

STEWARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 220

STEWARD, ILLINOIS

Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting

January 18th, 2023 posted for participation.

Minutes taken by Matt Hayes.

The board meeting of January 18th, 2023 was called to order by President Chris Cardott.

On roll call at 6:08pm, the following members were present:

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

Board members late:

Board members absent: Nate Ramsey, Joseph Powell and Marcy DeLille

Visitors: Ben Hayes

1. Approval of/Additions to the Agenda
 - a. None.
2. Approval /Correction of Minutes from December 21st, 2022

On a motion by Dean Svela and a second by Julie Lovett, and a unanimous voice vote, the minutes from December 21st, 2022 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 Administrative Assistant
 - a. The board took a “show and tell” walk through of the school to see the new gym lights and the area where the water leaked over break.
 - b. On Jan 4th, teacher institute day, the staff started a book study on the book “Focus” with Mr. Simpson.
 - c. The High School jazz band will be visiting the feeder schools next week. Steward will go to Creston school on Jan 25th to see the concert.
 - d. Rochelle will be hosting a leadership meeting next month for the feeder schools.
 - e. There is an ROE admin. meeting next week (26th) at Sauk Valley college. Board members are encouraged to attend.
 - f. Only one new person has filled out paper work to be on the board this spring.
5. Board Communication for the Good of Steward District 220.

- a. None.
- 6. Recognition and Comments from Employees and the public.
 - a. Ben Hayes was here for a requirement for his Boy Scout merit badge, Citizenship in the Community.

Old Business

- 7. Discussion: *Meet & Confer Agreement*
 - a. Barbara and Christina had a joint call with Mr. Simpson on Tuesday for 75 minutes.
 - b. They took all of the teachers' ideas and put them in the Meet & Confer agreement to make the language less awkward.
- 8. Buildings and Grounds/ Building Usage.
 - a. School Maintenance Grant Amendments. (ISBE approval to come by 1/31).
 - b. New Lighting Gym Installation (completed by Dean Ackland with scaffolding from PJ O'Rorke).
 - i. Julie suggested that the students put together a thank you card for Dean and PJ.
 - ii. On Jan 4th a lighting contractor, contracted by ComEd, did a walkthrough of the school to provide us an estimate of energy efficient lighting.
 - b. Gym Rehabilitation- Short Term/Long Term
 - i. Waiting for the leak problems to be fixed before painting the gym.
 - ii. Nate Ramsey sent the names of four architects to Mr. Simpson who then sent the same email to all four architects. Three of the architects have gotten back to us showing interest.
 - c. Conor O'Rorke Tournament Report
 - i. None.
- 9. Tax Levy
 - a. (Approved in November. Filed in Lee & Dekalb counties 12/21/22, receipt confirmation now received by both counties 1/4/23)
- 10. Mission, Vision, Values & Goals (to be presented to faculty on 2/3/23 half day)

New Business

- 11. Policy Discussion: PRESS Issue 109; Policies 2:230-7:285
 - a. The policies were discussed, and corrections were made.

On a motion by Dean Svela and a second by Julie Lovett, and a roll call of all ayes, the board adopted the policies 2:230-7:285.

- 12. Interest Rates/ Short-Term Investment Opportunities.
 - a. Mr. Simpson reached out to Bobby Chadwick at Holcomb State, Mary Helfrich at Stillman, Dave Eckhardt at First State, and Kim Duvall at Central bank.
 - b. Holcomb bank (4.0%) for 1-12 months CDs.
 - c. Stillman bank (3.9%) for 3-month CDs (4.05%) for longer than 9-month CDs (4.15%) for 12-month CDs (4.2%). Currently we receive (.89%) on checking.

- d. Central bank requires us to invest in CDs for 13 months or longer. We would also need a copy of board minutes to show that we are designating them as an institution who can receive the funds.
- e. First state bank (4.2%) for 14-month CDs.
- f. Chris Cardott suggested we could ladder the CDs to capture the higher interest rates as they increase.
- g. It was discussed to invest \$50,000 for the next three months in 3-month CDs at Stillman bank.

On a motion by Chele Wells and a second by Julie Lovett and a roll count of all ayes, the Board decided to invest \$50,000 for the next three months in 3-month CDs at Stillman bank.

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

No Executive session

13. Announcements

- a. When an animal is brought to the school there needs to be an educational piece to it.
- b. The insurance company said we are covered when animals come to the school.
- c. Rochelle Community foundation grant period open in February. We could use that grant on uniforms or other school needs.

14. The next meeting will be held on February 15th starting at 6:00pm.

On a motion by Chele Wells and a second by Dean Svela and a unanimous voice vote, the Board adjourned at 7:55pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by the Board of Education:

Marcy DeLille, Secretary
Board of Education
February 15th, 2023

Chris Cardott, President
Board of Education