

**Minutes of the December 11th, 2017
Regular Board Meeting
Starmont Community School District Board of Directors**

1. Call to Order Regular School Board Meeting

The Starmont Community School District Board held its regular board meeting on Monday, December 11, 2017, at the High School Conference Room. President Puffett called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Members present: Doug Puffett, Shane Paris, Julie Uhlenkamp, Darren West, Kevin Powell. Administration present: Superintendent, Troy Heller; MS/HS Principal, Jason Yessak; Elementary Principal, Sandy Klaus; Curriculum Coordinator, Patty Briggs; SBO/Board Secretary, Robyn Hosch. Guests were present.

2. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve Agenda
- b. Approve Minutes – November 13, 2017
- c. Approve Monthly Financial Reports
- d. Approve Monthly Bills
- e. Approve Personnel Recommendations and Resignations

Hiring:

1. Josh Popham as volunteer junior wrestling coach
2. David Raber as volunteer wrestling coach
3. Hannah Hutchinson as volunteer cheer coach
4. Sherry Seedorff as HS cook- \$9.60/hour

Resignations:

1. Grace Durnan as HS cook. Good luck in your endeavors, Grace!
2. Tyler Brown as JV baseball coach. Thanks for all your time coaching, Tyler!

Motion by West to approve the consent agenda, Uhlenkamp second, motion carried 5-0.

3. Receive Communications and Visitors

Reading recovery teachers, LeAnn and Abbie, were present to talk about Starmont's current program and the progress they have had with the students. The board had the opportunity to ask about the program and was impressed to find the success rates of the program are continuously near 100%, and the program continues to remain strong throughout each year.

4. Review Progress Made on Starmont's Therapy Dog, Grace

LeAnn and Sandy were present to inform the board of the profound impacts that Starmont's therapy dog, Grace, has had on the students, both emotionally and academically. There were multiple written attestations to this statement that were shared with the board as well.

5. Review Door and Camera Projects

The school is currently working with the architect and security companies on the last parts of the door and camera projects. The work is planned to be completed soon.

6. Review and Consider Approving Bid from Johnson Controls

Johnson Controls submitted a bid for adding fobs to 2 additional doors and for additional cameras to increase coverage over school grounds. The total cost for this project would be \$18,032. Motion by Paris to approve Johnson Control's bid for additional fobs/cameras in the amount of \$18,032, Powell second, motion carried 5-0.

7. Old Business

a. Review and Consider Approving Early Retirement Plan

Motion by Powell to remove from the table the discussion of the early retirement plan that was tabled at the November 13th school board meeting, Uhlenkamp second, motion carried 5-0. Motion by Powell to approve the early retirement plan as presented, Uhlenkamp second, motion carried 5-0.

8. Review and Consider Approving FFA Financial Budget to Repair Old Greenhouse

FFA teacher, Rachael Stecklein, was present to discuss the details of repairing the old greenhouse in order to be used for unit-based FFA instruction. Stecklein is currently writing a grant application to help fund the project and asking the board for district contributions. Motion by Paris to approve the FFA program to complete the Farm Credit Services grant application with Starmont to fund up to \$15,000 for the old greenhouse repairs, West second, motion carried 5-0.

9. Review and Consider Approving Exiting from the TLC Consortium for 2018-19 Schoolyear

Heller explained to the board his recommendation for Starmont to exit the TLC consortium formed with West Central, East Buchanan, Central, and Starmont. While the TLC consortium proved to be a great opportunity for the district, there are logistical concerns that would be relieved by Starmont forming their own TLC, meanwhile maintaining a few of the components that have been learned through participating in the TLC consortium. Motion by Paris to leave the Northeast Iowa Leadership Consortium for the 2018-19 schoolyear, Uhlenkamp second, motion carried 4-1.

10. Review and Consider Approving Request to SBRC for Additional Allowable Growth for 2018-19 At Risk/Dropout Prevention Program

Motion by Uhlenkamp to request \$185,452 from the SBRC for additional allowable growth for the at risk/dropout prevention program in the 2018-19 schoolyear, Powell second, motion carried 5-0.

11. Elementary Principal's Report/Curriculum Coordinator's Report

Klaus reported that the school is currently looking at better ways to increase safety, so both students and staff will be having an upcoming crisis drill as well as staff participating in a mental health first aid training. This will help staff and students be better prepared for certain emergency situations and thus create a higher safety level districtwide. She would also like to acknowledge and give many thanks to Abbie Schuhmacher for organizing a fundraiser called "Coins for Crystal." This fundraiser helped a family in the community and was a great success. Thank you, Abbie!

Briggs showed and explained a new electronic "state report card," which helps districts understand where they compare to other districts in various assessment areas. She was proud to report that the school is showing outstanding levels of proficiency.

12. MS/HS Principal's Report/AD's Report

Yessak was excited to share some news on the Student Leadership Team that has newly developed. The students are coming up with great ideas, one of them being the development of a welcoming program for new students.

AD, Chad Whittle, wanted to congratulate the Robotics team and their leader, Janet Becker, for receiving 1st place at the competition held at Starmont on December 2nd. Great job everyone! He also wanted to say a special thanks to Suzy Hamlett for orchestrating another successful Veterans' Day program and also to Roger Reed for the outstanding presentation. Thanks to you both!

13. Review Capital and PPEL Spreadsheet

Heller had a spreadsheet showing his predictions of the capital and PPEL funds for the remainder of the school year. The funds are looking healthy, and there are no major concerns.

14. Review and Consider Approving Bleacher Bids for Spectator Gym

Motion by Powell to approve the bleacher bid from Seating and Athletic Facility in the amount of \$96,196, West second, motion carried 5-0.

15. Review and Consider Approving Bids for Sanding, Resurfacing, and Painting Gym Floors

Motion by West to approve the bids for sanding, resurfacing, painting and maintenance of gym floors from Phillips' Flooring in the total amount of \$26,445, Paris second, motion carried 5-0.

16. Review and Consider Approving Board Policies 410.1-411.7 (2nd Reading)

There were no questions or changes to the 410.1-411.7 board policies. Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve the second reading of board policies 410.1-411.7, Powell second, motion carried 5-0.

17. Review and Consider Approving Board Policy 507.9, Wellness Policy (2nd Reading)

There were no questions or changes to the 507.9 board policy. Motion by Powell to approve the second reading of board policy 507.9, Wellness Policy, Uhlenkamp second, motion carried 5-0.

18. Review Administrative Meeting with West Central Administrative Team

Heller has met with the administrative staff at West Central schools about possibly sharing a few positions with Starmont. The discussions are in the early stages, so no decisions have been made at this point, and the board did give approval for Heller to continue these conversations.

19. Review and Consider Approving IDATP Participation for 2018

Motion by Paris to continue participation in IDATP (Iowa Drug and Alcohol Testing) in 2018, Uhlenkamp second, motion carried 5-0.

20. Superintendent's Report

- a. Heller will continue to work on the school calendar over the winter break.
- b. The athletic program is currently looking into a program called, "VOLT," which offers sport-specific programs to students.
- c. The board agreed to continue offering a lifetime pass to activities for any person who serves on the school board.
- d. The board agreed to continue the process of annual volunteer agreements to be updated for each activity involved in. This applies to school employees as well.

21. Set Date for January School Board Meeting

West will audit the bills at the next regular board meeting, January 8th, 2017, 6:30 PM.

22. Adjourn

Motion by Powell to adjourn, Paris second, meeting adjourned at 8:51 PM.

Douglas Puffett, Board President

Robyn Hosch, Board Secretary