

MINUTES  
STEGER SCHOOL DISTRICT 194  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
Tuesday, April 30, 2019  
at 6:00 p.m.  
Columbia Central School  
Steger, Illinois

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by President Helsel. Members present: Geraci Helsel, Page, Raymond, Edwards, Turner. Members absent: Butkus.

Administrators present: Dr. Patricia Hahto, Eric Diehl, Kim Mahoney, Stephanie Winborn, Mike Smith, Bruce Nieminski, Tom Aguirre, Janet Inglese, Jeff Nelson, Anne Luering, Tim Tufts, Rachael Diehl

Administrators not in attendance: Paul Preuss, Anthony Graziani

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Board and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Presentation**

Eric Diehl shared information regarding the new Ted Griffin Music Scholarship. On behalf of Steger School District 194, music teachers Heather Olsen and Larkin Kinsella presented the Ted Griffin Music Scholarship to Christopher Albert, a seventh grade student at Columbia Central.

**Public Participation**

Park Forest Mayor Elect Jonathan Vanderbilt introduced himself. Mayor Vanderbilt stated that on behalf of the Park Forest community, he would like to share communication about our village and school district news and events. He stated that if we would send him our school district news, he would have it put on the Park Forest Community Website.

**REORGANIZATION**

A motion was made by Mr. Geraci and seconded by Mrs. Edwards to ratify the results of the Will County Clerk's canvas of votes from the April 2, 2019, School Board election. Upon roll call all members voting aye: Geraci, Edwards, Helsel, Raymond, Page, Turner. Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Butkus. Motion carried.

President Helsel administered the Board Member Oath of Office to Jill Raymond and Karen Turner. Mr. Zach Butkus was also reelected to the School Board but was not present to take his oath at this time.

At 6:25 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Page and seconded by Mrs. Raymond to adjourn sine die. Upon roll call all members voting eye: Edwards, Raymond, Helsel, Geraci, Page, Turner. Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Butkus. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mrs. Edwards and seconded by Mrs. Raymond to elect Mrs. Page President Pro Tem. Upon roll call all members voting aye: Edwards, Raymond, Helsel, Geraci, Turner. Page. Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Butkus. Motion carried.

President Pro Tem Page called the meeting to order at 6:27 p.m. Upon roll call the following members were present: Helsel, Raymond, Geraci, Page Edwards, Turner. Members absent: Butkus.

President Pro Tem Page asked for nominations for the office of President. A motion was made by Mrs. Edwards and seconded by Mrs. Raymond to nominate Mrs. Helsel for the office of President.

President Pro Tem Page asked if there were any other nominations for the office of President. No other nominations were made. Mrs. Page repeated the call a second time for any other nominations for the office of President. No other nominations were made.

Being the only candidate nominated for President, Mrs. Helsel asked that all members in favor say aye and all members opposed say nay. Upon roll call all members voting aye: Edwards, Raymond, Page Geraci, Turner, Helsel. Members voting nay: None.

President Pro Tem Page stated that Mrs. Helsel, being the only candidate nominated for the office of president, confirmed by voice vote, the chair declared Mrs. Helsel elected by acclamation and directed the secretary to so record in the minutes.

President Helsel asked for nominations for the office of Vice-President. Mr. Geraci nominated Mrs. Edwards for the office of Vice-President. No other candidates were nominated.

Mrs. Edwards being the only candidate nominated for Vice-President, President Helsel asked that all members in favor say aye and all members not in favor say nay. Upon roll call all members voting aye: Geraci, Raymond, Helsel, Turner, Page, Edwards. Members voting nay: None.

President Helsel stated that Mrs. Edwards being the only candidate nominated for the office of Vice-President, confirmed by voice vote, the chair declared Mrs. Edwards elected by acclamation and directed the secretary to so record in the minutes.

President Helsel asked for nominations for the office of Secretary. Mrs. Page nominated Mrs. Turner for the office of Secretary. No other candidates were nominated.

Mrs. Turner being the only candidate nominated for Secretary, President Helsel asked that all members in favor say aye and all members not in favor say nay. Upon roll call all members voting aye: Page, Raymond, Geraci, Helsel, Edwards, Turner. Members voting nay: None.

President Helsel stated that Mrs. Turner being the only candidate nominated for the office of Secretary, confirmed by voice vote, the chair declared Mrs. Edwards elected by acclamation and directed the secretary to so record in the minutes.

### **Minutes**

A motion was made by Mrs. Turner and seconded by Mrs. Page to approve the following items:

- ACTION**
- A. The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the minutes from the March 21, 2019, Board meeting regular and executive session.
  - B. The Superintendent recommends that the Board review the minutes from the October 29, 2018, and that they be kept closed, and that the audio tapes from the October 19, 2017, executive sessions be destroyed.

Upon roll call all members voting aye: Helsel, Edwards, Geraci, Page, Turner, Raymond.  
Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Butkus. Motion carried.

### **Financial Accounts**

A motion was made by Mr. Geraci and seconded by Mrs. Turner to approve the following item under Financial Accounts:

- ACTION:** F. Payment of April Bills

Upon roll call all members voting aye: Helsel, Edwards, Geraci, Page, Turner, Raymond.  
Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Butkus. Motion carried.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Hahto addressed the following topics:

- Dr. Frusher was in attendance at this Board meeting. Dr. Hahto and the Board introduced him to the public and welcomed him to the district.
- The joint committee concluded meetings on student growth. The teacher evaluation system for the next two years is in place.
- We have twenty-four confirmed attendees for the PLC Institute in July 2019.
- We are close to recommending a new district mission statement.

### **Board Matters**

A motion was made by Mrs. Turner and seconded by Mrs. Raymond to approve the following action items:

- ACTION** A. Second reading and adoption of school board policy changes recommended by Press Plus and ISBE.

- ACTION** B. The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the contract with Omni Therapeutics, Inc. for therapy services for the 2019-2020 school year.

Upon roll call all members voting aye: Helsel, Edwards, Raymond, Geraci, Page, Turner.  
Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Butkus. Motion carried.

### **PERSONNEL**

A motion was made by Mrs. Geraci and seconded by Mrs. Turner to approve the following items under Personnel:

- ACTION** A. The Superintendent recommends that the Board accept the resignation of Thomas Diehl, custodian at Columbia Central, effective on June 28, 2019.

- ACTION B.** The Superintendent recommends that the Board accept the resignation of Mary Reed, PE/Health teacher at Columbia Central, effective June 4, 2019.
- ACTION C.** The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the employment of Brianne Oliver as Assistant Principal at Columbia Central for the 2019-2020 school year.
- ACTION D.** The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the employment of a Malgorzata Danowskas Cook at the Steger Primary Center for the 2018-2019 school year.
- ACTION E.** The Superintendent recommends that the Board accept the resignation of Jordan Irvin, Paraprofessional at Columbia Central, effective at the end of the 2018-2019 school year.
- ACTION F.** The Superintendent recommends that the Board accept the resignation of Margaret Cerva, seventh grade co-teacher at Columbia Central, effective June 4, 2019.
- ACTION G.** The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the amended Administrator contracts as presented.
- ACTION H.** The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the dismissal of JeTuan Teamer, paraprofessional effective April 12, 2019.
- ACTION I.** The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the employment of Denise Katz as Secretary to the Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations effective July 1, 2019.

### **Administrative Reports**

None at this time.

### **New Business**

President Helsel informed the public that the District is establishing an education. Officers are:

- President – Laurie Jones
- Vice-President – Shelly Graben
- Treasurer – Rachael Diehl
- Secretary – Heather Shelton

The committee is planning its first fund-raiser, a Murder Mystery Dinner, on October 26, 2019.

### **Old Business**

None at this time.

### **Correspondence**

Thank you card from the Kudra family

### **PTA**

1. Dominos fundraiser
2. Book Fairs
3. Eighth Grade Dance meetings
4. Teacher Luncheon

### **CLOSED SESSION**

At 6:48 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Edwards and seconded by Mrs. Turner to go into Closed Session to discuss the following:

1. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body
2. Student disciplinary matters
3. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives.

Upon roll call all members voting aye: Edwards, Page, Helsel, Geraci, Raymond, Turner.  
Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Butkus. Motion carried.

### **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

At 9:10 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Geraci and seconded by Mrs. Edwards to return to Open Session. Upon roll call all members voting aye: Turner, Edwards, Helsel, Geraci, Page, Raymond. Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Butkus. Motion carried.

### **Adjournment**

At 9:10 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Geraci and seconded by Mrs. Turner to adjourn the meeting. All members voting aye: Edwards, Geraci, Helsel, Page, Raymond, Turner.  
Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Butkus. Motion carried.

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Secretary, Board of Education

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President, Board of Education