

BROWN COUNTY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1**Mt. Sterling, Illinois****February 24, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Wednesday evening, February 24, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Brown County High School band room and via Zoom video conference. The meeting was called to order by Philip Krupps. The minutes were recorded by McKenzie Taute. On roll call: Krupps yea; Blaesing, yea; Blakeley, yea; McCaskill, yea; Hughes, yea; Fullerton, yea; Heinecke, yea.

In person attendance: Curt Simonson, Pollee Craven, Sally Ruble, Shelly Sheffler, Tracy Conley, McKenzie Taute, Kris Gallaher, Dave Phelps, Alex Ebbing, Pat Henry, Jocelyn Henry, Michelle Carmean, Kaci McKeon, Amanda Scheer, Tanner Scheer.

In attendance via Zoom: Mary Ingram, Dan Long.

Visitors: Mrs. Craven recognized January student of the month, Jocelyn Henry and February student of the month, Kaci McKeon. Mrs. Craven read aloud the nominations she received describing each students accomplishments.

Motion by Fullerton, seconded by Blaesing, to approve the Consent Agenda.

Roll call: Krupps, yea; Blaesing, yea; Blakeley, yea; McCaskill, yea; Fullerton, yea; Hughes, yea; Heinecke, yea.

Motion Carried

Motion by Blaesing, seconded by Hughes, to approve the Financial Report.

Roll call: Krupps, yea; Blaesing, yea; Blakeley, yea; McCaskill, yea; Fullerton, yea; Hughes, yea; Heinecke, yea.

Motion Carried

Senior Class Trip Presents Senior Trip Ideas: Mrs. Craven discussed options for senior class trip. She explained the interest in an overnight trip to Lake of the Ozarks. Craven also discussed the possibility of having relaxed standards for the early graduating seniors, allowing them to participate in the class trip. Mrs. Craven mentioned the importance of relaying the expectations to everyone. The board was supportive of leaving the final decision up to Mrs. Craven. Mrs. Craven asked for the Boards consent to begin the planning of prom. The Board was supportive and confident that staff and community would pull together to work something out.

Return to Learn Plan: Krupps looked to the principals for feedback on the current Return to Learn Plan. Each principal discussed in-person and remote learning in their buildings. Mrs. Sheffler and Mrs. Ruble communicated the desire to keep things the same for in-person and remote learners. Mrs. Craven discussed the limitations the high school has preventing full in-person learning at this time.

Potential Operations & Maintenance Projects: McCaskill spoke to the board about the roof at the elementary school in need of repair. McCaskill and maintenance director, James McKay, have contacted an individual to look at the project and submit an estimate. McCaskill also spoke about the need to keep up on current projects while saving for the large task of replacing water lines at the high school. Krupps mentioned that our current monthly income from 1% sales tax is approximately \$30,000. Dr. Simonson discussed that he and McKay have planned a walk-thru for later this week to work on a list of current maintenance needs.

Tylex Natural Gas Agreement: Krupps discussed the rising costs of natural gas. He explained the current agreement the district has with Tylex for natural gas guarantees pricing through May 31, 2021.

Motion by Blaesing, seconded by Fullerton, to approve Brown County Middle School 8th Grade Promotion to be held on Thursday, May 27, 2021.

Roll call: Krupps, yea; Blaesing, yea; Blakeley, yea; McCaskill, yea; Fullerton, yea; Hughes, yea; Heinecke, yea.

Motion Carried

Motion by Blaesing, seconded by Heinecke, to approve Brown County High School Graduation to be held on Friday, May 28, 2021.

Roll call: Krupps, yea; Blaesing, yea; Blakeley, yea; McCaskill, yea; Fullerton, yea; Hughes, yea; Heinecke, yea.

Motion Carried

Bus Proposal from Midwest Transit Equipment.

Dr. Simonson discussed with the Board the possibility of leasing buses. Simonson explained the district currently has 19 buses in their fleet and several of those buses have high mileage. Simonson also discussed the desire to change from diesel to gas to avoid the extra expense associated with diesel. Simonson is in the process of getting bids for 53-65 passenger buses as the original quote offered 71 passenger units. The 71 passenger units are not an option due to limited space in the bus garage. The proposal was tabled and will be revisited at a later date.

Krupps discussed the total savings for the district offered by the refinance. Krupps explained that the district will be saving \$526,986.60 throughout the life of the bond with a 1.67% blended rate.

Motion by McCaskill, seconded by Heinecke, to approve the refinancing of the Series 2014, General Obligation Bonds, Dated June 3, 2014.

Roll call: Krupps, abstain; Blaesing, yea; Blakeley, yea; McCaskill, yea; Fullerton, yea; Hughes, yea; Heinecke, yea.

Motion Carried

Contract for New Superintendent.

Krupps explained that the districts legal counsel is in the process of finalizing the contract for the incoming Superintendent. Krupps thanked the staff and community for their participation in the interview process. The contract was tabled and will be revisited once complete.

Motion by Krupps, seconded by Fullerton, to enter closed session at 6:48 p.m. for the following subjects: a) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the School District; b) collective negotiating matters between the School District and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.

Roll call: Krupps, yea; Blaesing, yea; Blakeley, yea; McCaskill, yea; Fullerton, yea; Hughes, yea; Heinecke, yea.

Motion Carried

Motion by McCaskill, seconded by Blaesing, to exit closed session at 7:58 p.m.

Roll call: Krupps, yea; Blaesing, yea; Blakeley, yea; McCaskill, yea; Fullerton, yea; Hughes, yea; Heinecke, yea.

Motion Carried

Motion by Fullerton, seconded by McCaskill, to approve the minutes of closed session.

Roll call: Krupps, yea; Blaesing, yea; Blakeley, yea; McCaskill, yea; Fullerton, yea; Hughes, yea; Heinecke, yea.

Motion Carried

February 24, 2021 Board Meeting Personnel

Approval:

Sally Trone – Part Time Nurse

Denny Flesner – JH Girls Basketball Coach – effective immediately

Marcy Wort – ES Paraprofessional – effective immediately

Retirement:

Lori Berquist – MS/HS Chorus – effective end of 2020-2021 school year

Personnel was amended to reflect the tabled Superintendent contract.

Motion by Blakeley, seconded by Heinecke, to approve Amended Personnel Action.

Roll call: Krupps, yea; Blaesing, yea; Blakeley, yea; McCaskill, yea; Fullerton, yea; Hughes, yea; Heinecke, yea.

Motion Carried

Motion by Heinecke, seconded by McCaskill to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

Motion Carried by Acclamation