

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

**Smithton, Illinois**

Regular Board Meeting, August 25, 2020

**MINUTES**

The regular board meeting of the Board of Education of Smithton Community Consolidated School District No. 130 was held on Tuesday, August 25, 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, Mr. Lester.

Members absent: Dr. Schwemmer

Dr. Wamser, Superintendent was also in attendance.

**Public Comments**

Mikaela Mueller spoke and advocated for the need for the students to return to school and encouraged board members to reconsider letting students return to in person instruction.

Jim Aumann spoke and advocated for the need to return to school especially for students with IEPs who are not getting their needs met. He pointed out that the school is legally obligated to provide IEP minutes to his son, which he said he is not getting.

Terrie Base-Lawhead-spoke about the challenges of providing remote learning to an IEP student and advocated for a plan to return to in person for all students, especially IEP students.

Heather Buckley spoke and advocated for return to in person instruction.

**Reports**

Mrs. Etling reported on the highlights from FY20 and FY21 budget.

Projects completed in FY20 include infrastructure upgrades; new Cat6 cabling; access points & switches using ERATE matching grant of \$40,000. Tech Plan called for purchase of 300 Chromebooks and all new desktops/monitors. District converted its payroll/accounting system to SDS. District closed on \$5,000,000 bond and started construction on new building addition.

Operating surplus of \$176,411 in FY20 (includes \$50,000 maintenance grant received in June 2020 that will be used to purchase new kitchen equipment in summer 2021). Operating Fund balances declined by \$234,926 due to \$500,000 transfer from O&M Fund to Capital Projects.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

August 25, 2020

Page 2

Projects scheduled for FY 21 include replace rooftop AC unit; purchase new bus to replace 2007 bus; replace junior high roof (use Health Life Safety Funds-\$150,000); Complete 90% of building addition.

Operating deficit of \$57,785 for FY21 due to expenditures for rooftop AC (\$60,000) and new bus (\$85,000).

Mr. Lester reported on the finance committee meeting. The district auditors will be at the next board meeting in September to present their Annual Report for FY20. Tentative results show the district is operating within its budget. The district will be moving funds from a CD to an existing Money Market Account at Citizens Bank which has a higher rate.

Mr. Keefe reported on the Athletic schedules. After receiving some complaints that the baseball team members were not adhering to social distancing and wearing masks, Mr. Keefe spoke with the coaches and reminded them that these rules must be strictly adhered to. Mr. Keefe said he went to the games and took extra preventative measures by sectioning off the bleachers to adhere with guidelines.

Dr. Wamser reported that he had a conference call with the builder (Shores) today and that the Buildings & Grounds Committee will be meeting next week. A discussion took place with all of the board members regarding what information they would like to see from the Superintendent and Buildings & Grounds Committee re construction progress. Mr. Trentman asked that several documents from the Architect be shared with all board members including any change orders. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that Testing Agency Reports, RFI logs, Constructions Schedule and Plans & Specs would be shared with the board via a drop box folder. Dr. Wamser will provide the board a monthly Spreadsheet showing summation of project costs and contingency spending. The board agreed that the B&G Committee will continue to approve change orders under \$25,000. Dr. Wamser reminded the board that board members should not be inspecting the construction site as it could be considered trespassing. Future site visits/tours by the entire board will be scheduled in the near future. The next building and grounds committee is scheduled for September 4.

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

August 25, 2020

Page 3

### **Consent Agenda Items**

Approved the following: Regular Board Meeting Minutes from July 28, 2020 and Special Board Meeting minutes from August 10, 2020. District bills presented for payment in Exhibit E-6.2 in the amount of \$649,695.96 with four additional bills presented that totaled \$53,672.63; prior month payroll and 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 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**

A motion to accept the board policy update #104 as presented in Exhibit 7.1 was made by Ms. Pipher, seconded by Mr. Whitworth. All Ayes, motion passes 6-0.

### **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 Tentative Budget for the Smithton Community Consolidated School District #130 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021 be made available for public inspection for at least thirty days beginning August 26, 2020 in the office of the Smithton Community Consolidated School District, 316 South Hickory Street, Smithton, Illinois, and further that the administration be authorized to provide a public hearing of said budget at 7:00 p.m. on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of September 2020, in the Smithton School cafeteria at 316 South Hickory Street, Smithton, IL, 62285, as presented in Exhibit E-8.2 was made by Mrs. Sutherland, 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.



## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

August 25, 2020

Page 4

A motion to approve the closed session minutes and that they remain closed as presented in exhibit E-8.3 was made by Mr. Whitworth, seconded by Ms. Pipher. All Ayes, motion passes 6-0

### **Information**

The board expressed gratitude to all of the staff and teachers for their work in trying to do their best to deliver quality instruction to all of our students learning remotely.

We have 546 students currently registered. Enrollment is down approx. 22 students from last year.

### **Closed Session**

Mrs. Sutherland moved, seconded by Mr. Whitworth, that a closed session be called at 8:28pm 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 9:54pm by Mr. Whitworth, seconded by Mr. Lester. All Ayes, motion passes 6-0.

### **Personnel**

A motion to approve Andy Johnson as a volunteer assistant coach for boys baseball was made by Mr. Trentman, seconded by Mr. Whitworth. All Ayes, motion passes 7-0.

A motion to approve the stipend schedule for the Athletic Director and fall coaches and assistant coaches 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.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

August 25, 2020

Page 5

A motion to approve the legal engagement of Kriha Boucek as legal counsel for services related to a detachment & annexation hearing was made by Ms. Pipher, seconded by Mr. Whitworth. 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 accept the resignation from Dr. Ryan Wamser effective September 30 was made by Mr. Lester, seconded by Mrs. Sutherland. All Ayes, motion passes 6-0.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Mrs. Sutherland, seconded by Mr. Whitworth to adjourn the meeting at 9:57 p.m. All Ayes, motion passes 6-0.



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President



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Secretary