

Minutes of the Argos Community Schools
Regular School Board Meeting
Held on May 20, 2024

The Board of School Trustees held a regular school board meeting on May 20, 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

President Rensberger called the meeting to order at 7:02 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 April 15, 2024 meeting. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Jennifer Hurford 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 5-0.

Monty Peden moved to approve the Argos Community Schools Goals for the 2024-2025 school year. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Karra Duff motioned to approve the 2024-2025 Student Handbooks for both the elementary and jr-sr high school as presented. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Chris O'Dell made a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Classified, Certified and Substitute Employee handbooks. Monty Peden seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0

Chris O'Dell moved to approve Open Enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year. This year Open Enrollment will run from June 1 to count day in the Fall. After count day, which has yet to be determined by the state, we will move to closed enrollment. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Jennifer Hurford moved to approve adjusting lunch prices for the 2024-2025 school year to meet federal minimum requirements. Grades 6-12 lunch will go from \$2.70 to \$2.95 and PK-5 will go from \$2.60 to \$2.85. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Monty Peden moved to approve the NIESC Contracted Media Services and Dietician Director contracts for 2024-2025. The amount of each contract is \$5,000. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was also approved 5-0.

Chris O'Dell moved to approve a quote from Energy Harness for \$13,496.40 for new lights for Gym 2. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Monty Peden moved to approve construction invoices from Ideal Construction and R. Yoder Construction for projects 3 and 4. Invoice total for Ideal Construction is \$22,325.40 and for R. Yoder Construction it is \$29,641.50 Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Chris O'Dell moved to approve the State of Indiana Early Literacy Achievement 2024 Grant for primary K-3 teachers and aides. This grant awards a stipend to K-3 teachers and aides who teach reading to students. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Karra Duff moved to approve stipends for the Argos Safety Team for the 2024-2025 school year. Monty Peden seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Monty Peden moved to approve donations from Selective Insurance and Brett/Debbie Sanders. Selective Insurance donated \$500 to Argos Dollars for Scholars and Brett/Debbie Sanders donated \$100.00 to each of the following sports programs: softball, baseball and lacrosse. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Mr. Speicher updated the Board on Erin's Law and the implementation in our elementary school for this fall. There is a SCAN program with a parent opt out and SCAN is a 35 minute program.

In Mr. Speicher's superintendent report, he updated the Board on upcoming events. Graduation is scheduled for Sunday, June 2 at 2:00 p.m. Board members Rensberger, Hurford and Peden will plan on attending graduation. The summer teacher academy scheduled for July is on track and teachers are currently signing up for professional development. US News Education Report recently released the top schools in the county and Argos was at the top of the list. Mr. Speicher presented the Guaranteed Energy Savings Report for May 2020- to April 2024 for our solar project. To date, we have saved \$337,011. That is \$114,871.00 above the guaranteed contractual savings of \$222,139.00.

Kelli VanDerWeele asked for the approval of claims in the amount of \$325,545.85 for the month of April. Of that total, \$65,981.67 is for accounts payable and \$259,564.28 is for payroll. Jennifer Hurford moved to approve the claims as presented and Chris O'Dell seconded the motion. It was approved 5-0.

Mr. Speicher presented the financial report for April 2024 to the Board. We have expended 28% of the education fund budget to date. The operations fund is also sitting at 28% expended. Total cash reserves and rainy day fund both are healthy and continue to grow. Argos is in very good financial status.

With there being no other business, Karra Duff moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:55. 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, May 20, 2024

A. Summer School Employment

1. Kirsta Gardner-1st Grade
2. Haleigh Cassel-2nd Grade
3. Alicen Foster-Kindergarten 13/16 and Tory Watson 3/16
4. Ranna Quimby-3rd/4th Grade
5. Kyle George-Middle School English
6. Nathan Szajko-Middle School Math
7. Lynnette Markley-SAE
8. Austin Mills-MS/HS Band

B. Employment

1. Samantha Hopkins-Elementary Teacher
2. Karen Conklin-JV/Varsity Cheerleading Coach

C. Resignation

1. Kasi Kemp-2nd Grade

D. Transfer

1. Victoria Perschbacher-1st to 5th Grade