

**SMITHTON COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 130**

**Smithton, Illinois**

Regular Board Meeting, July 28, 2020

**MINUTES**

The regular board meeting of the Board of Education of Smithton Community Consolidated School District No. 130 was held on Tuesday, July 28, 2020, in the school gymnasium, 316 South Hickory, Smithton, Illinois 62285.

Mrs. Etling, Clerk to the Board of Education, recorded minutes.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by President Dale Barschak at 7:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance

**Roll Call**

Members present: Ms. Pipher, Mr. Trentman, Mrs. Sutherland, Mr. Barschak, Mr. Whitworth, and Mr. Lester. Dr. Schwemmer arrived at 7:23 p.m.

Members absent: None

Dr. Wamser, Superintendent and Mrs. Norton, Principal were also attendance. Hans Carpenter from the Freeburg Tribune arrived at 7:07pm.

**Public Comments**

Brad English expressed interest in knowing how the board, teachers and others felt about the school reopening plan. He expressed his own concern regarding internet cost/availability and the impact on working parents trying to accommodate for remote learning. He suggested that the school consider the use of waivers to reduce any potential liability concerns for the district if full time in person instruction would resume. Chrissy Crollly inquired about the survey results and how the students would be assessed for any learning loss due to remote learning implemented last school year.

**Reports**

Mrs. Etling reported that the districts auditors will be conducting their annual audit remotely this year. All documents have been scanned and uploaded to their designated portal. The auditors are expected to provide a report at the September 2020 board meeting. Mrs. Etling requested that the finance committee meet prior to the next regular board meeting on August 25, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. A tentative FY21 budget and annual review of the FY20 will be presented to the committee at that meeting.

Mrs. Norton reported that the kindergarten screening ran smoothly with lots of excited students and parents. We currently have 72 kindergartners enrolled which is the highest number we have ever had at our district. Meet the Teacher Night is scheduled for August 11,

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2020 and will be limited to only kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students and all new students to the district.

Mr. Keefe introduced himself as the new Athletic Director for the district. He said we were hoping to have some guidance from the SIJHSAA on July 20<sup>th</sup> about falls sports, but that decision has been pushed back to August 3<sup>rd</sup>. The district is moving forward hoping that our fall season will take place and tryouts are still scheduled as planned.

Dr. Wamser reported results of the recent BASSC meeting. BASSC will be purchasing the old Belle Valley North Campus building and will therefore refinance its existing debt. This will result in a lower debt payment for all districts in the Coop. Dr. Wamser asked the board to sign an agreement which will allow BASSC to refinance the debt.

Dr. Wamser gave his recommendations on the districts reopening plan for this 20-21 school year. Th recommended plan is a hybrid/blended learning schedule. A hybrid model would allow half of the total number of students to be in the building each school day. In a typical week, students will attend from 8-3 p.m. two days a week on their assigned days and remote learn on the other three. On the days students are at home they will complete their assignments sent home as directed by the remote learning plan. Our plan will follow the Freeburg High School Plan. This plan was completed in consultation with parents, staff, union leadership, administration, and district legal counsel.

A discussion took place about how the plan will impact families, students and staff. He reminded everyone that this may not be a permanent plan depending on further guidance from the state and the status of COVID-19 cases in our area.

### **Consent Agenda Items**

Approved the following: Regular Board Meeting and Amended Budget Hearing Minutes from June 30, 2020; Building & Grounds Committee Minutes from July 7, 2020; Special Board Meeting minutes from July 15, 2020. District bills presented for payment in Exhibit E-6.2 except the bill from Rhutasel & Associates; prior month payroll liabilities, Treasurer's Report; Transfer of Funds from Citizens MMA to Regions Operating Account and other district financial reports.

A motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented was made by Mr. Lester, seconded by Ms. Pipher. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes: Mr. Lester, Ms. Pipher, Mr. Trentman, Mr. Barschak, Mr. Whitworth, Dr. Schwemmer, Mrs. Sutherland

Nays: None.

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### **Unfinished Business**

None

### **New Business**

Consider 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Board Policy Updates as presented in Exhibit E-8.1. No motion necessary.

A motion to approve the 2020-2021 Parent and Student Handbook was made by Mr. Trentman, seconded by Mrs. Sutherland. All Ayes, motion passes 7-0

A motion to approve the 2020-2021 Extra-Curricular Parent and Student Handbook was made by Dr. Schwemmer, seconded by Mr. Whitworth. All Ayes, motion passes 7-0

A motion to approve the District Title/IDEA Grant Consolidated Plan was made by Mrs. Sutherland, seconded by Dr. Schwemmer. All Ayes, motion passes 7-0

A motion to approve the resolution to approve the District's In-Person, Remote and Blended Remote Learning Day Plan (also known as the District's re-opening plan) for the 2020-2021 school year, effective immediately was made by Mrs. Lester, seconded by Mrs. Sutherland. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes: Mr. Lester, Mrs. Sutherland, Ms. Pipher, Mr. Trentman, Mr. Barschak,

Nays: Dr. Schwemmer, Mr. Whitworth

A motion to approve the purchase of a school bus from Central States Bus Sales for \$85,669 to replace an older one that the districts owns was made by Mr. Trentman, seconded by Mrs. Sutherland. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes: Mr. Lester, Mrs. Sutherland, Ms. Pipher, Mr. Trentman, Mr. Barschak, Mr. Whitworth, Dr. Schwemmer.

Nays:

### **Information**

The board expressed gratitude to all of the teachers for their work in getting prepared for this very unusual school year.

We have 573 students currently registered.

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**Closed Session**

None.

**Personnel**

A motion to approve Jason Roulanaitis as a volunteer assistant coach for girls softball was made by Mr. Trentman, seconded by Ms. Pipher. All Ayes, motion passes 7-0.

A motion to approve the hiring of Ron Sehr as a full-time custodian, Krissy Duffie as a playground/lunchroom monitor and Tara Frey as part-time assistance cook was made by Mr. Lester, seconded by Mrs. Sutherland. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes: Mr. Lester, Ms. Pipher, Mr. Trentman, Mr. Barschak, Mr. Whitworth, Dr. Schwemmer, Mrs. Sutherland

Nays: None.

A motion to accept the resignations from Renee Evitts as assistant cook and Megan Mitchell as music teacher was made by Mrs. Sutherland, seconded by Mr. Trentman. All Ayes, motion passes 7-0.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Mrs. Sutherland, seconded by Dr. Schwemmer to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. All Ayes, motion passes 7-0.

  
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President

  
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Secretary