

BOARD OF EDUCATION – FEBRUARY 22, 2021

CALL to ORDER and ROLL CALL

The Board of Education of Cissna Park Community Unit District #6 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Bud Petry, with the following Board members and administrators present: Mrs. Kristina Phelan, Mr. Michael Kaeb, Mrs. Ashleigh Verkler, Mr. Jason Edelman, Mr. Brent Neukomm, Mark Wilkening, and Mr. Bud Petry; Dr. Daniel S. Hylbert, superintendent; Mr. Mark Portwood, grades 6-12 principal; Mrs. Bethanie Marshall, grades K-5 principal; and Mrs. Barbara Rust, board secretary.

APPROVAL of AGENDA

Mr. Neukomm made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Verkler to **APPROVE THE AGENDA** as presented. Discussion. Vote: Ayes, all. Motion carried.

APPROVAL of CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Edelman made the motion, seconded by Mr. Neukomm to **APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS AS PRESENTED: IV. Minutes; V.B. Payroll; VIII.A. Accept Letter of Resignation from Traci Houser as Cafeteria Worker; X. A. Adoption of Resolution to Establish Optional 457 Savings Plan through the Teachers' Retirement System; X.B. Approval of 2021-2022 Application for Parent/Teacher Conference Program; X.C. Approval of Participation in Pre-School Co-Op for 2021-2022; and X.D. Approve Amended 2020-2021 School Calendar.** Discussion. Vote: Mrs. Verkler, aye; Mr. Edelman, aye; Mr. Neukomm, aye; Mr. Wilkening, aye; Mr. Petry, aye; Mrs. Phelan, aye; and Mr. Kaeb, aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL of MINUTES

Mr. Edelman made the motion, seconded by Mr. Neukomm to **APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AS PRESENTED.** Discussion. Vote: Ayes, all. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS and PAYMENTS of BILLS/PAYROLL

Mr. Wilkening made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Verkler to **APPROVE THE BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY AS PRESENTED: Education Fund, \$47,358.34; Operations and Maintenance Fund, \$10,296.49; Transportation Fund, \$1,014.48; and Tort Immunity, \$4,080.86.** Discussion. Vote: Mr. Edelman, aye; Mr. Neukomm, aye; Mr. Wilkening, aye; Mr. Petry, aye; Mrs. Phelan, aye; Mr. Kaeb, aye; and Mrs. Verkler, aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Edelman made the motion, seconded by Mr. Neukomm to **APPROVE THE PAYROLL FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$149,159.92.** Discussion. Vote: Mr. Wilkening, aye; Mr. Petry, aye; Mrs. Phelan, aye; Mr. Kaeb, aye; Mrs. Verkler, aye; Mr. Edelman, aye; and Mr. Neukomm, aye. Motion carried.

Dr. Hylbert gave a review of the Class activity accounts to the board members. He explained how monies are added to the class accounts through class dues and fundraising activities for four years for the purpose of attending Senior Trip. Approximately 30% is raised from class dues and 70% is raised from fundraising. He explained that there is a credit of \$5,472 from Southwest Airlines as a result of last years' seniors not being able to travel to Washington, D.C. due to the pandemic. The \$5,472 was taken out of last year's junior class (current senior class) account in order to reimburse the seniors from last year. The hope was that the pandemic would end and the current senior class would be able to use the Southwest Airlines credit to travel to Washington, D.C. Dr. Hylbert then explained several options of handling the credit while making the current senior class account whole again. After discussion, a decision on how to handle this was tabled until the senior sponsors and high school principal have a better idea of what Senior Trip will look like. The administration recommends not going on the Senior trip due to safety concerns.

HEARING of DELEGATIONS

Several parents, students, and teachers attended the board meeting. Parents addressed the board with support and concerns with safety for students traveling during the pandemic. Students supported either the trip or if not attending the trip to have funds reimbursed to them. Class sponsors, Dan Prieto and Erin Debolt addressed the board on why they chose South Dakota as a replacement for traveling to Washington, D.C. A committee of parents along with the class sponsors and Mr. Portwood will meet to come up with an alternative trip location that is closer to Cissna Park.

COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were received: FOIA Request from Illinois Retired Teachers Association and response from Dr. Hylbert; Letter of Resignation from Traci Houser; and Community Correspondence re: 2020/2021 Senior Trip and Prom.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Negotiations & Personnel

Mr. Edelman made the motion, seconded by Mr. Neukomm to **ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF TRACI HOUSER, CAFETERIA WORKER, EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 19, 2021.** Discussion. Vote: Mr. Wilkening, aye; Mr. Petry, aye; Mrs. Phelan, aye; Mr. Kaeb, aye; Mrs. Verkler, aye; Mr. Edelman, aye; and Mr. Neukomm, aye. Motion carried.

REPORT FROM PRINCIPALS

Mrs. Bethanie Marshall, grade school principal, distributed results of a survey given to parents and students concerning the Senior trip. Fifteen of the twenty-four parents responded. A few of the questions covered were if their child would be attending the trip, concerns and safety for traveling, possibly another location, and if no trip, refunding of monies.

Mr. Mark Portwood, junior high and high school principal, addressed the board on a Prom alternative. Class sponsors, Hannah Allen and Seth Johnson, were asked to come up with an alternative plan for Prom, which was presented to the board. It was decided to go ahead with Prom as a dance with dinner as long as safety guidelines were followed.

The board directed the administration and class sponsors to include a parent committee in planning the alternate senior trip. Also, the school attorney will be contacted on the proper wording of a parent permission form for students attending the trip.

Mr. Portwood informed the board that Pixolot Camera will be installed at the school. This sports event program is through the National Federation of High Schools. Parents will be able to access the program through a paid subscription through the federation. They will be able to view sports activities for Cissna Park as well as other schools that participate in the program, even out of state sporting events.

Mr. Wilkening made the motion, seconded by Mr. Neukomm **TO ESTABLISH AN ALTERNATE SENIOR TRIP LOCATION TO BE NAMED AT A LATER DATE AS AN OPTION FOR STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN.** Discussion. Vote: Mr. Edelman, aye; Mr. Neukomm, aye; Mr. Wilkening, aye; Mr. Petry, aye; Mrs. Phelan, aye; Mr. Kaeb, aye; and Mrs. Verkler, aye. Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Edelman made the motion, seconded by Mr. Neukomm to **ADOPT THE RESOLUTION PER SEPARATE COPY ATTACHED ESTABLISHING AN OPTIONAL 457 SAVINGS PLAN AS ALLOWED UNDER SECTION 457(E)(1)(A) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986 THROUGH THE TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.** Discussion. Vote: Mrs. Verkler, aye; Mr. Edelman, aye; Mr. Neukomm, aye; Mr. Wilkening, aye; Mr. Petry, aye; Mrs. Phelan, aye; and Mr. Kaeb, aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Edelman made the motion, seconded by Mr. Neukomm to **APPROVE THE 2021-2022 APPLICATION FOR PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE PROGRAM AS PRESENTED.** Discussion. Vote: Ayes, all. Motion carried.

Mr. Edelman made the motion, seconded by Mr. Neukomm to **APPROVE PARTICIPATION IN THE FORD / IROQUOIS PRE-SCHOOL COOPERATIVE DURING THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL TERM.** Discussion. Vote: Mr. Wilkening, aye; Mr. Petry, aye; Mrs. Phelan, aye; Mr. Kaeb, aye; Mrs. Verkler, aye; Mr. Edelman, aye; and Mr. Neukomm, aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Edelman made the motion, seconded by Mr. Neukomm to **INCLUDE FOUR REMOTE LEARNING DAYS ON JANUARY 26, 2021, FEBRUARY 1, 2021, FEBRUARY 16, 2021, AND FEBRUARY 17, 2021.** Discussion. Vote: Mr. Petry, aye; Mrs. Phelan, aye; Mr. Kaeb, aye; Mrs. Verkler, aye; Mr. Edelman, aye; Mr. Neukomm, aye; and Mr. Wilkening, aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Kaeb made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Verkler to APPROVE THE PROPOSED 2021-2022 SCHOOL CALENDAR WITH TEACHERS' INSTITUTE ON MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 2021 AND THE FIRST DAY OF STUDENT ATTENDANCE ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021. Discussion. Vote: Mrs. Phelan, aye; Mr. Kaeb, aye; Mrs. Verkler, aye; Mr. Edelman, aye; Mr. Neukomm, aye; Mr. Wilkening, aye; and Mr. Petry, aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Edelman made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Phelan to ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:43 P.M. Discussion. Vote: Ayes, all. Motion carried.

Board President

Board Secretary