

Minutes of the Argos Community Schools
Regular School Board Meeting
Held on July 22, 2024

The Board of School Trustees held a regular school board meeting on July 22, 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 June 17, 2024 regular meeting. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Karra Duff made a motion to approve all personnel changes per the attached listing. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Chris O'Dell moved to approve LWC Invoices 16913, 16915 and 17750 for a total of \$8,895.00. Monty Peden seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0. All three invoices are for project 4, which is wrapping up. Final walkthroughs are scheduled for Monday, July 29th.

Jennifer Hurford motioned for approval of R Yoder Pay Applications No 11 and 6 for a total of \$421,870.50. Both of these pay applications are for project 4. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Monty Peden moved to approve Ideal Consolidated Construction invoice #11264*10 for \$9,724.50. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0 as well.

Monty Peden moved to approve the agreement between the Bowen Center and Argos Community Schools for the 2024-2025 school year. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Chris O'Dell moved to approve the second reading and approval of NEOLA policies as presented at the June Board meeting. Mr. Speicher reminded the Board that policy 5200 dealing with truant students participating in extracurricular activities currently has an injunction filed against it in another Indiana school district and we will be updated by our NEOLA rep if/when any changes are made. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Jennifer Hurford moved to approve Patriot Engineering Invoice #139460 for \$615.25. This invoice is for soil studies required by the state for project 4. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Next on the agenda was the Superintendent report. Mr. Speicher opened his report with a review of the iLearn grades 3-8 testing scores for the 2023-2024 school year. While some of the scores were above the state averages, overall the scores were down significantly from the year before. Mr. Speicher advised the Board that the principals had reviewed the data and would be drawing from it to create plans for remediation and improvement. The Board also reviewed the longitudinal data for the test by graduating class. This data is important in determining what we need to make changes to to increase test scores. Opening Day for staff is scheduled for Tuesday, August 6th. There is an all staff meeting scheduled for 8:00 a.m. in the auditorium followed by breakout sessions later in the day. Lunch for all staff will be served in the cafeteria. The first day of school is scheduled for Wednesday, August 7th. Information has been sent out to staff, students and parents in regards to both Organizational and Opening Days. As of this meeting, the school is fully staffed with teachers. We are currently working on filling a few openings in the cafeteria, but hope to have them filled by August 1. Mr. Speicher updated the board on the superintendent search and mentioned that a survey will be sent out from the search committee in the next few weeks as the position is posted.

Mr. Speicher presented the Board with the financial reports for June 2024. We are officially halfway through the 2024 budget year and have expended 43% of the education fund and 45% of the operations fund. Things continue to look very good for Argos Community Schools.

Kelli VanDerWeele asked the Board to approve claims for the month of June. There was a total claim amount of \$692,266.52 for accounts payable and \$239,040.21 for payroll. The total claim amount for the month was \$931,306.73. Karra Duff moved to approve the claims as presented and Monty Peden seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

Karra Duff asked for approval of a donation of a washer and dryer from the Marshall County Health Department. Monty Peden seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

In closing comments, Mr. Speicher told the Board that the new phone system has been installed and the new parking lot and fencing is nearing completion.

With there being no other business to discuss, Karra Duff moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 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 July 22, 2024

A. Employment

1. Dan Stombaugh-Jr/Sr. High Physical Education/Health/Assistant Baseball Coach
2. Jerry Miller-Elementary Physical Education
3. Ronnie Richie-Jr/Sr. High Science

B. Transfer

1. Karlee Martin-District Data Coordinator

C. Resignation

1. Kurt Foster-Jr/Sr. High Physical Education/Health

D. Coaches

1. Jena Mechling-Jr. High Cheer Coach/HS Varsity Assistant
2. Kyle George-Varsity Baseball
3. Jennifer Eskridge-JV Volleyball
4. Sherri Fore-7th Grade Volleyball
5. Norman McCarthy-Jr. High Boys Soccer
6. Mitch DeWitt-Jr. High Boys Soccer
7. McKenna Burkholder-JV Girls Soccer
8. Chris Kindig-Varsity Assistant Boys Basketball

E. Volunteers

1. Alexis VanDerWeele-Assistant High Schools Boys Soccer
2. Terri Weiser-Assistant Jr. High Volleyball
3. Alaura Felton-Assistant High Schools Girls Soccer