

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
CHANNAHON SCHOOL DISTRICT 17
WILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**PIONEER PATH SCHOOL
Regular Board Meeting - 7:00 pm
Monday, January 22, 2024**

President Pope entertained a motion to call the open meeting to order at 5:26pm. Motion by Pat Clower, seconded by Nichole Nyalka. All ayes, nays none, motion passes.

Roll Call: Joe Pope, Derek Breen, Christine Bucciarelli, Brooke Babilacqua, Brandt Compton, Nichole Nyalka, and Pat Clower

President Pope entertained a motion to call the executive session to order at 5:28pm. Motion by Pat Clower, seconded by Derek Breen. All ayes, nays none, motion passes.

ES Roll Call: Joe Pope, Derek Breen, Christine Bucciarelli, Brooke Babilacqua, Brandt Compton, Nichole Nyalka, and Pat Clower

Also Present: Dr. Nicholas Henkle and Mr. Jeff Grosso
Mr. Scott Nemanich via phone conference

President Pope entertained a motion to adjourn the executive session at 6:45pm. Motion by Pat Clower, seconded by Joe Pope. All ayes, nays none, motion passes.

President Pope reminded the Board that they were still in Open Session at 7:00pm.

President Pope led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. President Pope asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

President Pope entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda. Motion made by Derek Breen, seconded by Christine Bucciarelli. All ayes, nays, none, motion passes.

Roll Call: Joe Pope, Derek Breen, Christine Bucciarelli, Brooke Babilacqua, Pat Clower, Brandt Compton, and Nichole Nyalka

Consent Agenda

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve December 18, 2023 Regular Board Minutes
- Approve Treasurer's Report
- Approve Treasurer's Financial Report
- Authorize Treasurer to Pay Board Bills Listed
- Authorize Destruction of July 25, 2022, Recorded Executive Minutes

President Pope asked if there were any union comments. There were none.

President Pope turned the meeting over to Dr. Henkle.

Dr. Henkle recommended changing the title of the 'Early Learning Instructional Coach' to the title 'Early Learning Administrator'. Administration believes this title would better reflect the responsibilities of the position and provide more clarity to potential candidates. Compensation and responsibilities would remain the same. Mrs. Dacia Cobarrubias explained the responsibilities of the position and how the title name change can help us to get the right candidate for the position. The position will be posted as an 'anticipated vacancy' this week and the Board will take action at the February meeting.

Dr. Henkle recommended approval to bring back our Innovative Summer Camps as in-person camps during the summer of 2024. It was also recommended that the Board provide a subsidy to bring the cost of Camp Invention (grades 1-5) to \$75/student as was done in previous years. President Pope entertained a motion to approve a Board subsidy to reduce the cost of Camp Invention to \$75/student for all children residing within CSD17 boundaries for the summer of 2024. Motion by Derek Breen, seconded by Christine Bucciarelli. All ayes nays none motion passes.

Roll Call: Derek Breen, Christine Bucciarelli, Brooke Babilacqua, Pat Clower, Brandt Compton, Nichole Nyalka, and Joe Pope

President Pope entertained a motion to approve the release of the September 13, 2023 executive session minutes and the non-release of the June 26, July 5, July 31, August 28, September 25, October 23, and November 13, 2023 executive session written minutes. Motion by Pat Clower, seconded by Derek Breen. All ayes nays none motion passes.

Roll Call: Christine Bucciarelli, Brooke Babilacqua, Pat Clower, Brandt Compton, Nichole Nyalka, Joe Pope, and Derek Breen

Dr. Henkle presented the FY25 Channahon District 17 calendar to the board for their approval. Board Member Clower inquired about engaging the union's interest in converting one Teacher Institute day into an additional student day. Dr. Henkle will approach the teachers' union for their opinion. President Pope entertained a motion to approve the FY25 calendar. Motion by Pat Clower, seconded by Christine Bucciarelli. All ayes nays none motion passes.

Roll Call: Brooke Babilacqua, Pat Clower, Brandt Compton, Nichole Nyalka, Joe Pope, Derek Breen, and Christine Bucciarelli

Dr. Henkle presented the Board with the FY25 Student Handbook for approval. The Board recommended the following amendments to the FY25 Student Handbook:

- Remove police referral for tobacco (p.11)
- Include possibility of expulsion for first offense for student possession of alcohol, THC, or drugs (p.12)
- Add a reference to CSD website for standards-based grading (p.23)
- Update emergency closing center link on the CSD website (p.37)

President Pope entertained a motion to approve the amended FY25 Student Handbook. Motion by Joe Pope, seconded by Derek Breen. All ayes nays none motion passes.

Roll Call: Pat Clower, Brandt Compton, Nichole Nyalka, Joe Pope, Derek Breen, Christine Bucciarelli, and Brook Bavalacqua

Dr. Henkle recommended the Board approve the first read of the following Press Plus 113 updates and local policy updates:

- 2:20 Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification, 2:120 Board Member Development, 2:200 Types of School Board Meetings, 2:220 School Board Meeting Procedure, 4:10 Fiscal and Business Management, 4:30 Revenue and Investments, 4:60 Purchases and Contracts, 4:110 Transportation, 4:130 Free and Reduced-Price Food Services, 4:160 Environmental Quality of Buildings and Grounds, 4:170 Safety, 5:30 Hiring Process and Criteria, 5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting, 5:190 Teacher Qualifications, 5:200 Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal, 5:210 Resignations and Retirement, 5:220 Substitute Teachers, 5:250 Leaves of Absence, 5:285 Drug & Alcohol Testing for School Bus and Commercial Vehicle Drivers, 5:330 Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves, 6:15 School Accountability, 6:30 Organization of Instruction, 6:50 School Wellness, 6:60 Curriculum Content, 6:230 Library Media Program, 7:50 School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools, 7:60 Residence, 7:70 Attendance and Truancy, 7:160 Student Appearance, 7:190 Student Behavior, 7:270 Administering Medicines to Students, 7:285 Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program, 7:290 Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention, 8:30 Visitors to and Conduct on School Property, # Artificial Intelligence

The Board asked Mr. Grosso to look into interpretation of Policy 4:30 prior to next month's meeting.

The Board discussed separating the Press Plus policies from the regular board packet to make it easier to navigate.

President Pope entertained a motion to approve the first read updates of Press Plus Policy 113 and Local Policy updates. Motion by Brandt Compton, seconded by Nichole Nyalka. All ayes nays none motion passes.

Roll Call: Brandt Compton, Nichole Nyalka, Joe Pope, Derek Breen, Christine Bucciarelli, Brooke Bavalacqua, and Pat Clower

Dr. Henkle presented to the Board for approval the following field trips that exceed 200 miles and overnight stays for FY25:

- October 11-14, 2024 - Grade 8: Washington DC Trip
- April, 2025 - Grade 8: Springfield Trip

President Pope entertained a motion to approve the 2024-25 Field Trips exceeding 200 miles/overnight, including Washington, DC and Springfield, Illinois. Motion by Joe Pope, seconded by Brandt Compton. All ayes nays none motion passes.

Roll Call: Nichole Nyalka, Joe Pope, Derek Breen, Christine Bucciarelli, Brooke Bavalacqua, Pat Clower, and Brandt Compton

Dr. Henkle presented the Board with SOWIC's Board discussion of an option to pay-in-full for the SOWIC construction costs at 1207 Larkin Avenue in Joliet. About half of the ten SOWIC districts have expressed a desire to pay in full, which would eliminate interest for those districts while also reducing interest (expected at 3%-5%) for the remaining districts who choose not to pay in full. The Board recommended payment in full. This item will be brought back for action in February.

Dr. Henkle presented the Board with the proposed FY25 registration fees as follows:

- Early Childhood \$0
- Kindergarten-Grade 4 Tech Fee \$75
- Grades 5-8 Tech Fee \$100
- Grade 8 Graduation Fee \$35
- Band \$15
- Interscholastic Sports \$15
- Lunch \$2.60
- Adult Lunch \$2.85

Administration proposed an 'Early Registration Incentive' for families that register between April 1-June 30. Instead, the Board recommended an increase of \$25 in registration fees if students register late (after July 1). After July 1, students in grades K-4 will increase to \$100 and grades 5-8 will increase to \$125. This item will be brought back for action at the February meeting.

Dr. Henkle presented the Board his findings of wage rates/salaries offered by our neighboring districts and commercial competitors in the local community for the Board's review in making a determination as to the percentage increases provided to non-certified staff in FY25. The Board recommended a 4% raise for existing employees and a 2% increase for the base wage for new employees. This item will be brought for action at the February Board meeting.

President Pope turned the meeting over to Mr. Grosso for the Business Office Report.

Mr. Grosso recommended the Board designate the Superintendent and Chief School Business Official to prepare the 2024-25 Budget in tentative form. President Pope entertained a motion to designate the Superintendent and Chief School Business Official to prepare the 2024-25 Budget in tentative form. Motion by Christine Bucciarelli, seconded by Brandt Compton. All ayes nays none motion passes.

Roll Call: Joe Pope, Derek Breen, Christine Bucciarelli, Brooke Babilacqua, Pat Clower, Brandt Compton, and Nichole Nyalka

Mr. Grosso brought to the Board's attention that the District's one-year contract extension for out-of-town special education routes expires June 30, 2024. Illinois Central School Bus was the only contractor to submit a bid for the coming school year. The proposed increases are 8.5% for FY25 and 4.75% for FY26 based on a two-year renewal. It was recommended that the Board approve a two-year contract renewal with Illinois Central School Bus.

President Pope entertained a motion to accept and approve a two-year extension of the contract with Illinois Central School Bus at a 8.5% increase for FY25 and a 4.75% increase for FY26. Motion by Joe Pope, seconded by Pat Clower. All ayes nays none motion passes.

Roll Call: Derek Breen, Christine Bucciarelli, Brooke Babilacqua, Pat Clower, Brandt Compton, Nichole Nyalka, and Joe Pope

Last month the Board approved a proposal from Old National Bank to become the District's main operating checking and payroll depository effective July 1, 2024. This item was brought for action tonight to authorize the CSBO to sign the standard banking agreement with Old National Bank in accordance with the approved proposal at last month's meeting. President Pope entertained a motion to approve the banking agreement with Old National Bank and to approve the depositories listed for Channahon School District 17 funds. Motion by Pat Clower, seconded by Nichole Nyalka. All ayes nays none motion passes.

Roll Call: Christine Bucciarelli, Brooke Babilacqua, Pat Clower, Brandt Compton, Nichole Nyalka, Joe Pope, and Derek Breen

Mr. Grosso reminded the Board of the safety fencing project that was discussed at last month's meeting. At that time the Board directed Administration to seek the cost of six additional safety bollards. The following are the initial project proposals with the additional bollards:

- Acosta Fencing \$29,440
- Oak Tree Fencing \$39,950
- Alliance Fence Corp \$46,486
- Marchio Fence \$89,980

The Board discussed the proposals from all four vendors and decided on Oak Tree Fencing.

President Pope entertained a motion to approve the proposal from Oak Tree Fencing in the amount of \$39,950 for the Pioneer Path security fencing project. Motion by Christine Bucciarelli, seconded by Joe Pope. Six ayes and one nay motion passes.

Roll Call:

Aye: Brooke Babilacqua, Brandt Compton, Nichole Nyalka, Joe Pope, Derek Breen, and Christine Bucciarelli

Nay: Pat Clower

Mr. Grosso discussed the Board-approved project authorization (approved at the November 2022 Board meeting) from ARCON to create a roof asset management program (RAMP) to inspect and analyze the roofing systems for all District buildings. ARCON's cost for this assessment management project was a lump sum of \$24,500.

Mr. Grosso reminded the Board that in September 2023, the Board approved the project authorization from ARCON to begin project design for univent and boiler replacements, as well as electrical panel upgrades at Pioneer Path (1960 wings and portions of the 1923/1952 wings), as well as the installation and upgrades of the building automation systems (BAS) for climate control at all buildings. HVAC work is scheduled for the summer of 2025 with BAS upgrades to possibly take place this summer. Bidding is scheduled to take place in early May. A recommended bid will be presented to the Board for action at the May meeting.

Environmental inspection work through ARCON via TEM Environmental has been completed in order to determine the presence of hazardous material within the scope of work; namely asbestos. TEM Environmental completed the inspection and material analysis at a cost of \$2,700. Asbestos was found in the pipe tunnel insulation located under classroom 144 at Pioneer Path. Administration and ARCON is recommending that the Board accept the proposal from TEM Environmental for \$12,830 to manage the asbestos abatement for the Pioneer Path HVAC/Boiler project that will occur during the summer of 2025. The proposal will be brought back for action at the February meeting.

Mr. Grosso presented the Board with the project design to convert the Tryon Street District Office entrance at Pioneer Path to a modern ADA accessible entrance. Two initial proposals were received to determine if public bidding rules will be required. Only one of the proposals was under the \$50K bidding threshold; therefore, additional proposals are being sought.

New Business - None

Other Board Matters - None

Upcoming Events

- Monday, February 26, 2024 – 7:00pm School Board Meeting

Adjournment - President Pope entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:39pm. Motion made by: Brandt Compton, seconded by Pat Clower. All ayes, nays none, motion passes.

Submitted by: Susan Sprouse

Joe Pope, President

Christine Bucciarelli, Secretary