

# **South Central Community School Corporation**

## **School Board Minutes – September 12, 2023**

The South Central Community School Corporation of Trustees met Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 5:00pm in the library for a public hearing and a regular board meeting. The following members were present: Deborah Allen, Geraldine Grott, Sherry Shei, Brian Lautenbach, and Jake Wade. Others who attended were Mr. Ben Anderson, Superintendent, Jarad Miller, Jr/Sr High School Principal, Nick Kimmel, Elementary Principal, Andrew Schoff, Business Manager/Corporation Treasurer, and Jennifer Marlow, Administrative Assistant.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Meeting was called to order at 5:00pm by the Board President, Deb Allen.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mrs. Deb Allen, School Board President, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **PUBLIC EXPRESSIONS**

There were no public expressions.

### **PUBLIC HEARING - PERTAINING TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING PRIOR TO CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS**

Mr. Ben Anderson, Superintendent, allowed an opportunity for public expression as related to collective bargaining. There were no public expressions Mike Scheck, South Central Band Director, was the representative present for the hearing.

### **PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 2024 BUDGET**

- Mr. Andrew Schoff, Business Manager/Corporation Treasurer, Requested Board Approval to Adopt The 2024 Bus Replacement Plan and the 2024 Capital Project Plans.
  - o Jake Wade Motioned to Accept, Brian Lautenbach Seconded the Motion, And It Passed 4-0.
- Mr. Schoff, Business Manager/Corporation Treasurer, Requested Board Approval for The Resolution to Adopt The 2024 Bus Replacement Plan.
  - o Gerri Grott Motioned to Accept, Deb Allen Seconded the Motion, And It Passed 4-0.
- Mr. Schoff, Business Manager/Corporation Treasurer, Requested Board Approval for The Resolution to Adopt The 2024 Capital Project Plans.
  - o Brian Lautenbach Motioned to Accept, Jake Wade Seconded the Motion, And It Passed 4-0.
- Mr. Schoff, Business Manager/Corporation Treasurer, Requested Board Approval for The State Board of Accounts Annual Financial Report- 7.1.22-6.30-23.
  - o Deb Allen Motioned to Accept, Jake Wade Seconded the Motion, And It Passed 4-0.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a) **Approval for August 8, 2023 Board Minutes**
- b) **Personnel Recommendations:**
  - Mr. Nick Kimmel, Elementary School Principal, Is Requesting Approval for Donna Hale, Elementary Music Teacher, FMLA Leave Request for All of the 2023-2024 School Year.

- Mr. Nick Kimmel, Elementary School Principal, Is Requesting Approval for The Title I Instructional Assistant Job Description and For Dani Erickson To Serve as The Title I Instructional Asst. For The 2023-2024 School Year.
- Mr. Gary Biggs, Transportation Director, Is Requesting Approval for Tammy Bell to Serve as A Part-Time Bus Aide for the 2023-2024 School Year.
- Mr. Gary Biggs, Transportation Director, Is Requesting A Pay Increase for Substitute Bus Drivers From \$85.00 Per Day To \$100.00 Per Day. An Additional Pay Increase for Half Day Split Route Pay From \$42.50 To \$50.00.
- Mr. Ben Anderson, Superintendent, Is Requesting Board Approval for Lisa Cauley To Provide ENL Teaching Services to South Central Students for the 2023-2024 School Year.
- Mr. Ben Anderson, Superintendent, Is Requesting Board Approval for Iris Winer To Transfer to The Full Time Night Shift Custodian Position for the 2023-2024 School Year.
- Mr. Ben Anderson, Superintendent, Is Requesting Board Approval for Cheryl Perriera To Fill the Part Time Cafeteria Custodian for the 2023-2024 School Year.

**c) Professional Leave Requests:**

- Buzz Schoff, August 30, 2023, IASBO Region 1 Meeting, Lake Central School Corp., St John, IN.
- Kayleena Gulab, September 6, 2023, Early Childhood Literacy Onsite Workshop, Harrison Hill Elementary, Fort Wayne, IN.
- John Bailey, September 11, 2023, FABTECH 2023, McCormick Place, Chicago, IL.
- Dan Siford, September 12, 2023, IN-MAC Micro Grant Summit, West Lafayette, IN.
- H. Divich, G. Mohlke, C. Walter, N. Kimmel, September 13 and December 5, 2023, Indiana Academic Standards Training, Avalon Manor, Merrillville, IN.
- McKenzie Salary, STEM Cert. Program, Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 8, Jan. 17, Feb. 21, March 20, April 17, May 15, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN.
- Emily Homann, Leadership Academy, September 21 and 22, Embassy Suites, Plainfield, IN.
- Tina Randall, Indiana State Financial Aid Annual Workshop and Counselor Networking, October 2, St. Mary's College, Notre Dame.
- Jackie Snyder, Tina Coburn, J. Cipares, M. Cassady, H. McGuire, E. Zbuka, A. Spiess, Oct. 10, UDL/Secret Stories Workday, Makerspace, South Central School.
- Nick Kimmel, November 16, Indiana Academic Standards Training, Avalon Manor, Merrillville, IN.
- Emily Homann, November 30, Human Resource Seminar and Conference, Embassy Suites, Plainfield IN.
- H. Divich, G. Mohlke, M. Salary, D. Kammrath, Feb. 13, STEM Standards Training, Avalon Manor, Merrillville, IN.
- L. Curtis, K. Gulab, March 7, Early Literacy Standards Training, Avalon Manor, Merrillville, IN.

**d) ECA Resignations and Assignments:**

- Approval for Brian Shukitis, Varsity Football Assistant
- Approval for Scotty Marks, Girls Varsity Basketball Assistant
- Approval for Brianna Perez and Angie Bruner, Elementary Cheer Coaches
- Approval for Keegan Young, Resignation as Assistant Football Coach
- Approval for Esaleigh Hauptli, Elementary Spell Bowl Coach/Sponsor
- Approval for Jr High Boys Volleyball, as a Club Sport
- Approval for Jackie Snyder, Resignation as Sponsor of Name That Book
- Approval for Tina Coburn, Resignation as Elementary Spell Bowl Coach

- Approval for Janelle Lautenbach, Resignation as 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Basketball Coach and Track Coach

**e) Claims:**

- Approval of presented claims.
- Payroll Claims: 8/4/2023, 8/21/2023
- Vendor/Fund Transfer Claims: #31685-31687, #1423-1426, #31690-31694, #31699-31700, #1427-1430, #1431, #31701, #31695-31697, #31702, #1432-1433, #31706, #1434-1437, #31707-31780

Gerri Grott Motioned to Accept Consent Agenda, Jake Wade Seconded the Motion, And It Passed 4-0.

**DONATIONS:**

- To: FFA = \$282.0, From: Anonymous Cash Donations
- To: JH Football = \$250.00, From: United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America Local #1485

Jake Wade Motioned to Accept Donations, Deb Allen Seconded the Motion, And It Passed 4-0.

**NEOLA SPECIAL POLICY UPDATE JULY 2023-SECOND READING**

Mr. Ben Anderson, Superintendent, Requested Board Approval for The Publishing of The Neola Update to South Central's School Website.

Brian Lautenbach Motioned to Accept, Jake Wade Seconded the Motion, And It Passed 4-0.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT/ACTION ITEMS:**

**PRINCIPALS REPORT**

Each building principal gave a short report on items related to their respective buildings.

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

- Thank You to Lindzy Curtis, Dean of Students. Her Involvement with Our Students Has Allowed Mr. Kimmel, Elementary School Principal, To Work More Closely with Teachers, With Our MTSS Process and Data Meetings, Dive Deeper into Our Curriculum and New State Standards, Support Staff (Especially New Staff and Staff in New Roles), Etc.
- Working on School Improvement Plan
- After-School Care Program-290 Hours Used By 34 Students Over the First 14 Days of School
- Curriculum/Data Updates-Team of Administrators and Teachers Attending Summits in Merrillville During the School Year to Learn More About Updated Standards.
- Stem-Certified School Process: Stem Day/Week: September 18th; Stem Certification Paperwork Due to The State by October 27; Site Visit in February Or March.

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

- Great Start to The School Year Thus Far. Students Are Doing A Great Job Following School Rules and Expectations and Our Teachers Are Having A Lot of Fun with New and Creative Ways to Reach Students.
- Thank You to The Laporte County Sheriff's Department for Helping Keep Our Building Safe. Yesterday, We Conducted A Dog Search Through Our Halls and We Are Proud to Say No Illegal Drugs Were Found! Appreciate Their Support as Always.

- Started Looking at ILEARN And SAT Data Like We Discussed Before During Some Department Meetings. Getting Some Feedback from Teachers and Departments and Have Begun Formulating A Plan of Action to Help Fill Those Academic Gaps, Specifically in Math.
- Thank You to Tina Randall. We Are Working Through Our Dual Credit Enrollment Process for Students to Ensure They Get Signed Up. It Is an Important Process and Mrs. Randall Has Done A Phenomenal Job of Tracking Students, Communicating with Teachers/Students, And Making Sure Everyone Is Enrolled.
- PSAT Testing in October
- Volleyball Team Is Undefeated At 20-0, #3 In the IHSVCA Poll and Undefeated in PCC Play, Zak Kimmel Won the First PCC Round Robin Race and Looking to Defend His Tournament Championship from Last Year.

### **ENROLLMENT FIGURES AS OF 9.7.2023 (INFORMATION ONLY)**

960 students

### **MOU WITH MSD OF NEW DURHAM TOWNSHIP (ACTION REQUESTED)**

This MOU Is Updated Annually, As We Share A Food Service Director, Our German Teacher, And Transportation of Students to AK Smith. The MOU Has Been Updated with Appropriate Information and Costs Of Services. Mr. Ben Anderson, Superintendent, Requested Board Approval For The 2023-2024 MOU With MSD Of New Durham Township.

Jake Wade Motioned to Approve MOU, Sherry Shei Seconded the Motion, And It Passed 5-0.

### **PRESENTATION FROM STIFEL PUBLIC FINANCE (INFORMATION ONLY)**

Luke Bruggeman From Stifel Public Finance Gave A Presentation on Updated Financial Figures Related to Our Potential Summer 2024 Building Project. Luke Has Joined Us A Couple of Times Previously to Review the School Corporation's Current Debt Structure, And to Discuss with Us How We Can Manage Our Tax Rate and Debt Service Fund in Relation to This. We Did Previously Discuss A Possible General Obligation Bond For 2023, However, With Only A 2.5% Increase in Our Assessed Valuation, Luke Has Recommended That We Forgo That. As Always, I Like to Note That We Are Only Discussing TAX NEUTRAL Options Right Now. We Are Not Discussing Raising Taxes.

### **UPDATES ON POTENTIAL SUMMER 2024 BUILDING PROJECT (ACTION REQUESTED)**

We Received Two Submissions to Our Request for Proposals for A Construction Manager as Constructor (CMAC). Our Evaluation Committee, Which Was Mr. Wade, Mr. Lautenbach, Jarad Miller, Nick Kimmel, John Haggard, Jeff Rucker, And Myself, Interviewed Larson-Danielson Construction and Tonn And Blank Construction. Both Firms Had Great Presentations for Us! However, After Careful Review and Consideration, The Evaluation Committee Would Like to Recommend to The Board That We Select and Proceed with Tonn And Blank Construction as Our Construction Manager.

Jake Wade Motioned to Approve Recommendation, Brian Lautenbach Seconded the Motion, And It Passed 5-0.

### **OTHER ITEMS/SUGGESTIONS BEFORE THE BOARD**

Mr. Andrew Schoff, Business Manager/Corporation Treasurer, Is Requesting Board Approval to Accept Public Employee Bonds for School Year 2023-2024.

Jake Wade Motioned to Accept Request, Brian Lautenbach Seconded the Motion, And It Passed 5-0.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Deb Allen motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:50pm. Jake Wade seconded the motion, and it passed 5-0.

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Deborah Allen, President

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Jake Wade, Vice-President

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Brian Lautenbach, Secretary

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Geraldine Grott, Deputy Secretary

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Sherry Shei, Member