

Sterling Board of Education
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
May 15, 2024
Community Room - 6:00pm
“EXCELLENCE WITH KINDNESS”

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order: by Courtney Langlois, Board Chair at 6:00pm

Present at meeting: Jennifer Mossner, Vice Chair; Dorothy Capobianco, Vice Treasurer; Victoria Robinson-Lewis, Vice Treasurer; John Brady, Board Member

Also present: Theodore Friend, Superintendent; Heather Nickerson, Principal; Laura Smith, Clinical Supervisor; Courtney Brannon, Business Manager; Christine Chandler, Board Clerk

Absent from meeting: Catherine Malo, Board Member

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Public Comment

No one spoke at this time

IV. Reports and Communications

A. Correspondence

- C. Langlois read a thank you card to the Board from Dawn Darche for breakfast during staff appreciation week.
- She also noted that we had received a renewal bill for CABA dues that has been given to C. Brannon for processing and payment.

B. Consent Agenda

1. Minutes of Meeting April 24, 2024
 2. Superintendent's Report
 3. Special Education Director's Report
 4. Principal's Report
 5. Clinical Supervisor's Report
 6. Monthly Check Register
- A motion was made by V. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by J. Mossner to accept the Consent Agenda as presented.
 - Vote: All in favor
 - 2 abstentions/Minutes of Meeting April 24, 2024 - J. Brady, D. Capobianco
 - Motion: Passed

C. Budget and Expense Report

C. Brannon recapped some of the things that are going on as we approach the end of the year. She will be closing out the year and will be looking to see where we stand financially.

There were some unexpected excess funds:

- Salaries, Tuition, Right to Read Grant Reimbursement, and ARP ESSER Grant Funds.
- The ARP ESSER Funds will need to be expended by 9/30/2024.
- The Maintenance Repair Costs continued to be monitored as do the Special Education Professional Services.

She also gave an update on the Capital Projects that are being addressed.

- A motion was made by V. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by D. Capobianco to accept the Budget and Expense report as presented.
 - Vote: All in favor
 - Motion: Passed

D. Plainfield Board of Education Liaison

J. Mossner attended the meeting on May 8, 2024:

- She started out by noting that 2 students had received the CABA Leadership Award, one of the students was Sierra Madden, a Sterling student.
- She called attention to the increased SAT scores and in students taking the test. The school is working to increase ways to provide test prep to better prepare the students for taking the test. They are also looking into how they can expand the student's access to pre-algebra and algebra at the middle school level so that they can take the higher math classes at the high school level.
- The "Little Mermaid" production sold the most tickets that has ever been sold at Plainfield.
- With regards to Plainfield's budget, they had to cut approximately \$800,000. The cuts made were across the board - staff, equipment, supplies, utilities, and operations.

E. Personnel - Resignation/Retirement

Jennifer Wright - O/T

V. Unfinished Business

None at this time

VI. New Business

A. Field Study Trip

1. Grade 2 - Roger Williams Park Zoo, Providence, RI - June 7, 2024

- A motion was made by V. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by J. Mossner to approve the grade 2 trip to Roger Williams Park Zoo, Providence, RI on June 7, 2024.
 - Vote: All in favor
 - Motion: Passed

B. Donations

T. Friend presented a donation in the amount of \$915.28 from Plainfield High School Class of 1993 to be used for the Amber Campbell Caring Closet.

- A motion was made by D. Capobianco and seconded by V. Robinson-Lewis to accept the donation from the Plainfield High School Class of 1993 in memory of Amber Campbell.
 - Vote: All in Favor
 - Motion: Passed

C. Review, discussion, and possible action to upgrade the Otis Elevator control board at a cost of \$20,790. Vendor: Otis Elevator

- A motion was made by V. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by J. Mossner to approve the Otis Elevator upgrade to the elevator control board at a cost of \$20,790.
 - Vote: All in Favor
 - Motion: Passed

D. Review, discussion, and possible action to approve 10 additional work days for the Superintendent for the 2023-2024 school year.

- A motion was made by D. Capobianco and seconded by J. Mossner to approve 10 additional work days for the Superintendent for the 2023-2024 school year.
 - Vote: All in Favor
 - Motion: Passed

E. Review, discussion, and possible action to approve the UPSEU Contract.

- A motion was made by J. Brady and seconded by V. Robinson-Lewis to approve the UPSEU Contract.
 - Vote: All in Favor
 - Motion Passed

- F. Review, discussion and possible approval of Line Item Transfers.
- A motion was made by V. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by D. Capobianco to approve the Line Item Transfers as presented.
 - Vote: All in Favor
 - Motion: Passed

G. Discuss process for the Superintendent's Evaluation and Contract.

The Board discussed using a narrative for the Superintendent's Evaluation this year.

The Superintendent's Contract will be voted on at the June 26th meeting.

VII. Committee Updates

- A. Policy - Meeting set for May 31, 2024
- B. Budget - Budget Referendum is May 22, 2024 from 12:00pm - 8:00pm
- C. Negotiations - CEA Negotiations will begin on September 26, 2024

VIII. Recommendations, Questions and/or Comments

None at this time

IX. Public Comment

Ashley Cerreto commended Mrs. Morin and Mrs. Medbery for providing excellent parent communication.

X. Executive Session

XI. Adjournment

- A motion was made by V. Robinson-Lewis and seconded by D. Capobianco to adjourn the meeting.
 - Vote: All in Favor
 - Motion: Passed

Meeting adjourned at: 6:42pm