

MINUTES

STEGER SCHOOL DISTRICT 194 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Thursday, May 21, 2020

6:00 P.M.

***This meeting will be conducted telemetrically using the Zoom webinar platform pursuant to [Executive Order in Response to COVID-19 No. 5](#)**

**View Instruction on How to Join the Zoom Webinar
[Instructions](#)**

The meeting was called to order at 6:11 p.m. by Vice President Edwards. Members present Edwards, Page, Raymond, Turner, Helsel, Butkus and Sarek. Members absent: None.

Also present via Zoom Webinar:

Dr. David Frusher, Eric Diehl, Jan Lenci, Kim Mahoney, Brianne Oliver, Bruce Nieminski, Tom Aguirre, Tim Tufts, Janet Inglese, Jeff Nelson, Patty Leoni, Rachael Diehl, Anthony Graziani and Melissa Cunha.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A parent of an 8th grader spoke regarding the district doing an excellent job during remote learning and food service passing out food to the community. The parent expressed her concerns there was not a parent planning committee for the 8th grade graduation 2019-2020 ceremony.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Sarek and seconded by Mrs. Turner to approve the following items:

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| ACTION | A. Approval of the minutes of the April 23, 2020, Board Meeting and Closed Session. |
| ACTION | B. The Superintendent recommends the board review the minutes from the November 5, 2019 and November 19, 2019, Closed Session meetings and they be kept closed. |
| ACTION | C. The Superintendent recommends the board approve the destruction of the recordings from the October 29, 2018, and November 15, 2018, Closed Session meetings. |

Upon roll call all members voting aye: Helsel, Page, Raymond, Sarek, Turner, Edwards and Butkus.

Members voting nay: None. Members absent: None.

Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

A motion was made by Mr. Sarek and seconded by Mrs. Turner to approve the following item under Financial Accounts:

ACTION E. Payment of Bills - Approval of April bills

Upon roll call all members voting aye: Helsel, Page, Raymond, Sarek, Turner, Edwards and Butkus.

Members voting nay: None. Members absent: None.

Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- The Coronavirus Pandemic continues to dominate SD 194's focus, where we have implemented our Remote Learning Plan. As a reminder, our priorities, along with other school districts in the State of Illinois, are:
 - **Priority 1** - Feed and care for the extended safety, health, and welfare of our students, families, non-student children, staff, and the community at large.
 - **Priority 2** - Communicate clearly; share coherent, organized and controlled messages with our staff, students, and community.
 - **Priority 3** - Provide for the continuity of learning in SD 194.
- **Meal Update:** From March 16th through May 14th, SD 194 has served a total of 14,059 Grab and Go Breakfasts and Lunches have been served. This is an average of 502 Grab and Go Breakfasts and Lunches per day. A total of 4517 learning packets have been picked up during the first 5 rounds of learning packet pick up. We are in our 6th, and final round, of learning packet pick up.
- Teacher and Staff Appreciation week was May 4th – May 8th. SD 194 held drawings, where every staff member received a gift card to use at a local business and their choice of a spirit wear item. Feedback was very positive and our staff was very thankful to our Board of Education.
- Interest Based Bargaining continues. Our virtual meetings have gone well, with our most recent meeting held on May 14th. An upcoming meeting May 28th. Progress is going well. We'll update you tonight in closed session.
- On May 18th, ISBE released the fiscal year 2020 Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief Grant (ESSER) awarded under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Our original CARES projection was **\$389,784**, and we received **\$390,465**. ISBE encourages school districts to submit their applications in the electronic Grants Management System in IWAS as soon as possible. This CARES Act money is designed to provide funding to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. ISBE, and the United States Department of Education, strongly encourages every school district to explore using these dollars to strengthen their infrastructure for remote learning, whether that means purchasing portable devices (Chromebooks), software, connectivity (Hot Spots), or providing professional development and planning on how to best use these assets. We can and should take advantage of this time and these grants to prepare for any future disruptions to in-person instruction that might necessitate a return to remote learning.

- ISBE released Part One of their recommendations for transitioning to in-person instruction, which focused on [Considerations for Closing the 2019-20 School Year & Summer 2020](#). Governor Pritzker's Restore Illinois plan places the return to physical school buildings in Phase 4 of recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The entire State of Illinois is currently experiencing Phase 2, but different regions around the state may reach Phase 4 at different times. ISBE is encouraging school districts to have a Plan A, Plan B, and Plan C. With all this being stated, when students return to physical school buildings, in-person instruction will not look the same. In the next few weeks, ISBE, in partnership with the Illinois Department of Public Health, will provide further recommendations to help SD 194 navigate this transition.
- Our SD 194 team worked hard cleaning out desks, lockers, and classrooms. In addition, coordinating and executing a drive through, "contact free" pick up.
- Thank you and please be safe!

BOARD MATTERS (Consent Agenda)

A motion was made by Mrs. Helsel and seconded by Mrs. Turner to approve the following action items under Board Matters:

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| INFO | A. | Annual district designation from the Illinois State Board of Education in implementing the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. |
| INFO | B. | Columbia Central Class of 2020 Student Recognition Plan. |
| INFO | C. | Steger School District 194 Summer Learning Plan. |
| INFO | D. | Steger School District 194 Remote Learning Grading Guidelines. |
| INFO | E. | Steger School District 194 Distribution of Student Items Plan and Schedule |
| ACTION | F. | Second reading of Board Policy changes as recommended by Press Plus and IASB. |
1. 2:125 Board Member Compensation; Expenses **QUESTION/ANSWER**
 2. 2:160 Board Attorney
 3. 2:125-E1 Exhibit - Board Member Expense Reimbursement Form
 4. 2:125-E2 Exhibit - Board Member Estimated Expense Approval Form
 5. 2:160-E Exhibit - Checklist for Selecting a Board Attorney
 6. 4:50 Payment Procedures
 7. 5:60 Expenses **QUESTION/ANSWER**
 8. 5:150 Personnel Records
 9. 5:60-E1 Exhibit – Employee Expense Reimbursement Form
 10. 5:60-E2 Exhibit – Employee Estimated Expense Approval Form
 11. 5:280 Duties and Qualifications
 12. 6:135 Accelerated Placement Program
 13. 6:280 Grading and Promotion
 14. 7:70 Attendance and Truancy
 15. 7:130 Student Rights and Responsibilities
 16. 7:325 Student Fundraising Activities
 17. 8:10 Connection with the Community
 18. 8:30 Visitors to and Conduct on School Property
 19. 8:80 Gifts to the District
 20. 8:110 Public Suggestions and Concern
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| ACTION | G. | Second Reading Board Policy 5:50 Drug-and Alcohol-Free Workplace; E-Cigarette, Tobacco, and Cannabis Prohibition footnotes 7 and 9 have been updated by Press Plus and does not contain any changes requiring board action. |
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- ACTION** H. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the contract with Cara Curtis (Occupational Therapy Services) effective August 24, 2020, through June 4, 2021, as presented.
- ACTION** I. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the contract with Jana King (Speech Language Pathologist) effective August 20, 2020, through June 3, 2021, as presented.
- ACTION** J. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the contract with Tim Breshock (Physical therapy services) effective August 24, 2020, \ through June 4, 2021, as presented.
- ACTION** K. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the contract with Omni Therapeutics, INC. (Physical therapy, Occupational, Speech-Language Pathology, Social Work and Psychology services) effective August 1, 2020, through July 31, 2021, as presented.
- ACTION** L. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2020-2021 Title I School-wide Plan for Steger Primary Center.
- ACTION** M. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2020-2021 Title I School-wide Plan for Steger Intermediate Center.

Upon roll call all members voting aye: Helsel, Page, Raymond, Sarek, Turner, Edwards and Butkus.

Members voting nay: None. Members absent: None.

Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL (Consent Agenda)

A Motion was made by Mr. Sarek and seconded by Mrs. Raymond to approve the following action items under Personnel.

- ACTION** A. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the resignation of Doug Janota, Government/Explore at Columbia Central, effective April 21, 2020.
- ACTION** B. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the resignation of Sheila Clark, 5th grade Teacher at Columbia Central, effective at the end of the 2019-2020 school year.
- ACTION** C. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the resignation of Malgortza Danowska, Food Service at Steger Primary Center, effective April 24, 2020.
- ACTION** D. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the resignation of Cally Will, Special Education Teacher at Steger Primary Center, effective June 2, 2020.
- ACTION** E. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the paternity leave for Kevin Smock, 4th grade Teacher at Steger Intermediate Center, effective October 28, 2020 through November 23, 2020.
- ACTION** F. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Amy Cantu as the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) at Steger Intermediate Center at \$15.00 an hour, effective for the 2020-2021 school year.
- ACTION** G. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Emily Valentine as the Social Worker at Steger Intermediate Center at MA15 Step 0, effective for the 2020-2021 school year.
- ACTION** H. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Mandy Helsel as the Learning Coach at Steger Primary Center, effective for the 2020-2021 school year.

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| ACTION | I. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Lisa Wendt as the Learning Coach at Steger Intermediate Center, effective for the 2020-2021 school year. |
| ACTION | J. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Heather Shelton as the Learning Coach at Columbia Central, effective for the 2020-2021 school year. |
| ACTION | K. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Claire Hays as a Math Teacher at Columbia Central at BA Step 0, effective for the 2020-2021 school year. |
| ACTION | L. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Megan Youngdahl as a Math Teacher at Columbia Central at BA Step 0, effective for the 2020-2021 school year. |
| ACTION | M. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Renee Mills as a 6 th grade Teacher at Columbia Central at BA Step 0, effective for the 2020-2021 school year. |
| ACTION | N. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Victoria Czerpaniak as a Math Teacher at Columbia Central at BA Step 4, effective for the 2020-2021 school year. |
| ACTION | O. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Maria Martinez as a Math/RTI Math Teacher at Columbia Central at BA Step 0, effective for the 2020-2021 school year. |
| ACTION | P. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Christine Zomparelli as a 2 nd grade Teacher at Steger Intermediate Center at BA15 Step 4, effective for the 2020-2021 school year. |
| ACTION | Q. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Emily Mikolajeski as a Special Education Teacher at Columbia Central at MA Step 0, effective for the 2020-2021 school year. |
| ACTION | R. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Jill Velez as a Kindergarten Teacher at Steger Primary Center at BA Step 4, effective for the 2020-2021 school year. |
| ACTION | S. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Christine Stegenga as a Kindergarten Teacher at Steger Primary Center at BA Step 4, effective for the 2020-2021 school year. |
| ACTION | T. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Christina Salas as a English-Language Arts Teacher at Columbia Central at BA Step 4, effective for the 2020-2021 school year. |
| ACTION | U. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Susan Prokop as a RTI Interventionist at Steger Primary Center, effective for the 2020-2021 school year. |
| ACTION | V. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Amy Peick as a Director of Learning Resource Centers, effective for the 2020-2021 school year. |
| ACTION | W. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Richard Husarik as a Night Custodian at Steger Intermediate Center, effective for the 2020-2021 school year. |
| ACTION | X. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Gabrielle Rounbehler as a English/Language Arts & Social Studies Teacher at Columbia Central, at MA Step 4, effective for the 2020-2021 school year. |

Upon roll call all members voting aye: Helsel, Page, Raymond, Sarek, Turner, Edwards and Butkus.

Members voting nay: None. Members absent: None.

Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mr. Diehl updated the Board of Education regarding the financial situation during the past nine weeks.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

New Business

Mrs. Helsel thanked all the employees in the district for going beyond for our students. The Board of Education appreciates everything that has been done over the past few weeks.

Mrs. Helsel thanked Barb Dorman, Rachael Diehl, Steger Police Chief Rossi, Deputy Police Chief Ruff for helping coordinate a great pick-up of food items from the Pop Up Food Truck behind Columbia Central.

Old Business

None.

Correspondence

None.

PTA Report

None.

CLOSED SESSION

The open meeting recessed at 6:57 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Sarek and seconded by Mrs. Raymond.

Upon roll call all members voting aye: Helsel, Page, Raymond, Sarek, Turner, Edwards and Butkus.

Members voting nay: None. Members absent: None.

Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

The Board went into closed session at 7:04 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Sarek and seconded by Mrs. Raymond to go into Closed Session to discuss the following.

ACTION

- A. The Superintendent recommends that the Board go into Closed Session to discuss:
 - 1. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline performance, or dismissal of a specific employee of the public body.
 - 2. Student disciplinary matters
 - 3. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives

The Board adjourned closed session at 8:30 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Sarek and seconded by Mrs. Page to adjourn Closed Session.

Upon roll call all members voting aye: Helsel, Page, Raymond, Sarek, Turner, Edwards and Butkus.

Members voting nay: None. Members absent: None.

Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The open meeting reconvened at 8:31 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Sarek and seconded by Mrs. Page to return to Open Session.

Upon roll call all members voting aye: Helsel, Page, Raymond, Sarek, Turner, Edwards and Butkus.

Members voting nay: None. Members absent: None.

Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:31 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Raymond and seconded by Mrs. Page to adjourn the meeting.

Upon roll call all members voting aye: Helsel, Page, Raymond, Sarek, Turner, Edwards and Butkus.

Members voting nay: None. Members absent: None.

Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

Secretary, Board of Education

President, Board of Education