

Minutes of the Argos Community Schools
Regular School Board Meeting
Held on May 15, 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 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 7:02 p.m. She led the Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence. Board member Karra Duff was absent.

There was no communication from patrons.

Jennifer Hurford moved to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2023 meeting. Monty Peden seconded the motion and it passed 4-0.

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

Chris O'Dell moved to approve the second reading and adoption of the NEOLA policies as presented. Monty Peden seconded the motion and it was approved 4-0.

Jennifer Hurford moved to approve the Argos Community Schools Goals for the 2023-2024 school year. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Chris O'Dell motioned to approve the 2023-2024 Student Handbook as presented. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved 4-0.

Monty Peden made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Classified, Certified and Substitute Employee handbooks. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 4-0.

Chris O'Dell moved to approve Open Enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year. This year Open Enrollment will run from June 1 to October 13, 2023. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Monty Peden moved to approve the NIESC Contracted Media Services and Dietician Director contracts for 2023-2024. The amount of each contract is \$4,500. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was also approved 4-0.

Mr. Speicher asked for approval of LWC Incorporated Invoices for several projects. For Project 1 (Cafeteria) the total is \$13,574.58. Project 2 (Elementary Addition) total is \$17,230.00 and Project 4 (Sitework) is \$19,010. Jennifer Hurford moved to approve the invoices as presented. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it passed 4-0

In Mr. Speicher's Superintendent Report, he updated the Board on events that will be happening over Summer Break. Those include the upcoming teacher negotiations and Summer Teacher Academy. Mr. Speicher reminded the Board that Graduation is scheduled for Sunday, June 4 at 2:00 p.m. Mr. Speicher went on to explain to the Board that Textbook Rental (TBR) will no longer be billed to student accounts. Governor Holcomb recently signed into law that schools are no longer allowed to charge TBR. Instead, they will receive a small per student stipend from the state to help offset the costs of books, technology and consumables. This change will take effect with the start of the 2023-2024 school year. The Board reviewed the waiver for those students participating in the new Argos Fishing Club. Each student will be required to have a parent signed waiver on hand before they can participate with the club. The club members will walk to area fishing spots and learn the sport of fishing. Mr. Speicher also presented the Board with a letter from Jason Breden, Athletic Director. Argos has been invited to join the Hoosier North Athletic Conference, which also includes Caston, Culver, Triton, North Judson, Pioneer and Winamac. Participation in this conference will help boost attendance at athletic events and foster a healthy spirit of competition among conference members.

Jennifer Hurford moved to approve the Brown and Brown Pay Application No. 4 in the amount of \$21,665.24. Chris O'Dell seconded and the motion was approved 4-0.

Monty Peden made a motion to approve R. Yoder Pay Application No. 9 in the amount of \$125,497.80. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Kelli VanDerWeele presented the claims for the month of April. Total claims for the month were \$481,578.31 of which \$235,022.23 were for accounts payable and \$246,556.08 were for payroll. Chris O'Dell moved to approve the claims as presented. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved 4-0.

Mr. Speicher presented the financial report for April to the Board. The operations budget continues to tighten due to the cost of fuel and repairs of buses. Repair costs should go down significantly once the new buses are received. We are currently scheduled to receive 1 in May and the others in June. Argos Community Schools continue to be in a very sound financial status.

Having no other items for discussion, Jennifer Hurford made a motion to adjourn with a second by Monty Peden. The motion passed 4-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

ARGOS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

Pat Rensberger, President

Chris O'Dell, Vice President

Jennifer Hurford, Secretary

Monty Peden, Member

Board Approved Personnel, May 15, 2023

A. Employment

1. Makenna Lineberry-Pre K Aide

B. Resignation

1. Nichole Barden-3rd Grade
2. Christina Hooley-4th Grade
3. Summer Lagenour-Pre K Aide

C. Transfers

1. Rachel Rife-MS Reading to MS Language Arts
2. Boyd Davis-PE/Health to MS Social Studies
3. Nichole Walter-Grade 3 to PE/Health

D. Summer School Teachers

1. Kindergarten-Tory Watson
2. 1st/2nd Grade-
3. 3rd Grade-Tina Rakoczy
4. 4th/5th Grade-Nichole Barden
5. U.S. History-John Fishburn
6. Middle School English-Kyle George
7. Middle School Science Enrichment-Jennifer Stults
8. Band-Austin Mills
9. SAE-Lynnette Markley
10. Middle School Math-Hannah O'Dell