

Minutes of the Argos Community Schools
Regular School Board Meeting
Held on June 19, 2023

The Board of School Trustees held a regular school board meeting on May 15, 2023. The following individuals were present for all or a part of the meeting.

A. Pat Rensberger, Chris O'Dell, Jennifer Hurford, Karra Duff and Monty Peden,
Members

B. Ned L. Speicher, Superintendent

C. Kelli VanDerWeele, Business Manager

D. Amy Miller, Administrative Assistant

President Rensberger called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. She led the Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence.

There was no communication from patrons.

Monty Peden moved to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2023 regular meeting and executive session. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Chris O'Dell made a motion to approve all personnel changes per the attached listing. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Monty Peden moved to approve the purchase of real property from the Town of Argos Parks Department. The purchase includes Lot 129 of the Marquelle Place Addition and a part of Section 20 of the Michigan Road Lands in the Town of Argos. Purchase price is \$18,400 and will be paid for out of project 4. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Chris O'Dell moved to approve that Argos Community Schools sell the south 30' of Lot 127 to the Town of Argos Parks Department for \$4,000. The Town needs 30' to create an easement onto their property. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Pat Rensberger presented the Board with the First Reading of NEOLA Policies and Guidelines. In total, there are 40 policies that need to be updated. Pat Rensberger asked that the Board review the policies and reconvene in July to formally approve and adopt them.

Monty Peden moved to approve Sider's Asphalt Maintenance to seal and stripe the old tennis courts at a cost of \$5995.00 and to paint the new bus lane striping on the existing parking lot for \$425.00. Total cost for the project is \$6420.00. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Mr. Speicher presented the Board with a listing of the Educational Materials for the 2023-2024 School Year. Beginning this fall, the state is no longer allowing public schools to charge textbook rental fees. To offset this loss, Mr. Speicher has developed a list for each grade level, showing what the fees would be, if we were able to charge them. We will submit this list to the state for reimbursement. Jennifer Hurford moved to approve the list of materials as presented with Chris O'Dell seconding and the motion was approved 5-0.

Chris O'Dell moved to approve R. Yoder Construction Pay Application No. 10 in the amount of \$157,569.30 for work done on the cafeteria project. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Jennifer Hurford moved to approve Brown and Brown Pay Application No. 5 in the amount of \$105,531.30 for work done on the elementary addition. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Karra Duff made a motion to approve the contract for Rachelle Mabee as our School Psychologist for the 2023-2024 school year. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0

2023-2024 student/adult and visitor meal prices will remain the same as last year. Applications for free and reduced meals are open July 1, 2023 NIESC bids were also presented for food vendors for the cafeteria. Mr. Speicher recommended that the Board go with the recommended NIESC vendors. Jennifer Hurford moved to approve. Monty Peden seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Jennifer Hurford motioned to approve the days worked beyond contract for Mr. Speicher for January 1, 2023-June 30, 2023. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0. In total, 16 additional days will be paid out.

Pat Rensberger asked for the Board's approval for a salary adjustment and new goals for the Business Manager. Jennifer Hurford moved to approve the adjustment and goals with Monty Peden seconding and they were approved 5-0.

In Mr. Speicher's Superintendent Report, he updated the Board on the state's requirement for all schools to have a Pathway for Instruction as long as the school receives Esser grant funds.

The pathway must be updated every 6 months and approved by the School Board. The only change on this update was the date of the document. Chris O'Dell moved to approve the Pathway as written. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0. Mr. Speicher reminded the Board that an Open House for the new cafeteria is scheduled during Back To School Night on August 8th, from 5-7 p.m. The open house is open to the public and refreshments will be served. ACS will be having an online surplus auction. The dates of the auction are July 31, 2023 to August 9th, 2023. We will be selling surplus buses, cafeteria and classroom furniture. More information to come.

Kelli VanDerWeele asked the Board to approve claims for the month of May in the amount of \$713,558.23. This includes both payroll and accounts payable claims. Monty Peden moved to approve, with Jennifer Hurford seconding and the motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Speicher presented the financial report for May to the Board. The operations budget continues to be tight due to the rising costs of fuel and repair of old school buses. We are still on track to receive the three new school buses in July. Despite the tightening of the operations budget, Argos Community Schools continues to be in a good financial status.

In closing comments, Pat Rensberger reminded the Board that the July meeting was scheduled for Monday, July 31st at 7:00.

Having no other items for discussion, Chris O'Dell made a motion to adjourn with a second by Karra Duff. The motion passed 5-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

ARGOS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

Pat Rensberger, President

Chris O'Dell, Vice President

Jennifer Hurford, Secretary

Monty Peden, Member

Karra Duff, Member

Board Approved Personnel, June 19, 2023

A. Employment

Summer School:

1. Haleigh Cassel-Grade 1
2. Leslie Allen-Grade 2

Teachers:

1. Kurt Foster-MS/HS PE and Health
2. Corey Bowman-Middle School Social Studies
3. Gracie Stone-Grade 5

Extra-Curricular:

1. Ondraya Perez-Varsity Girls Volleyball
2. Todd VanDerWeele-Varsity Boys Soccer
3. Joe Stone-Varsity Girls Soccer
4. Robert Hines-Volunteer
5. Chris Willis-7th Grade Girls Soccer
6. Carissa Clifton-7th & 8th Grade Girls Volleyball
7. Robert Lyon-Cross Country

B. Resignation

1. Boyd Davis-MS/HE PE & Health

C. Temporary Teachers 2022-2023 (Not Returning)

1. Kim Snyder
2. Nicole Walter
3. Doug Snyder