

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 186, SPRINGFIELD,
SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
Monday, January 6, 2020 (6:30 PM)

The Board of Education convened in Regular Session on January 6 A.D., 2020, at 5:30 p.m., there being present thereat:

Present: J. Michael Zimmers, President
Julie Hammers, Board Secretary

Judith Johnson
Anthony Mares
Tiffany Mathis
Scott McFarland
Micah Miller
Bill Ringer

Jennifer Gill, Superintendent of Schools
Grace Beyer, Student Representative

CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Roll Call

President Zimmers called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution: That the Board of Education approves adjournment to Executive Session to consider the following items:

- 2.1 Student Discipline and Other Matters Concerning Individual Students - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9,10)
- 2.2 The Appointment, Employment, or Dismissal of Employees – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)
- 2.3 Contract Negotiations – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Scott McFarland**) Moved, Member (**J. Michael Zimmers**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'That the Board of Education adjourn to Executive Session to consider the following matters: 2.1 Student Discipline and Other Matters Concerning Individual Students - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9,10), 2.2 The Appointment, Employment, or Dismissal of Employees – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 2.3 Contract Negotiations – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)'.
'

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: Nay: 0. The motion **Carried - 0**.

Those voting "aye": Johnson, Mares, Mathis, McFarland, Miller, Ringer, Zimmers
Those voting "no": None.

Adjournment to Executive Session

The meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. Upon reconvening, it was noted that seven Board members were present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.1 Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Zimmers asked those in attendance to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4.1 Approve the Agenda for January 6, 2020

Resolution: That the Board of Education approves the agenda.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Scott McFarland)** Moved, Member **(Anthony Mares)** Seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board of Education approves the agenda'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Those voting "aye":	Johnson, Mares, Mathis, McFarland, Miller, Ringer, Zimmers
Those voting "no":	None.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

5.1 President's Comments

Mr. Zimmers made the routine announcement that public comment on published agenda items would occur during the Public Comments portion of the meeting. He instructed those interested in addressing the Board to fill out the required Public Participation at Board Meetings Form and submit it to Ms. Mitchell in the front row of the audience. Additionally, he reminded those interested in addressing the Board that comments are limited to three minutes.

5.2 Board Salutes

Mr. Miller reported visiting Lee Elementary prior to Winter Break for a Holiday Math event.

Mr. Mares encouraged the community to attend upcoming Springfield High School hockey games. He asked for information regarding the Empowering All Abilities conference. Superintendent Gill reported that additional information regarding the event will be shared once available. Mr. Mares provided information on the boys and girls city basketball and wrestling tournaments.

Ms. Johnson encouraged current 8th grade students and their families to attend the upcoming High School Preview Night event.

Mr. Ringer and Ms. Johnson congratulated Ms. Mathis on her new role as the Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club. Ms. Johnson also announced that Ms. Mathis will be the keynote speaker at the Martin Luther King Breakfast in Jacksonville, Illinois, later in the month.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1 Old Business

There was no old business at this time.

6.2 New Business

Ms. Johnson asked that consideration be given to offering options beyond Biology to students in order to meet high school science graduation requirements. She also asked that the Curriculum Council review the math curriculum being used.

6.3 Student Business

Ms. Beyer reported that the Mayor's Youth Council is planning a town hall style meeting. The meeting will provide students with an opportunity to discuss their schools and will take place at Southeast High School on February 13. She reported that the time is yet to be determined. The meeting will include students from District 186, Sacred Heart Griffin and schools in surrounding communities, such as Chatham. She invited the Board Members to attend. Additionally, Ms. Beyers reported that the Superintendent's Student Roundtable will begin registration for this year's Unity Day event next week during the lunch hour.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

Spark 5

Superintendent Gill reported that the evening's presentations are a continuation of a series of "Spark 5" presentations that will be made over the course of the school year. Each school will present at some point in time during the school year to provide the Board and community with additional information about five key indicators that align with District strategic goals and collective commitments. She reported that each 5-10 minute presentation will be unique and tell the story of the particular school presenting.

7.1 Washington Middle School

Mr. Vincent Turner, Principal, gave an overview of the presentation. Mr. Turner reported that Washington Middle School is located on the east side of Springfield. It has been given the "Lowest Performing" designation by the Illinois State Board of Education. Mr. Turner also reported that enrollment is currently 638, with a 74 percent low income population. Mr. Turner indicated that the school has a number of minority staff members.

With respect to Goal 1: Expand opportunities for all students and empower them to learn and succeed, Mr. Turner reported that Washington participates in Making the Grade, allowing students the opportunity to talk about their grades, possible career choices and personal academic goals. Additionally, the school provides a variety of levels of targeted interventions.

With respect to Goal 2: Enhance academic and emotional support so students can reach their full potential, Mr. Turner reported that the school offers students a recovery room in which the student is provided with a quiet location to talk to a trusted adult about any issues that may be bothering the student. Additionally, each grade level has a Grade Level Advisory Book, targeted to the needs of students in the individual grade levels. The Advisory Book incorporates social emotional learning.

With respect to Goal 4: Engage families and community partners, Mr. Turner reported that the school provides FACE meetings at different times during the year. Teachers are also charged with greeting students in the hallway before class.

Mr. Turner reported that the school has a collective commitment to communicate relentlessly. Teachers are charged with maintaining regular communication with parents. This is achieved through a variety of communication tools. Parents have access to up-to-date information about the school's activities through the school's webpage on the District's website.

Lastly, Mr. Turner reported that the school has collective commitments in action to provide a welcoming experience to students, parents and visitors. The school is an Illinois EMPOWER school. They are working to provide flexible seating options for students, to allow students to be comfortable and remain engaged in the classroom.

Ms. Mathis praised Mr. Turner and his staff for their work to provide flexible seating to accommodate all students comfortably. Superintendent Gill asked Mr. Turner to provide additional information on the incorporation of AVID into the school day. Mr. Turner reported that Washington has offered AVID for a number of years. Currently, the various departments choose an AVID strategy to incorporate into the teaching. Staff are working to incorporate AVID into every classroom. Mr. Zimmers asked Mr. Turner to provide information on the school's use of BIST. Mr. Turner indicated that the school works to provide students that may be struggling emotionally with support that will allow them to stay in class.

7.2 Southeast High School

Mr. Cody Trigg, Principal, gave an overview of the presentation. Ms. Trigg reported that the school has a "Commendable" designation from the Illinois State Board of Education.

With respect to Goal 1: Expand opportunities for all students and empower them to learn and succeed, Mr. Trigg reported that the school offers thirteen Advanced Placement classes, a Health and Science Academy unique to the school, a solar panel installation training class and construction trades for those interested in learning a trade. The school offers eight dual credit courses. Mr. Trigg reported that the school has 100 students enrolled in the AVID program, several students enrolled in the Sangamon CEO program, as well as the SIU School of Medicine's P4 program.

With respect to Goal 2: Enhance academic and emotional support so students can reach their full potential, Mr. Trigg reported that he and his staff recognize that until a student's emotional needs are met, it is difficult for them to engage in academic pursuits. As such, the school has hired a full time BBSS Coach to work on interventions with students. The addition of this faculty member has allowed the school's college coach to focus on assisting students with post-graduation plans on a full-time basis. Mr. Trigg reported that the school has also implemented "Grade Checkpoints". Staff members set up a table in the cafeteria during the lunch hour each day to allow students the opportunity to check their grades. This has had the added benefit of further strengthening the relationships between students and staff. Mr. Trigg provided an example of how this program has helped students. He indicated that the school also offers support through the Spartan 7 Club, after school tutoring, Title I summer school, and Pre-AP summer prep.

With respect to Goal 4: Engage families and community partners, Mr. Trigg reported that engaging stakeholders is very important to the success of the school. He indicated that the Student of the Month program spotlights students each month that excel in one manner or another. The program provides the families of these students the opportunity to engage with the school to celebrate their students' achievements during a breakfast event. Additionally, bankers, UIS professors and other members of the community participate in a financial literacy course with students. The school also has a strong, dedicated PTO, Booster Club and Pride Patrol.

Mr. Trigg reported that the school has a collective commitment to communicate relentlessly with all stakeholders. This is accomplished through a number of communication tools, including social media, the school's web page, Parent Link, Remind, and through the PTO.

Lastly, Mr. Trigg reported that the school offers nineteen extracurricular sports and activities. He indicated that this will likely increase to twenty-one soon, once girl's wrestling and e-sports are adopted by the IHSA. The school has fifteen clubs that students may join and a very active fine arts department. Lastly, Mr. Trigg reported that the school partners with the United Way and Gifts of Hope.

Mr. Mares asked if the students enrolled in AP classes are all juniors and seniors. Mr. Trigg reported that students from all four grade levels are enrolled in AP classes. Mr. Mares then asked about dual credit courses. Mr. Trigg reported that the classes allow students to earn college credit without having to pay for that credit.

BUSINESS REPORTS

There were no business reports at this time. However, Mr. Fretz reported that going forward the monthly Business and Treasurer's Reports will be provided during the second meeting of the month, to allow time for an exceedingly accurate report. Mr. Zimmers asked if the funding from the new sales tax has begun to come into the district. Mr. Fretz reported that it has and is as expected.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

9.1 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Gill provided the following Shout-outs and updates:

- Student Support Services has developed a new high school transition program for students with disabilities, Project Search. In partnership with Memorial Health Services and several other community organizations, the program will provide disabled 18-22 year old students training, education and employment opportunities. She indicated that the Springfield Public Schools Foundation has provided start up funding for the program.
- The Communications and Human Resources departments have been working diligently to address the teacher shortage and fill vacancies. Social media has allowed new avenues of communication with potential candidates. Additionally, there has been a large media push, with appearances on Jim Leach's radio show, as well as other radio shows. Churches have also been contacted to help spread the word about available jobs. She encouraged anyone interested in working for the District to visit the District's website or call the Human Resources office for more information about openings. Mr. Miller thanked Superintendent Gill for the media push related to this. He asked if Project Search compliments other existing programs already in place in the District. Superintendent Gill reported that it does compliment the other programs.
- 9th Grade Preview Night will be held on Wednesday, January 8, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at each of the high schools. Current 8th grade students and their families are encouraged to visit their home high school to learn more about what can be expected next year, courses offerings, clubs, athletics and other activities.
- Shout-out to Kathi Lee and Lawrence Education Center for their partnership with HyVee as the grocery store has been an ideal business to teach students professional work ethics. The Land of Lincoln Workforce Alliance (LLWA) recently recognized private sector companies that have demonstrated leadership in the areas of workforce and economic development during the PY' 18

(program year, July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019). HyVee was honored at the LLWA WIB meeting as a partner of Lawrence Education Center.

- Shout-out to the One Stop Christmas Shop event that was held at Lanphier High School on December 14. The event provided families with food, toys and new shoes for each child, toiletries and more to ensure families had a wonderful holiday season. The collaborative effort was lead by the Salvation Army with several additional organizations including District 186, Abundant Faith Supportive Services, Inner City Mission, Midwest Mision, Toys for Tots, Mini O'Beirne Crisis Nursery and the City of Springfield.

CONSENT ACTION ITEMS

10.1 Approval of Consent Action Items

Approval of consent action items as listed in the agenda.

Resolution: The Superintendent recommends approval of the consent action items 10.2 through 10.9 as described in the corresponding resolutions.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Scott McFarland**) Moved, Member (**Tiffany Mathis**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends approval of the consent action items 10.2 through 10.9 as described in the corresponding resolutions'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Johnson, Mares, Mathis, McFarland, Miller, Ringer, Zimmers
Those voting "no": None.

10.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Session and the Regular Meeting of December 16, 2019

Resolution: WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Springfield School District 186 reviews the minutes of the regular session and the executive session of the previous Board Meetings; and

WHEREAS, copies of these sets of minutes were distributed to the Board in the board packet prior to this meeting;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the aforementioned set of regular session and executive session minutes and directs the Secretary to include them in the official records of the Board of Education meetings.

10.3 Approval of Payroll and Bills Payable

Resolution: That the Board of Education approves payroll and bills payable as shown in the attached report.

10.4 Declaration of Surplus Property

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED to declare the items on the attached document as surplus materials to be sold or disposed.

10.5 Approval of a School Maintenance Project Grant FY2020 Round 1 Application

Resolution: WHEREAS, the Illinois State Board of Education has provided Illinois Public School Districts the opportunity to apply for a school maintenance grant; and

WHEREAS, Springfield School District 186 Board of Education has previously approved health, life, safety funds for an HVAC Rooftop Unit replacement at Graham Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, the District seeks to make application for an ISBE School Maintenance Grant for the maximum grant amount of \$50,000 to be applied to the replacement of the rooftop units at Graham Elementary School;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Springfield School District 186 hereby approves the ISBE School Maintenance Grant application for the amount of \$50,000 to be applied towards the Graham HVAC replacement.

Original Health, Life, Safety amendment #8 Item 3	\$500,000
School Maintenance Grant request	- \$50,000
Adjusted Health, Life, Safety funds needed for Graham's HVAC RoofTop Unit replacement	\$450,000

10.6 Approval of an Agreement with Project Search

Consulting services and license agreement between Springfield District 186 and Children's Hospital Medical Center, an Ohio nonprofit corporation, on behalf of the Project SEARCH.

Resolution: WHEREAS, Springfield Public School District 186 is interested in strengthening cooperative interagency planning and community based services; and

WHEREAS, the Project SEARCH has developed a program which creates innovative solutions for workforce and career development for people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Project SEARCH provides consulting services to District 186 in the implementation of the program using some or all of the materials provided to the district;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Springfield Public School District 186 approve the agreement with Project SEARCH to collaborate and share responsibilities as stated in the License Agreement that demonstrates the working relationship between the District and Project SEARCH effective January 7, 2020.

10.7 Approval of a Consultant Agreement with Erikson Institute

Resolution: HEREAS, Springfield Public School District 186 is constantly looking for ways to improve the knowledge of the staff; and

WHEREAS, the Erikson Institute is qualified and prepared to present a staff development workshop for Parent as Teachers parent educators regarding strengthening the provider-parent relationship; and

WHEREAS, the consultant services are completely reimbursable through the Parent as Teachers program;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the retention of Erikson Institute to conduct a two-day workshop and mentoring at a cost of \$6,000 and directs the Superintendent to execute the necessary documents on behalf of the Board of Education.

10.8 Approval of a Consultant Agreement with Consortium of Educational Change

Resolution: WHEREAS, Springfield Public School District 186 is constantly looking for ways to improve the knowledge of the staff; and

WHEREAS, the Consortium for Educational Change is qualified and prepared to support parent educators in re-envisioning the parent educator role; and

WHEREAS, the consultant services are completely reimbursable through Title I;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the retention of the Consortium for Educational Change to provide three days of support at a cost of \$7,500 plus travel expenses and directs the Superintendent to execute the necessary documents on behalf of the Board of Education.

10.9 Approval of an Agreement with Procore

Resolution: WHEREAS, the District has a Master Facilities Plan and will begin work in 2020; and

WHEREAS, the District will need to track projects and expenses; and

WHEREAS, Procore provides a tracking program to be used by all contractors;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves a three-year contract with Procore pending final legal review for a total cost of \$43,075 per year to be paid from sales tax funds.

ROLL CALL ACTION ITEMS

11.1 Approval of Personnel Recommendations

Resolution: The Superintendent recommends adoption of the Personnel recommendations as presented.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Tiffany Mathis)** Moved, Member **(Scott McFarland)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends adoption of the Personnel recommendations as presented'.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Johnson, Mares, Mathis, McFarland, Miller, Ringer, Zimmers
Those voting "no": None.

11.2 Approval of a Resolution Regarding a Farm Lease

Resolution: The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS Springfield School District No. 186 is the owner of farm property on Koke Mill Road that is part of The South 61 acres of the North 122 acres of the Northwest Quarter of Section 12, Township 15 north, Range 6 West of the Third Principal Meridian; and

WHEREAS there are no immediate plans to construct school facilities or other improvements on approximately 40 acres thereof;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Superintendent is hereby authorized and directed to enter into a Farm Lease of such unimproved property with Carl Hermes and Michael Hermes for a term commencing effective March 1, 2020, and ending February 28, 2021, at a cash rental rate of \$240 per acre.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Anthony Mares)** Moved, Member **(Tiffany Mathis)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS Springfield School District No. 186 is the owner of farm property on Koke Mill Road that is part of The South 61 acres of the North 122 acres of the Northwest Quarter of Section 12, Township 15 north, Range 6 West of the Third Principal Meridian; and

WHEREAS there are no immediate plans to construct school facilities or other improvements on approximately 40 acres thereof;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Superintendent is hereby authorized and directed to enter into a Farm Lease of such unimproved property with Carl Hermes and Michael Hermes for a term commencing effective March 1, 2020, and ending February 28, 2021, at a cash rental rate of \$240 per acre'.

Mr. McFarland reported that it is his intent to vote "no" on this annual item until plans for the land are brought forth.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **2**. The motion **Carried. 5 - 2**

Those voting "aye": Miller, Ringer, Zimmers Mares, Mathis
Those voting "no": Johnson, McFarland

11.3 Student Discipline

Resolution: That the Board approves the student discipline as discussed in Executive Session and summarized by the Superintendent as:

- That two 9th grade students be hereby expelled from further attendance at Southeast High School through the end of the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year with a program, and
- That one 9th grade student be hereby expelled from further attendance at Southeast High School through the end of the first semester of the 2021-2022 school year without a program.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(Scott McFarland)** Moved, Member **(Judith Johnson)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'That the Board approves the student discipline as discussed in Executive Session and summarized by the Superintendent'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Johnson, Mares, Mathis, McFarland, Miller, Ringer, Zimmers
Those voting "no": None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

12.1 Next Regular Meeting — Tuesday, January 21, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. — Board Room

12.2 Upcoming District Events

- January 20 – No School – Martin Luther King's Birthday
- January 23-25 – Boys City Basketball Tournament
- January 29,30, February 1 – Girls City Basketball Tournament

12.3 Freedom of Information Report

PUBLIC COMMENT

Emily Burton, Emma Ahiable and Aaron Graves each addressed the Board regarding the number of Special Education Classroom Aid vacancies currently in the District. Each encouraged the Board to consider raising the pay scale for these jobs. Mr. Graves also read a statement from Sarah Thomas, a Special Education Teacher which also supported increased pay for aides.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Zimmers declared the meeting adjourned until Tuesday, January 21, 2020. The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

J. Michael Zimmers, President

Julie Hammers, Secretary

Dated: December 16, 2019