

SMITHTON COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 130

Smithton, Illinois

Regular Board Meeting, November 23, 2020

MINUTES

The regular board meeting of the Board of Education of Smithton Community Consolidated School District No. 130 was held on Monday, November 23, 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, Mr. Barschak, Mr. Lester and Dr. Schwemmer.

Members absent: Mrs. Sutherland, Mr. Whitworth

Others in attendance: Dr. Bill Phillips, Interim Superintendent, Mr. Keefe, Athletic Director, Mrs. Megan Greive, School Nurse, Mr. Stehl, FGM Architects and several staff members (teachers).

Public Comments

None

Reports

Shawn Williamson from Fick, Eggemeyer & Williamson CPAs presented the FY20 Audit. It is the auditor's opinion that the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective modified cash basis financial position of the district's activities as of June 30, 2020. The audit did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that were considered to be a material weakness. Mr. Lester thanked the firm for completing the audit in a timely matter considering the circumstances with our prior audit firms' failure to initiate the audit and /or respond to the district's inquiries.

Mr. Lester reported on the finance committee meeting. The committee discussed the tentative tax levy and the need for a tax levy hearing because the levy was prepared based on an estimated 7% increase in EAV. If the estimate is above 5%, a hearing is required. The EAV increased by 6.14% last year. The district will usually project a little higher EAV to protect itself from missing out on available tax revenue to support programs and services to students. The committee also reviewed the Year to Date Actual vs Budget. The hybrid/full remote learning schedule has impacted staffing with reduced hours\ furloughs resulting in some line items under budget while other areas, like supplies are over budget due to extra expenses for PPE and

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sanitizing school premises. District received two grant, Emergency Relief Grant & Digital Equity Formula Grant to offset some of these additional expenses.

Mrs. Norton was not present at the meeting; however, her report was included in the board packet including emails from many parents providing positive feedback to the teachers regarding their delivery of instruction via remote learning.

Mr. Keefe reported that SIJHSAA called for all sports to be paused until December 22

POSSIBLE DECISIONS:

- ~Volleyball is moved to January.
- ~Boys' and Girls' basketball moved to March
- ~Complete cancellations for all winter sports

Dr. Phillips thanked the teachers for their flexibility in switching to remote from hybrid plan given such a short notice. His goal is to bring back the students as soon as possible with safety for students and staff being the first priority. Dr. Phillips met with Architects today. Andy Stehl will give Dr. Phillips contact with Hutchison Recreation to follow-up with a "Punch-List" to make sure everything is OK with the playground installation/equipment work. Soil remediation is complete and the Bus Loop area is ready to receive asphalt.

Mr. Trentman suggested that a walk thru of the interior be done before it is finished. Mr. Stehl said that would be at the district's discretion. Dr. Phillips will coordinate. Mr. Stehl will look into the possibility to dry out gravel for track area.

Consent Agenda Items

Approved the following: Regular Board Meeting Minutes from October 28, 2020 and Buildings & Grounds Meeting Minutes from November 11, 2020. District bills presented for payment in Exhibit E-6.2 in the amount of \$436,454.06; prior month payroll and liabilities, Treasurer's Report; Transfer of Construction Funds from Citizens MMA to Regions Operating Account for reimbursement, and other district financial reports.

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

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

Nays: None.

Unfinished Business

A motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2020 Audit Report as presented by Fick, Eggemeyer & Williamson CPAs was made by Dr. Schwemmer, seconded by Mr. Lester. Motion carried by the following vote on roll call:

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

Nays: None.

Dr. Schwemmer reported on the IASB Resolutions that were passed. A virtual meeting was conducted this year and only 278 districts were in attendance. There were (8) New resolutions, (3) Reaffirmations and (1) New Belief Statement.

Mr. Trentman inquired about a COVID Plan update. Mr. Barschak directed Dr. Phillips to continue working on updating a COVID Plan and that this will be placed on the agenda for next month to discuss at the board meeting. Dr. Schwemmer commented that she thought it was the right decision for the district to go to full remote learning on November 16th, given the number of positive cases reported by the district.

New Business

The board considered first reading/discussion of the Tax Levy.

A motion to approve the 2019-2020 School Report Card was made by Ms. Pipher, seconded by Mr. Trentman. All Ayes, motion passes 5-0.

Consider first reading of board policy updates from Press Policy Updates #106

Information

Enrollment stayed the same at 544 students.

The staff was commended once again for their flexibility in returning to full remote from hybrid with little notice to prepare.

Closed Session

Mr. Lester moved, seconded by Ms. Pipher, that a closed session be called at 7:54pm 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 5-0.

A motion was made to return to open session at 9:10pm by Mr. Trentman, seconded by Mr. Lester. All Ayes, motion passes 5-0.

Personnel

No Action taken.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Trentman, seconded by Ms. Pipher to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 p.m. All Ayes, motion passes 5-0.



President



Secretary