

MINUTES

STEGER SCHOOL DISTRICT 194 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Thursday, February 16, 2023

6:00 P.M.

Columbia Central School – Cafeteria
Enter through the East Entrance Doors

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by President Helsel. Members present Helsel, Hutchison, Butkus, and Turner. Members absent: Edwards, Garcia and Raymond.

Also present:

Dr. David Frusher, Eric Diehl, Lindsey Coffey, Jan Lenci, Dr. Steve Canes, Tom Aguirre, Janet Inglese, Jeff Nelson, Alma Solis, Rachael Diehl, Anthony Graziani, Tim Tufts, and Melissa Cunha.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

MINUTES

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

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| ACTION | A. | Approval of the minutes of the February 9, 2023, Board Meeting and Closed Session. |
| ACTION | B. | Approval of the minutes of the February 2, 2023, Board Meeting and Closed Session. |
| ACTION | C. | Approval of the minutes of the January 19, 2023, Board Meeting and Closed Session. |

Upon roll call all members voting aye:

Helsel, Butkus, Turner, and Hutchison.

Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Edwards, Garcia and Raymond.

Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

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

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| ACTION | E. | Payment of Bills - Approval of February |
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Upon roll call all members voting aye:

Helsel, Butkus, Turner, and Hutchison.

Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Edwards, Garcia and Raymond.

Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

INFO A. Superintendent Report, Dr. Frusher

- We're finalizing the Principal and Assistant Principal evaluations. All of the observations and write ups have been completed. Principal and Assistant Principal are completing their artifacts, self-evaluation, and student growth calculations. Summative evaluation meetings will occur before 3/1/2023. All PERA state guidelines and timelines continue to be followed and met.
- On 1/24/2023 and 2/7/2023, our STAC/STIL District Leadership Team met. Our focus is on student learning and interventions, student attendance, truancy, attendance awards, MAP testing, MAP testing data/scores, ACCESS Testing, preparing for the IAR test, small group instruction, teacher evaluations, the IL 5 Essentials survey, and the SCISC Truancy Officer (Mr. Samuel Joe) came out to our district and met with the STAC/STIL Team and presented on attendance, attendance laws, his role, home visits, professional development, and much more.
- On 1/26/2023, our Steger School District 194 and Steger Education Association bargaining teams held Interest Based Bargaining Training with our facilitator Timothy Healy from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service. Moving forward, we had an Interest Based Bargaining session on 2/16/2023 (tonight).
- On 2/3/2023, the cabinet administrators held staffing meetings with the principals of Steger Primary Center and Steger Intermediate Center. Columbia Central School's meeting was held on 2/13/2023. We will have staffing level recommendations for the Board of Education.
- On 2/6/2023, I met with the South Cook County Superintendents. Matters up for information and discussion included: E-learning and providing meals, providing meals is suggested by ISBE, but not required, ISBE will get a statement out; Migrants, some districts may have received many, while in other districts they are starting to trickle in, treat them as McKinney-Vento students; Teacher survey on teacher attendance and motivating newer teachers will be coming from SCISC, SCISC will be confidential surveying staff, results will be shared; Governor Pritzker is stopping the Covid disaster proclamation in May 2023, this will be in line with the federal date; Illinois General Assembly, a lot of bills to consider, focus is on tax credits, the budget, new staff people, and evidence based funding, should be a quick session (fingers crossed); E-learning Plans, due for review on 9/1/2023, hard deadline with no wiggle room, our school district is not due for renewal until 2024; Homeless supplies at SCISC, lots of items; next meeting on March 20th.
- On 2/9/2023, I attended the monthly SPEED Operating Committee Meeting. Items covered included the ELC classroom, found a teacher, will open up for 12 students on the waiting list; SPEED will be hosting career fairs; January Institute Day went well, PD included a wellness day, instructional strategies, CPR training, fitness, arts, and SEL for adults; Special Olympics is up and running; Hosing a special education legal update (will send out a flyer), Budget is right on pace for spending, Collections from member districts have increased over the past month significantly; Working through personnel matters; Contract negotiations with the teachers has begun; Enrollment is up at SPEED; and SPEED is having problems with DCFS investigating, providing follow up, and closing cases (many districts spoke that they are having the same issues with DCFS); and the next Operating Committee meeting is on 3/16/2023.
- On 2/10/2023, our district administrators, school administrators, and learning coaches had a professional learning day, continuing our work on Learning Walks. Learning Walks are informal visits to classes, providing formative feedback using a research based protocol. The work we've done on learning walks is 100% aligned with the Professional Learning Communities at Work process.

- On 2/10/2023, we had our Ad Center Souper Bowl luncheon. We came together as a team to have a luncheon to celebrate all the hard work that everyone does, to boost morale at the Ad Center, and prepare for the big game.
- That concludes my Superintendent report. I would be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

INFO B. Eureka Squared K-8 Math Program Presentation by Director of Teaching and Learning Jan Lenci, and Learning Coaches Mandy Helsel, Heather Shelton, and Brooke Cahill.

Questions from a parent in the board meeting.

Will students receive schoolwork over the summer? Yes, Great Minds Family Resources will be offered to the students.

Will summer school be offered?

Yes, summer school is offered in August before school starts.

What is offered for advanced students?

Wind Time is offered to advanced students.

The Director of Food Service Rachael Diehl spoke to the Board of Education regarding the new Snack Kits available to students at Columbia Central School during lunch. Students daily have selected an average of 100 Snack Kits over the regular lunch. Less food waste has been observed daily since the kits have been offered.

BOARD MATTERS (Consent Agenda)

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

INFO	A.	On January 12, 2023, South Cook ISC – Region 7 completed the Health/Life Safety inspection in all buildings. “Kudos to you, Anthony Graziani, and all of the 194 staff; that is a terrific accomplishment and one of which to be quite proud, especially since this is the third consecutive year without citations.
ACTION	B.	The Superintendent recommends the Board approve Eureka Squared as the new K-8 math program, as presented.
ACTION	C.	The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the February Tuition Reimbursement, as presented.
ACTION	D.	The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the expense reimbursement forms for the following Board Members who attended the 2022 IASB Conference: Susan Edwards, Beth Butkus, Nick Hutchison, Buffy Garcia, Karen Turner and Jill Raymond
ACTION	E.	The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the estimated expense approval forms for the following Board Members to attend the 2023 COSSBA Conference: Susan Edwards, Beth Butkus, Nick Hutchison, Buffy Garcia, Karen Turner and Jill Raymond
ACTION	F.	The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the milk contract renewal for the 2023-2024 school year with Cloverleaf Farms, as presented.

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| ACTION | G. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the contracts with Pro Care Therapy/Blazer works, as presented for the following positions for the 2022-2023 school year. |
| | | Paraprofessional Linette Gumm Clark Steger Primary Center |
| | | Paraprofessional Denise Pettas Steger Primary Center |
| ACTION | H. | Special Ed. Teacher LarRhonda Mitchell Steger Intermediate Center |
| | | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the contract with Droplet to convert paper forms into electronic forms as presented. |

Upon roll call all members voting aye:

Helsel, Butkus, Turner, and Hutchison.

Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Edwards, Garcia and Raymond.

Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL (Consent Agenda)

A motion was made by Mr. Hutchison and seconded by Mrs. Turner to approve the following action items under Personnel.

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| ACTION | A. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the retirement of Laurie Jones, Secretary at Columbia Central, effective February 3, 2023. |
| ACTION | B. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the resignation of Claire Hays, 8 th Grade Math Teacher at Columbia Central School, effective at the end of the 2022-2023 school year. |
| ACTION | C. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the resignation of Alissa Sarek, Certified Nursing Assistant at Steger Primary Center, effective January 25, 2023. |
| ACTION | D. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Ayn Pryszcz, Food Service Dishwasher/ Kitchen Help at Columbia Central School, effective for the 2022-2023 school year. |
| ACTION | E. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Stephanie Garcia, Food Service Cook at Steger Intermediate Center, effective for the 2022-2023 school year. |
| ACTION | F. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the voluntary internal transfer of Areli Aguilar, Food Service Staff to Paraprofessional at Columbia Central School, effective for the 2022-2023 school year. |
| ACTION | G. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the employment of Paula Grimes, Interim Director of Special Education with Steger School District 194, effective approximately March 27, 2023 through June 19, 2023 |
| ACTION | H. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the FMLA Leave for Claire Hays, 8 th Grade Math Teacher at Columbia Central School, effective May 7, 2023 through July 17, 2023. |
| ACTION | I. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the FMLA Leave for Katie Bernecker, 4 th Grade Teacher at Steger Intermediate Center, effective May 8, 2023 through June 8, 2023 and August 21, 2023 through September 8, 2023. |
| ACTION | J. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the FMLA Leave for Elva Escobedo, EL Teacher at Columbia Central School, effective intermittently from December 20, 2022, through June 20, 2023. |
| ACTION | K. | The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Superintendent Leave (Article VII, Section 10) for Jeanine Peters, First Grade Teacher at Steger Primary Center, effective December 19, 2022 through March 27, 2023. |

- ACTION**
- L. The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the resignation of Melissa McCormick, Custodian at Steger Primary Center, effective February 24, 2023.

Upon roll call all members voting aye:

Helsel, Butkus, Turner, and Hutchison.

Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Edwards, Garcia and Raymond.

Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- A. New Business
- a. Update on the Attendance Incentives
 - 1. Thank you to Mr. & Mrs. Hinton and Steger Kiwanis for the monetary gifts to purchase attendance incentives.
 - 2. Thank you to Tim Perchinski for purchasing a prize for the attendance incentives.
 - 3. Steger Intermediate has seen a rise in attendance since
 - b. Mrs. Helsel spoke about Bobby Joyce, a resident of Steger, a friend of many and a coach to the Steger community.
 - c. Mr. Diehl discussed Shared Services with the Board of Education. A committee will be formed that will need to meet three times this year and a report will be filed with Will and Cook County.
- B. Old Business
- C. Correspondence
- a. Thank you – Dr. Frusher
- D. PTO
- a. Waiting on documents from the district attorney.
- E. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request
- a. January 26, 2023 – Nathan Mihelich, Illinois Retired Teachers Association
 - 1. A list of names and email address of any certified staff who are retiring this year.
 - b. January 26, 2023 – Josiah Chatteron, Local Labs
 - 1. A list of certified staff names position/job title, department, pay rate, and year to date gross pay.
- F. Committee Updates
- G. Upcoming dates
- a. Feb. 17 School Improvement Day – student dismissal 11 a.m.
 - b. Feb. 20 President's Day – no school
 - c. Feb. 24 End of 2nd Trimester – student dismissal 1 p.m.
 - d. March 3 P/T Conferences (12-12:30p.m.) student dismissal 1 p.m.
 - e. March 3 Report Cards
 - f. March 16 Board of Education Meeting 6:00 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Open Meeting recessed at 7:17 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Hutchison and seconded by Ms. Butkus.

Upon roll call all members voting aye:

Helsel, Butkus, Turner, and Hutchison.

Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Edwards, Garcia and Raymond.

Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

The Board went into Closed Session at 7:43 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Turner and seconded by Mr. Hutchison to go into Closed Session to discuss the following.

Upon roll call all members voting aye:

Helsel, Butkus, Turner, and Hutchison.

Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Edwards, Garcia and Raymond.

Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

Also Present Dr. David Frusher and Melissa Cunha.

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.
 4. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired.
 5. The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by Steger School District 194.

ACTION

- B. Motion to adjourn Closed Session.

The Board adjourned Closed Session at 8:43 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Turner and seconded by Ms. Butkus.

Upon roll call all members voting aye:

Helsel, Butkus, Turner, and Hutchison.

Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Edwards, Garcia and Raymond.

Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

ACTION

- C. Motion to return to Open Session.

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:44 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Hutchison and seconded by Ms. Butkus.

Upon roll call all members voting aye:

Helsel, Butkus, Turner, and Hutchison.

Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Edwards, Garcia and Raymond.

Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:44 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Turner and seconded by Mr. Hutchison to adjourn the meeting.

Upon roll call all members voting aye:

Helsel, Butkus, Turner, and Hutchison.

Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Edwards, Garcia and Raymond.

Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

Secretary, Board of Education & Date

President, Board of Education & Date