

*September 14, 2023
Colona, IL*

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

Present: Julie Wittenauer, Lindsey Trickey, Patricia Sedlock, Bill Rossow, Dennis Teichman and Julie Arnold

Absent: Jim Legare

Also Present: Nate Fretz, Stifel Public Finance, Chrissy Winters, Kathy Creger, Ian Malmstrom, Jill Seys, Mike Carlson, Mike Ruff and Edith Glackin

The meeting began with the recitation of The Pledge of Allegiance

Good News Items: Hughes Telephone sponsored lunch and raffle prizes on the Teacher Institute Day. The library received a generous donation of \$500 from Cheryl Powell. Christ Church (Colona) donated \$200 and supplies for the teachers.

Kathy Creger had a short presentation about Foster's Voice. Foster's Voice is reaching out to UTHS feeder schools to participate in Foster's Voice Youth Initiative. Meetings will be in the morning for students in grades 6-8. Jamie Atwood and Kathy Creger will be leading the meetings. The goal of the group is to encourage students to be empathetic.

There were no visitors or individuals present to speak to any agenda item.

The Principal reported Students of the month were: Barrett Fox, Ariella Mason, Adalynn Gabel, Cooper Rolsch, Lorenzo Meraz, Avalynn Sissel, Ryley Erichsen, Tori Starkweather, Paizlee Millhollin, Emmarie Warner, Omar Pantoja, Jessica Lukens. Grandparents Day was on September 8, 2023. The Book Fair started on September 8, 2023. Conferences will be held on September 29 and 29, 2023. Professional Development on September 1, 2023 included Character Strong which focuses on their Eight Essentials: Patience, Kindness, Humility, Respect, Selflessness, Forgiveness, Honesty and Commitment. The Glass case in the foyer is painted and displaying new student artwork.

The Athletic Director shared that sign ups for fall sports are underway. The Hilltoppers co-op football team has over 40 players participating. The seventh grade volleyball team has won their first three conference games while the eighth grade team has won one and lost two. The first scheduled cross country invite of the year was canceled due to weather.

The PTA minutes reported they are in need of volunteers for Grandparent's Day. Pie and Cookie sales will continue this fall. The Annual Craft Fair will be on October 28, 2023. The next meeting will be September 20, 2023.

The Maintenance report listed general maintenance performed for the month.

The School Resource Officer listed his daily schedule and future tasks which include the reflective exterior door decals.

The Technology report included an update on the new WiFi connectivity and a donation of laptop bags from Orion Schools.

A Motion was made by Dennis Teichman, seconded, by Lindsey Trickey to approve Consent Agenda, which included the following:

- 5a. Approve regular board meeting minutes from August 10 2023*
- 5b. Approve the closed session board meeting minutes from August 10, 2023*
- 5c. Approve the bills for the month*
- 5d. Approve the activity fund report form the month*
- 5e. Accept the donation of \$500 from Cheryl Powell*
- 5f. Approve the update to the Principal's FY23-25 Contract*
- 5g. Accept the resignation of Perry Wadsager effective September 1, 2023*

Roll Call Vote: Sedlock- aye; Arnold - aye; Wittenauer – aye; Rossow - aye; Trickey - aye; Teichman - aye; 6 ayes; no nays, one absent, Motion carried

Nate Fretz from Stifel Public Finance presented the BOE with a Statement of Qualifications regarding bond options for the Colona School District #190. Items included information regarding future bonding, current outstanding bonds, EAV, debts service, potential projects and a timeline. Community engagement was also discussed to help the public understand the financial picture of the district. The district currently has two bonds that will be retired in the next two years. The district must make a decision before February 24, 2025 if they would like to issue additional bonds to maintain the current tax levy.

The BOE discussed offering fingerprinting kits for students from Colona Grade School. These kits are tools that would be offered to our families so they can maintain biometric data for the students and would be a nice service to our families.. These kits can be costly depending on the quantity purchased. The BOE also discussed how to reach parents to participate and if the police department would be onsite to help with fingerprinting.

The district will need to update the E-Learning plan. This is done every three years. There must be a public hearing with notice published in the newspaper before adoption. The plan is scheduled to be adopted at the October board meeting. The E-Learning plan will be in place and serve as a guide for instruction should the school need to close either unexpectedly or for a period of time.

The EBF Spending Plan State of Illinois has certain factors of programs that are worthy to run a successful school. Strongly states that schools with low income scenarios will need more help with learning supports, counseling, administration. The current School Improvement Plan is focused on Math. Specifically to help kids that have been targeted with a need for math intervention.

The Maintenance Grant from ISBE is available this year. ISBE will match the cost (up to \$50,000) of approved projects.

An anticipated 20-25 participants are expected for the IASA Strategic Planning meeting on Saturday, September 23, 2023.

Dr. Ruff updated the BOE on emergency drills. Schools in the region are being encouraged to practice evacuating the building and assembling in another nearby location. This evacuation drill would also include the BHS ROE and the OEM for planning details.

The IASB Blackhawk Division will host a meeting on October 25, 2023 in Kewanee, IL. Please let Ms. Eydie know if you are interested in attending

A motion was made by Dennis Teichman, seconded by Julie Arnold to enter closed session in accordance with Chapter 5, Act 120, Section2 of the illinois Open Meetings Act, an Executive Session will be held to possibly discuss

the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the District [5 ILCS 120 / 2 (c)(1)]

Roll Call Vote: Teichman - aye; Sedlock- aye; Arnold - aye; Wittenauer – aye; Rossow - aye; Trickey - aye; 6 ayes; no nays, one absent, Motion carried

The board entered closed session at 8:20 p.m.

A Motion was made by Bill Rossow, seconded by Patricia Sedlcok to return to open session at 8:30 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: ; Arnold - aye; Sedlock - aye; Rossow - aye; Wittenauer - aye; Trickey - aye; Teichman -aye; 6 ayes; no nays, one absent, Motion carried

A motion was made by Bill Rossow, seconded by Dennis Teichman to approve the FY24 budget as presented

Roll Call Vote: Trickey - aye; Sedlock - aye; Teichman - aye; Rossow - aye; Wittenauer - aye; Arnold - aye; 6 ayes, no nays, one absent, Motion carried

A motion was made by Dennis Teichman, seconded by Lindsey Trickey to approve the FY23 Administrator and Teacher Salary Report as presented

Roll Call Vote: Teichman - aye; Wittenauer - aye; Arnold - aye; Rossow - aye; Trickey - aye; Sedlock - aye; 6 ayes, no nays, one absent, Motion carried.

A motion was made by Patricia Sedlock seconded by Julie Arnold to approve Tricia Hull as a long term sub (Elementary PE Sub) until a more permanent solution can be found.

Roll Call Vote: Rossow - aye; Trickey - aye; Teichman - aye; Sedlock - aye; Wittenauer - aye; Arnold - aye; 6 ayes, no nays, one absent, Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Julie Arnold, seconded by Patricia Sedlock to approve the FY24 Extracurricular Handbook

Roll Call Vote: Teichman - aye; Sedlock - aye; Trickey - aye; Rossow - aye; Wittenauer - aye; Arnold - aye; 6 ayes, no nays, one absent, Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Lindsey Trickey seconded by Dennis Teichman to approve the the hiring of Kayla Scott (Cafeteria)[30 hours/week] pending the successful completion of all employment requirements

Roll Call Vote: Rossow - aye; Arnold - aye; Teichman - aye; Wittenauer - aye; Trickey - aye; Sedlock - aye; 6 ayes, no nays, one absent, Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Julie Arnold seconded by Patricia Sedlcok to approve the the hiring of Josh Ibarra (Custodial) [25 hours/week] pending the successful completion of all employment requirements

Roll Call Vote: Sedlock - aye; Teichman - aye; Trickey - aye; Rossow - aye; Wittenauer - aye; Arnold - aye; 6 ayes, no nays, one absent, Motion Carried

A motion was made by Dennis Teichman, seconded by Patricia Sedlcok to approve the purchase of reflective exterior door decals for \$2,907.00

Roll Call Vote: Arnold - aye; Wittenauer - aye; Rossow - aye; Trickey - aye; Teichman - aye; Sedlock - aye; 6 ayes, no nays, one absent, Motion Carried

A motion was made by Lindsey Trickey, seconded by Dennis Teichman to approve the first reading of Board Policies: 2:170, 4:45, 4:100, 5:230, and 7:305

Roll Call Vote: Trickey - aye; Sedlock - aye; Rossow - aye; Wittenauer - aye; Teichman - aye; Arnold - aye; 6 ayes, no nays, one absent, Motion Carried

A Motion was made by Dennis Teichman, seconded by Lindsey Trickey to adjourn the meeting.

Voice Vote: 6 ayes; no nays, none absent, Motion carried

Having noted that all agenda items had been discussed, the meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

DATE