

STARMONT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR MONTHLY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
Monday, February 12, 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, February 12, in the High School Conference Room. President Recker called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Members present: Julie Uhlenkamp, Vicki Althoff, Tony Recker, Jacob Moellers, Jason Gearhart. Absent: none. Administration present: Superintendent, Robert Busch; Elementary Principal, Heath Hesse; Business Manager/Board Secretary, Katie Taylor.

**2. Receive Communications and Visitors (including Board Members)**

Representatives of the robotics team were present to demonstrate operation of their robot and explain how their challenges work. They are currently ranked 6<sup>th</sup> out of 26 teams and will be heading to Cedar Falls this Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> for league tournament.

Freshman Lauren Krogmann presented to the board the FAA creed.

TLC Coach, Rachel Stecklein, provided the board with an update on what herself and Kristi Donlon have done this year to provide supports to teachers and what impacts have been made. Short-term pop-up PD’s after school have been made available to teachers that are strapped for time during the day to work with TLC coaches. The new RTI (response to intervention) program is up and running in the secondary. The first round is almost complete and data will be compiled for the board.

Softball coach, Jake Munger, presented his ideas on improvements to the softball field. He was able to get a new batting cage net from Iowa Wesleyan University when they closed. They will need to peel up sod to increase the size of the batting cage and purchase new posts and turf.

**3. Consent Agenda**

- a. Approve Agenda
- b. Approve Minutes – January 8, 2024 & January 31, 2024
- c. Approve Monthly Financial Reports
- d. Approve Monthly Bills – Uhlenkamp and Gearhart audited bills for the month
- e. Approve Personnel Recommendations & Resignations
  - i. Hires
    1. Vinny Otdoerfer as Head Baseball Coach
  - ii. Resignations
    1. Abbie Schuhmacher as MS Student Council Advisor. Thank you for your time, Abby!
    2. Bob Pope as MS and Assistant Baseball Coach. Thank you for your time, Bob!
- f. Approve Volunteer Coaches
  - i. Rachael Stecklein – FFA Event Coach
  - ii. Kelsey Recker – FFA Event Coach
  - iii. Cassie Gruman – Track Coach

- g. Approve Open Enrollments
- h. Approve Fundraisers
- i. Approve Special Education Contracts

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

**4. Elementary Principal's Report**

Principal Hesse stated that winter FAST testing data had been updated. He also provided results from a recent employee engagement survey. Sickness has been at an all-time high and has been the worst month for attendance. The daddy/daughter dance last weekend was well attended.

**5. Secondary Principal's Report**

Principal Martin was absent.

**6. Activity Director's Report**

Activity Director Curtis was absent, but will be starting end of season surveys with coaches.

**7. Review, Consider, and Approve Board Policies (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**

No first readings presented.

**8. Review, Consider, and Approve Board Policies (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading)**

Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve second reading of board policies 300 series, 401.13 (renumbered to 713), 401.13R1 (renumbered to 713R1), 502.07, 605.06, 605.06R1, 605.08, 605.08R1, 701.01, 701.02, 701.03, 701.04, and 703.1. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

**9. Review, Consider, and Approve Budget Guarantee Resolution**

Motion by Uhlenkamp to adopt the following resolution: Resolved, that the Board of Directors of Starmont Community School District, will levy property taxes for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the regular program budget adjustment as allowed under section 257.14, Code of Iowa. Seconded by Gearhart. Motion carried 5-0.

**10. Review, Consider, and Approve Time and Date for 2024-2025 Budget Hearings**

Motion by Uhlenkamp to set 2024-2025 budget hearings for April 8<sup>th</sup> and April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 PM. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

**11. Review, Consider, and Approve Special Education Consortium Agreement with Crossroads**

Motion by Moellers to approve special education consortium agreement with Crossroads as presented. Seconded by Althoff. Motion carried 5-0.

**12. Preview 2024-2025 Budget**

Superintendent Busch provided board with information on upcoming budget process changes.

**13. Consider 2024-2025 Calendar Option**

Superintendent Busch provided update on status of 2024-2025 calendar and asked for guidance on making up snow days.

**14. Review, Consider, and Approve Purchase of Ice Machine**

Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve purchase of new ice machine from Rapids Wholesale in the amount of \$5,412.64. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

**15. Review, Consider, and Approve Summer Help**

Motion by Gearhart to approve summer help positions. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

**16. Review, Consider, and Approve Agreement with Morningside University for Teacher Education Clinical Experience Placements**

Motion by Uhlenkamp to approve agreement with Morningside University. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

**17. Review, Consider, and Approve Agreement with Grant Wood AEA for PowerSchool Administrative Services**

No action taken at this time.

**18. Review, Consider, and Approve Refinishing of Gym Floor for Summer 2024**

Motion by Moellers to approve refinishing of gym floors with bid to be approved at a later date. Seconded by Althoff. Motion carried 5-0.

**19. Review, Consider, and Approve Bid for Mowing**

Motion by Gearhart to approve 2024 mowing bid from Keppler Landscaping LLC in the amount of \$25,500. Seconded by Moellers. Motion carried 5-0.

**20. Superintendent Report**

Superintendent Busch informed the board that Dave Kuehl has been helping in the secondary principal capacity with the absence of Principal Martin. Our illness numbers have been up throughout the building and 10% illness has been reported to the state. Little Star Daycare in Arlington has closed and the bus stop has been moved to Liberty Street. Stop the Bleed Training with Fayette County Emergency Management will take place on February 28<sup>th</sup> and kits will be distributed to each classroom. SMA-FA has designed an alternative trip to Nashville on June 10-14<sup>th</sup> and will take a 12-passenger van. Please continue to advocate for public education by contacting legislators.

**21. Adjourn**

Motion by Uhlenkamp to adjourn. Seconded by Gearhart. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM.

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Tony Recker  
Board President

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Katie Taylor  
Business Manager/Board Secretary