

BOARD ACTION REPORT
Corporation Office
February 14 2022
6:00 p.m.

Mr. Hutson called the meeting to order and invited Mr. Kinkead to call roll.

-Those present were: Mr. Blaydes, Mrs. Hess, Mr. Hutson, Mr. Kinkead, Mr. Mason, Mr. Monts, Mr. Spencer and Dr. Milner.

-On behalf of the board and the Southmont Schools Community, Mr. Hutson expressed condolences to the family of Van Johnson and recognized that this has been a difficult time for students, staff and all who knew Van and know his family.

-There was no presentation due to Covid restrictions. (SJHS 6th/7th grade band was recorded earlier in the day and this video will later be shared.)

-Approved revision to the agenda:

-Letter to Senator Boots on HB1134.

-Communications To and From the Board:

-Mr. Hutson shared that the superintendent search continued today with an executive session during the day and interviews will begin in the upcoming week.

Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

-Mrs. Beth Daniel-Lindsay asked if the contents of the letter would be shared. Mr. Hutson stated that this would be.

-Approved the following consent agenda:

-Approved minutes of previous meetings.

-Approved claims 105160 through 105424 and pre-paids.

-Approved payroll claims.

-Approved personal leave from February 7, 2022 until end of 2021-2022 school year for Mrs. Amy Johnson, Special Ed Teacher – New Market Elementary.

-Stephanie Timmons – Special Ed Teacher – New Market Elementary. (covering the personal leave of Mrs. Amy Johnson).

-Approved resignation of Mr. Eric W. Brewer as the Director of Transportation – effective June 30, 2022. He will still remain Principal of Walnut Elementary School.

-Approved resignation of Patricia Hobson, Math Teacher – Southmont High School – effective January 28, 2022.

-Jana Boggess – Math Teacher – Southmont High School.

-Approved resignation of Philip Keller, PE/Health Teacher – High School – effective at the end of the 2021-2022 school year.

-Approved Leave of Absence for Jerilyn Mitchell effective January 10, 2022 through February 18, 2022.

-Approved resignation of Paige Livesay – Preschool Instructor – Walnut – effective February 25, 2022.

-Approved resignation of Leandra Long – Instructional Assistant – New Market – effective February 8, 2022.

-Increase Laura Moore's hours from 10 hours to 29.5 hours each week.

-Reecie Gilliam – Instructional Assistant – Southmont Jr. High School.

-Tony Gonczarow – Holocaust stipend – 1/10/22 - \$50.00.

-Cindy Armbruster – Holocaust stipend – 1/10/22 - \$50.00.

-Jerry Long – Holocaust stipend – 1/10/22 - \$50.00.

-Deryk Bengé – Holocaust stipend – 1/10/22 - \$50.00.

- Kathryn Yoakum – Holocaust stipend – 1/10/22 - \$50.00.
- Lesley Lashley – Holocaust stipend – 1/10/22 - \$50.00.
- Erin Jones – Holocaust stipend – 1/10/22 - \$50.00.
- Lacey Haseley – Holocaust stipend – 1/10/22 - \$50.00.
- Lesley Lashley – Holocaust Education PD – 1/11/22 - \$200.00.
- Lacey Haseley – Holocaust Education PD – 1/11/22 - \$200.00.
- Nicki Reimondo – Holocaust Education PD – 1/11/22 - \$200.00.
- Erin Jones – Holocaust Education PD – 1/11/22 - \$400.00.
- Courtney Williams – BrainSpring Orton-Gillingham Training - \$500.00.
- Beth Binch – BrainSpring Orton-Gillingham Training - \$500.00.
- Lenna Schroll – K-5 Second Step Elementary Planning - \$1250.00.
- Sara Burkhart – K-5 Second Step Elementary Planning - \$1250.00.
- Anna Roth – Resilient Youth Grant Coordinator - \$2150.00.
- Kristin Paris – BrainSpring Orton-Gillingham Training - \$500.00.
- Kathryn Yoakum – Holocaust stipend – 1/26/22 - \$50.00.
- Tony Gonczarow – Holocaust stipend – 1/26/22 - \$50.00.
- Lacey Haseley – Holocaust stipend – 1/26/22 - \$50.00.
- Jerry Long – Holocaust stipend – 1/26/22 - \$50.00.
- Marci Huckstep – Holocaust stipend – 1/26/22 - \$50.00.
- Deryk Bengé – Holocaust stipend – 1/26/22 - \$50.00.
- Erin Jones – Holocaust stipend – 1/26/22 - \$50.00.
- Cindy Armbruster – Holocaust stipend – 1/26/22 - \$50.00.
- Lesley Lashley – Holocaust stipend – 1/26/22 - \$50.00.
- Amy France – Holocaust stipend – 1/26/22 - \$50.00.
- Jaclyn Baxter – Holocaust stipend – 1/26/22 - \$50.00.
- Caitlyn Tennison – Holocaust stipend – 1/26/22 - \$50.00.
- Reecie Gilliam – JH Softball Coach – \$950.00.
- Tim Flagg – JH Track Coach - \$1455.00.
- Amy Reeves – JH Assistant Track Coach - \$1053.00.
- Ed McGaughey – 7th grade Baseball Coach - \$950.00.
- Javier Hernandez – 7th grade Assistant Baseball Coach – Volunteer.
- Shelley Allen – Varsity Assistant Track Coach - \$1334.00.
- Brad Acton – Varsity Assistant Track Coach - \$1294.00.
- Jeremiah Sparks – Varsity Assistant Track Coach - \$1294.00.
- Justin Lowe – Varsity Assistant Track Coach - \$1334.00.
- Matt Allen – Varsity Assistant Track Coach – Volunteer.
- Matt Williams – Varsity Assistant Track Coach – Volunteer.
- Chet Remley – Varsity Assistant Softball Coach - \$2000.00.
- Kathryn Yoakum – JV Softball Coach - \$1604.00.
- John Warren – Varsity Assistant Softball Coach – Volunteer.
- Barry Lewis – Varsity Assistant Softball Coach – Volunteer.
- BPA State Leadership Conference – March 13-15, 2022 to Indianapolis Marriott.
- FFA students to Indiana FFA Leadership Center, Trafalgar, Indiana on February 25 & 26, 2022.
- FFA Livestock Evaluation Team to Black Hawk College East, Galva, IL on March 5, 2022.
- FFA Livestock Judging Team to Lakeland College 5001, Mattoon, IL on March 19, 2022.
- FFA Livestock Evaluation Team to Joliet Junior College, Joliet, IL on April 8, 2022 through April 9, 2022.

- Donations made to Southmont High School in the amount of \$7,855.36 and to Walnut Elementary School in the amount of \$450.00.
- SA-5 Reports from Central Office, Ladoga Elementary, New Market Elementary and Walnut Elementary School for the period of July 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.
- Approved the letter to Senator Boots on HB1134.
 - Mrs. Hess read aloud the letter at the request of Mr. Hutson. Mrs. Hess explained her concerns with the legislation; her main concerns are that it will discourage teachers from remaining in the profession and that the matters in the bill are best left to the local-level decision making. Dr. Milner shared that this bill is not favored by most of the superintendents in the state. Mr. Monts shared that he hopes the Senate will not vote for the bill since it mirrors what was originally not able to “find a path” forward in the Senate. Mrs. Hess will be traveling to the State House to voice her concerns along with other board members.
- Report from Superintendent:
 - Dr. Milner thanked all for allowing her to step in, and she shared that all have been welcoming to her.
- Report from Director of Business:
 - None.
- Reports from Directors and Principals:
 - Mr. Mike Tricker – Director of Operations: Mr. Tricker shared an update on the bid process for the HVAC unit at the JR/SR High complex. He reported that we are on track.
 - Mrs. Anna Roth – Director of Curriculum: Mrs. Roth shared updated on preschool registration starting this week and that the director vacancy has re-opened to possibly attract more candidates. Mr. Kinkead expressed thanks for the involvement of our Little Mountie Preschool staff in the interview search process. Ladoga Elementary School staff have expressed positive interest in having a trial 4 year old preschool classroom to mirror what New Market Elementary School did a few years back. Staff are enthusiastic to welcome students to their home school as preschool children. The feedback from Ladoga Elementary School staff was shared with board members.
 - Mr. Eric W. Brewer – Director of Transportation & Safety: Mr. Brewer thanked all for their patience during the first big snow of the year.
- Public Comments on All Items:
 - Mrs. Beth Daniel-Lindsay provided the phone number for Senator Boots’ office and shared that a phone call may get more attention than other avenues of communication regarding HB1134. She also requested that the board consider universal masking to protect all children and keep all staff and children safe. She pointed out that universal masking would protect all and reduce the need for quarantine and contract tracing which reduces the strain on our school nurses, teachers and administrative staff. She requested as well that if universal masking would not be considered that the 3% threshold be lowered to 1%. She also asked that HVAC in all buildings be addressed as it is in the JR/SR high complex (HVAC in K-5 buildings was already addressed as renovations were done in each Building). Mrs. Daniel-Lindsay stated that hearing disrespectful comments from the public about teachers during the last board meeting was disappointing, and she expressed her thanks and appreciation for all teachers, including the specific teachers who work with her children.
 - Mrs. Sondra Sixberry thanked all for supporting the Johnson family and expressed appreciation for how the community and school have rallied together. Mrs. Sixberry stated that she also appreciates how the board members are standing up to question legislation at the state level. She stated that she too, has questions and said that she would like raw data and would like clarification on how the calculation for percent of cases in each school is figured. Information was discussed on how the 7-day rolling count average has been figured since the beginning of the school year. Mrs. Sixberry shared that she believes

that the term "average" is not the best term. Mrs. Sixberry thanked all for their efforts and reiterated that she just desires transparency and would prefer raw numbers instead of percentages. (IDOH shares numbers on their website but for student/staff privacy only discloses figures that are 0, <5, or any figure greater than 5.

-Mr. Steve Covalt expressed concerns with the number of resignations. He asked if an exit process was in place to check with staff who leave; he was informed that an exit procedure is in place and that resignations this time of year are not unusual.

-Mrs. Danielle Newkirk expressed concern that Southmont School should not follow the direction of Crawfordsville and North Montgomery.

-Mr. Hutson stated that an article in the paper could have been misleading in causing the thought that we would change our guidelines. Mr. Hutson clarified he is unaware of any change.

-Adjourned.