

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION,
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 119, ST. CLAIR COUNTY, ILLINOIS
OCTOBER 20, 2020

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The Board of Education of District No. 119, St. Clair County, Illinois, met in the library, Belle Valley School District, 2465 Amann Drive, Belleville, Illinois, in said District at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 20, 2020.

President Kunz called the meeting to order. The roll was called and the following members were present: Mrs. Winn, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Kunz, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Radliff, Mr. Warner, and Dr. Winfield. Those absent: none.

The Board of Education and others in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Kunz recommended adopting the board agenda. Mrs. Collins moved to adopt the board agenda. Mr. Radliff seconded the motion. All members in favor, motion carried.

President Kunz called for public comments from the audience. Two teachers introduced themselves as union representatives attending the meeting. There were no public comments.

President Kunz presented Mrs. Roberta Barth a plaque for her years of service to the Board of Education as a board member (2010-2016) and Treasurer (2012-2020). Mrs. Barth thanked the board members for the plaque and enjoyed being of service to the District.

The Board of Education received a thank you letter from Joan McKay for her retirement gift as Business Manager.

Supt. Gale acknowledged the receipt of the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) active member certificate for 2020/2021.

Ms. Karrie Ridder, Belle Valley art teacher, gave a presentation to propose the start of an art club. The club would be open to grades 5 to 8. The primary goal of the club is to give those students who show interest in the visual arts the opportunity for more exposure to learning art techniques in drawing, painting, pottery, print making, and much more.

Supt. Gale passed out the results of a new Return to In-Person Learning Parent Survey to supplement the principal's reports. There were 411 responses. Supt. Gale informed that the District has completed the process of phasing in students by grade level who requested in-person learning from the original plan approved by the Board of Education. The original plan resulted in approximately 40% in-person learning and 60% remote learning for five (5) days a week. The District can operate within the Illinois Department of Public Health guidelines under the current plan.

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The new survey shows approximately 70% would like in-person learning which is approximately 300 more students. The District would have to implement a hybrid plan in order to operate within the Illinois Department of Public Health guidelines to accommodate for the additional students.

Principal Leib and Principal Callahan shared their thoughts on student performance if the District were to implement a hybrid learning plan.

Assistant Principal Musso discussed temperature checks of students entering the building, student social distancing while moving through the halls, and mitigation of students with Covid symptoms. There have been no discipline issues.

Supt. Gale noted the touchless water fountains are working well. The District will be purchasing two (2) additional backpack disinfectors.

Supt. Gale shared the OPAA newsletter which highlights the Federal government extending the free breakfast and lunch program for all children ages 1-18 until September 30, 2021. He discussed ISBE's Assessment and Accountability rating for the 2019-2020 school year and noted the District's summative designation issued for 2020 is commendable. Construction activity should begin in early November for the solar power project. Hope to switch power over on December 18th when the students are not in session. Still planning on an Earth-to-Sky Illinois (E2SI) launch in December at Belle Valley. Federal funding for future STEM summer camps is not promising.

President Kunz asked whether board members had any questions for the consent agenda items, which included: (a) minutes of the public hearing for health, life, safety, public hearing for budget, regular and executive meeting of the Board of Education on September 15, 2020; (b) one freedom of information request; (c) enrollment report; (d) lunch report; (e) ESP report - none due to insufficient data to report; (f) tax report; (g) Treasurer report; (h) financial report; and (i) payment of bills. The bills were presented for approval and payment in the following amounts, (see itemized lists attached): Education Fund-\$70,381.81; O & M Fund-\$81,200.17; Debt Service Fund-\$585.12; Transportation Fund-\$41,083.68; Tort Fund-\$0; Fire & Safety Fund \$0. Mr. Radliff moved to approve the consent agenda items. Mrs. Winn seconded the motion. Members voting aye on roll call: Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Kunz, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Radliff, Mr. Warner, Dr. Winfield, and Mrs. Winn. Nays none, motion carried.

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President Kunz recommended the approving the resolution to continue the Section 125 benefit plan for employees. Mr. Radliff moved to approve the resolution to continue Section 125 benefits for fiscal year 2021. Mrs. Winn seconded the motion. All members in favor, motion carried.

President Kunz recommended the approving the IASB recommended board policies and updates read during the September 15, 2020 board meeting. Mr. Radliff moved to approve the IASB recommended board policies and updates as presented. Mrs. Winn seconded the motion. All members in favor, motion carried.

Upon the recommendation of President Kunz, Mr. Radliff moved that the Board of Education enter into executive session at 7:55 p.m. under 5ILCS 120/2 (c.) (1) for the discussion of personnel employment and performance. Mrs. Collins seconded the motion. Members voting aye on roll call: Mrs. Kunz, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Radliff, Mr. Warner, Dr. Winfield, Mrs. Winn, and Mrs. Collins. Nays none, motion carried.

At 9:06 p.m., board members exited executive session.

Mrs. Miller moved to approve the employment contract for Shannon Owings for FY2021 to FY2023 as a payroll specialist/bookkeeper as presented. Dr. Winfield seconded the motion. Members voting aye on roll call: Mrs. Miller, Mr. Radliff, Mr. Warner, Dr. Winfield, Mrs. Winn, Mrs. Collins, and Mrs. Kunz. Nays none, motion carried.

Dr. Winfield moved to approve the maternity leave for Sarah Mueth as requested. Mr. Radliff seconded the motion. All members in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Radliff moved to employ Ryan Mentzer as an elementary paraprofessional for the FY2021 at the CBA amount of \$18.35 per hour. Mrs. Winn seconded the motion. Members voting aye on roll call: Mr. Radliff, Mr. Warner, Dr. Winfield, Mrs. Winn, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Kunz, and Mrs. Miller. Nays none, motion carried.

Mr. Radliff moved to approve the amendment to the special education coordinator's contract as presented. Mrs. Winn seconded the motion. All members in favor, motion carried.

Mrs. Collins moved to deny the request for a Covid-19 sick day submitted to the Board of Education by Mr. Forness. Mr. Radliff seconded the motion. All members in favor, motion carried.

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Dr. Winfield moved to approve the Superintendent's goals for FY2021 as presented. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. All members in favor, motion carried.

The Board discussed the traffic flow and dangers at the intersection of Amann Drive and Green Mount Road. They requested Supt. Gale to inquire about the possibility of a stop light at the intersection.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education at this time, Mr. Radliff moved that the meeting adjourn at 9:15 p.m. Mrs. Winn seconded the motion. All members in favor, motion carried.

Karen L. Kunz, President
Board of Education
Belle Valley School District No. 119
St. Clair County, Illinois

Margaret M. Holt, Secretary
Board of Education
Belle Valley School District No. 119
St. Clair County, Illinois