

STEWARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 220

STEWARD, ILLINOIS

Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting

February 16th, 2022

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

Minutes taken by Matt Hayes.

The regularly scheduled meeting of February 16th, 2022 was called to order by President Chris Cardott.

On roll call at 6:15pm, the following members were present:

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

Board members late:

Board members absent: Marcy DeLille

Visitors: None

1. Approval of/Additions to the Agenda
 - a. None.
2. Approval /Correction of Minutes

On a motion by Dean Svela and a second by Nate Ramsey, and a roll call of all ayes (Joseph Powell and Chris Cardott abstained), the minutes from the January 19th, 2022 meeting were accepted as presented.

3. Approval of Financial Reports and Bills

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

4. Good News Communication and Report from Superintendent
 - a. See attached handout of eight highlights.
 - b. We have been awarded a \$50,000 maintenance grant that we file quarterly reports for. It will match our expenditures dollar for dollar.
 - c. We have two years to use the grant, but they would like us to use it within one year.
5. Board Communication for the Good of Steward District 220.
 - a. Mrs. Esposito did a great job getting a very shy Kindergartener involved on a bad day.

- b. Good feedback about the communication from Superintendent Steven Simpson about how we are handling COVID.
- 6. Recognition and Comments from Employees and the public.
 - a. None

Old Business

- 7. Report of Conor O'Rourke Drive Through and Blood Drive
 - a. None
- 8. COVID Mitigation Strategies
 - a. Local control will be returned to us eventually about wearing masks and we will have to be prepared for that.
 - b. School that are mask optional are keeping social distancing in place.
 - c. Insurance companies are looking to see if we have a logical reason based on medical metrics when we make a decision on going mask optional.
 - d. We will keep this on our agenda for next month's meeting.
- 9. Staff Handbook – Update on Attorney Review
 - a. The attorney sent us a 29-page document.
 - b. Superintendent Steven Simpson suggested that he send out part of the attorney's recommendations, have a discussion at the next meeting, then gather the faculty to talk about it.
 - c. The goal is to have something ready for the start of the FY23 school year.
- 10. Buildings and Grounds
 - a. Locks/Scanners/Security/Usage
 - i. \$1,500-\$1,800 per door for a card scanner.
 - ii. If we had the same scan machine as other schools in the area, the police could add our school to their existing cards.
 - iii. Proposal for scanners to be presented at the next meeting.
 - b. Gymnasium Project(s)
 - i. Gymnasium projects are not currently in the grant but could be written into it.
 - ii. No new quotes have been presented for the gym mats.

New Business

- 11. PRESS Policy Update (and planning for future meetings)
 - a. Second Reading of Selected PRESS Policies 2:220-E9 (p.1 of 144) through 5:60-E2 (pp. 89 of 144)
 - b. Corrections were proposed.
 - c. Adoption of Selected Policies 2:220-E9 through 5:60-E2; pp. 1-89

On a motion by Julie Lovett and a second by Dean Svela, and a roll call of all ayes, the selected PRESS Policies 2:220-E9 (p.1 of 144) through 5:60-E2 (pp. 89 of 144) with corrections was approved.

- d. First Reading of Selected PRESS Policies 5:220-8:110; pp. 90-144 (for consideration at March 2022 meeting)
- 12. Review of RTHS Adopted 2022-23 Calendar; Steward 220 Calendar Discussion
 - a. The RTHS calendar was reviewed, and a decision will be made about the Steward calendar at a future meeting.
- 13. Proposed Letter of Engagement for 2022 Audit: Hopkins @ Associates
 - a. A letter was shared from the auditor to be renewed for the next audit.
 - b. His fee is the same as last year, \$5,500.
 - c. Julie Lovett would like to see if Newkirk and Associates could bid on doing our audit.
 - d. Auditor decisions will be tabled for the next meeting.
- 14. Administrative Evaluation
 - a. The board could fill out the last half of the evaluation at present and work toward filling out the entire review at this time next year.
 - b. Goals will be made for the school so the superintendent can prioritize his planning.

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

On a motion by Chele Wells and a second by Julie Lovett, and a roll call of all ayes, the Board approved to move into Executive Session at 7:56pm.

On a motion by Chele Wells and a second by Dean Svela, and a roll call of all ayes, the Board approved to move out of Executive Session at 8:34pm.

- 16. Announcements.
 - a. Thanks to the goodie bags Superintendent Steven Simpson provided for everyone.

On a motion by Chele Wells and a second by Dean Svela 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
March 16th, 2022

Chris Cardott, President
Board of Education