

STEWARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 220

STEWARD, ILLINOIS

Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting

April 20th, 2022

6:15 pm –In person meeting, publicized and posted for participation.

Minutes taken by Matt Hayes.

The regularly scheduled meeting of April 20th, 2022 was called to order by President Chris Cardott.

On roll call at 6:16pm, the following members were present:

Board members present: Chris Cardott, Julie Lovett, Dean Svela, Marcy DeLille, Nate Ramsey, Joseph Powell and Superintendent Steven Simpson

Board members late: Chele Wells (6:23pm)

Board members absent:

Visitors: None

1. Approval of/Additions to the Agenda
 - a. Suggested moving Girl Scout presentation to the top of the agenda.
2. Girl Scout Troop #1870: Tree Planting Proposal
 - a. The girl scouts would like to plant a tree on the school property near the tree across from the bus barn and were looking for suggestions on what type of tree.
 - b. Mrs. Lisa Palmer gave the presentation.
 - c. The board had no suggestions. The girl scouts will find a tree and report back on what they are going to plant.
3. Approval /Correction of Minutes

On a motion by Julie Lovett and a second by Nate Ramsey, and a roll call of all ayes, the minutes from the March 16th, 2022 meeting were accepted as presented.

4. Approval of Financial Reports and Bills

On a motion by Dean Svela and a second by Julie Lovett, and a roll call of all ayes, the bills and financial reports were accepted as presented.

5. Recognition and Comments from Employees and the public.
 - a. Mrs. Stroh gave a presentation about Social Emotional learning.

- i. She would like a curriculum on social emotional learning in the 2022-2023 school year.
 - ii. The curriculum "Positive Action" was the curriculum she presented.
 - iii. It contains 140 lessons, 50 of the lessons are essential.
 - iv. Each lesson is 15 minutes for younger grades and 25-30 minutes for the upper grades.
 - v. There is a free family component with the curriculum.
 - vi. The cost is under \$4,000 for two years of curriculum.
 - vii. We will put this on the agenda to take action in the May meeting.
6. Good News Communication and Report from Superintendent
 - a. Chess club was a success and we had a good tournament at Eswood. We are looking forward to growing the team.
 - b. Mrs. DeLille suggested that a Chess shirt be purchased for the chess team in the future. She would be willing to design the t-shirt.
 - c. Karen Bonnell is going to have a brief Arbor Day assembly at the church on Arbor Day, April 29th.
7. Board Communication for the Good of Steward District 220.
 - a. Mrs. Cardott said the board and school have come a long way in the last 12 months.
 - b. Mrs. DeLille heard good news from a local superintendent that said Mr. Simpson is doing a good job.
 - c. Mrs. Lovett brought up that board member reelection was coming up and that people need to get their forms.

Old Business

8. Staff Handbook – Discussion on Attorney Review
 - a. Mr. Simpson thought the language the attorneys gave us was repetitive and harsh in some areas.
 - b. We need to decide between a meet and confer agreement or an employee handbook.
 - c. A meet and confer agreement is a document drawn up by the board with employee input. Each year it would be reviewed and updated by the board.
 - d. Mr. Simpson would like to follow up on the meet and confer agreement and let the board know what he found.
9. Buildings and Grounds.
 - a. Gymnasium Project(s)
 - i. Batteries Plus let us know that we would qualify for significant rebates by changing out the lights.
 - ii. Mr. Simpson will bring information on that at the next meeting.
 - b. Gym Floor Update
 - i. Box fan is still running to dry out the under part of the gym floor.
 - ii. There is still a ripple in the gym floor that hasn't gone down. The thought is it may go down over time or when the floor is refinished.
 - c. Locks/ Scanners/ Security/ Usage Policy

- i. The new scanner systems may NOT be compatible with the older key cards the Sheriff department use.
 - ii. We can use the maintenance grant money to help pay for the scanners.
 - iii. A new quote will be given for the scanners since it's been so long.
 - d. Removal of Dead Tree on North Side of Building Follow up
 - i. Mr. Ramsey will take care of the dead tree in the next couple of weeks.
- 10. Destruction of Old Board of Education Documents – Clarification
 - a. We will hold off on destruction of documents until current issues are resolved.

New Business

- 11. Mowing Bid Proposal(s)
 - a. A bid from Preferred Services Group was presented.

On a motion by Julie Lovett and a second by Chele Wells, and a roll call of all ayes with Julie Lovett abstaining, the Board approved to accept the mowing bid from Preferred Services Group for \$120 per mowing.

- 12. Audit Bid(s)
 - a. A bid from Hopkins and Associates was looked at.
 - b. Mr. Simpson talked with Bill Newkirk about the possibility of putting in a bid, but Mr. Newkirk suggested we stay with our current auditor for a couple of more years.

On a motion by Julie Lovett and a second by Dean Svela, and a roll call of all ayes, the Board approved the audit bid from Hopkins and Associates for \$6,500.

- 13. Policy Update
 - a. Cell Phone Policy for Student Handbook First Reading
 - b. Mrs. DeLille suggested the staff members should limit their use of cell phones to model proper cell phone behavior.

On a motion by Julie Lovett and a second by Nate Ramsey, and a roll call of all ayes, the Board approved the Cell Phone policy as presented.

- 14. Steward 220 Calendar Discussion and Adoption
 - a. The new 2022-2023 calendar was presented.
 - i. An extra TI day on the 12th will be added.
 - ii. The December day count was corrected to 15 instead of 14.
 - iii. The last day of school to be May 24th.
 - b. The calendar will be adjusted and presented at the next meeting.

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- 15. Executive Session: To consider the appointment, employment, compensation. Discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees or individual student matters.

On a motion by Dean Svela and a second by Nate Ramsey, and a roll call of all ayes, the Board approved to move into Executive Session at 7:54pm.

On a motion by Julie Lovett and a second by Joseph Powell, and a roll call of all ayes, the Board approved to move out of Executive Session at 8:23pm.

New Business Requiring Board Action

16. Adoption of 2022-23 Salary Schedule in Compliance with 2024 “Minimum Salary Act”.

On a motion by Marcy DeLille and a second by Julie Lovett, and a roll call of all ayes, the Board adopted the 2022-23 Salary Schedule in Compliance with the 2024 “Minimum Salary Act”.

On a motion by March DeLille and a second by Nate Ramsey and a unanimous voice vote, the Board adjourned at 8:36pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by the Board of Education:

Marcy DeLille, Secretary
Board of Education
May 18th, 2022

Chris Cardott, President
Board of Education