

Minutes of the Argos Community Schools
Regular School Board Meeting
Held on March 11, 2024

The Board of School Trustees held a regular school board meeting on March 11, 2024. 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, Board Members

B. Ned L. Speicher, Superintendent

C. Kelli VanDerWeele, Business Manager

D. Amy Miller, Administrative Assistant

Pat Rensberger called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence.

There was no communication from patrons.

Monty Peden moved to approve the minutes of the February 19 Public Hearing, Regular and Executive Sessions. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Chris O'Dell moved to approve the 1 Year Extension Addendum to Superintendent Speicher's Contract for 2024-2025. Monty Peden seconded the motion and it too was approved 5-0.

Jennifer Hurford moved to approve the personnel changes per the attached listing. Monty Peden seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Next item on the agenda was the Approval of Pay App No. 3 for Yoder Construction for Parking and Site Improvements (Project 4) in the amount of \$8,514.00. Chris O'Dell moved to approve the invoice as presented. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Monty Peden moved to approve the final invoices from LWC for Projects 1, 2 and 4 in the amount of \$4,735.00. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Mr. Speicher updated the Board on the recent testing done for IREAD. He stressed that the COVID learning gaps are still present. We had 34-3rd grade students pass the test this year.

24-3rd grade students passed the test in their 2nd grade year so they were exempt from taking the rest this year. 18 students didn't pass the exam, but of those 18 students, 10 are Special Education students. As of now, we will have approximately 8-3rd graders sharpening their skills in summer school. They will be re-tested at the end of summer school with the hopes they will pass the IREAD. Mr. Speicher touched on the ILEARN testing schedule, which is scheduled to begin in late April. A copy of the schedule was sent to all parents in the week before the meeting. Mr. Speicher also reviewed the kindergarten roundup, which was held on March 7. We had approximately 44 students attend the roundup

Karra Duff moved to approve the 2024 summer school dates and hours. Summer school will begin Monday, June 3 and end Thursday, June 28th. Classes are offered Monday through Thursday from 8-12 for catch up growth in the elementary, as well as select high school courses. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Jennifer Hurford made a motion to approve the 2024 summer work schedule. As in the past, full time employees working over the summer will work 10 hour days Monday through Thursday instead of the traditional 5 day week work schedule. The school will be closed on Fridays to conserve energy. The summer work hours start Monday, June 3rd and will end July 26th. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Chris O'Dell moved to approve the 2024 Summer Teacher Academy dates of July 15-18 and July 22-25 from 9:00-3:30. Teachers attending a half day session will be paid 50.00 and those attending full day sessions will be paid 100.00. All funding for the Academy is paid out of the Title 2 grant.

Kelli VanDerWeele asked the Board to approve claims for the month of February. There was a total of \$91,286.10 in accounts payable claims and \$262,831.54 in payroll claims. Total claims for the month were \$354,657.64. Jennifer Hurford moved to approve as presented. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Karra Duff made a motion to approve the appointment of Elizabeth Endres to the Argos Public Library Board as one of the school's representatives. Her term will run for 4 years and will conclude in March 2028. Monty Peden seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Mr. Speicher presented the Board with the financial reports for February 2024. Both the operations and education budgets are healthy. Overall, Argos is very financially sound.

There were no closing comments.

With there being no other business to discuss, Karra Duff moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 P.M.. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

ARGOS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

Pat Rensberger, President

Chris O'Dell, Vice President

Jennifer Hurford, Secretary

Karra Duff Member

Monty Peden, Member

Board Approved Personnel Changes March 11, 2024

A. Employment

1. Mark Kessel-Temporary English/Language Arts for the rest of the 2023-2024 school year

B. Resignation

1. Scott Jennings-Girls Varsity Basketball Coach