

January 16, 2024

The Board of Education, Community Unit School District No. 1, 149 South Elm Street, Winchester, Illinois counties of Scott, Morgan and Greene, met in regular session on Tuesday January 16, 2024 at 6:30 PM in the Winchester Elementary School gymnasium.

President Steve Moore called the meeting to order with the following members answering roll call: Thad Walker, Bill Jacquot, Shanna Eddinger, Trista Freeman, Eric Peterson, Aaron Littig and Steve Moore. Also attending were Superintendent Kevin Blankenship, WGS Principal Jessica Crawford, WHS Principal Denny Vortman, and Administrative Assistant Becky Lashmett.

MINUTES / FINANCIALS

Freeman motioned, with a second from Littig, to approve the minutes of the December 12th regular meeting. Roll call vote resulted: Walker, yea; Jacquot, abstain; Eddinger, yea; Freeman, yea; Peterson yea; Littig, yea; and Moore, yea; there being six yeas, one abstention and no nays, the motion passed.

Eddinger motioned, with a second from Littig, to approve the financial reports and bills to be paid. Roll call vote resulted: Walker, yea; Jacquot, yea; Eddinger, yea; Freeman, yea; Peterson yea; Littig, yea; and Moore, yea; there being seven yeas and no nays, the motion passed.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORTS

The building principals provided an update of student recognitions, activities and accomplishments. Superintendent Blankenship reported on the status of the maintenance projects.

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

The committee has developed three options with estimated costs; new construction - \$36 million, renovation - \$32 million and remodel - \$10 million. The next step would be to engage a consultant to determine what the community wants and to assist in making the project 'community driven' in order to place a referendum on the November 2024 ballot.

Freeman motioned to contract with Creative Entourage of St. Louis for an amount not to exceed \$30,000. Littig seconded the motion and roll call vote resulted: Walker, yea; Jacquot, yea; Eddinger, yea; Freeman, yea; Peterson yea; Littig, yea; and Moore, yea; there being seven yeas and no nays, the motion passed.

FOUNDATION

The proceeds from the Jean Borg life insurance policy to fund scholarships will need to be administered by a foundation. The current educational foundation will meet to consider the possibility of transitioning to scholarship awarding, and if not - a new foundation would need to be developed at an approximate cost of \$5,000.

MAINTENANCE GRANT

Jacquot motioned to award a contract of \$39,825 to Henson Robinson for remodeling of the WGS restrooms under the FY24 Maintenance Grant. Littig seconded the motion and roll call vote resulted: Walker, yea; Jacquot, yea; Eddinger, yea; Freeman, yea; Peterson yea; Littig, yea; and Moore, yea; there being seven yeas and no nays, the motion passed.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS / PUBLIC COMMENTS

President Moore asked the status of Freedom of Information requests, and Superintendent Blankenship reported there were none. President Moore then asked for questions or comments from the audience, and there were none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Freeman motioned at 7:38 PM to enter into closed session. Eddinger seconded the motion and roll call vote resulted: Walker, yea; Jacquot, yea; Eddinger, yea; Freeman, yea; Peterson yea; Littig, yea; and Moore, yea; there being seven yeas and no nays, the motion passed.

Freeman motioned, with a second from Littig, to return to open session at 8:02 PM. Roll call vote resulted: Walker, yea; Jacquot, yea; Eddinger, yea; Freeman, yea; Peterson yea; Littig, yea; and Moore, yea; there being seven yeas and no nays, the motion passed.

President Moore announced the purpose of the executive session was for personnel matters.

PERSONNEL ACTION

Jacquot motioned to accept the retirement of Barb Weder effective at the end of the current school term. Eddinger seconded the motion and roll call vote resulted: Walker, yea; Jacquot, yea; Eddinger, yea; Freeman, yea; Peterson yea; Littig, yea; and Moore, yea; there being seven yeas and no nays, the motion passed.

Walker motioned, with a second from Littig to accept the resignations of Baine Buhlig/custodian and Kaitlyn Holder/HS softball and to approve Michelle Webber as HS softball coach. Roll call vote resulted: Walker, yea; Jacquot, yea; Eddinger, yea; Freeman, yea; Peterson yea; Littig, yea; and Moore, yea; there being seven yeas and no nays, the motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Steve Moore, President

Trista Freeman, Vice-President

Shanna Eddinger, Secretary



Becky Lashmett, Administrative Assistant