

STARMONT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR MONTHLY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
MONDAY, MAY 9, 2022  
STARMONT HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM  
6:30P.M.

**1. Call to Order (Quorum)**

The Starmont Community School District Board held its regular board meeting on Monday, May 9, 2022, at the High School Conference Room. President Powell called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Members present: Kevin Powell, Tony Recker, Vicki Altoff, Jacob Moellers. Administration present: Superintendent, Gary Benda; Elementary Principal, Heath Hesse; Secondary Principal, Shauna Koppenhaver; Business Manager/Board Secretary, Katie Taylor.

**2. Receive Communications and Visitors**

May is School Board Recognition month. Board members were given certificates and thanked on behalf of the district for all they do for Starmont.

Pam Vaske and Melissa Fedeler were present from Smith Insurance to go over the insurance changes for the upcoming school year. Those changes include: property coverage increasing with current building values rising; currently holding onto \$25,000 wind/hail deductible, but might be required to bump up to \$50,000 soon; new this year is a cosmetic damage roof exclusion when caused by wind and/or hail (as long as it's functionally doing it's job, it is not covered); our current umbrella coverage is \$2,000,000 with group excess of \$15,000,000 – group excess will decrease to \$10,000,000 next year; excess liability will decrease by \$5,000,000; and cyber liability is being highly suggested with cyber crime becoming a continued threat.

**3. Consent Agenda**

- a. Approve Agenda
- b. Approve Minutes – April 11, 2022
- c. Approve Monthly Financial Reports
- d. Approve Monthly Bills - Powell and Altoff audited monthly bills.
- e. Approve Personnel Recommendations

**Hiring:**

1. Heather Krogmann as part time Daycare Associate - \$12.00/hour
2. Ashley Taylor as Elementary Secretary - \$12.55/hour plus \$247/mo for health insurance
3. Kristine Stocks as Elementary SPED Teacher - \$48,672/year
4. Megan DeBack as Spanish Teacher - \$41,574/year
5. Rachael Stecklein as Instructional Coach – no change in base salary and benefits
6. Jill Berger as full time summer custodian – no change in hourly rate
7. Karen Meyers as part time summer custodian – no change in hourly rate
8. Jerry Bentley as High School Head Boys Basketball Coach

**Resignations:**

1. TJ Hansel as Instructional Coach. Thank you for your time, TJ!
2. Jill Benda as PK SPED Paraeducator. Thank you for your time, Jill!
3. Jackie Sellner as 6-8 Language Arts Teacher. Thank you for your time, Jackie!
4. Tess Knickerbocker as Online Spanish Monitor. Thank you for your time, Tess!
5. Mary Heims as Bus Driver. Thank you for your time, Mary!
6. Renae Michael as SPED Associate. Thank you for your time, Renae!
7. Cam Francois as SPED Paraeducator. Thank you for your time, Cam!
8. Connie Gaffney as Bus Driver. Thank you for your time, Connie!
9. Jerry Bentley as High School Girls Basketball Head Coach. Thank you for your time, Jerry!

Motion by Recker to approve the consent agenda, Moellers seconded, motion carried 4-0.

**Openings**

MS Student Council  
SPED Teacher (Elementary)  
Associates/Para Elem and Second  
Bus Drivers  
HS Head Boys BB  
Summer Custodial (Internal)  
Elementary Cook  
HS Head VB  
Asst HS Girls BB

**4. Elementary Principal's Report**

Hesse reported a number of sick staff being out and it being a struggle to juggle coverage. Linda Sneed's class has finished building the Gaga Pits on the playground. Students are learning how to play during PE and having been enjoying them during recess.

**5. Secondary Principal's Report**

Koppenhaver has been busy preparing for graduation and the next school year. Jump Up Day will be held May 20<sup>th</sup> for students to "jump up" a grade to spend a few hours in their classes for next year. Huisenga and herself have been working closely with students to bring up failing grades.

**6. Activity Director's Report**

Huisenga was not present, but provided the board with participation numbers as we wrap up spring activities and move onto the summer season.

**7. Review and Consider Approving the purchase up to \$40,000 for used van for the purpose of transporting students to activities.**

With the current lack of bus drivers and lower number of students participating in activities, Huisenga has been looking into the purchase of 12 passenger vans to help fill the void. Motion by Recker to approve the purchase of two vans up to \$40,000/each plus any accrued fees. Moellers seconded, motion carried 4-0.

**8. Review and Consider Approving a quote for the Starmont Security System for either 5 or 10 years.**

Jerry Bentley, IT Director, was available to answer questions the board had regarding our current security system and the quotes we received for a new system. The current system we have is outdated and could use a revamp. Motion by Moellers to accept ITS's 10-year Verkada license agreement in the amount of \$251,649.00. Seconded by Altoff. Motion carried 4-0.

**9. Review and Consider Approving MOU with Luther College and Morningside College for placement of student teachers at Starmont.**

Motion by Recker to approve MOU with Luther College and Morningside College to place student teachers at Starmont during the 2022-2023 school year. Seconded by Altoff. Motion carried 4-0.

**10. Review and Consider Approving agreement with Hacker and Nelson to continue audits for Starmont Community School District.**

Item will be tabled until June meeting pending solicitation of bids.

- 11. Review and Consider Approving the request for envision Math Curriculum K-5 for the 2023-2024 school year.**  
Motion by Altoff to approve the request for Envision Math Curriculum K-5 for the 2023-2024 school year in the amount of \$7,324.78. Seconded by Recker. Motion carried 4-0.
- 12. Review and Consider Approving Out of State Travel for High School Chorus in June 2022 to Minneapolis for Dinner Theater and Mall of America**  
Motion by Recker to approve out of state travel for High School Chorus to Mall of America and Dinner Theater in Minneapolis on June 18<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 4-0.
- 13. Review and Consider Approving EMC Insurance 2022-23**  
The Board has decided to table this item awaiting further information.
- 14. Review and Consider Approving the amended version of the 2022-2023 school calendar**  
It was noticed that Quarter 3 of the 2022-2023 school year is significantly shorter than Quarter 4. Motion by Recker to approve the amended version of the 2022-2023 school calendar to move the end of Quarter 3 from February 24 to March 10. Seconded by Altoff. Motion carried 4-0.
- 15. Review and Consider Approving 2022-2023 School Board Meeting Dates**  
Motion by Recker to approve the 2022-2023 school board meeting dates with the following changes August 8<sup>th</sup>, January 9<sup>th</sup>, and April 11<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 4-0.
- 16. Review and Consider First Reading of Board Policy 600 Series**  
Benda recommended no changes to the board policy 600 series with no concerns.
- 17. Review and Consider Approving Nutrition Milk and Bread and Fuel bids**  
Taylor presented the received bids for pizza, milk, bread, and fuel. Motion by Moellers to approve the presented bread bid from Bimbo Bakeries, the milk bid from Prairie Farms, the pizza bid from 6 Corners Gas Station, and the fuel bid from Mulgrew Oil for the 2022-2023 school year. Seconded by Altoff. Motion carried 4-0.
- 18. Review and Consider Approving Nutrition rates for the 2022-2023 School Year**  
Next year the federal and state governments will no longer be providing free breakfast and lunch meals. It was recommended no change in meal rate for the 2022-2023 school year. Motion by Recker to approve nutrition rates for the 2022-2023 school year. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 4-0.
- 19. Review and Consider Approving the selling of a suburban through sealed bid.**  
The Board received the following sealed vehicle bid for a 2004 Chevrolet Suburban- Nolan Knight - \$2,449, Vincent Recker - \$3,000, and Robert Pope - \$4,375. Motion by Moellers to accept sealed bid made by Robert Pope of \$4,375.00. Seconded by Altoff. Motion carried 4-0.
- 20. Review and Approve Level I and II Investigators for Complaint of Abuse of Students by School Employees (Iowa Admin. Code 281.1 02)**  
Motion by Recker to approve Rachel Hach as our Level I Investigator and Fayette County Sheriff as our Level II Investigator. Seconded by Altoff. Motion carried 4-0.

**21. Superintendent Report**

Superintendent Benda recognized school board members and thanked them for their time and dedication to the school district. Benda informed the board of a virtual meeting he attended between the DE and both Starmont and West Central concerning the need to purchase a new Learning Management System (LMS). An LMS provides districts to post their curriculum and other materials online. The state is currently reimbursing districts the cost for that purchase. To be eligible for the reimbursement, the LMS purchased would need the ability to use Iowa eLearning courses. Our district currently uses Google Classroom, but it does not meet the criteria to be eligible for reimbursement. The most common LMS at this time is Canvas, but could potentially cost \$16,000-20,000 in licensing.

**22. Set June 2022 Board Meeting Date (June 13, 2022) and Special Meeting Date (May 23, 2022)**

The next regular board meeting will take place on June 13, 2022 with a special meeting on May 23, 2022. Moellers and Recker will audit bills at the next regular board meeting.

**23. Adjourn**

Motion by Recker to adjourn, seconded by Altoff, meeting adjourned at 8:58 PM.

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Kevin Powel, Board President

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Katie Taylor  
Business Manager/Board Secretary