

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION,
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 119, ST. CLAIR COUNTY, ILLINOIS
NOVEMBER 21, 2017

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The Board of Education of District No. 119, St. Clair County, Illinois, met in the conference room, Belle Valley School District, 2465 Amann Drive, Belleville, Illinois, in said District at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, November 21, 2017.

President Kunz called the meeting to order. The roll was called and the following members were present: Mrs. Kunz, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Warner, and Mr. Bernal. Those absent: Mr. Radliff, Mrs. Winfield, and Mrs. Collins.

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

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

Supt. Gale reported on the thank you notes received during the month. Mrs. Vanessa Stellern sent a thank you note to the Board of Education for the memorial arrangement. Mr. Alexander sent a thank you for the gift card. The Girls on the Run organization sent a thank you for supporting the Girls on the Run Program.

The English Language Arts (ELA) teachers discussed integrating writing into the curriculum to align the standards to improve test scores to meet or exceed State standards. A workshop presenter gave the teachers some materials to improve writing during a teacher institute day.

Mr. Forness discussed expanding the homework help club by one hour to help students with their homework. He discussed helping students with extra support for forty five minutes each day by a teacher aide in a regular classroom. He suggested homework help for grades three and four for four days a week with five students from each grade level staying after school. Parents would be responsible to pick up students by 4:00 p.m. Principal Leib discussed the homework help program for grades five through eight.

President Kunz called for public comments from the audience. There were no public comments.

Supt. Gale discussed PARRC assessments for the past school year. He discussed the meet and exceeds scores and demographics for Belle Valley students for composite scores, which exceeded the state averages. The math scores were below State averages. The ELA scores

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exceeded the State averages. The State averages for poverty students are 50/50. The Belle Valley averages for poverty students are 67% low income students. The test scores show that low income decreases the students level of meet and exceeds. Mr. Kelly, Assistant Principal, stated that 126 students in grade four took the PARRC test, but not all the students took the same portion of the PARRC tests. Some sections had only ten students taking a small section of the test. Not all the test scores are a valid representation of the PARRC section for math. The Math Online XL subscription should help students improve their math skills. Star 360 is an RtI screening tool to help provide more valuable data. Currently, the District uses Aims Web to test students for reading capabilities.

Supt. Gale discussed the update on the observatory building. Wissehr Electric will start electric work next Monday on the observatory building. The Parent Teacher conference survey questions and responses are included in the board packet. Supt. Gale received resignations from Ashley Schaefer, a teacher aide, Irene Amaya, a noon supervisor, and Andrew Grodzicki, a custodian. The Belle Valley website transition saved the District \$700 with the cancellation of the prior contract. Supt. Gale met with Diane Richie from the State of Illinois and Pam Leonard with Harmony School District #175 regarding the Pre K grant. The Belle Valley School District will stay with Harmony School District #175 for the next five years for the Pre K grant.

Mrs. McKay discussed information concerning the proposed tax levy for 2017. A projected increase of 3% in the equalized assessed valuation and the correlating tax rates were discussed. The overall recommendation for the levy presented resulted in a .3567% decrease including the Debt Service Fund. The IMRF, Social Security, and Tort levies were decreased for the 2017 levy. Mrs. McKay discussed the historical tax rates, tax extensions and equal assessed valuation (EAV) of real estate in the Belle Valley School District. As the EAV goes down, the tax rate increases. The tentative proposed tax levy was presented in the following amounts: Education Fund \$1,861,846.00; O & M Fund \$327,460.00; Transportation Fund \$112,272.00; Working Cash Fund \$46,780.00; Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund \$145,000.00; Social Security Fund \$190,000.00; Tort Immunity Fund \$210,000.00; Special Education Fund \$18,712.00; Lease Levy \$45,000.00; and the amount needed in the Debt Service Fund \$1,905,533.00.

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President Kunz asked whether board members had any questions for the consent agenda items, which included: the minutes of the regular, special and executive meeting of the Board of Education on October 17, 2017, the freedom of information requests (3), enrollment report, the lunch report, the ESP report, the treasurer's report, financial report and payment of bills. The bills were presented for approval and payment in the following amounts, (see itemized lists attached): Ed. Fund \$118,829.81; O & M Fund \$41,577.62; Transportation Fund \$49,010.41; and Tort Fund \$5,025.50. Mr. Warner moved to approve the consent agenda items. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. Members voting aye on roll call: Mrs. Kunz, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Warner, and Mr. Bernal. Nays none, motion carried.

Mr. Warner moved to approve the fiscal year 2018 web salaries as presented. Mr. Bernal seconded the motion. All members in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Warner moved to approve one dock day for Jennifer Kazmierczak. Mr. Bernal seconded the motion. All members in favor, motion carried.

Upon the recommendation of President Kunz, Mr. Warner moved that the Board of Education enter into executive session at 8:17 p.m. under 5ILCS 120/2 (c.) (1) for the discussion of personnel employment, performance and to hear a parental request. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. Members voting aye on roll call: Mrs. Miller, Mr. Warner, Mr. Bernal and Mrs. Kunz. Nays none, motion carried.

At 9:15 p.m., board members exited executive session.

Mrs. Miller moved to employ Jennifer Largent as an elementary school certified teacher for social worker services for the remainder of the fiscal year 2018. Mr. Bernal seconded the motion. Members voting aye on roll call: Mr. Warner, Mr. Bernal, Mrs. Kunz and Mrs. Miller. Nays none, motion carried.

Mr. Warner moved to approve the Superintendent Gale's goals as presented. Mr. Bernal seconded the motion. All members in favor, motion carried.

Supt. Gale discussed the first reading of the IASB recommended board policy changes and review of Board Policy 6:60E. No action taken at this time.

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Supt. Gale discussed employing two teacher aides for an extra hour for four days per week for homework help after school for grades three to five with extra overtime pay to be at the superintendent's discretion. Mr. Warner moved to approve employing two teacher aides for an extra hour for four days per week for homework help after school for grades three to five with the extra overtime pay to be at the superintendent's discretion. Mrs. Miller seconded the motion. Members voting aye on roll call: Mr. Bernal, Mrs. Kunz, Mrs. Miller and Mr. Warner. Nays none, motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education at this time, Mrs. Miller moved that the meeting adjourn. Mr. Bernal 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

Joan E. McKay, Secretary
Board of Education
Belle Valley School District No. 119
St. Clair County, Illinois