

STARMONT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR MONTHLY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Monday, January 8, 2024
Starmont High School Conference Room
6:30 PM

“Empowering all students with knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for responsible, productive, and fulfilling lives.”

1. Call to Order Work Session

The Starmont Community School District Board held its regular board meeting on Monday, January 8, at the High School Conference Room. President Recker called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Members present: Jacob Moellers, Jason Gearhart, Julie Uhlenkamp, Vicki Althoff, Tony Recker. Absent: none. Administration present: Superintendent, Robert Busch; Elementary Principal, Heath Hesse; Secondary Principal, Kris Martin; Business Manager/Board Secretary, Katie Taylor.

2. Receive Communications and Visitors (including Board Members)

Mike Tucker, a project manager with Martin Gardner Architecture, was present to go over our latest facilities study. He informed the board that the boiler in the high school is at the end of its life and will need to be looked at getting replaced with either a new boiler or rooftop units. He also suggested that electrical and mechanical updates in the high school will need to happen at some point. Exhaust hoods in the family consumer science room need to be replaced. Any existing original lighting will need to be updated to LED.

3. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve Agenda
- b. Approve Minutes – December 11, 2023 & December 21, 2023
- c. Approve Monthly Financial Reports
- d. Approve Monthly Bills – Recker audited bills for the month
- e. Approve Personnel Recommendations & Resignations
 - i. Hires
 1. Karen Sickels as Elementary Para
 2. Katie Snook as Elementary Para
 - ii. Resignations
- f. Approve Volunteer Coaches
- g. Approve Open Enrollments
- h. Approve Fundraisers
- i. Approve Special Education Contracts

Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Elementary Principal’s Report

Principal Hesse stated that FAST testing began today. They have a two-week window to finish. They will have a data dig day at the end of the month. AEA support will come in and assist with conversations on these days. PBIS team met before Christmas break and are making plans for next year – will plan to meet again this month.

5. Secondary Principal's Report

Principal Martin took a small group of her Building Leadership Team (BLT) to Keystone AEA to focus on data digging. Martin, along with a few other staff members, had an RTI meeting today to learn how to use the new RTI Scheduler. They will in turn provide training to teachers on a future PD day. Will be looking at courses and the handbook for 2024-25. Has been working on master schedule and getting teacher's opinions.

6. Activity Director's Report

Activity Director Curtis was absent, but stated that the wrestling tournament and winter concerts went well and had great attendance. Conference Large Group Speech is Saturday, January 13th at Ed-Co. The large ice machine in the boy's locker room is going to need to be replaced, we are looking into our options. The Cathy Smith Gym floors need renovated, we are currently looking into a company to get that accomplished. Working on interviews for girl's golf and high school baseball coach.

7. Review, Consider, and Approve Board Policies (1st Reading)

Board reviewed board policies.

8. Review, Consider, and Approve Board Policies (2nd Reading)

No second readings presented.

9. Review, Consider, and Approve Purchase of Additional Reading Supports

Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve the purchase of Geodes Decodable Texts in the amount of \$11,750. Seconded by Gearhart. Motion carried 5-0.

10. Review, Consider, and Approve At-Risk & Dropout Prevention Program

Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve At-Risk & Dropout Prevention Program. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

11. Review, Consider, and Approve Resolution for the Requested amount of Modified Supplemental Amount (MSA) for the At-Risk and Dropout Prevention Program

Motion by Althoff to authorize the district's administration to submit a request to the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) for Modified Supplemental Amount and Supplemental Aid for the 2024-2025 Dropout Prevention Program in the amount of \$47,048 for expenditures necessary to implement the at At-Risk and Dropout Prevention program plans as approved by the Starmont CSD School Board. Seconded by Uhlenkamp. Roll Call – Ayes: Gearhart, Althoff, Recker, Uhlenkamp, Moellers. Nays: None. Motion carried 5-0.

12. Review, Consider, and Approve Request for Mowing Bids

Motion by Gearhart to approve the request for bids for mowing services. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

13. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Busch presented to the board that through a grant the University of Northern Iowa received, the Starmont CSD administrative team will have a once-a-month coaching session on goal setting, strategic planning, problem solving, etc. He recently attended an Iowa Superintendent's Finance and Leadership Consortium (ISFLC) session on Attracting, Recruiting, and Retaining Staff. The budget process has changed this year and will be attending a budget workshop at Keystone AEA

with Taylor at the end of the month. A tentative calendar for next year has been shared with staff and is awaiting feedback from them. With only six students interested, SMA-FA was not able to utilize the travel agent and has planned an alternative trip for June 10-14 to Nashville and stopping in St. Louis on the way back – they would like to use a 12-passenger van.

- 14. Closed Session:** *To evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance or discharge is being considered when a closed session is 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).*

Motion by Gearhart to go into closed session at 8:17 PM. Seconded by Moellers, followed by roll call. Ayes: Uhlenkamp, Gearhart, Althoff, Moellers, Recker. Nays: none. Motion carried. The Board continued with the evaluation. Recker declared the Board out of closed session at 8:43 PM.

15. Adjourn

Motion by Uhlenkamp to adjourn. Seconded by Althoff. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM.

Tony Recker
Board President

Katie Taylor
Business Manager/Board Secretary