

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SESSER-VALIER COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 196
AUGUST 14, 2023
6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Sesser-Valier Community Unit School District No. 196 was held in the High School Library at 6:00 PM on Monday, August 14, 2023. The meeting was called to order by President Jason Sample.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Zimbrow called the roll with the following result:

Members Present: Barry, Garner, Lance, Packer, Sample, Spence

Members Absent: Menser

Staff Present: J. Henry, N. Page, K. Jones, L. Zimbrow, B. Gunter, R. Payne, G Tinsley, S. Lappin, R. Towers, B. Williams, M. Lamczyk, J. Lamczyk, D. Laur, K. Spotanski, N. Wingo, L. Miller

Visitors Present: Montana Packer, Jami Fourez

PUBLIC COMMENT & CORRESPONDENCE

Montana Packer addressed the Board regarding a recent school shooting in Nashville, TN, and the impact it has had on the families and children in the area. She noted the importance of emergency response time, the residual effects of an active shooter situation on students, adults, and the community, and her care for students impacted by the Nashville incident as their nanny. Board members thanked Ms. Packer for her input.

REPORTS

SVEA: R. Payne thanked members of the board on behalf of SVEA for the recent tentative agreement regarding a salary supplement. Payne noted that the union still has some concerns regarding communication. Members also wanted to acknowledge all the hard work the maintenance staff have done to get classrooms ready for the teachers.

LABORERS' LOCAL 773: N. Wingo thanked the board on behalf of the union for the recent tentative agreement regarding a salary supplement.

CUSTODIAL & MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR: B. Gunter reported that the HVAC summer project went well, and his crew has been working hard to get classrooms ready for teachers and students.

K-8 PRINCIPAL: Mr. Jones presented information regarding the following to the board: Trust Fund, recent events and upcoming activities including this year's open house, teacher workshops and new teacher orientation.

H.S. PRINCIPAL: Mrs. Page presented information regarding the following to the board: Trust fund, upcoming calendar entries, 2023-2024 student registration summary and informed the board that the annual high school business and individual solicitation packets have been sent out. Mrs. Page shared that the District has recently applied for a METT grant to introduce students to new programs and career opportunities, and that she expects ISBE to award grants in September.

SUPERINTENDENT: Mr. Henry, Superintendent, presented the following information to the board:

1. The consent agenda for this month's meeting includes the following additional item(s):
 - Authorization for the district superintendent to execute the following:
 - FY24 Teen REACH Grant agreement (retroactive to July 26, 2023)
 - 2023-2024 dual-credit agreement with Rend Lake College
 - Food service agreement with Franklin-Jefferson Special Education District No. 801
 - Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with ROE #21 for tuition-based, alternative school services
 - Approval of an ISBE Application for Career & Technical Educator Endorsement for District Technology Coordinator Regina Tinsley
 - Adoption of a certification of transportation safety hazard resolution
 - Approval of revised board policies (final approval)
 - Approval/display of the FY24 tentative district budget and scheduling of a budget hearing on Monday, September 18, 2023, at 5:55 PM.
2. Superintendent Henry attached a copy of updated Southern Illinois Junior High School Athletic Association rules regarding sportsmanship and fan/player/coach ejections from contests that are effective immediately. In order to maintain consistency district-wide, it is likely advisable for the District to adopt a similar structure for high school-level events. Mr. Henry will need feedback from the Board regarding whether or not there's sufficient interest in pursuing this concept as a matter of policy. Board members indicated agreement by consensus. and Mr. Henry indicated that he would draft a similar policy and present it to the Board for approval in September, 2023. Henry noted that a due process hearing component must, in some way, be a part of any District-implemented policy.
3. Phase I of the District's HVAC project is substantially complete, with a few, minor "punch-list" items still being addressed (controls, aesthetic items, sensors, training, etc.). As of this writing, the equipment is working well, and there's a noticeable difference in the temperature

consistency in the elementary wing. As the school year starts, Mr. Henry is confident that we'll have to make some adjustments to find the comfortability "sweet spot," and he believes we will now have the ability to do just that.

4. Superintendent Henry provided a copy of a Miller, Tracy, Braun, Funk & Miller, Ltd., legal opinion letter regarding certain releases of student records to board members. The District's attorney, David Braun, drafted the opinion and provides a comprehensive analysis of the issues. In brief, two main themes are throughout: 1) release of student records requires either a) parental consent or b) a court order, except in very narrowly limited circumstances (e.g. emergency); and 2) each instance requires a fact-specific, case-by-case analysis.

Henry recommends that the Board read/study the letter in preparation for a discussion during the regular September, 2023, board meeting. Further, if additional questions remain, he recommend that the Board consider scheduling a conference call/video meeting with Mr. Braun during a regular board meeting.

5. The 2023-2024 school year will officially start tomorrow (August 15, 2023) with a Teacher Workshop Day, and the first day of student attendance will be on Wednesday, August 16, 2023. District personnel have been busily preparing their rooms and lesson plans, and it's been good to see so many people in and around the school building in recent weeks. Mr. Henry is excited for what 2023-2024 will bring and is looking forward to seeing the successes of both our students and staff members.
6. Superintendent Henry attached a copy of a recent Freedom of Information Act request and the District's response to that request for your review.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Lance and seconded by Garner approving the minutes of the previous meetings: July 10, 2023 (Regular Meeting); July 10, 2023 (Policy Committee Meeting); Treasurer's report; bills in the amount of \$1,518,642.51 and salaries in the amount of \$328,763.52; authorization for District Superintendent to execute Fiscal Year 2024 Teen REACH program agreement (retroactive to July 26, 2023); authorization for District Superintendent to execute dual credit agreement (Rend Lake College); authorization for District Superintendent or designee to execute Food Service Agreement with Franklin-Jefferson Special Education District No. 801; approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Regional Office of Education #21 regarding tuition-based, alternative school services and authorization for District Superintendent or designee to execute MOU; approval of ISBE Application for Career & Technical Educator Endorsement for a specific employee (Regina Tinsley); adoption of the certification of transportation safety hazard resolution; approval of revised board policies (final approval); approval and display of tentative district budget for Fiscal Year 2024; and scheduling of budget hearing for Fiscal Year 2024 (September 18, 2023 – 5:55 PM), as presented.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Barry, Garner, Lance, Packer, Sample, Spence

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

AUTHORIZATION OF APPLICABLE DISTRICT PERSONNEL TO PROCURE MILK AND BREAD FOR SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE WITHOUT FURTHER ACTION OF THE BOARD:
A motion was made by Spence and seconded by Lance to authorize district personnel to procure milk and bread for school food service without further action of the board, as presented.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: At 6:27 PM, a motion was made by Spence and seconded by Barry to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing the following exceptions to the Open Meetings Act:

- a. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), as amended by P.A. 93-57)
- b. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning the salary schedule for one or more classes of employees (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2))

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Lance, Packer, Sample, Spence, Barry, Garner

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

RECONVENE FROM CLOSED SESSION: At 7:32 PM, a motion was made by Lance and seconded by Garner to reconvene from closed session.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

PERSONNEL (NEW BUSINESS)

EMPLOYMENT OF DISTRICT CUSTODIAN (MONTGOMERY, DERRIK): A motion was made by Packer and seconded by Barry to employ Derrik Montgomery as District Custodian subject to and contingent upon his successful completion of both a required, fingerprint-based criminal background check and a statutorily-required employment history review.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Packer, Sample, Spence, Barry, Garner, Lance

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT OF DISTRICT COOK (BRYANT, REBECCA): A motion was made by Barry and seconded by Packer to employ Rebecca Bryant as District Cook subject to and contingent upon her successful completion of both a required, fingerprint-based criminal background check and a statutorily-required employment history review.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Sample, Spence, Barry, Garner, Lance, Packer

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT OF DISTRICT COOK (MUIR, BAILEY): A motion was made by Packer and seconded by Lance to employ Bailey Muir as District Cook subject to and contingent upon her successful completion of both a required, fingerprint-based criminal background check and a statutorily-required employment history review.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Spence, Barry, Garner, Lance, Packer, Sample

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT OF ALTERNATIVE CLASSROOM (ACR) SUPERVISOR (WALLE, CHRISTOPHER): A motion was made by Spence and seconded by Garner to employ Christopher Walle as Alternative Classroom Supervisor subject to and contingent upon his successful completion of both a required, fingerprint-based criminal background check and a statutorily-required employment history review.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Garner, Lance, Packer, Sample, Spence, Barry

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT OF EXTRACURRICULAR COACH(ES) AND/OR SPONSOR(S)
(HARLAND, WINGO, LEMONS, WILLIAMS): A motion was made by Lance and seconded by Packer to approve the following extracurricular coach(es) and/or sponsor(s).

- JHS Girls Cheerleading Sponsor: Brandy Harland
- JHS Girls Basketball Coach: Cody Wingo
- Junior Class Sponsors: Jennifer Lemons & Brook Williams

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Lance, Packer, Sample, Spence, Barry, Garner

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT COACH(ES) AND/OR SPONSOR(S)
(MASTERS, PAYNE, SPAIN): A motion was made by Packer and seconded by Barry to approve the following volunteer assistant coach(es) and/or sponsor(s).

- Outdoorsmen Club: Doug Masters & Ryan Payne

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF EMPLOYEE RESIGNATION(S) AND/OR RETIREMENT(S)
(JONES, HARRIS): A motion was made by Garner and seconded by Spence to acknowledge employee resignation(s) and/or retirement(s).

- District Cook: Melissa Jones (resignation effective July 31, 2023)
- District Cook: Jodi Harris (resignation effective August 9, 2023)

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF SIDE-LETTER AGREEMENT WITH SESSER-VALIER EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (SUPPLEMENTAL SALARY); SIDE-LETTER AGREEMENT WITH LABORERS' LOCAL 773 (SUPPLEMENTAL SALARY); DISTRICT SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER SALARY AND/OR BENEFIT(S) AMENDMENT; DISTRICT MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR SALARY AND/OR BENEFIT(S) AMENDMENT;

ADMINISTRATOR EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT(S) AND/OR ADMENDMENT(S)
(ELEMENTARY/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL & HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL): A
motion was made by Garner and seconded by Spence to approve the following
agreements/amendments, as presented.

- Side-letter agreement with Sesser-Valier Education Association regarding supplemental salary
- Side-letter agreement with Laborers' Local 773 regarding supplemental salary
- District Secretary/Bookkeeper salary and/or benefit(s) amendment regarding supplemental salary
- District Maintenance Supervisor salary and/or benefit(s) amendment regarding supplemental salary
- Administrator Employment Contract amendment for Elementary/Junior High School Principal James Keith Jones
- Administrator Employment Contract amendment for High School Principal Natalie M. Page

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Spence, Barry, Garner, Lance, Packer, Sample

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Spence and seconded by Garner to adjourn.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES

The above-listed account of the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Sesser-Valier Community Unit School District No. 196, held on Monday, August 14, 2023 at 6:00 PM, is, to the best of my knowledge, a true and accurate account of the aforementioned meeting.



Board President

Board Secretary

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "J. H. H.", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.