



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



**PIONEER PATH SCHOOL
Regular Board Meeting - 5:30 pm
Monday, June 24, 2024**

President Pope entertained a motion to call the open meeting to order at 5:13pm. Motion by Pat Clower, seconded by Nichole Nyalka. All ayes, nays none, motion passes.

Roll Call: Joe Pope, Brooke Babilacqua, Nichole Nyalka, Pat Clower, and Christine Bucciarelli

Absent: Derek Breen and Brandt Compton

President Pope entertained a motion to call the executive session to order at 5:15pm. Motion by Pat Clower, seconded by Joe Pope. All ayes, nays none, motion passes.

President Pope entertained a motion to adjourn the executive session at 6:30pm. Motion by Nichole Nyalka, seconded by Pat Clower. All ayes, nays none, motion passes.

President Pope reminded the Board that they were still in Open Session at 7:43pm. 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 Christine Bucciarelli, seconded by Nichole Nyalka. All ayes, nays, none, motion passes.

Roll Call: Joe Pope, Christine Bucciarelli, Brooke Babilacqua, Pat Clower, and Nichole Nyalka

Consent Agenda

- Approve Personnel Report
- Approve May 20, 2024 Regular Board and Executive Minutes
- Approve Treasurer's Report
- Approve Treasurer's Financial Report
- Authorize Treasurer to Pay Board Bills Listed

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

President Pope turned the meeting over to Dr. Henkle.

President Pope entertained a motion to approve the non-release of the January 22, 2024, February 26, 2024, March 18, 2024, April 22, 2024, and May 20, 2024 executive session written minutes. Motion by Pat Clower, seconded by Joe Pope. All ayes, nays none, motion passes.

Roll Call: Christine Bucciarelli, Brooke Babilacqua, Pat Clower, Nichole Nyalka, and Joe Pope

President Pope entertained a motion to approve the purchase of the Power Skills Program for K-8 at a one-time cost of \$22,100. Motion by Christine Bucciarelli, seconded by Nichole Nyalka. All ayes, nays none, motion passes.

Roll Call: Brooke Babilacqua, Pat Clower, Nichole Nyalka, Joe Pope, and Christine Bucciarelli

As directed by the Board in May, administration sent out a Request for Proposals (RFP) to identify a third-party food service management provider. The provider will work with our current staff to implement innovative new menus and ala carte options, offer professional development, establish nutritional and portion standards, and expand procurement options with the ultimate objective of providing healthy and delicious daily lunch for students and staff, and presumably leading to greater participation in the program.

Two reputable providers responded to the RFP and an in-depth analysis of each was completed. After review of both proposals and reference checks, administration recommended entering into a contract with Quest Food Services at a fee of \$50,000 for annual consultation services, plus reimbursement for the cost of wages for our daily onsite manager, not to exceed \$76,000 with future increases determined by the CPI.

President Pope entertained a motion to approve a three-year contract (FY25-FY27) with Quest Food Services as our third-party food service management provider at a total maximum cost of \$126,000 in FY25. Motion by Christine Bucciarelli, seconded by Nichole Nyalka. All ayes, nays none, motion passes.

Roll Call: Pat Clower, Nichole Nyalka, Joe Pope, Christine Bucciarelli, and Brooke Babilacqua

Dr. Henkle presented the second read of Press Plus Issue 114 which include: 2:40 Board Member Qualifications, 2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure, 2:265 Title IX Grievance Procedure, 4:190 Targeted School Violence Prevention, 5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment, 5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited, 7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities, 7:20 Harassment of Students Prohibited, 7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment, 2:270 Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited, 5:100 Staff Development Program.

President Pope entertained a motion to approve the Press Plus Issue 114 and Local Policy Updates for second and final read. Motion by Joe Pope, seconded by Nichole Nyalka. All ayes, nays none, motion passes.

Roll Call: Nichole Nyalka, Joe Pope, Christine Bucciarelli, Brooke Babilacqua, and Pat Clower

Dr. Henkle discussed a new policy which prohibits students from having access to cell phones, smart watches, and personal devices due to the distraction that these devices cause in the classroom. While our handbook requires that these devices be turned off and out of sight, students continue to attempt to use them without permission. Administration is also studying potential solutions including grade level phone lockers, pouch systems, and classroom device 'parking lots'. Phones are available in every classroom in the event of an emergency. The proposed policy includes the entire school day, including lunch and breaks.

The Board would like the following added to the new policy:

- Field trips to be determined by administration
- No wireless headphones

The Board asked for the new policy and the necessary changes to the handbook be brought back at the July meeting.

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

Mr. Grosso informed the Board that Chuck Gusswein from WIPFLI will be conducting our audit this year. The Board members should expect to receive a brief questionnaire in July via email from WIPFLI as part of the District's annual audit.

Mr. Grosso discussed Section 5/29-3 of the Illinois School Code which requires the school Board to annually review all serious safety hazards that have previously been approved by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and recertify that hazard conditions remain unchanged. It was recommended the Board recertify the IDOT- approved serious safety hazard findings: 17-92-01 through 17-92-06, and 17-06-01 through 17-06-08. This recertification is for the 2024-25 school year.

The Board asked that administration submit a request to IDOT to include new subdivisions (Ravine Woods (north of Rt 6), Copper Leaf, and St. Elizabeth).

At this time, Board Member Clower expressed an interest in eliminating bus routes and requiring students within a 1.5 mile radius of their respective school to walk to school. This concept would include the addition of crossing guards to assist students crossing busy streets. Board members had concerns with young students walking to Galloway School as well as all students walking during harsh winters and with no sidewalks in some locations. The Board decided not to pursue the concept further.

President Pope entertained a motion to recertify the enclosed IDOT approved serious safety hazard findings for the 2024-25 school year. Motion by Christine Bucciarelli, seconded by Pat Clower. All ayes, nays none, motion passes.

Roll Call: Joe Pope, Christine Bucciarelli, Brooke Baviacqua, Pat Clower, and Nichole Nyalka

Mr. Grosso recommended the Board approve the following current depositories for deposit of Channahon School District 17 funds. The list below shows the upcoming changeover from BMO to Old National effective July 1, 2024:

- BMO Harris Bank - Accounts Payable (through June 30, 2024 of when outstanding checks are posted)
- Old National Bank - Accounts Payable, Payroll, Activity (starting July 1, 2024)
- Illinois School District Agency Liquid Asset Fund Plus - Investments & Cash Flow
- Merchants and Manufacturers Bank (soon to be Busey Bank) - Imprest
- CIBC - Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce - Payroll (through June 30, 2024)

President Pope entertained a motion to approve depositories listed for deposit of Channahon School District 17 funds. Motion by Christine Bucciarelli, seconded by Joe Pope. All ayes, nays none, motion passes.

Roll Call: Christine Bucciarelli, Brooke Bavalacqua, Pat Clower, Nichole Nyalka, and Joe Pope

Mr. Grosso discussed the need for a 2024 resolution to be adopted in order for Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins to fully intervene and take necessary action in any Property Tax Appeal Board or County Board of Review case on behalf of CSD17 for 2024 to protect the interests of the District. Administration intends to ask the Board annually to issue an approved updated resolution to be current with whom our legal representation is for these matters. Assessment appeals for 2024 will not be available to the District until early fall when appeal applications are due to the Will County Board of Review. President Pope entertained a motion to approve the resolution authorizing the administration and attorneys, Klein, Thorpe & Jenkins, Ltd., to intervene and take necessary action in any Property Tax Appeal Board or County Board of Review case as requested by staff when necessary to protect the interests of the District. Motion by Pat Clower, seconded by Nichole Nyalka. All ayes, nays none, motion passes.

Roll Call: Brooke Bavalacqua, Pat Clower, Nichole Nyalka, Joe Pope, and Christine Bucciarelli

As part of the approved FY23-28 Tech Refresh Plan, Mr. Grosso recommended the Board declare 120 iPads as surplus. To ensure proper handling and existing data removal be in compliance with U.S. Department of Defense standards, District administration recommends the buy-back option from Diamond Assets for \$10,990.80. President Pope entertained a motion to declare 120 iPads as surplus and to approve the buy-back proposal from Diamond Assets. Motion by Pat Clower, seconded by Joe Pope. All ayes, nays none, motion passes.

Roll Call: Pat Clower, Nichole Nyalka, Joe Pope, Christine Bucciarelli, and Brook Bavalacqua

New Business - Board Member Clower made the Board aware of a recent lawsuit that the Village of Minooka filed against Wisconsin Central LTD and Canadian National Railroad. The lawsuit was filed to prevent the defendants from constructing an intermodal facility and logistics park within the Village of Channahon in Grundy County which is located in part within an unincorporated area of Minooka.

Other Board Matters - None

Upcoming Events

- Monday, July 31, 2024 – 5:30pm School Board Meeting

Adjournment - President Pope entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00pm. Motion made by: Christine Bucciarli, seconded by Joe Pope. All ayes, nays none, motion passes.

Submitted by: Susan Sprouse

Joe Pope, President

Christine Bucciarelli, Secretary