STEWARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 220
STEWARD, ILLINOIS

Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting

May 21st, 2025 posted for participation.

Minutes taken by Matt Hayes.

The school board meeting of May 21st, 2025 was called to order by President Chele Wells.

On roll call at 6:03 pm, the following members were present:

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

Board members late:

Board members absent:

Visitors: Michelle Esposito, William Heimbigner

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1. Approval of/Additions to the Agenda
2. Recognition and Comments from Employees and the public.
    a. William Heimbigner… spoke. (see file)
3. Recognition of Certified April Election Results and Appointments Enacted by the BOE
    a. Selection of Pro Tem Officers
        i. President & Secretary Pro Tem positions

On a motion by Bethany Drendel, a second by Vicki Maertz, and a unanimous voice vote, Jen Kraemer was voted to be Pro Tem President and Tom Brown was voted to be Pro Tem Secretary.

    b. Adjourn sin die
        i. Jen Kraemer adjourned the meeting at 6:08pm
    c. The new meeting was called to order at 6:08pm by President Pro Tem Jen Kraemer
    d. Seating of newly elected/appointed Board of Education members
        i. Tom Brown named the newly appointed board members: Chele Wells, Vicki Maertz, Bethany Drendel, and Jennie O'Rorke
    e. Oath of office for those newly elected/appointed
        i. None needed
    f. Roll call
    g. New Officers (nominations, discussion & vote)

On a motion by Bethany Drendel, a second by Jen Kraemer and a roll call of all ayes with Chele Wells abstaining, the Board approved Chele Wells as Board President.

On a motion by Tom Brown, a second by Jennie O'Rorke and a roll call of all ayes with Jen Kraemer abstaining, the Board approved Jen Kraemer as Board Vice President.

On a motion by Jen Kraemer, a second by Tom Brown and a roll call of all ayes with Vicki Maertz abstaining, the Board approved Vicki Maertz as Board Secretary.

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

1. Approval /Correction of Minutes from April 16th, 2025

On a motion by Bethany Drendel, a second by Jen Kraemer, and a unanimous voice vote, the minutes from April 16th, 2025 were accepted as presented.

2. Approval of Financial Reports and Bills

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

3. Good News Communication and Report from Superintendent Simpson.
    a. See file.
4. Board Communication for the Good of Steward District 220.
    a. Thank you to Shawn Grey and Grey's Tree Service for donating and delivering the mulch.

Old Business

5. Buildings and Grounds/ Building Usage – (Annual Gym Floor Refinishing June 6th)
    a. .
6. 10-Year Health/Life Safety (Inspection Report Meeting with Johnson & Associates is 6/6/25)
7. Board Member Vacancy
    a. None

New Business

8. Optional: Candidate Interview(s) for Open Board Member Seat(s)/ Post Election Needs
    a. None
9. Distribution of PRESS Issue 118 for First Reading; 2nd Reading Scheduled for June Mtg.
    a. A copy was shared
10. Discussion of Budget Need(s) for Potential Transfer of Funds at June Meeting
    a. At the next month's meeting, the budget will be looked at to determine any transfer needs.
11. Determination of Employment/Payroll Updates: ; Certification of New Principal Signed Contract (as approved at April Meeting); Kindergarten Teacher; Summer Helper
    a. Non-certified employees: Discussion was held.

On a motion by Bethany Drendel, a second by Jen Kraemer, and a unanimous voice vote, the board approved to give all non-certified employees a 3% raise for the 2025-2026 school year.

    b. Certification of New Principal Signed Contract (as approved at April Meeting);
    c. The interview team suggested Brittany Schaneberg as the new Kindergarten teacher for the 2025-2026 school year.

On a motion by Vicki Maertz, a second by Jen Kraemer, and a unanimous voice vote, the board approved the hiring of Brittany Schaneberg as the new Kindergarten teacher for the 2025-2026 school year.

    d. Bethany Odle was suggested as the Custodian helper for the summer.

On a motion by Bethany Drendel, a second by Tom Brown, and a unanimous voice vote, the board approved the hiring of Bethany Odel as the Custodian helper for the summer.

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

No need for Executive Session this month.

13. The next meeting will be held on June 18th at 6:00pm.

On a motion by Vicki Maertz, a second by Jen Kraemer, and a unanimous voice vote, the Board adjourned at 6:57pm.

Respectfully submitted:

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Vicki Maertz, Board Secretary
Board of Education
June 18th, 2025

Approved by the Board of Education:

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Chele Wells, President
Board of Education