

**SMITHTON COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 130**  
**Smithton, Illinois**  
Regular Board Meeting, October 28, 2020  
MINUTES

The regular board meeting of the Board of Education of Smithton Community Consolidated School District No. 130 was held on Wednesday, October 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.

Members absent: Dr. Schwemmer

Others in attendance: Dr. Phillips, Interim Superintendent, Mrs. Norton, Principal, Mr. Keefe, Athletic Director, Courtney Hammel, Teacher, Samantha Hedrick, Teacher and Megan Grieve, Nurse.

**Public Comments**

None

**Reports**

Mrs. Etling reported that the district had engaged Fick, Eggemeyer & Williamson to conduct its FY20 Audit. The auditors will be at the November board meeting to present their findings. A draft report was issued on October 23, 2020 and is currently being reviewed. She also reported that the district received a COVID Premium credit of \$4,930.92 in October from its healthcare provider BCBS due to healthcare utilization rates being lower than expected during the last six months. This credit will be shared on a pro-rata basis with those employees paying out of pocket for healthcare premium.

A finance committee meeting is scheduled for 6:00pm prior to the regular board meeting on November 23, 2020. Mrs. Etling will review the results of the 1<sup>st</sup> QTR FY 21 budget, the tentative tax levy and the FY20 Audit with the committee.

Mrs. Norton reviewed the results of her survey she conducted of the teachers to gauge how they feel the hybrid plan is working and how they feel about returning to full capacity, all students, every day. She did mention that all IEP students are back to school 4xdays a week.

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Smithton PTO recently voted to donate \$20,000 towards the improvement to our playground. Mrs. Lester wrote for and received a \$500 grant from the BlueKnights Motorcycle Club.

Mr. Keefe reported that the 20/21 baseball and softball schedules have been set. Zach Duffy placed 6<sup>th</sup> in the XC meet and Jordan Spanley placed 49<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Keefe is working on being able to live stream our indoor sporting events such as basketball. The current guidance requires our school to limit the number of people to 50 at any indoor event.

Mr. Barschak welcomed the new Interim Superintendent, Dr. William Phillips. Superintendent Phillips introduced himself and briefed the board on his first three days at the district and working with Mr. Grimm on the transition.

**Consent Agenda Items**

Approved the following: Budget Hearing Minutes and Regular Board Meeting Minutes from September 29, 2020, Buildings & Grounds Meeting Minutes from October 8, 2020 and Special Board Meeting minutes from October 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020. District bills presented for payment in Exhibit E-6.2 in the amount of \$874,381.60; prior month payroll and liabilities, Treasurer's Report; Transfer of Construction Funds from Citizens MMA \$534,238.44 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.

A motion to appoint Dr. Schwemmer as the Board representative to the IASB Delegate Assembly was made by Mrs. Sutherland seconded by Mr. Trentman. All Ayes, motion passes 6-0.

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### **Unfinished Business**

A motion to approve the contract with Security Alarm for \$21,683.00 to upgrade the districts camera system and to purchase new cameras for the building addition was made by Mr. Trentman, seconded by Mr. Lester. 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 contract with Security Alarm for \$10,709.00 to upgrade and purchase new door access system was made by Mr. Whitworth, 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.

### **New Business**

A motion to approve the new signature resolution authorizing Dr. William Phillips to be added to the Imprest and Activity Account was made by Ms. Pipher, seconded by Mrs. Sutherland. All Ayes, motion passes 6-0.

### **Information**

District enrollment is currently at 544 students.

The 2020 Tentative Tax Levy will be presented at the November 23<sup>rd</sup> board meeting. A finance committee will be held at 6:00pm before the board meeting.

The board discussed posting for the new Superintendent Position. Mr. Barschak will post the position next week with a deadline of November 30, 2020 to receive applications.

Mrs. Norton reported on the Districts COVID-19 Metrics Committee. After a lengthy discussion about metrics and a plan to return to full in person learning, Mr. Barschak instructed Superintendent Phillips to come up with a formal plan of a return to school model. What would it look like if all students returned to in person learning. What metrics need to be in place to go from hybrid plan to full in person plan. Mr. Barschak would like to see Superintendent Phillips present a plan at the next board meeting on November 23, 2020.

The Board commended Mrs. Norton on her outstanding leadership throughout this challenging year and thanked the teachers and staff for doing a phenomenal job.

**Closed Session**

None

**Other Actions**

A motion to approve extending the current farm lease with William Schaefer (Schaefer Farms) for a one-year term for an annual cash rent of \$8,428.20 was made by Mr. Lester, 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.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Mrs. Sutherland, seconded by Ms. Pipher to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 p.m. All Ayes, motion passes 6-0.



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President



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Secretary