

# **South Central Community School Corporation**

## **School Board Minutes - March 14, 2023**

The South Central Community School Corporation of Trustees met March 14, 2023 at 6:00pm in the library for a regular board meeting. The following members were present: Deborah Allen, Geraldine Grott, Brian Lautenbach, and Jake Wade. Others who attended were Mr. Ben Anderson, Superintendent, Nicholas Mills, Assistant Jr/Sr High School Principal, Andrew Schoff, Business Manager/Corporation Treasurer, and Jennifer Marlow, Administrative Assistant. The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by the Board President, Deb Allen.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mrs. Deb Allen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **PUBLIC EXPRESSIONS**

A South-Central parent brought up the idea of hazing before the School Board. The School Board noted the public expression from the parent and asked for any other suggestions, ideas, and/or comments.

### **STUDENT SPOTLIGHT**

Students from South Central's Junior Council discussed their various projects and the qualities needed to become a member. Their projects included, charities, community-based projects, and activities within the school. Each member of the Junior Council gave a presentation that showcased their leadership skills, driven work ethic, and team work!

### **ELEMENTARY 6TH GRADE TEXTBOOK ADOPTION**

Mr. Nick Kimmel, Elementary School Principal, requested board approval to accept the reading textbook adoption quote from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

Jake Wade made a motion to approve the textbook adoption quote. Gerri Grott seconded the motion and it carried 4-0.

### **FOOD SERVICE STIPEND**

Karen Hagenow, Food Service Director, requested board approval for a food service staff stipend. Gerri Grott made a motion to approve the food service staff stipend. Brian Lautenbach seconded the motion and it carried 4-0.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a) **Approval of the February 14, 2023 Board Minutes; Approval of the March 7, 2023 Executive Session Minutes**
- b) **Personnel Recommendations:**
  - Mr. Miller, Jr-Sr High School Principal, is recommending approval for Mrs. Nicole Jackson as a Guidance Department Asst. for grades K-12 for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year.
  - Mr. Nick Kimmel, Elementary School Principal, is recommending approval for the resignation of Rebekah Tucker, 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher, effective July 9, 2023.
  - Mr. Ben Anderson, Superintendent, is recommending approval for the resignation of Mr. Allen Stevens, as the School Board Secretary effective February 15, 2023.

**c) Professional Leave Requests:**

- Daniel Konshak, February 23, 2023, Pack the House to Oppose SB 486, Indiana Statehouse, Indianapolis, Indiana.
- Cortny Barnes, February 24, 2023, IU Essay Grading, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana.
- Deb Kammrath, March 7, 2023, Unpacking CS Standards, Hobart High School, Hobart, Indiana.
- Buzz Schoff, March 8 and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023, IASBO Treasurer Conference, Primo Banquet and Conference Center, Indianapolis, Indiana.
- John Haggard, March 20, 2023, IIAAA, Marriott Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana.

**d) ECA Resignations and Assignments:**

- Approval for Melissa Santana and Melissa Gilchrist, Jr. High Track coaches, effective 2022-2023 school year.

**e) Claims:**

- Approval of presented claims: Payroll Claims: 2/10/2023, 2/21/2023, 3/6/23, Vendor Transfer Claims: #31290-31291, #1331, #1332, #1333, #1334, #31292-31295, #31296-31299, #1335-1338, #1339, #31301, #1340-1346, #31306-31364.

Jake Wade made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Gerri Grott seconded the motion and it carried 4-0.

**DONATIONS:**

- To: FFA \$100.00, From: Edward & Debbie Jernas
- To: Softball \$100.00, To: Athletics \$250.00, From: Modern Woodmen of America
- To: Drama Club, From: Frances Wolff \$1,000.00, From: Jacob & Alexandria Ingram \$150.00

A motion was made by Jake Wade to accept donations. Deb Allen seconded the motion and it carried 4-0.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT/ACTION ITEMS:**

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

Mr. Nick Kimmel, Elementary Principal, presented the following report:

- Wyatt Bugg (5th Grade) will represent SC Elementary in the County Spelling Bee at South Central on March 16th.
- MATH Bowl will be on April 11th at Lake Hills
- Kindergarten Round-up will be on March 16th and March 28th.
- Assemblies: Bagpipe Performance (Culver Students); NED Show (Character)
- 3rd Grade students completed IREAD-3. 2nd Grade students are taking IREAD-3 this week. Teachers and students have been working hard to get their students prepared for this state exam.
- Students participating in a reading program through the South Bend Cubs. Students who meet grade-level reading goals will receive a ticket to a game in April and have their picture taken on the field.
- Pre-K Interviews (11 total interviews)

Mr. Jarad Miller, Jr/Sr High School Principal, presented the following report:

- Today was Job Shadow Day for our Juniors. Mrs. Jackson lined up employees for all of our junior students to learn first-hand in a career field they were interested in. All juniors participated and we will be showcasing pictures and more soon! Thank you, Mrs. Jackson, for all your hard work!
- We had SAT Day for SC on March 2, as mandated by the IDOE. All Juniors took this test and it went off very smoothly. Scores will be out sometime later this Spring.
- NHS Inductions are tonight... currently as we speak most likely. Congratulations to all students who were inducted tonight as a part of our National Honors Society.
- Baseball, Softball, and Track are all underway as of this week. Hopefully the weather warms up a bit and we are able to get some sunshine and warm temps as games begin here very soon. Good luck to all of our athletes!
- Last Thursday, Mrs. Randall hosted our 8th Grade Parent Night/Freshman Orientation. Graduation pathways, courses, credits, scholarship, and more were discussed. We had a great turnout and are excited as our 8th graders enter their high school years!
- Mrs. Randall is busy at work with next year's scheduling process for our students. We have compiled student selections and are beginning the master schedule. This is a lengthy and meticulous process and we appreciate all of her hard work on this!
- Nicole Jackson was approved tonight to continue as a Social Services Assistant for the remainder of the year. She has done a great job as an intern meeting with students and working alongside Mrs. Randall. She will continue to meet with students and help out with the mental health side of our school.

#### **OUT OF DISTRICT STUDENT TRANSFER PLAN FOR 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR (ACTION REQUESTED)**

Each year, any school corporation who accepts out of district students must have their board of school trustees approve guidelines for a transfer plan. Mr. Anderson, Superintendent, outlined the plan, which is similar to previous school years. Ben requested School Board approval for the 2023-24 Out of District Student Transfer Plan.

Jake Wade motioned to approve the transfer plan. Brian Lautenbach seconded the motion and it carried 4-0.

#### **ELEMENTARY DEAN OF STUDENTS POSITION (ACTION REQUESTED)**

In September, the board approved a proposal to add Dean of Students responsibilities to Lindzy Curtis' position. She is splitting her role as Social Services Advisor and Dean of Students. The elementary school's enrollment is near 500 students, will be over 500 next year with our pre-k students, and most importantly, the needs of our students continues to grow each year. This was a much needed move this year that I believe Mr. Kimmel will attest to, and has been very successful. I was able to work with Rachel Dutoi when we were building the budget for 2023 to work this in as a stand-alone position for the 2023-24 school year. That is why I've added this to our administrative report for today, to request your approval to advertise for an elementary Dean of Students position for the 2023-24 school year. The social services advisor position has been grant funded through ESSER dollars and a Healthcare Foundation grant, and we'll be able to continue that position next year with another generous grant from the Healthcare Foundation of LaPorte.

Mr. Anderson, Superintendent, requested approval, to post the position, interview candidates, and bring a qualified candidate to either the April or May board meeting. The Dean of Students position proposal would be for a regular teacher contract and benefits (as opposed to an administrator contract/benefits) with 10 days added to it.

Jakes Wade motioned to approve the posting for the Dean of Students position along with interviewing qualified candidates. Brian Lautenbach seconded the motion and it carried 4-0.

**UPDATES ON STAFFING AND HIGH SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS (INFORMATION ONLY)**

Mr. Ben Anderson, Superintendent, gave a brief update on staffing and high school course offerings for 2023-2024 school year.

**OTHER ITEMS/SUGGESTIONS BEFORE THE BOARD**

The front parking lot maintenance was discussed before adjournment. In order to reduce flooding in the front lot, adding landscape and repairing the drain would help reduce any negative effects from excessive rain.

A School Board Member requested Mr. Bailey, Industrial Arts/Welding Teacher, come before the School Board and bring an updated report showcasing the Welding Program.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Jake Wade made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:40pm, Brian Lautenbach seconded the motion and it carried 4-0.

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Deborah Allen, President

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Jake Wade, Vice-President

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Secretary

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Geraldine Grott, Deputy Secretary

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Brian Lautenbach, Member