for the track and gym projects. The Fund 60 Capital Projects Revenue budget increased by \$5,365,903.65 for the principal of the bonds sold and \$636,896.35 due to the premium on the bonds sold. The Fund 60 Capital Projects Expenditure budget increase by \$1,500,000 for Capital Projects Service and \$4,502,800 for Capital Projects Outlay. Revenues were received so we are required to budget expenditures in the same fiscal year, even though a large portion of the expenditures will not take place until next fiscal year. Seeing no public comments, President Orwig closed the public hearing.

President Orwig announced that since there was not a quorum present, the board would be unable to take action at tonight's meeting. The meeting that was supposed to be held on this past Monday, June 17th, had been postponed until tonight due to not having a quorum. The board felt that it was important to hold tonight's meeting due to the Fiscal Year 2024 Amended Budget Public Hearing that was already scheduled for tonight and the Pride and Excellence Recognitions that were postponed from Monday's meeting. Next Monday, June 24th at 6:00 pm there will be a Special Board Meeting with a quorum so that action can be taken on tonight's agenda items.

Since action could not be taken the board skipped over the consent calendar agenda item and took a look at the June bills that would be up for approval at the upcoming Special Board Meeting. Mr. West asked if the payment for the track was a normal monthly payment or the final payment. Mr. Elliott responded that there is still a punch list of items to be finished on the track so there will be one more bill coming. The plan is to make sure that all individuals whose vehicles were affected by the track paint are satisfied with the paint clean up before issuing the final payment to Byrne and Jones for the track. President Orwig asked for an update on the repairs on the track shed that were to be paid for with the June bills. Mr. Elliott confirmed that the front shed wall and door frame had been built up, and that Maintenance Director Bohm also painted the roof so the shed is looking much better. No action taken.

President Orwig presented Pride and Excellence Recognition to our 2024 IHSA State Track Qualifiers, including: Nolan Orwig (110m High Hurdles and 300 Intermediate Hurdles with an 8th Place Finish in the 300 Hurdles), Lauren Orwig (State Qualifier Shot Put), Chelsea Stotler (Shot Put 4th Place State Medal Finish), Dusty Smith (State Qualifier 400 meter); as well as the following relay qualifiers: 4x800 Relay 7th Place State Medal Finish and a new school record of 9:50.47 which beat the previous record by 9 seconds (Cheyenh Smith, Peyton Terwilliger, Keagan Hamilton, and Dusty Smith with Alternate, Alexis Martinez), and State Qualifier 4x4 Relay Team (Sarah Kraklow, Keagan Hamilton, Cheyenh Smith, and Dusty Smith with Alternate: Alexis Martinez). Congratulations to all of our State Track Qualifiers and Medalists!

Both Coach Frey and Coach Rennick expressed how proud they were of these student athletes for their hard work ethic and determination. Both coaches also thanked the Board of Education for the new track and are excited for next track season. Mr. Elliott added that the track was a great investment and he looks forward to seeing students on the new track soon.

The next Pride and Excellence Recognition was presented to Mrs. Jenna Bibb who was unable to attend the postponed board meeting due to Cambridge School District also having a board meeting on Thursday night. Mrs. Bibb will be Superintendent at Cambridge starting July 1st. On behalf of the Stark County Board of Education, we extend our deepest gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to Principal Jenna Bibb for nine years of exceptional leadership and dedication to Stark County Elementary. Her unwavering commitment to fostering a positive learning environment, nurturing student growth, and supporting our educators has left an indelible mark on our school community. As she embarks on her new journey as Superintendent, we celebrate her achievements and the profound impact she has made. Her vision, integrity, and passion for education have set a high standard for excellence. We are confident that her leadership will continue to inspire and uplift even more students and staff in her new role. Thank you, Jenna, for your outstanding service and for making Stark County Elementary a better place for all. We wish you continued success and fulfillment in your new position.

Visitor Comments:

No visitor comments.

Administrative Reports:

Mr. Elliott read the Stark County Elementary School monthly update as provided by Principal, Jenna Bibb. We have three teachers (Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Hildebrandt, and Mrs. Sierra) taking part in Orton-Gillingham phonics training this summer. This summer, the BHS ROE is bringing in trainers to create a regional cohort training. This intense 30-hour training provides resources, knowledge, and deepens their skills at teaching multi-sensory phonics instruction. Trainings are paid for with Title I funds and subsidized through our membership in the BHS ROE professional development consortium. Mrs. Mastin, Mrs. Colgan, and Mrs. Bibb met for a final transition meeting on June 7th to discuss grants, assessment, curriculum, technology, evaluations, building operations, and other topics. Ms. Swope did a fantastic job on her first SCES field days! Students and staff were organized, prepared, and engaged! Our last day of school was busy and

fantastic! We held our Celebration Assembly where we celebrated all of the learning throughout the year with a special spotlight on our fifth graders. The students and staff had a surprise going away video for Mrs. Bibb that was heart-warming and ended up in tears and hugs! We ended the year with a Fifth Grade Clap-Out that was an amazing way to celebrate our fifth graders as well as allow our fifth graders to see so many of the educators that have helped them on their journey to Junior High.

Stark County Junior High/High School Principal, Megan McGann, shared that we have several teachers also taking part in professional development training at the ROE this summer – highlighting that our teachers continue to perfect their craft and are lifelong learners. We are participating in a 4-week rotational book study with Marty Huitt focusing on her new book, “Cultivating Behavioral Change in K-12 Students” which has provided us with great planning tools for the 2024-25 school year and our group of new teachers. We are currently meeting with several different representatives to enhance the fidelity of our instructional program for credit recovery and foreign language. Currently, we are using Apex Learning, but we are shopping around and looking at some other options. We are enjoying watching the new track and new gym grow in front of our eyes this summer! All the progress has been amazing and is such a nice addition to our home. We have received our 2023-24 5 Essentials Report that provides us feedback from our students, teachers, and parents on the culture and climate within the building. This data provides us valuable talking points and considerations for our Guiding Coalition committees.

Ms. McGann and Ms. Westphal attended an Admin/Counselor Day at the FFA State Convention last week that provided us with valuable information on grants, curriculum, and growth of our Ag program. Congratulations to Hailey Peterson, for earning her FFA State Degree and our Agriscience Fair Winners, Adam West, Cole Kinsella, Toby Williams, and Chelsey Stotler who received their state awards. Additional congratulations to Garrett Bruecks and Toby Williams who have been selected to attend the National FFA Conference in Salt Lake City in September. They are 2 of 75 students in the country chosen to attend the Next Gen: Environmental Services and Natural Resource Systems Conference. There were no questions for Ms. McGann.

Stark County Superintendent, Mr. Elliott, reminded everyone that we will hold a Special Board Meeting this coming Monday, June 24, 2024 at 6:00 pm to conduct the business of the board since we did not have a quorum at tonight’s meeting. Registration for the 2024-25 school year will be open from Monday, July 29 – Friday, August 9. The 2024-25 school year will begin with two days of Faculty/Staff Institutes, Tuesday, August 13 and Wednesday, August 14, 2024. The students first day of school is Thursday, August 15, 2024. A reminder to all families to get your required physicals and immunizations, information is available on our website. As we wrap up the 2023-24 fiscal year, we are proud to celebrate an incredible year. With our PHEARCE philosophy as our foundation we attacked the year with our “Can’t Stop, Won’t Stop” mantra. This included our relentless pursuit of excellence by diving head first into our Guiding Coalition work to continue to transform SC100 in the years to come. We trusted in our process, investing district-wide into the BIST process, supporting students and staff. We remained humble, always putting others first and wrapping around them with positive energy as we faced great adversity including the loss of one of our own, Katina Hegwood. We surrounded her and her family with love and positive energy through our Hairy for Hegwood campaign. We lived our mission and vision with tremendous academic growth

throughout the district and graduated 53 of 53 seniors. Our academic growth can be attributed to continued implementation of Professional Learning Communities. We continue to provide our students and staff the best in facilities as we add a new all-weather track, we are spending the summer upgrading all facilities including deep cleaning, paint, carpet and more. We have also begun the construction of a new high school gym. This is not possible without the relentless pursuit of excellence by all students, staff, administration and the board of education that begins and ends with trust and strong relationships. Thank you for your trust, passion and commitment to excellence. Superintendent Elliott concluded his report with a budget update on expenditures through 91.7% of fiscal year 2024, stating that he is happy with where we are on the budget. There were no questions for Mr. Elliott.

Unfinished Business:

No action was taken on the following agenda items: Approval of FY24 Amended Budget, Approval of 2024-25 SCES and SCJSH Handbooks, and Approval of 2024-25 Extracurricular Code. Action to be taken at the next meeting.

Superintendent Elliott provided an update on data targets adjusted by the Guiding Coalition for the strategic plan draft. Another parent forum will be hosted on Thursday, July 11 before going to the board for final approval on July 15. No action taken.

A summary of bids was presented by Superintendent Elliott including no bread bid; one milk bid from Prairie Farms increasing from \$0.32 to \$0.3596 per carton for 1% white milk and from \$0.35 to \$0.3796 per carton for 1% chocolate or 1% strawberry milk; one trash bid from GFL with an overall increase from \$980 to \$1,029 per month for all dumpsters; and one Rebel Reporter bid of \$1,700 per year from Lampe Publishing (prior year's bid was \$1,650). These are the same companies that have bid over the past few years. No action taken.

New Business:

Ms. McGann provided the rationale for a new junior high science curriculum for the 2024-25 school year. An overview put together by Mrs. Conrad and Mr. Collins has been provided to the board members in their board packet. The board discussed the last time the junior high science curriculum had been updated, affordability, notebooks and other supplies that would be needed for the new curriculum, etc. No action taken.

No action was taken on the following agenda items: Authorization of Superintendent to Prepare FY25 Budget, Approval to Close the Class of 2023 Activity Account and Transfer Funds to the Vending Activity Account, Approval to Open a Class of 2028 Activity Account, and Resolution to Transfer FY25 Interest.

Mr. Elliott provided a brief explanation regarding the annual requirement for approval of the Restraint and Time Out Reduction Plan. In the 2023-24 school year, we did not have any restraints or time outs of record. No action taken, to be approved on Monday.

Mr. Elliott feels that we have had great support working with Miller, Hall and Triggs, LLC for our board legal counsel and recommended that we continue to utilize their legal services for the 2024-25 school year. A formal quote showing a slight increase in rates was provided to the board members in their board packets. No action taken.

With our federal Electric Bus Grant of \$730,000, we are ready to let bids for asphalt, electric and the construction of a new bus barn. All expenditures are covered by the grant and all bids will be submitted through Farnsworth. Action to be taken at the next meeting.

Superintendent Elliott shared the newly approved Board of Directors of the Stark County Education Foundation for the 2024-25 school year. Crystal West – President, Brett Elliott - Vice-President, Nathan Lane – Treasurer, Paige Milburn – Secretary, Megan McGann, Payton Letko, Shannon Westphal, Lauren West, Dane Richards, Brian Rewerts, Rob Finney, Mary Groter, and Chelsea Stage. There are two open seats. Acceptance to be made at the next meeting.

Items for Next Meeting:

The Annual Summer Board Retreat will be held at 8:00 am on Monday, July 15th with a regular session meeting to be held at 1:30 pm; Approval of District Strategic Plan; Possible Approval of Electric Bus Grant Bids; Possible Approval of Junior High Science Curriculum; Possible Insurance Committee Recommendation; Approval of 2024-25 Non-Certified Employee Handbook; Approval of the 2024-25 Bus Personnel Transportation Handbook.

Executive Session:

Due to not having a quorum, the board was unable to take action to move into executive session. No actions were taken.

Meeting ended at 6:36 p.m.

Ann Orwig
President

Emily Leezer
Secretary

Approved 7/15/2024