

Starmont Community School District
Regular Monthly School Board Meeting
Monday, April 11, 2022
Starmont High School Conference Room
6:30 PM

1. Call to Order (Quorum)

The Starmont Community School District Board held its regular board meeting on Monday, April 11, 2022, at the High School Conference Room. President Powell called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM. Members present: Kevin Powell, Tony Recker, Vicki Altoff, Julie Uhlenkamp, Jacob Moellers. Administration present: Superintendent, Gary Benda; Primary Principal, Heath Hesse; Secondary Principal, Shauna Koppenhaver; Activities Director, Daren Huisenga; Business Manager/Board Secretary, Katie Taylor.

Moved Board Agenda Item #4 Up to Swear in Board Secretary/Treasurer

Powell administered the Oath of Office to Katie Taylor, the new Board Secretary/Treasurer.

2. Receive Communications and Visitors (Including Board Members)

Abbie Schuhmacher was present to inform board members of a survey she did with the elementary staff regarding personal development days being full days or half days. A majority of the staff prefer half days so they are able to get together more often to look over their data and compare notes. Half days also provide students with breakfast and lunch.

Members briefly spoke about letters they received from the government class.

3. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve Agenda
- b. Approve Minutes – March 14, 2022 & March 22, 2022 Work Session
- c. Approve Monthly Financial Reports
- d. Approve Monthly Bills – Powell audited and said there were no major bills or discrepancies to report on.
- e. Approve Personnel Recommendations

Hiring:

1. Tatum Kahler as Ag Ed Teacher/FFA Sponsor for 2022-2023 school year - \$33,800 annual salary
2. Duane Borrett as Transportation Director - \$38,000 annual salary
3. Todd Quigley as HS Social Studies teacher - \$46,644 annual salary
4. Jill Benda as SPED PreK Paraprofessional - \$10.10/hour
5. Annette Rubin as 2022-2023 Play Director - \$10.10/hour

Resignations:

1. Cora Shefchik as Elementary Special Ed Teacher. Thank you for your service, Cora!
2. Todd Beatty as Head Boys Basketball Coach. Thank you for your service, Todd!
3. Rachel Hach as MS Student Council Advisor. Thank you for your service, Rachel!

Motion by Moellers to approve the consent agenda, Recker seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Approve and Appoint Board Secretary/Treasurer

Item was moved to follow the call to order.

5. Elementary Principal's Report

Hesse shared his report showing district and building goals, as well as attendance and discipline data. They finished up ISASP testing and results will come back in a couple months.

6. Middle School/High School Principal's Report

Koppenhaver also shared her report of district and building goals, attendance and discipline data, and major projects she has been working on as well. Prom will be April 30th. Koppenhaver shared with the board that Huisenga and herself have met with students currently carrying an F in a class and have set up plans with the students to improve them.

7. Activities Director's Report

Huisenga brought up that the Girls Union has officially supported girls wrestling. After talking with students, there are potentially 7 or 8 girls interested in the 7/8th grade level and 7 or 8 girls interested in the 9-12th grade level. It was suggested that they would share a common coach w/ assistant similar to that of cross country. The only concern is having enough room for everyone to comfortably practice. The sound system has been installed at the football field and sounds much better. Huisenga has stressed the need for a transport van as we have very few people willing and able to

drive school bus for activities. There is such a high demand for these currently that by the time he finds one, it is gone before we can go through the proper protocol to make the purchase. He is finding that they are \$30,000-35,000 for a used transit van that meets proper DOT standards.

- 8. Public Hearing for Adoption of Proposed 2022-2023 School Budget**
Powell started the public hearing for the 2022-2023 budget at 7:08. Powell briefly went over tax rates and reasoning for changes. There were no further questions or comments. Powell closed the public hearing at 7:14 PM.
- 9. Review and Consider Past Starmont Tax Rates and Approve Proposed 2022-2023 School Budget**
Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve the 2022-2023 budget as presented, Moellers seconded. Roll call. Ayes: Moellers, Recker, Powell, Uhlenkamp, Altoff. Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.
- 10. Public Hearing for Starmont Community School District Calendar 2022-2023**
Benda went through the proposed 2022-2023 school calendar and the suggested personal development changes from staff. Powell started the public hearing at 7:23 PM for any public comment. There were no comments. Powell closed the public hearing at 7:24 PM.
- 11. Review and Consider Approving Starmont Community School District Calendar 2022-2023**
Teachers have stated that they would prefer half day personal development days vs. full days. Koppenhaver stated that she strives for teachers getting together more often to collaborate – student achievement starts with instruction and allowing them to bounce ideas off each other on a more regular basis will only improve this. Motion by Recker to accept the 2022-2023 early out school calendar as presented, Altoff seconded. Ayes: Moellers, Recker, Powell, Uhlenkamp, Altoff. Nays: none. Motion carried 5-0.
- 12. Review and Consider Approving the Makeup Days Due to Inclement Weather**
Uhlenkamp moved to make May 27th the last day of school with a noon dismissal. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.
- 13. Review and Consider Approving Use of ESSER III Funds to Pay All Remaining Staff Not Included in the Governor’s Proposed Retention Bonus**
The board openly discussed paying out all remaining staff up to \$1,000 that were not included in the Governor’s proposed retention bonus. They wanted to make it fair to everyone and a prorated amount was discussed. Moellers moves to authorize the superintendent to use ESSER III funds to pay all remaining staff, not included in the Governor’s proposed retention bonus, of up to \$1,000 and to be paid out with May’s payroll. They will receive \$250/quarter for each IPERS quarter they qualify for. Seconded by Uhlenkamp. Roll Call. Ayes: Moellers, Recker, Powell, Uhlenkamp, Altoff. Nays: none. Motion carried 5-0.
- 14. Review and Consider Approving the Addition of FCCLA as the Career and Technical Student Organization (CSTO) for FCA**
Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve the addition of FCCLA as the Career and Technical Student Organization (CSTO) for FCA. Seconded by Altoff. Motion carried 5-0.
- 15. Review Consider and Approve Out of State Travel for FFA to the Washington Leadership Conference in June of 2022**
Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve out of state travel for FFA to travel to Washington Leadership Conference in June 2022. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.
- 16. Review and Consider Approving the Selling of One Suburban by Sealed Bid at the May Board Meeting**
Benda explained that there are a few suburbans to rotate out of the fleet and suggested taking sealed bids between now and the next meeting. Motion by Recker to approve selling one suburban by sealed bid and choose the winning bid at the May board meeting. Seconded by Uhlenkamp. Motion carried 5-0.
- 17. Review and Consider Approving Awarding the Summer 2022 Mowing Bid**
Motion by Recker to approve Lakeview Lawn & Ground Maintenance for the 2022 mowing season in the total amount of \$25,200.00. Seconded by Uhlenkamp. Motion carried 5-0.
- 18. Review and Consider Approving the Gym Resurfacing Contract for the Summer of 2022**
Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve Phillips Floors to refinish the Elementary gym, High School gym, and Spectator gym during the summer of 2022 in the amount of \$12,160.00. Seconded by Altoff. Motion carried 5-0.
- 19. Review and Consider Approving the Remaining Salary Increases to Central Office Staff and Administration**

Motion by Recker to approve Nutrition Director's salary of \$30,000 for FY22-23. Seconded by Uhlenkamp. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve Elementary Principal's salary of \$81,500 for FY22-23. Seconded by Recker. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Moellers to approve Superintendent's salary of \$136,500 for FY22-23. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

20. Review and Consider Approving the Purchase of Additional Tables for the Elementary Cafeteria

Benda explained that the elementary is in need of new tables. Prices have gone up a couple times since getting the initial quote and they don't see prices changing much in the future. These tables with bench seating will hopefully hold up better in the long run compared to the round tables with plastic seats. Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve Premier F+E's bid for tables in the Elementary Cafeteria in the amount of \$29,871.11. Seconded by Recker. Motion carried 5-0.

21. Review and Consider Approving 2022-2023 Operational Sharing Agreements

Motion by Moellers to approve the Maintenance Director, Transportation Director, and Payroll/HR Director Operational Sharing Agreements with West Central CSD for the 2022-2023 school year. As well as the 2022-2023 Guidance Counselor sharing agreement with Central CSD. Altoff seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

22. Review and Consider Approving the 2021-2022 Graduating Class

Koppenhaver provided a list of students that are on target to graduate at the end of the 2021-22 school year. Motion by Recker to approve the list of graduates for the Class of 2022 as presented, conditional upon completion of all graduation requirements. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

23. Review and Consider Approving Paying \$35/hour for Summer (certified) Staff. Also, Pay Classified Staff \$15/hour for 2022 Summer School Using ESSER III Money

Summer school will be held June 6th through June 30th, Monday-Thursday, 8-11:30 AM. Uhlenkamp motioned to approve paying certified summer staff \$35/hour and pay classified summer staff \$15/hour for 2022 Summer School using ESSER III funds. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

24. Superintendent's Report

Benda spoke about the current open positions Starmont has and recent new hires.

25. Closed Session: for Purpose to Evaluate the Professional Competency of an Individual Whose Appointment, hiring, Performance or Discharge is Being Considered When Necessary to Prevent Needless and Irreparable Injury to that Individual's Reputation and that Individual Requests a Closed Session Per Iowa Code 21.5(1)(i)

Moellers motions to move into closed session. Seconded by Recker. Roll Call. Ayes: Moellers, Recker, Powell, Uhlenkamp, Altoff. Nays: none. Motion carried 5-0. The Board entered into closed session at 8:41 PM.

Powell declared the Board out of closed session at 9:23 PM.

26. Next Board Meeting May 9, 2022 at 6:30

The next regular board meeting will take place on May 9, 2022 at 6:30 PM. Powell and Recker will audit bills.

27. Adjourn

Motion by Uhlenkamp to adjourn, Moellers seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:24 PM.

Kevin Powell, Board President

Katie Taylor, Board Secretary