

STREATOR TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #40

Board of Education – Regular Meeting

Tuesday, February 16, 2021, at 6:00 P.M. in the STHS Library Meeting Room

Prepared by Carol A. Johnston, Administrative Assistant

Call to Order/Roll Call

President Woeltje called the regular meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

Board members present: Mr. Biroshchik, Mr. Hoffmeyer, Mr. Mast, Mr. Parr and Dr. Woeltje

Board member absent: Mr. McFadden and Mr. Tutoky

Administration present: Dr. Seaton, Superintendent, Mrs. Mascal, Principal, and Carol Johnston, Superintendent Assistant

Board Salutes

Dr. Seaton commended the custodial staff for keeping the building and grounds clean and safe throughout this COVID-19, wintery weather.

Dr. Seaton commended Mr. Bedeker, Athletic Director, for getting COVID-19 measures in place, constructing new and revised sports schedules and attending/supervising an extraordinary number of events.

Students of the Month Recognition

A video presentation was displayed representing the “Students of the Month” as chosen by Faculty members.

Public Comment

None

Approval of Board Minutes

MOTION by Biroshchik, seconded by Mast, to approve the following items listed under “Approval of Minutes” on the Tuesday, February 16, 2021, Board Meeting Agenda. Ayes (5) Nays (0) **Motion carried.**

A. Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Tuesday, January 19, 2021

B. Approve the Destruction of All Closed Session Recordings Prior to February, 2019

Approval of Financial Reports

MOTION by Biroshchik, seconded by Hoffmeyer, to approve the following items as listed under “Financial Reports” on the Tuesday, February 16, 2021, Board Meeting Agenda. Ayes (5) Nays (0) **Motion carried.**

- Approve the January, 2021, Treasurer’s Report and Budgetary Report

- Approve the February, 2021, Bills

Committee Reports

- **Finance Committee** – Dr. Seaton and the Board reviewed the Finance Committee’s meeting report. Dr. Seaton and Board member/Finance Committee member, Biroshchik, discussed the topics and recommendations made during the committee meeting, including but not limited to, the purchase of new tables and chairs for the Commons at a cost of \$42,813.79, and a new floor machine for a cost of \$10,327.00. Also discussed was the possible non-renewal of the School Resource Officer contract with The City of Streator.
- **COVID-19 Transition Team** – Dr. Seaton and the Board reviewed the COVID-19 Transition Team meeting report. Board members and Transition Team members, Hoffmeyer and Biroshchik, discussed the topics and recommendations made during the committee meeting, including but not limited to, Out of State Travel Quarantine Limitations, 10-Day Quarantine Time Frame Option and staff only Return to Learn Wednesdays.

Administrative Reports

Superintendent –

- Therapy Dog Program – Dr. Seaton informed the Board that the Streator-Area United Way has offered to fund a therapy dog for Streator High School. United Way representative, Elizabeth Halm, reviewed the process and specifics of the Therapy Dog Program. Streator-Area United Way will fund up to \$1,200 for the purchase of the puppy and \$2,200 for specific Therapy Dog training. A staff member would most likely house the dog, providing food and miscellaneous care items. Streator-Area United Way will also pay for veterinarian services as provide by Countryside Animal Clinic as long as the owner is employed by the District. Dr. Seaton recommended the Board of Education approve the Therapy Dog Program for Streator High School.
- TRS Supplemental Savings Plan Resolution – Dr. Seaton informed the Board that TRS has begun a new optional investment program for TRS eligible employees. School districts are required to participate and will need to adopt the TRS Supplemental Savings Plan Resolution. The Supplemental Savings Plan will be an option provided to TRS employees in the future. Per Dr. Seaton, there is no expense to the District now or in the future.
- 12-Month Employees' Vacation Time Carryover Allotment Increase - Normally, 12-month employees (Custodians, Secretaries, and Administrators) who get vacation time are allowed to carry over 5 vacation days annually to be used before December 31 of the upcoming year. Because of COVID-19 and the calendar change to attend school during many holidays and spring break, several “flexible vacation days” have been acquired. Dr. Seaton recommended the Board approve adjusting the 2020-21 vacation time carryover allotment from 5 days annually to be used by December 31 of the upcoming year, to 10 days annually to be used by June 30, 2022.
- Finance Committee Recommendations – Dr. Seaton recommended the Board approve the Finance Committee recommendations as discussed previously this meeting.
- COVID-19 Transition Team Recommendations – Dr. Seaton recommended the Board approve the COVID-19 Transition Team recommendations ad discussed previously this meeting.
- E-Rate Proposal for New Internal Network Cabling – E-Rate is a Federal program that provides network funding based on low income. Dr. Seaton informed the Board that the District needs to upgrade the internal network system. The overall cost for the upgrade is \$224,809.25. The E-Rate funding would cover approximately \$138,276.00 of the cost, leaving the out-of-pocket cost for the District at approximately \$86,533.25. The purchase will be budgeted in FY2022. The District may also be able to utilize the CARES Act funds for their portion of the purchase. Dr. Seaton recommended the Board approve the upgrade to the internal network.
- FOIA Requests - Per School Board Policy 2:250, the STHS Board is to be notified when a FOIA request to STHS has been made. A FOIA request was received February 2, 2021, from Nathan Mihelich, IRTA. A response to the request was timely submitted.

Principal –

- 2020-21 STHS Early Graduates – The Board reviewed the list of STHS Students requesting to graduate after the first semester of the 2020-21 school year.

Old Business

None

New Business

MOTION by Parr, seconded by Mast, to approve the following items listed under “New Business” on the Tuesday, February 16, 2021, Board Meeting Agenda. Ayes (5) Nays (0) **Motion carried.**

- Approve the STHS Therapy Dog Program as funded by Streator-Area United Way
- Approve the Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Illinois Supplemental Savings Plan Resolution
- Approve the 12-Month Employees' 2020-21 Vacation Time Carryover Allotment Increase, from 5 days annually to be used by December 31 for the upcoming year, to 10 days annually to be used by June 30, 2022
- Approve the Purchase of the Tables and Chairs for the Commons for the amount of \$42,813.79
- Approve the Purchase of the Floor Machine for the Commons at a cost of \$10,327.00
- Approve the Non-Renewal of the School Resource Officer Contract with the City of Streator
- Approve the COVID-19 Transition Team Recommendations
- Approve the E-Rate Proposal to Upgrade the Internal Network Systems for the Amount of \$86,533.25 (Total Cost \$224,809.25 - \$138,276.00 E-Rate Credit)
- Approve the 2020-21 Early STHS Graduates

Closed Session

MOTION by Parr, seconded by Hoffmeyer, to go into Closed Session as per **5ILCS 120/2(c)(1)** for the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity; and as per **5ILCS 120/2(c)(11)** for the litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting; and as per **5ILCS 120/2(c)(21)** for the discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. **TIME: 7:06 P.M. Ayes (5) Nays (0) Motion carried.**

MOTION by Mast, seconded by Hoffmeyer, to return to Regular Session. **TIME: 8:24 P.M. Ayes (5) Nays (0) Motion carried.**

Motions from Closed Session

MOTION by Parr seconded by Hoffmeyer, to approve the following items listed under "Personnel", on the February 16, 2021, Board Meeting Agenda. **Ayes (5) Nays (0) Motion carried.**

- Resignations: - Ms. Brittney Huey Adams – Assistant Girls Soccer Coach
- Ms. Molly Soltis – Assistant Softball Coach
- Hire: - Mr. Rory Bedeker – 2021-22 Department Chair for PE/Health/Driver’s Education
- Volunteer: - Ms. Brittney Huey Adams – 2020-21 Volunteer Assistant Girls Soccer Coach

President’s Prerogative

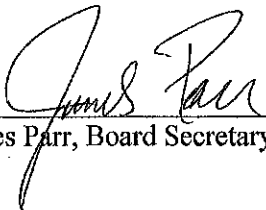
None

Motion for Adjournment

MOTION by Mast, seconded by Hoffmeyer, to adjourn from the regular meeting. **TIME: 8:26 P.M. Ayes (5) Nays (0) Motion carried.**



Dr. Earl Woeltje, Board President



James Parr, Board Secretary