

SMITHTON COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 130

Smithton, Illinois

Regular Board Meeting, March 22, 2021

MINUTES

The regular board meeting of the Board of Education of Smithton Community Consolidated School District No. 130 was held on Monday, March 22, 2021, in the school cafeteria, 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.

Members absent: Dr. Schwemmer

Others in attendance: Dr. Phillips, Interim Superintendent, Mrs. Norton, Principal, Mr. Keefe, Athletic Director, and Teachers, Erica Brueggemann, Samantha Hedrick and Courtney Hammel.

Public Comments

None

Reports

Mrs. Etling reported on:

1. Final distribution from the county for taxes will be sent this week. Smithton should receive \$454,000.
2. Reminder to all Board Members to file their Economic Statement of Interests by May 1, 2021.
3. Update on Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds ("ESSER"). Received approval in March 2021 for application of ESSER II Grant funds in the amount of \$154,000. Funds will be earmarked for summer school, technology, and sanitation supplies. In addition to the ESSER II Funds under the Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Act from Dec 27, 2020, the American Rescue Plan ("ARP") was passed into law on March 11, 2021. The ARP will be the 3rd round of funding under ESSER. Although final allocations have not been released yet, Smithton expects to receive grant funds in excess of the \$154,000 that we received under the ESSER II Grant. Spending guidelines are broad but should be consistent with the CARES Act goal of preventing, preparing for, and responding to COVID-19 pandemic.

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Mrs. Norton stated that the Show Me Dough fundraiser turned out to be a huge success. We sold over \$24,000 in product and the school's profit is over \$9,000. A teacher committee will be formed to look at a new reading curriculum for grades K-5 for the upcoming school year. Summer School plans are taking place with Jennifer Hoover and Jeanne Borgschulte organizing the program. We have invited 82 students to participate in the program. Bus service will be provided to those students that need transportation. The new playground was officially open on Monday March 15, 2021. We received rave reviews from all grade levels!

Mr. Keefe reported on the Volleyball season winning Regional Championship. Girls basketball team is 6-0 for the season. Will be hosting Regionals at Smithton on April 16th. The track season is starting with 5 meets scheduled already. Special thanks to Ms. Hammel and Ms. Hedrick for supervising at the sporting events.

Mr. Whitworth reported on updates with the building addition:

1. Board agreed to not put a plaque in the new gym. At \$1,900 credit will be given to the district.
2. Board directed Mr. Whitworth to obtain a quote for a sink and bathroom to be installed in the new nurse's office.
3. Board directed Mr. Whitworth to obtain a quote for a tile floor in the nurse room.
4. Board agreed to move forward to sodding the playground area.
5. Completion of parking lot outside of the new gym will be delayed until summer. This will allow time for soil to dry out and reevaluate if any additional soil remediation is required prior to work on the parking lot.

Dr. Phillips suggested that the board may want to consider installing a bigger gate to allow a lift truck to access the playground. Further discussion will take place on this topic. Additional cafeteria tables will be required when increasing the number of students using the new cafeteria. Board suggested to talk with Maintenance and PE teacher to see what kind of tables would work best in this space. Mr. Trentman suggested looking at wall mounted tables. Dr. Phillips shared some recent legislation to look out for regarding forced consolidation and mandated shared superintendents. New CDC guidelines reduced the 6 ft social distance requirement to 3 ft in certain situations. Also, districts will not be required to offer remote learning to all students, only to those deemed medically necessary.

Consent Agenda Items

Approved the following: Finance Committee Meeting Minutes and Regular Board Meeting Minutes from February 23, 2021. District bills presented for payment in Exhibit E-6.2 in the

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amount of \$417,101.03; prior month payroll and liabilities, Treasurer's Report; Transfer of Construction Funds from Citizens MMA \$341,632.67 to Regions Operating Account for reimbursement, and other district financial reports.

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

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

Nays: None.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

A motion to approve the 2021-2022 School Calendar as presented in Exhibit E-8.1 was made by Mrs. Sutherland seconded by Mr. Trentman. All Ayes, motion passes 6-0.

A motion to approve the appointment of Meredith Geoppo, as SOPPA Compliance Officer for Smithton School was made by Ms. Pipher, seconded by Mr. Whitworth. All Ayes, motion passes 6-0.

Information

District enrollment is currently at 554 students.

Positive points include the new Playground. Feedback from students and parents has been overwhelmingly positive. All staff that wanted the vaccine received one.

Closed Session

Mrs. Sutherland moved, seconded by Mr. Trentman, that a closed session be called at 8:17 p.m. for the purpose of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). All Ayes, motion passes 6-0.

A motion was made to return to open session at 8:47 p.m. by Mrs. Sutherland, seconded by Mr. Trentman. All Ayes, motion passes 6-0.

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Other Actions

A motion to approve the employment of Heidi Hopkins and Heather Schnoeker, as classroom/lunch monitors at \$11/hour was made by Mr. Whitworth, seconded by Mr. Trentman. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes: Mr. Lester, Ms. Pipher, Mr. Trentman, Mr. Barschak, Mr. Whitworth, Mrs. Sutherland.
Nays: None.

A motion to approve the employment of Coaches and Sponsors as presented in Exhibit E-10.2 was made by Mr. Trentman, seconded by Ms. Pipher. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes: Mr. Lester, Ms. Pipher, Mr. Trentman, Mr. Barschak, Mr. Whitworth, Mrs. Sutherland.
Nays: None.

A motion to approve the stipends for Coaches and Sponsors, as presented in Exhibit E-10.3 was made by Ms. Pipher, seconded by Mrs. Sutherland. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes: Mr. Lester, Ms. Pipher, Mr. Barschak, Mr. Whitworth, Mrs. Sutherland, Mr. Trentman.
Nays: None.

A motion to approve the resolution to dismiss a non-tenured teacher, as presented in Exhibit E-10.4 was made by Mr. Trentman, seconded by Mr. Whitworth. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes: Mr. Lester, Ms. Pipher, Mr. Trentman, Mr. Whitworth, Mrs. Sutherland.
Abstain: Mr. Barschak
Nays: None.

A motion to approve the request to extend the unpaid leave of absence request for Sandy Wu for the 2021-2022 school year 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. Whitworth, Mrs. Sutherland, Mr. Barschak
Nays: None.

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Adjournment

A motion was made by Mrs. Sutherland, seconded by Mr. Whitworth to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. All Ayes, motion passes 6-0.



President



Secretary