

STREATOR TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL
Special Meeting - Board of Education
Temporary Restraining Order Ruling of February 4, 2022
Discussion Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 7, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. – STHS Auditorium
Prepared by Carol A. Johnston, Superintendent Assistant

Call to Order/Roll Call:

President Biroshchik called the Special Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Board members present: Mrs. Baker, Mr. Biroshchik, Mr. Hoffmeyer, Mr. Mast, Mr. Tutoky and Dr. Woeltje

Board member absent: Mr. Wargo

Administration present: Dr. Boer, Interim Superintendent, Mrs. Mascall, Principal, Mr. McGurk, Assistant Principal, Mr. Doty, Assistant Principal, and Mrs. Johnston, Superintendent Administrative Assistant

Opening Statement – Dr. Boer, Interim Superintendent, informed the Board that he recommends the Board of Education maintain the mandatory mask requirement and related COVID CDC, ISBE, IDPH requirements until the court case appeal process is completed. The recommendation, if granted, would enable the District to continue to enforce the mask mandate, perform contact tracing, administer SHIELD testing and continue to require weekly testing of unvaccinated staff and students for proof of negative COVID tests.

Public Comment:

Several people consisting of STHS staff, parents and community members addressed the Board of Education expressing their opinions, *for and against*, the current mask mandate at Streator Township High School. The comments are believed to be the result of the Sangamon County Temporary Restraining Order Court Case, and whether or not the STHS Board of Education would motion to follow the court case which would *eliminate* the mask mandate, contact tracing, SHIELD testing and weekly testing of unvaccinated persons. The following persons addressed the Board of Education:

Christine Benckendorf, STHS Educational Support Personnel Local 604 Union President – *Pro Mask Mandate*

Jason Robart, STHS AFT Local 604 Union Co-President – *Pro Mask Mandate*

Steve Hoekstra, Community Member – *Pro Elimination of the Mask Mandate*

Brad Krebsbach, Community Member – *Pro Elimination of the Mask Mandate*

Jim Lurz, Community Member – *Pro Elimination of the Mask Mandate*

Tiffany Miles, Community Member – *Pro Elimination of the Mask Mandate*

Greg Case, Community Member – *Pro Elimination of the Mask Mandate*

Elmer Lurz, Community Member – *Pro Elimination of the Mask Mandate*

Jen McMullen, Community Member – *Pro Elimination of the Mask Mandate*

Discussion – Temporary Restraining Order Ruling of February 4, 2022

The Board of Education discussed the Sangamon County Temporary Restraining Order Court Case ruling, with each member providing their individual opinion/rationale for possibly following (or not) the Sangamon County Temporary Restraining Order Court Case. Following the Court Case would eliminate the mask mandate, contact tracing, SHIELD testing and weekly testing of unvaccinated persons for proof of negative COVID test result.

Closing Statement

Dr. Boer reminded everyone that STHS is a public school district which is run by public laws in the state of Illinois, adding if at any time in the future the law should change, the district will honor and follow the law.

MOTION by Tutoky, seconded by Hoffmeyer, to follow the Sangamon County Temporary Restraining Order Court Case. Ayes (4) Nays (2 – Baker, Mast) **Motion carried.**

President's Prerogative

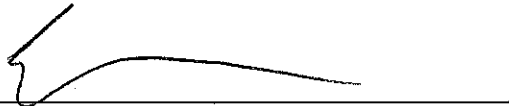
Mr. Biroschik thanked everyone for their opinions, on both sides.

Motion for Adjournment

MOTION by Tutoky, seconded by Biroschik, to adjourn from the Special Meeting. TIME: 7:52 P.M. Ayes (6) Nays (0) **Motion carried.**

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Biroschik".

Steve Biroschik, Board President

A smaller, more fluid handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. Earl Woeltje".

Dr. Earl Woeltje, Board Secretary