

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 186, SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON**  
**COUNTY, ILLINOIS**  
**Monday, May 6, 2019 (6:30 PM)**

The Board of Education convened in Regular Session on May 6 A.D., 2019, at 5:30 p.m., there being present thereat:

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

Judith Johnson  
Anthony Mares  
Scott McFarland  
Micah Miller  
Donna Moore  
Bill Ringer

Jennifer Gill, Superintendent of Schools  
Zaire Harris, Student Board Member

**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 Pending and Imminent Litigation – 5 ILCS 120/2©(11)
- 2.4 Security Procedures – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8)

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Micah Miller**) Moved, Member (**Scott McFarland**) 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 Pending and Imminent Litigation – 5 ILCS 120/2©(11), 2.4 Security Procedures – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8)'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: Nay: 0. The motion **Carried 4 - 0**.

Those voting "aye": Mares, McFarland, Miller, 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, roll was taken. It was noted that seven Board members were present as Ms. Moore and Mr. Ringer joined the meeting at 5:33 p.m. and Ms. Johnson joined the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

## **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 April 8, 2019**

Resolution: That the Board of Education approves the agenda.

### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(Anthony Mares)** Moved, Member **(Scott McFarland)** 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, McFarland, Miller, Moore, 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**

Ms. Moore saluted Superintendent Gill, who recently was selected to receive the Superintendent of Distinction Award from the Abe Lincoln Region of the Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA). Next, Ms. Moore indicated that she recently visited the NAACP's alternative education program, where she met Tim Allen, the new coordinator of the program. Lastly, Ms. Moore encouraged the community to attend the Young Performers in Concert event at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on June 7. She indicated that several district students are scheduled to participate in the concert.

Mr. Ringer reported visiting Black Hawk Elementary School. He saluted Terrance Jordan, principal, for his work to develop strong relationships with the students and families of the school. He also visited Southern View Elementary School recently. He congratulated the Southeast High School Girls Track Team for winning the Central State 8 conference title.

Mr. Zimmers reported attending the Council for Exceptional Children's recent award banquet, which he enjoyed. Next, Mr. Zimmers introduced Grace Beyers, a Southeast High School student that has been selected to serve as the 2019-2020 Student Board of Education Representative.

Ms. Johnson also saluted the Southeast High School Girls Track Team for their conference title. She additionally saluted all student athletes across the District for their dedication and hard work. Ms. Johnson reported attending a presentation at SIU School of Medicine about Dr. Edwin Lee, the first African American Springfield Public Schools' Board of Education member. Ms. Johnson indicated that Dr. Wesley McNeese gave the presentation. She requested that Dr. McNeese's presentation be added to the District's Channel 22 YouTube page and television schedule.

Mr. Mares also reported attending the Council for Exceptional Children's recent award ceremony. He saluted the students and staff that were recognized at the event. Next, Mr. Mares reminded the community that each of the Board of Education members represents all students within the District. He encouraged community members to feel free to reach out to any members of the Board of Education, if need be.

Mr. Miller reported attending the bill signing of House Bill 2505 at Southeast High School with Mr. Zimmers and Governor Pritzker. He indicated that the bill is related to the AIM High Grant, designed to encourage students to remain in Illinois for college. He also recently visited Ms. Novy's class at Jane Addams Elementary School and attended a track meet at Lanphier High School during which Coach Mike Garcia was honored. Lastly, Mr. Miller reported attending Kindergarten Preview Night at Ball Charter School with his family.

Ms. Johnson asked the community for prayers for several students that have recently been involved in accidents or become ill.

### **5.3 Recognition of Shining Stars**

In honor of School Lunch Hero Day, the Superintendent and Board of Education recognized the following Food Service staff members for their outstanding contribution to Springfield Public Schools:

- Americk Capers, Washington Middle School
- Charlene Crawford, Springfield High School
- Tami Durham, Ridgely School
- Shelley Hay, Lee School
- April Smock, Iles School
- Amy Weaver, Butler School

Cheryl McBride, Assistant Director of the Food Service Department, introduced the staff members in attendance and provided each with a recognition certificate. Mr. Zimmers asked the employees to introduce their family members in attendance.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **6.1 Old Business**

Ms. Johnson asked that the Board be provided with a presentation on the Braided Behavioral Support Systems (BBSS) program.

Ms. Moore asked that, with the recent addition of new members, a Board of Education Self Evaluation session be scheduled.

## **6.2 New Business**

There was no new business at this time.

## **6.3 Student Business**

Mr. Harris overviewed topics and concerns that have been discussed recently at the Superintendent's Student Roundtable meetings including:

- Need for additional access to guidance counselor and consistency in the communications related to class options
- Need for additional social emotional supports for students
- Student engagement within individual classes
- Need for consistency in how Advanced Placement (AP) classes are conducted
- Communication plan for the P4 Program and Kahn Academy supports available to students
- Changes to the structure of the group's high school exchange visits and the classes visited
- Need for clarification for marching band students about PE exemption rules

Mr. Zimmers asked about the protocol for students to request a meeting with their individual guidance dean. Mr. Harris reported that students can ask for a pass during class or request to meet after school. He indicated that students can also have their name added to a meeting request list.

Mr. Harris congratulated Ms. Beyers on her selection as the 2019-2020 Student Board of Education Representative.

Mr. Zimmers thanked Mr. Harris for his service. Ms. Johnson saluted Mr. Harris for his exemplary representation of the student body over the course of the last year.

## **PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD**

There were no presentations to the Board at this time.

## **BUSINESS REPORTS**

### **8.1 Financial Report**

Board members were provided with copies of the Monthly Financial Report for April 2019. Copies have been filed with the Official Minutes and are available for public viewing on the Electronic School Board.

Joseph Bascio, Business Manager, reported Education fund revenues of approximately \$5.7 million for the month of April, with expenditures of approximately \$9.3 million. Mr. Bascio indicated that the Operations and Maintenance fund had revenues of approximately \$230,000 for the month and expenditures of approximately \$1.1 million for the month. He reported outstanding State payments totaled approximately \$2.3 million in April.

Mr. McFarland asked if the District has received any advice as to how to improve its bond rating before bonds are sold again. Mr. Bascio reported that he will share a copy of the report his office received. He indicated that the report encourages the District to continue the work it has been doing with respect to maintaining a balanced budget and increasing the fund balance. Superintendent Gill reminded members that being located within Illinois has had some negative impact on the District's rating, but despite this, the District's rating improved during the last review, from A2- to A2.

## **8.2 FY 19 Amended Budget Report**

Board members were provided with copies of a report on the FY19 Amended Budget. Copies have been filed with the Official Minutes and are available for public viewing on the Electronic School Board.

Mr. Bascio provided an overview of that report. He indicated that the FY19 Amended Budget will be presented for Board action at the May 20, 2019 meeting. Mr. Bascio indicated that the budget for the major operating funds has an overall deficit of approximately \$465,000, with approximately \$216,000 of that attributed to the Education Fund. A fund balance of 16.2% or approximately \$30.5 million will be maintained. The original FY19 budget had a deficit of \$921,000. He indicated that he expects that the projected deficit is likely to decrease as the amended budget does include a bit of a cushion.

Mr. Bascio reported projected revenues of approximately \$127.3 million, an increase of approximately \$593,000 over the Original Budget. Local revenue is projected to increase approximately \$458,000 to approximately \$76.1 million. Local property tax revenue, as well as the interest on investments is projected to increase. Other local revenues are projected to decrease.

Mr. Bascio indicated that State revenue is projected to decrease approximately \$215,000 from the Original Budget estimate. Within the State revenues, revenue attributed to Evidence Based Funding is expected to increase. The increase in Evidence Based Funding and focus by the State to supply this type of funding has resulted in a decrease in other types of State funded revenues. Additionally, federal revenue has seen an increase of \$350,000.

Next, Mr. Bascio provided information on expenditures. He indicated that expenditures are projected to be approximately \$127.5 million, a decrease of approximately \$111,000 over the FY19 Original Budget. Within those expenditures, salaries and benefits are projected to decrease by approximately \$542,000. Purchased services and supplies are expected to increase. A large portion of this increase can be attributed to the purchase of internet access points for schools.

The Operations and Maintenance Fund's projected surplus of approximately \$235,000 is an increase of approximately \$195,000 over the Original Budget estimates. The fund saw an increase in revenue of approximately \$195,000 from property tax and interest on investment revenues. Expenditures for the fund remained level.

Mr. Bascio reported that the Transportation Fund has a projected deficit of approximately \$484,000. The Original Budget for this fund had a surplus of approximately \$964,000. This difference can be attributed to late categorical payments from the State. Revenues for the fund are projected to be approximately \$11.4 million, a decrease of approximately \$1.8 million. Expenditures are projected to decrease approximately \$484,000 to \$11.9 million.

Lastly, Mr. Bascio reported that the IMRF Fund is expected to see a surplus of approximately \$115,000 and the Tort Fund is projected to have a deficit of approximately \$506,000. However, the Tort Fund currently has an overall fund balance of almost \$2.1 million. Mr. Bascio reported that his office is working to lower the Tort Fund fund balance to approximately \$500,000, over the course of the next couple of years.

Mr. Miller asked when the budget was originally developed. Superintendent Gill reported that the process to develop the FY20 budget was started at the April 22, 2019 Board meeting. She further reported that it will be presented to the Board in September for approval. Mr. Miller asked if the Amended Budget process

is a typical process. Superintendent Gill reported that it is a routine part of the annual budget process. Mr. Miller then asked if the cost for the new Human Resources and Payroll software was an anticipated cost. Mr. Bascio reported that it was anticipated. There were some additional clarifying questions about the revenues and expenditures.

Mr. McFarland reported that a proposed freeze to property taxes that is currently being entertained in the Senate could significantly impact the FY20 budget.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **9.1 Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Gill provided the following shout outs and updates:

- Shout out to teachers in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week
- Shout out to the Tri Sigma Sorority, UIS Chapter, and UIS Chancellor Susan Koch for hosting hundreds of District middle school girls at the Future is Female event.
- Shout out to students that participate in the 21st Century program at Washington Middle School, for volunteering to pair up with students from Lee School for reading activities.
- Shout out to Lincoln Magnet School students that participated in the State History Fair Expo.
- Shout out to the Franklin Middle School Scholastic Bowl team for placing second at the State Scholastic Bowl Tournament.
- Shout out to the Franklin Middle School students that received Gold Awards at the State Science Fair.
- Shout out to the Minnie O'Beirne Crisis Nursery and Nalo Mitchell, Coordinator of School, Family and Community Relations, who serves on the organization's Board of Directors. Superintendent Gill commended the organization on the services provided to the community.
- Shout out to the student athletes that are moving on in the upcoming track and field meets.
- Shout out to Horace Mann for hosting the Educator and Administrator of the Year lunch.
- Congratulations to all of the Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln 2019 Scholarship recipients.
- Congratulations to student athletes from Lanphier, Southeast and Springfield that participated in recent college signing day events.

## **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 10.4 as described in the corresponding resolutions.

### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Donna Moore**) Moved, Member (**Scott McFarland**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends approval of the consent action items 10.2 through 10.4 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, McFarland, Miller, Moore, Ringer, Zimmers

Those voting "no": None.

**10.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Session and the Regular Meeting of April 22, 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 Approval of Travel for Lanphier High School's Boys Basketball Team**

**Resolution:** WHEREAS, Lanphier High School Boys Basketball Team has requested permission to travel to Dubuque, Iowa, for the KTDH/Wendy's Shootout; and

WHEREAS, Lanphier's Boys Basketball Team agrees to raise all necessary funds and abide by all rules and regulations of Springfield School District 186;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Lanphier High School's Boys Basketball Team has permission to travel to Dubuque, Iowa, on January 11, 2020.

**ROLL CALL ACTION ITEMS**

**11.1 Approval of Personnel Recommendations**

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

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(Donna Moore)** Moved, Member **(William Ringer)** 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, McFarland, Miller, Moore, Ringer, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None.

**11.2 Student Discipline**

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

- That one 7<sup>th</sup> grade student be hereby expelled from further attendance at Franklin Middle School through the end of the 2019 - 2020 school year with a program.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(William Ringer)** Moved, Member **(Micah Miller)** 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: **6** Nay: **0** Abstain: **1**. The motion carried 6 - 0 - 1.

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**12.1 Next Regular Meeting — Monday, May 20, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. — Board Room**

**12.2 Upcoming District Events**

May 6-10 – Teacher Appreciation Week

May 9 – Cooperative Work Program Banquet

May 14 – Southeast High School Senior Night

May 15 – Springfield High School Senior Night

May 16 – Lanphier High School Senior Night

May 31 – Lawrence Graduation

June 1 – High School Graduations:

- 11:00 AM – Lanphier
- 2:00 PM – Southeast
- 5:00 PM – Springfield

June 3 – Last Day of School

June 6 – Last Day of School for Balanced Calendar

**12.3 Freedom of Information Report**

**12.4 Alliance Legislative Reports**

Available at <https://www.iasb.com/govrel/almenu.cfm>

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at this time.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Zimmers declared the meeting adjourned until Monday, May 20, 2019. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
J. Michael Zimmers, President



Julie A. Hammers  
Julie A. Hammers, Secretary

Dated: 5/20/19

