

STEWARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 220

STEWARD, ILLINOIS

Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting

August 21st, 2024 posted for participation.

Minutes taken by Matt Hayes.

The school board meeting of August 21st, 2024 was called to order by President Chele Wells.

On roll call at 6:00 pm, the following members were present:

Board members present: Chele Wells, Tom Brown, Bethany Drendel, Jen Kraemer, Vicki Maertz, and Superintendent Steven Simpson

Board members late: Jennie O’Rorke (6:34pm)

Board members absent:

Visitors: Michelle Esposito

1. Approval of/Additions to the Agenda

On a motion by Vicki Maertz, a second by Jen Kraemer, and a unanimous voice vote, the agenda was accepted as presented.

2. Approval /Correction of Minutes from July 17th, 2024

On a motion by Tom Brown, a second by Jen Kraemer, and a unanimous voice vote, the minutes from July 17th, 2024 were accepted as presented.

3. Approval of Financial Reports and Bills

On a motion by Tom Brown, a second by Jen Kraemer, and a roll call of all ayes, the bills and financial reports were accepted as presented.

4. Good News Communication and Report from Superintendent Simpson.
 - a. See file.
5. Board Communication for the Good of Steward District 220.
 - a. The school was buzzing during the open house with all the families.
 - b. (6:34pm) Lots of positive comments from families and staff for the “Friends of Steward” providing most of the school supplies this year.
6. Recognition and Comments from Employees and the public.
 - a. none.

Old Business

7. Buildings and Grounds/ Building Usage/ Update
 - a. None.
8. 10-year Life Safety Study (to be conducted in 24-25)
 - a. Our architect will be stopping by to pick up our digital plans to see if they need to be updated.
9. Board Member Vacancies (Resignations from May and June)
 - a. Karley Stover responded positively to being a member of the school board.

New Business

10. Candidate Interview(s) for Open Board Member Seat(s)
 - a. none.
11. PRESS Issue 116 – Distribution of First Reading
 - a. A copy of the policy was distributed.
12. Board Member Calendar for Fall
 - a. Mr. Simpson would like to change the October 16th board meeting.

On a motion by Tom Brown, a second by Jen Kraemer, and a unanimous voice vote, the board moved the October meeting to October 23rd.

13. Boys Basketball Head Coaching Resignation
 - a. To be discussed in Executive Session.

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

On a motion by Bethany Drendel, a second by Jen Kraemer, and a unanimous voice vote, the Board approved to move into Executive Session at 6:43pm.

On a motion by Tom Brown, a second by Jen Kraemer, and a unanimous voice vote, the Board approved to move out of Executive Session at 7:13pm.

New Business Requiring Board Action

13. Action Resulting from Executive Session

On a motion by Tom Brown, a second by Jen Kraemer, and a roll call of all ayes, the Board approved the hire of LeeAnn Schimetz as a 1st-grade paraprofessional.

On a motion by Jennie O'Rorke, a second by Jen Kraemer, and a unanimous voice vote, the Board accepted the resignation of Don Romes as the boys' basketball coach.

On a motion by Bethany Drendel, a second by Tom Brown, and a roll call of all ayes, the Board approved the hire of Kara Johnson as the 6th-8th Language Arts/Social Studies teacher.

14. The next meeting will be held on September 18th starting at 6:00pm.

On a motion by Jen Kraemer, a second by Bethany Drendel, and a unanimous voice vote, the Board adjourned at 7:16pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by the Board of Education:

Vicki Maertz, Board Secretary
Board of Education
September 18th, 2024

Chele Wells, President
Board of Education