

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SESSER-VALIER COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 196
OCTOBER 11, 2022
6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Sesser-Valier Community Unit School District No. 196 was held in the High School Library at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, October 11, 2022. The meeting was called to order by President Megan Rounds.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Zimbrow called the roll with the following result:

Members Present: Acosta, Barry, Menser, Rounds, Sample, Spence, Stacey

Members Absent: (Acosta left the meeting at 7:07 PM)

Staff Present: J. Henry, N. Page, L. Zimbrow, B. Gunter, R. Payne, T. Masters, D. Laur

Visitors Present: Paul Lunsford, Ben Boyt, Tessa Leech (Ratajczyk), Jason Hoffard, Jackie Hoffard

PUBLIC COMMENT & CORRESPONDENCE

Acosta thanked T. Masters and R. Payne for the work the Outdoorsman club did with the VFW recently. President Rounds asked for any public comment. No public comment reported.

REPORTS

DISTRICT AUDITOR: District Auditor Doug Ess (Glass & Shuffett, Ltd., Certified Public Accountants) presented the District's Fiscal Year 2022 audit and annual financial report. Mr. Ess summarized the management letter, audit, annual financial report, and financial profile indicators/preliminary score. He commended former District Bookkeeper Vera Malinee and current District Bookkeeper Leigha Zimbrow for their work and professionalism. He answered board members' questions and thanked the Board for the opportunity to work in the District.

DISTRICT ARCHITECT/ENGINEER: District Architect Paul Lunsford and Mechanical Engineer Ben Boyt presented the bid tabulation for the District's HVAC project (re-bid). Mr. Lunsford recommended that the Board award all bid items to Heartland Mechanical Contractors of Murphysboro, IL. He also answered board members' questions regarding the project, timeline, availability of supplies/equipment, and anticipated work schedules.

SVEA: R. Payne reported that teachers have volunteered their time to help fellow teachers Jeron and Megan Lamczyk welcome their new baby. High School celebrated Homecoming week. The union hosted a tailgate at the homecoming football game for teachers and their families. The

Outdoorsman Club participated in the annual Hunting and Fishing Days as well as the PVA Bass Tournament at Rend Lake. Elementary library is beginning the annual pumpkin decorating contest. Mrs. Tinsley was nominated as a Franklin County Teacher of the Month from ROE #21.

LABORERS' LOCAL 773: No report.

CUSTODIAL & MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR: B. Gunter reported that the recent gas theft is still under investigation. However, there have been no other known occurrences since the last incident.

K-8 PRINCIPAL: Mrs. Page presented information on behalf of K. Jones regarding the following to the board: Trust fund, recent activities, upcoming activities, and enrollment. Progress reports were mailed out. JH Baseball and Softball recently concluded their seasons with the several victories and students making the All-Conference Team. Upcoming Red Ribbon Week and Halloween parade for the elementary students.

H.S. PRINCIPAL: Mrs. Page, High School Principal, presented information regarding the following to the board: Trust fund, upcoming calendar entries, enrollment, homecoming and high school highlights.

SUPERINTENDENT: Mr. Henry, Superintendent, presented the following information to the board:

1. The consent agenda for this month's meeting includes the following additional item(s):
 - Approval of the FY23 library program media evaluation
 - Approval of FY23 Teen REACH and one SVHS Art Club out-of-state and/or overnight field trips
2. Following District Auditor Doug Ess's presentation at this board meeting, the District's FY22 audit will be filed with the regional superintendent, ISBE, IDHS, and Standard & Poore's Rating Agency. As expected, the audit shows that the District is financially stable, maintains a fiscally-healthy cash reserve, and accurately/fairly reports its finances. District Bookkeeper Leigha Zimbardo did a fantastic job preparing for and going through this year's audit process (her very first audit).
3. Following District Architect Paul Lunsford's presentation at this board meeting, the Board will need to award bids and authorize the board officers to execute the necessary contracts for the HVAC project. This should allow the contractor to order equipment and get started on the project on-site on or about June 1, 2023. Mr. Henry recommended that the project be completed in 3 phases as originally planned to allow District maintenance personnel adequate time to complete summer cleaning and District teachers adequate time to prepare their classrooms for the following school year.
4. The regular board meeting on Monday, November 14, 2022, will include the 2022 Tax Levy (Payable Calendar Year 2023) on the agenda. The Board will need to adopt the tentative tax levy that evening in preparation for final adoption on December 12, 2022.

5. Superintendent Henry attached the District's Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Inspection Report from Regional Office of Education #21 (ROE #21). This inspection is completed jointly between the ROE #21 Health-Life-Safety Inspector and the Illinois State Fire Marshal. As usual, the District is deemed to be "Making Acceptable Progress." District Maintenance Supervisor Brian Gunter and his crew have done an exceptional job maintaining the building for safety.
6. Mr. Henry also attached a letter and report from Regional Superintendent Lorie LeQuatte regarding the amount of money distributed from ROE #21 during Fiscal Year 2022 for your review.

**PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE DENIAL OF ADMISSION TO SCHOOL
EVENTS FOR SPECIFIC MEMBER(S) OF THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH
105 ILCS 5/24-24**

The Board conducted a public hearing regarding the denial of admission to school events for Tessa Leech-Ratajczyk following an incident that occurred during a varsity football game on Friday, September 16, 2022. Superintendent Henry presented information about the incident, and Ms. Leech-Ratajczyk was given an opportunity to respond to that information and present any other items of her choosing that she felt were important for the Board to know. Mr. Henry asked Ms. Leech-Ratajczyk some follow-up questions following her presentation. He also recommended that the Board adopt a formal resolution regarding Ms. Leech-Ratajczyk's denial of admission to school events.

Board Member Acosta left the meeting at 7:07 PM.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Menser approving the minutes of the previous meeting: September 12, 2022 (Regular Meeting); Treasurer's report; bills in the amount of \$210,686.91 and salaries in the amount of \$374,043.33; approval of library program media evaluation; and approval of FY23 Teen REACH field trips and Art Club/Rembrandt Society, as presented.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Barry, Menser, Rounds, Sample, Spence, Stacey

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION TO ADOPT A BOARD RESOLUTION REGARDING DENIAL OF ADMISSION TO SCHOOL EVENTS FOR A SPECIFIC MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC (RATAJCZYK, TESSA): A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Barry to adopt a board resolution regarding denial of admission to school events for Tessa Ratajczyk, as amended.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Barry, Menser, Rounds, Sample, Spence, Stacey

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

MOTION TO AWARD BIDS AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS FOR HVAC PROJECT: A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Spence to 1) accept Lunsford Architects, Inc., recommendations regarding a health/life/safety heating/ventilation/air conditioning (HVAC) project and an associated ceiling work project as presented; 2) award bids for HVAC and ceiling projects to Heartland Mechanical; and 3) authorize the board president and/or board secretary to execute the necessary contracts for the project and the district superintendent to execute any necessary change orders for the project (not to exceed \$420,000 without prior board approval).

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Menser, Rounds, Sample, Spence, Stacey, Barry

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: At 7:19 PM, a motion was made by Spence and seconded by Menser to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing the following exceptions to the Open Meetings Act:

- a. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), as amended by P.A. 93-57)
- b. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning the salary schedule for one or more classes of employees (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2))

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Rounds, Sample, Spence, Stacey, Barry, Menser

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

RECONVENE FROM CLOSED SESSION: At 7:55 PM, a motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Menser to reconvene from closed session.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

PERSONNEL (NEW BUSINESS)

MOTION TO EMPLOYEE HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL ASSISTANT COACH (CLARRY, M): A motion was made by Spence and seconded by Stacey to employ Marcus Clarry as High School Boys Basketball Assistant Coach.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Spence, Stacey, Barry, Menser, Rounds, Sample

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF EMPLOYEE RESIGNATION(S)/RETIREMENT(S): A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Spence to acknowledge the following resignation(s):

- HS Boys Basketball Assistant Coach: Brian Laur

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT COACH(ES) AND/OR SPONSOR(S): A motion was made by Menser and seconded by Barry to approve the following volunteer assistant coach(es) and/or sponsor(s):

- HS Boys Basketball: Garrett Gunter, Luke Thompson, Tyler Winchester

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT (FY23-25) AND SIDE-LETTER AGREEMENT (COVID-19 BONUS) WITH LABORERS' LOCAL 773: A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Barry to approve a 3-year collective bargaining agreement and a side-letter agreement (COVID-19 Bonus) with Laborers' Local 773, as presented.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Menser, Rounds, Sample, Spence, Stacey, Barry

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried

OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Menser to adjourn.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES

The above-listed account of the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Sesser-Valier Community Unit School District No. 196, held on Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at 6:00 PM, is, to the best of my knowledge, a true and accurate account of the aforementioned meeting.



Board President



Board Secretary