

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 186, SPRINGFIELD,**  
**SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS**  
**Monday, May 18, 2020 (6:30 PM)**

The Board of Education convened in Regular Session on May 18 A.D., 2020, at 6:15 p.m., there being present thereat:

Present: Scott McFarland, President  
Julie Hammers, Board Secretary  
Nicole Irlam, Assistant Board Secretary

Judith Johnson  
Anthony Mares  
Tiffany Mathis  
Micah Miller  
Bill Ringer  
J. Michael Zimmers

Jennifer Gill, Superintendent of Schools

It was noted that all Board of Education members were in attendance via remote access, in keeping with the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation. Superintendent Gill, Ms. Hammers and Ms. Irlam joined the meeting from the Board of Education's regular meeting space at 1900 West Monroe, Springfield, Illinois.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**1.1 Roll Call**

President McFarland called the meeting to order.

**APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**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)**

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Anthony Mares**) 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)'

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 4 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried 4- 0**.

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

### **Adjournment to Executive Session**

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m. and reconvened at 6:35 p.m. Upon reconvening, it was noted that seven Board members were present as Ms. Johnson, Ms. Mathis, and Mr. Miller joined the meeting at 6:18 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

#### **3.1 Approve the Agenda for May 18, 2020**

Resolution: That the Board of Education approves the agenda.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Bill Ringer**) 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**

#### **4.1 President's Comments**

President McFarland announced that in keeping with mandates from the State of Illinois, the evening's meeting is pared down to include only essential business. As such, several agenda items that are regularly included on the meeting agenda, have been removed including the Pledge of Allegiance and Board Salutes. He then 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 register to participate in the webinar. Additionally, he reminded those interested in addressing the Board that comments are limited to three minutes.

On behalf of the full Board, Mr. McFarland thanked the teachers, students and parents for their work to keep engaged. He also saluted this year's graduates.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

#### **5.1 Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Gill provided the following updates:

- The USDA will continue the reimbursements for the current feeding program through the summer. This will allow the District to continue providing two meals per day at the current distribution sites. Enos Elementary School will be added as a preparation site. Approximately, 1300-1400 children are served daily through this program. Community groups have been assisting with distribution. These groups will continue to assist through the summer.
- Summer School classes will be offered online. The program will be free for District 186 students. Classes will begin in June and run through July.
- Arrangements have been made for locker and desk clean out for students. Technology that has been checked out to families will be collected at the same time.

- The next Board Meeting will include a presentation on First Student by Dr. Lance Thurman, Transportation Manager.
- Summer Scope will open June 8, 2020, under emergency child care guidelines for the children of frontline and emergency workers only. The number of students and staff in one room will be capped at 10. Enhanced cleaning procedures and other enhanced procedures will be followed closely. The program will take place at Enos Elementary School. Up to 50 students will be able to be served initially. If additional Scope workers are found to staff another site, a second location will be open at Fairview Elementary School. Once the current restrictions are loosened, the program will expand further and beyond service to only emergency and front line workers.
- Honor's Night videos are available on YouTube. Additionally, production is underway for this year's Graduation Ceremonies, which will be shown on May 30 on Fox Illinois. Lawrence Education Center's ceremony will be at 10:00 a.m., Lanphier High School's will be at 11:00 a.m., Southeast High School's ceremony will be at 2:00 p.m. and Springfield High School's will be at 5:00 p.m. The broadcast will follow the traditional format. Speakers have all been videotaped giving their speeches and will be included in the broadcasts. In June, students and families will be invited to come to each of the high schools where the graduate will have the opportunity to walk across a stage set up on the football field at each of the high schools and have pictures taken in their cap and gown. Families will have the opportunity to schedule a time to participate in this event.
- Camp Compass will host an online program. If restrictions are loosened as the summer progresses, the program can flip to an in-person program but for now will be online. It will begin in June and run a little longer than it traditionally does.
- The Summer Feeding Program will start on June 8, 2020. There will be a one week break between the regular school year program and the summer program. The program is likely to run within the same hours as the current program.
- The application for the CARES Act funding was released earlier in the day. The District anticipates approximately \$7.9 million. The funds will have to be spent by September of 2021 on items and services in response to the COVID crisis. The application is due by June 30, 2020. There was some additional discussion about proportional share. Superintendent Gill reported that it cannot be used for regular personnel costs.
- In response to a question from Mr. Mares about potential savings in the Transportation budget, Superintendent Gill reported that the District is required to honor the contract with First Student during the pandemic. The District has worked out a discount with First Student and there has been a savings in fuel costs.
- In response to another question from Mr. Mares related to school in the fall, the Superintendent reported that the District is preparing for three scenarios. A reintegration plan is being developed.
- The District will provide cloth masks for all employees for use during work. Extra masks will be on hand.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

President McFarland reported that during the COVID19 crisis, the approach to Old and New Business must be modified. Per State of Illinois mandate, Old and New Business must be limited to emergency or time sensitive issues only.

### **6.1 Old Business**

There was no old business at this time.

## **6.2 New Business**

Ms. Johnson asked if phones are manned at the District's administrative center. Superintendent Gill reported that phones are all being routed to voicemail. The voicemail messages are then sent via email to the individual employee. Phones are being monitored and calls are being returned.

## **BUSINESS REPORT**

### **6.1 Business Report**

Board members were provided with copies of the Business Report of May 18, 2020. Copies have been filed with the Official Minutes and are available for public viewing on the Electronic School Board.

Mr. Nathan Fretz, Business Manager, reported that in April, Education fund revenues were approximately \$5.63 million, with expenditures totalling approximately \$14.78 million. The Operations and Maintenance fund revenues were approximately \$264,000, with expenditures totalling approximately \$1.47 million. The District had a combined cash balance of approximately \$21.1 million as of April 30. Outstanding State payments total approximately \$3.11 million as of May 14. County sales tax proceeds received during the month of May were \$688,000 approximately. These are the results of February collections. Fiscal year to date County sales tax receipts are approximately \$6.54 million.

### **6.2 FY19-20 Amended Budget Report**

Board members were provided with copies of the Amended Budget Summary and Amended Budget Narrative. Copies have been filed with the Official Minutes and are available for public viewing on the Electronic School Board.

Mr. Fretz reported that property owners have been given an extension with respect to June tax installment payments. He encouraged property owners to make their payments within the normal timeframes. Mr. Fretz indicated that as more information is made available related to the CARES funds, they will be added to the budget document. He indicated that the Amended Budget for the major operating funds has an overall deficit, exclusive of grants and special projects. The projected fiscal year-end total operating fund balance, including Working Cash Fund is estimated to be approximately \$30.2 million. The Projected Fund Balance to Revenue Ratio is estimated to be 15.8%. This meets the goal set within the Board Policy 405.03. Mr. Fretz then shared additional details related to the Education, Operations and Maintenance, Transportation, IMRF and Tort Funds.

## **CONSENT ACTION ITEMS**

### **8.1 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 8.2 through 8.6 as described in the corresponding resolutions.

### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**J. Michael Zimmers**) Moved, Member (**Anthony Mares**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends approval of the consent action items 8.2 through 8.6 as described in the corresponding resolutions'. There was some discussion regarding 8.5 Approval of Changes to the Flexible Benefit Plan Document. Ms. Johnson asked approval of this item be included

with the insurance 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

### **8.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Session and the Regular Meeting of May 4, 2020**

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.

### **8.3 Approval of Payroll and Bills Payable**

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

### **8.4 Declaration of Surplus Property**

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

### **8.5 Approval of Changes to the Flexible Benefit Plan Document**

The Federal Government has increased the limit for Medical Spending Accounts from \$2,700 per year to \$2,750. The new plan document reflects that change as well as a change in the third party administrator for flexible spending accounts for both healthcare and dependent care.

**Resolution:** WHEREAS, the Board of Education (Board) offers a flexible benefit plan to its employees under the terms and conditions set forth in such plan; and

WHEREAS, the maximum allowable Medical Spending Account limit has increased from \$2,700 per year to \$2,750 per year; and

WHEREAS, Horace Mann has contracted with a new third party administrator, WageWorks, Inc., to administer flexible benefits plans; and

WHEREAS, it is advisable from time to time to ratify such plan and its summary plan description as written;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Springfield Public School District No. 186 Flexible Benefit Plan and Summary Plan Description effective June 1, 2020, as presented to this Board, are approved, adopted, and ratified, and the duly authorized agents of the Board are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver to the Administrator of the Plan one or more counterparts of the Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent or his designee shall be instructed to take such actions as are deemed necessary and proper in order to implement the Plan, and to set up adequate accounting and administrative procedures to provide benefits under the Plan.

#### **8.6 Approval of Travel for Southeast High School Boys Basketball**

**Resolution:** WHEREAS, the Springfield Southeast High School Boys Basketball has requested permission to travel to Evansville, Indiana, for a two-day tournament; and

WHEREAS, the Springfield Southeast High School Boys Basketball agrees to raise all necessary funds and abide by all rules and regulations of Springfield School District 186;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Springfield Southeast High School Boys Basketball has permission to travel to Evansville, Indiana on January 15-16, 2021.

### **ROLL CALL ACTION ITEMS**

#### **9.1 Approval of Personnel Recommendations**

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

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**J. Michael Zimmers**) Moved, Member (**Tiffany Mathis**) 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 Abstain: 1. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0 - 1**

Those voting "aye":	Johnson, Mares, Mathis, McFarland, Miller, Ringer, Zimmers
Those voting "no":	None
Those "abstaining":	Johnson on E. 1.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **10.1 Next Regular Meeting — Monday, May 18, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. — Board Room**

#### **10.2 Upcoming District Events**

- May 30 – Virtual Graduation on Fox Illinois
  - Lawrence 10 AM,
  - Lanphier 11 AM,
  - Southeast 2 PM,
  - Springfield 5 PM
- June 1-3 – In Person Ceremony Opportunity at each high school
- June 5 – In Person Ceremony Opportunity at Lawrence

#### **10.3 Freedom of Information Report**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

#### **11.1 Click here for information about public comment during the virtual meeting**

To register to provide comment during the Board Meeting. Please click the link below (or copy and paste into a browser).

Registration URL

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_hIk0sQpzQ3aM5U8jcVXXpg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hIk0sQpzQ3aM5U8jcVXXpg)

The meeting will be available to view live on YouTube at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/SPSchannel22>

No registration required to view only.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. McFarland declared the meeting adjourned until Monday, June 1, 2020. The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

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Scott McFarland, President

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Julie Hammers, Secretary

Dated: June 1, 2020