

STREATOR TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #40

Board of Education – Regular Meeting

Tuesday, November 17, 2020, at 6:00 P.M. in the STHS Library Meeting Room

Prepared by Carol A. Johnston, Superintendent Assistant

Call to Order/Roll Call

President Woeltje, called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

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

Board member absent: Mr. McFadden

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

Board Salutes

Mr. Biroshik congratulated the FFA/AgEd program and students for their recent successes, including being named the “National Premier Chapter” in the area of Strengthening Agriculture with the program’s “Becoming Semi Aware” project, as well as some individual student successes.

Dr. Seaton noted it is currently “Board Member Appreciation” week and recognized and thanked the STHS Board of Education for volunteering their time and service to the District and students.

Introduce Students of the Month

Mrs. Mascal recognized the “Students of the Month” as chosen by Faculty members. The students will later be presented with a certificate.

Public Comment

None

Approval of Board Minutes

MOTION by Tutoky, seconded by Parr, to approve the following items listed under “Approval of Minutes” on the Tuesday, November 17, 2020, Board Meeting Agenda. Ayes (6) Nays (0) **Motion carried.**

- A. Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Tuesday, October 20, 2020
- B. Approve the Destruction of All Closed Session Recordings Prior to November, 2018

Approval of Financial Reports

MOTION by Parr, seconded by Tutoky, to approve the following items listed under Financial Reports on the Tuesday, November 17, 2020, Board Meeting Agenda. Ayes (6) Nays (0) **Motion carried.**

- A. Approve October, 2020, Treasurer’s Report and Budgetary Report
- B. Approve November, 2020, Bills

Dr. Seaton updated the Board with projection costs for the District’s liability of transportation as partnering with Woodland CUSD5 for the 2021-24 school years. The projected cost as estimated for the 2021-22 school year is \$429,956.00. As compared to the current transportation services, the District is projected to save approximately \$62,450.00 for the 2021-22 school year.

Dr. Seaton informed the Board as a “heads up” that the HVAC control system which controls the Commons, Library and the 1961 areas of the building will soon need to be replaced. Approximate cost to replace the HVAC control system is \$100,00.00.

Dr. Seaton and the Board reviewed and discussed the COVID-19 cases/status’ statistics to date and the process of keeping the staff and students safe in the building.

Administrative Reports

Superintendent:

- 2020 Preliminary Property Tax Levy – Dr. Seaton presented the preliminary property tax statistics which indicate the property growth (EAV) is expected to increase by approximately 14.77%. A large portion of the increase is the result of the new windmill farms. The Tax Levy, as presented by Dr. Seaton, would result in a slight decrease in the tax rate for the upcoming year. STHS is estimated to receive approximately \$859,000.00 more in 2021-22 than in 2020-21 from property tax dollars. The final Levy will be presented for approval at the December 15, 2020, STHS Board of Education meeting. Dr. Seaton recommended the Board approve the Preliminary Property Tax Levy at a 13.83% increase in EAV to assure all funds possible are available to the District.
- Truth-In-Taxation Public Hearing Meeting – Set Date and Time – Because the recommended Property Tax Levy increase exceeds 5% from the previous year, it will be necessary to hold a Truth-In-Taxation Public Hearing. Dr. Seaton recommended the Board hold the Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 15, 2020, @ 5:45 P.M.
- Delinquent Accounts to Collections - Dr. Seaton and the Board reviewed the list of delinquent student accounts. Dr. Seaton recommended the Board authorize the forwarding of the accounts to collections.
- Auditorium – Construction Update – Dr. Seaton provided the Board with an update of the Auditorium construction project as well as some ongoing building projects. The update included some recent additional net expenses totaling \$25,143.00 (\$44,723.00 - \$19,580.00 to be reimbursed by Green Associates). Per Dr. Seaton, the Auditorium project is basically complete outside of a couple last minute unexpected minor items.
- Return to Learn Plan Update – Spring, 2021 – Dr. Seaton and the Board reviewed the ‘Return to Learn Plan’ as updated by the Transition Team for the second semester, 2020-21. Dr. Seaton recommended the Board approve the plan. The ‘Return to Learn Plan’ can also be found on the District’s website.
- FOIA Request – Per School Board Policy 2:250, the STHS Board is to be notified when a FOIA request to STHS has been made. On October 19, 2020, a FOIA Request for guest speaker contracts for the prior and current school years was received by Vince Espinoza, LocalLabs. Response to the request was timely submitted.

Principal:

- 2020-2021 Early Graduates – The Guidance Department submitted the proposed list of 2020-21, early graduates for an initial review. It is expected that all of the proposed graduates will have completed all of the graduation requirements by the end of the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year.
- 2020-21 Fall Sports Season End Results – The Board reviewed the 2020, Fall sports results submitted by Mr. Bedeker, Athletic Director, and Coaches.

Old Business

None

New Business

MOTION by Tutoky, seconded by Mast, to approve the following items listed under “New Business”, on the Tuesday, November 17, 2020, Board Meeting Agenda. Ayes (6) Nays (0) **Motion carried.**

1. Approve the 2020 Preliminary Property Tax Levy
2. Set the Truth-in-Taxation Public Hearing Meeting Date for December 15, 2020, @ 5:45 P.M.
3. Authorize the Superintendent to Forward Delinquent Accounts to Collections
4. Approve the Updated Return to Learn Plan for the 2020-21 School Year, Second Semester

MOTION by Biroshchik, seconded by Tutoky, 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)(2)** for the collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; 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: 7:27 P.M. Ayes (6) Nays (0) **Motion carried.**

MOTION by Biroshik, seconded by Tutoky, to return to regular session. TIME: 7:41 P.M. Ayes (6) Nays (0) **Motion carried.**

Motions from Closed Session

MOTION by Biroshik seconded by Tutoky, to approve the following items listed under "Personnel," on the November 17, 2020, Board Meeting Agenda. All coaching positions will be contingent upon the Sports Season occurring and/or the coach submitting a plan of activities if the season is canceled entirely. All new hires will also be contingent on Background Check results. Ayes (6) Nays (0) **Motion carried.**

Resignations: Mr. Isaias Macias – Head Wrestling Coach

Mr. Jeff Strabala – Assistant Football Coach

Volunteer: Mr. Jeff Strabala – 2020-21 Volunteer Assistant Football Coach

President's Prerogative

None

Adjourn

MOTION by Parr, seconded by Mast, to adjourn from the Regular Meeting. TIME: 7:43 P.M. Ayes (6) Nays (0) **Motion carried.**



Dr. Earl Woeltje, Board President



James Parr, Board Secretary