**SOUTH PEKIN GRADE SCHOOL DISTRICT 137**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

**April 26th, 2021**

**\*\*Please Note:\*\***

***Everyone in attendance is fever-free and are required to wear a mask.***

***South Pekin School District 137 will continue to practice social distancing during meetings as advised through the guidelines set by the IDPH.***

**Mrs. Chambers, Board President, called the Board of Education Meeting to Order at 5:00 P.M.**

**ROLL CALL:** Mrs. Chambers, Mrs. Blanchard, Mrs. Lamberson, Miss. Rotherham, Mr. Holloway, Mrs. Senecal

**ABSENT:**  Mrs. Everhart

Guests: Mr. Mingus, Mrs. Vohland

Audience Participation: None

Mrs. Blanchard made the MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF REGULAR-SESSION MINUTES from MARCH 29th, 2021. Mrs. Lamberson seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE YES: MRS. CHAMBERS, MRS. BLANCHARD, MRS. LAMBERSON, MRS. SENECAL, MISS. ROTHERHAM, MR. HOLLOWAY. Motion Carried.

At this time, Miss. Rotherham is dismissed and can participate in the audience.

Board of Education Entered Sine-Die at 5:03pm

Mrs. Chambers Appointed Mr. Mingus as President Pro-Tem.

Mr. Mingus administered the Oath of Office to Mrs. Chambers and Mr. Holloway. Both individuals were elected to four year terms.

At 5:07pm, Mrs. Blanchard made the motion to adjourn Sine-Die. Mrs. Chambers seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE YES: MRS. CHAMBERS, MRS. BLANCHARD, MRS. LAMBERSON, MRS. SENECAL, MR. HOLLOWAY. Motion Carried.

Mrs. Blanchard made the MOTION TO NOMINATE MRS. CHAMBERS AS SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT. Mrs. Lamberson seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE YES: MRS. CHAMBERS, MRS. BLANCHARD, MRS. LAMBERSON, MRS. SENECAL, MR. HOLLOWAY. Motion Carried.

Mrs. Chambers made the MOTION TO NOMINATE MRS. BLANCHARD AS SCHOOL BOARD VICE PRESIDENT. Mr. Holloway seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE YES: MRS. CHAMBERS, MRS. BLANCHARD, MRS. LAMBERSON, MRS. SENECAL, MR. HOLLOWAY. Motion Carried.

Mrs. Chambers made the MOTION TO NOMINATE MRS. LAMBERSON AS SCHOOL BOARD SECRETARY. Mrs. Senecal seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE YES: MRS. CHAMBERS, MRS. BLANCHARD, MRS. LAMBERSON, MRS. SENECAL, MR. HOLLOWAY. Motion Carried.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**:

Mr. Mingus started the meeting by informing the board of the new changes regarding minimum wage. Starting in January 2022 minimum wage will be going up to $12.00 per hour. He went on to say this is the year where our employee salaries become impacted by this increase. In order to avoid salary compaction, Mr. Mingus suggested the district increase the district’s hourly employee’s rate by a slightly higher percentage each year He suggested to continue the increases until the mandated dollar increases cease in 2025. Mrs. Lamberson asked if the Bookkeeper is included in those increases. Mr. Mingus replied by stating the bookkeeper is a salary position and will not be included. Mr. Mingus went on to discuss graduation. He had surveyed parents and the majority voted for a tradition graduation. Mrs. Lamberson asked when graduation will be held. Mr. Mingus said it will be on May 19th. Mr. Mingus continued to inform the board of the staffing changes and openings for the upcoming school year. Mrs. Washburn and Mrs. Black turned in their resignations, and their positions have sparked some interest with our current staff. As it stands, Mrs. Walker will be moving to PE, Mrs. Richard will be moving to Kindergarten, Mrs. Strickler will be moving to 4th grade and Mrs. Nelson will be moving to 1st grade. Mr. Mingus will begin interviews for a 3rd grade teacher this week. The staff are really excited for all of the new changes. Mr. Mingus went on to discuss IAR testing saying it finished and MAP testing is next week. He also finished up the ESSER II grant, and it is now submitted. Mr. Mingus also included the cost of summer school in the ESSER II grant. He said there are quite a few kids who have signed up for summer school, and he added that there is a $20.00 refundable deposit for students to enter the program. Mr. Holloway asked when summer school will begin and Mr. Mingus answered stating, summer school will start June 7th through July 1st and it will be "first-come, first-serve". Mrs. Lamberson asked if summer school will be required for failing students. Mr. Mingus said that he does not feel comfortable passing students who have been failing all year because they passed 4 weeks of summer school. Those students have had meetings with their parents throughout the year and have had numerous opportunities to bring their grades up. He went on to discuss things that can be tied to the first CARES (ESSER I) grant. Anything the school spent because of COVID-19 can now be backdated and claimed. These things include the air conditioners that were purchased last summer, the hand washing stations, and anything PPE. Also, the school will be receiving more money from ESSER III and he is looking into ways to spend this money. One option he thought of was purchasing an activity bus and/or yellow bus. He went on to explain how anyone could drive a white activity bus for non-curricular activities, but anyone driving a yellow bus for regular curricular activities requires certification with the state. Mr. Mingus went on to say how this is just an idea of what the money can be used for. He went on to inform the board that there are two open board seats and he has printed out the open board seat policy for review. Mrs. Chambers gave some examples of how the process has taken place in the past. She said Miss. Rotherham has put in her letter of interest into the board and she has also been approached by someone else who is interested. Mr. Mingus added that he will continue to follow board policy and post the open position with the deadline for submission on May 19th. Mrs. Chambers made a request to have an executive session for the meeting on May 24th. Mr. Mingus agreed and said he will have it on the agenda in May.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

Mrs. Senecal made the MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Approval of South Pekin Grade School as a School Wide Title 1 School for 2021-2022 School Year
2. Approval of Consolidated District Plan
3. Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with Peoria County Cooperative Purchasing Program
4. Approval of 2021-2022 IESA fees
5. Approval of Cross Country Coop Agreement with Rankin District 98
6. Approval of  Matthew Koster as Athletic Director for 2021-2022
7. Approval of Sondra Huff as Paraprofessional for 2021-2022 School Year
8. Approval of Heather Poston as Paraprofessional for the 2021-2022 School Year
9. Approval of Sara Weyant as Paraprofessional/Permanent Substitute Teacher for 2021-2022 School Year
10. Approval of Allied Construction’s Bid for Drop Ceiling Work

Mrs. Blanchard seconded the motion . ROLL CALL VOTE YES: MRS. CHAMBERS, MRS. BLANCHARD, MRS. LAMBERSON, MRS. SENECAL, MR. HOLLOWAY. Motion Carried.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

Mrs. Lamberson made the MOTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF SUSAN BARNHART AS BOARD TREASURER. Mrs. Blanchard seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE YES: MRS. CHAMBERS, MRS. BLANCHARD, MRS. LAMBERSON, MRS. SENECAL, MR. HOLLOWAY. Motion Carried.

Mrs. Senecal made the MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF MORTON COMMUNITY BANK AS BANKING FACILITIES. Mrs. Blanchard seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE YES: MRS. CHAMBERS, MRS. BLANCHARD, MRS. LAMBERSON, MRS. SENECAL, MR. HOLLOWAY. ROLL CALL VOTE YES: MRS. CHAMBERS, MRS. BLANCHARD, MRS. LAMBERSON, MRS. SENECAL, MR. HOLLOWAY. Motion Carried.

Mr. Holloway made the MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF DAWN CHAMBERS AND NICOLE BLANCHARD AS AUTHORIZED CHECK SIGNERS. Mrs. Senecal seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE YES: MRS. CHAMBERS, MRS. BLANCHARD, MRS. LAMBERSON, MRS. SENECAL, MR. HOLLOWAY. Motion Carried.

Mrs. Lamberson made the MOTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF NATALIE VOHLAND AS THE RECORDING SECRETARY. Mrs. Blanchard seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE YES: MRS. CHAMBERS, MRS. BLANCHARD, MRS. LAMBERSON, MRS. SENECAL, MR. HOLLOWAY. Motion Carried.

Mrs. Lamberson MADE THE MOTION TO TABLE THE APPOINTMENTS OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES WITH PRESIDENT AS AD HOC MEMBER UNTIL ALL BOARD MEMBERS ARE PRESENT:

-SPCAC (SOUTH PEKIN COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE)

-TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

-BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

-FINANCE AND BARGAINING COMMITTEE

-LABOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Mrs. Blanchard seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS:**

Mrs. Senecal made a MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORTS AND PAYMENT OF BILLS. Mrs. Lamberson seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE YES: MRS. CHAMBERS, MRS. BLANCHARD, MRS. LAMBERSON, MRS. SENECAL, MR. HOLLOWAY. Motion Carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Mrs. Chambers wanted to share with everyone how Mrs. Strickler was out working with her son on a Sunday and that he ended up placing for the first time in track! She wanted to give her a Board High Five!! She went on to commend the volleyball and basketball coaches too for all of their hard work throughout the year!

At 5:46p.m. Mrs. Blanchard made the MOTION TO ADJOURN UNTIL NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING MAY 24TH, 2021. Mrs. Lamberson seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE, ALL IN FAVOR: YES

Mrs. Chambers, Board President Mrs. Lamberson, Board Secretary