

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 186, SPRINGFIELD,**  
**SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS**  
**Monday, May 2, 2022 (6:30 PM)**

The Board of Education convened in Regular Session on May 2 A.D., 2022, at 4:49 p.m., there being present thereat:

Present: Anthony Mares, President  
Julie Hammers, Board Secretary

Erica Austin  
Sarah Blissett  
Buffy Lael-Wolf  
Micah Miller  
Bill Ringer  
J. Michael Zimmers

Jennifer Gill, Superintendent of Schools  
Geneice Thompson, Student Board Member

**CALL TO ORDER**

**1.1 Roll Call**

President Mares called the meeting to order.

**APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Approval of Executive Session**

**Resolution:** That the Board of Education approves adjournment to Executive Session to consider the following items:

- 2.1 Student Discipline and Other Matters Concerning Individual Students - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9, 10)
- 2.2 The Appointment, Employment, or Dismissal of Employees – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)
- 2.3 Pending and Imminent Litigation - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)
- 2.4 Real Estate - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5,6)
- 2.5 Student Board Representative Interviews 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3)

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Micah Miller**) Moved, Member (**Mike Zimmers**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'That the Board of Education adjourn to Executive Session to consider the following matters: 2.1 Student Discipline and Other Matters Concerning Individual Students - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9, 10), 2.2 The Appointment, Employment, or Dismissal of Employees – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 2.3 Pending and Imminent Litigation - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11), 2.4 Pending and Imminent Litigation - 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11), 2.5 Student Board Representative Interviews 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3).'

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 6 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried 6 - 0**.

Those voting "aye": Austin, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller, Ringer, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None

### **Adjournment to Executive Session**

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m. and reconvened at 6:47 p.m. Upon reconvening, it was noted that seven Board members were present as Ms. Blissett joined the meeting at 6:29 p.m.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### **3.1 Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Mares asked those in attendance to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

#### **4.1 Approve the Agenda for May 2, 2022**

Resolution: That the Board of Education approves the agenda.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Micah Miller**) Moved to approve the agenda. Member (**Bill Ringer**) seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion, as amended, 'That the Board of Education approves the agenda'.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Austin, Blissett, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller, Ringer, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

#### **5.1 President's Comments**

Mr. Mares read the following statement.

*Public comments will occur during the Public Comments portion of the meeting. The Board will not allow interruption during the meeting. If you are interested in addressing the Board, fill out the required Public Participation form and submit it to Ms. Hammers. Alternatively, those wishing to participate via the telephone may email their name, phone number, and topic of discussion or agenda item number to [boe@sps186.org](mailto:boe@sps186.org).*

#### **5.2 Recognition of the Springfield High School Scholastic Bowl Team**

The Board of Education recognized the following members of the Springfield High School Scholastic Bowl Team for their second-place finish at the State Scholastic Bowl Tournament:

Jack Casey  
Ethan Baima  
Olivia Baima

Aliyah Hashmi  
Arnav Nagrecha  
Deb Eaton, Coach

Team members were presented with Certificates of Recognition.

### **5.3 Student Report**

There was no student report at this time.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **6.1 Superintendent's Report and 6.2 New School Recommendation**

#### **Moment of Silence**

Superintendent Gill reported that retired teacher, Amy Taylor, recently passed away. She reported that Mrs. Taylor was also the wife of Springfield High School teacher, Mike Taylor. A moment of silence was observed for Mrs. Taylor.

Superintendent Gill further reported that Mike Filter, a longtime educator and administrator at Lutheran High School and, more recently at Capital Area Career Center, passed away. She gave condolences to his family and coworkers.

#### **Celebrate 186**

Superintendent Gill provided her bi-weekly Celebrate 186 presentation. Copies of the presentation have been filed with the Official Minutes. The following topics were covered by the report.

#### **Teacher Appreciation Week**

In light of Teacher Appreciation Week, Superintendent Gill thanked teachers throughout the District for their hard work, flexibility, and dedication, especially over the course of the last year with the challenges presented by the pandemic.

#### **K-Night at Fairview Elementary School**

Superintendent Gill reported that Kindergarten Preview (K-Night) events have begun across the District for children that will start Kindergarten in August 2022. She shared photos from Fairview Elementary School's K-Night event. She indicated that families attending the Fairview event were welcomed by the teachers, staff, and administrators as they arrived. She reported that the children and their families received information about what to expect in the fall.

#### **Butler Elementary Guest Illustrator**

Superintendent Gill reported that New York Times best-selling illustrator, Robin Preiss, recently visited Butler Elementary School. She indicated that Ms. Preiss is the illustrator for the "Fancy Nancy" children's book series.

#### **Southeast High School Anatomage Table Donation**

Superintendent Gill reported that Southeast High School's Health and Science Academy recently received an anatomage table. The table was a donation from the Springfield Memorial Foundation. She reported that the table is a piece of interactive technology that will enhance student learning in a variety of ways as it provides access to a virtual cadaver. She thanked Springfield Memorial Foundation for their generous donation.

## **Face 2 Face Camp**

Superintendent Gill reported that the annual Face 2 Face Camp will take place on Tuesday, May 10, 2022, from 5:50 - 7:30 p.m. at Southeast High School. She indicated that a light dinner will be served and child care will be provided. She further reported that in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month, the evening's topic is "Mental Wellness". She stated that Miss Capital City, Darlene Steinkamp, will provide the keynote, "Removing the Stigma" and that she will also speak during the additional sessions. She encouraged those interested in attending to register prior to the event.

## **Our Schools Our Future Facilities Update**

Next, Superintendent Gill provided pictures and drone footage of construction work at several schools. She shared the following:

- Black Hawk Elementary School - Photos of the main corridor facing the secure entrance and acoustical panels that have been installed were shared. Superintendent Gill noted that the acoustical panels are hexagons and mesh with the school's mascot, The Bees.
- Butler Elementary School - Photos of what will be the ground floor reception area, administrative offices, and stairwell facing down to the ground floor were shared.
- Dubois Elementary School - Photos of one of the classrooms that has received a first coat of paint and an exterior view of the almost complete exterior masonry were shared.
- Fairview Elementary School - Photos of the completed music room and in progress library were shared. Superintendent Gill noted the unique lighting fixtures in the library.
- Sandburg Elementary School - Photos of casework that have been installed in the new Music/Art classroom and another classroom in the rear addition were shared.
- Franklin Middle School - Photos of the new, complete multipurpose room with the new cafeteria furniture and the grounds behind the school were shared. Superintendent Gill noted that the old mobile units have been removed from the grounds behind the school.
- Grant Middle School - Photos of the area that will be the outdoor dining area and the corridor that will be between the existing cafeteria and the multipurpose rooms were shared.
- Jefferson Middle School - Superintendent Gill shared photos of herself along with the construction's Project Manager from SM Wilson, Gina Schurman, Director of Human Resources, and Darrell Schaver, Director of Operations and Maintenance in the building's new addition. An additional photo of the radial staircase that has been installed was shared.
- Washington Middle School - Photos of the classroom addition's ongoing exterior masonry work and the multipurpose room framing work were shared. Superintendent Gill noted that the interior glass and drywall are being installed in the multipurpose room.
- Southeast High School Auditorium - Photos taken of the auditorium were shared. Superintendent Gill noted that drywall work is now complete. Painting will begin soon.
- Lanphier High School - Photos of the demolition of the former band wing were shared. She reported that the alumni tour was very successful. Mr. Miller reported that over 200 people visited during the two hour event. Superintendent Gill reported that an additional tour has been scheduled.

## **Summer Construction Projects**

Next, Superintendent Gill reported that summer projects will include:

- Renovation of the Southeast High School bathrooms and auditorium
- Renovation of the Jefferson Middle School bathrooms
- Improvements to Graham Elementary School's HVAC system
- Replacement of the Springfield High School Commons and Science Wing's HVAC system
- Installation of a new road at Dubois Elementary School

- Planning for Lindsay Elementary, Iles Elementary and Butler Elementary parking resurfacing and other parking considerations

### **Summer Feeding Program**

Superintendent Gill reported that the summer feeding program will return to an in-person format this summer. Breakfast and lunch will be served at each location with times for community participation, as well. Programs will be offered at a number of locations throughout the city including through the Urban League, YMCA, Camp Compass, and the Middle and High School summer programs. She reported that the program offered at the Early Learning Center will be slightly different this year as students attend for a shorter period of time.

### **School Consolidation**

Lastly, Superintendent Gill addressed the upcoming vote to add Southern View Elementary to the previously approved plan to consolidate Hazel Dell and Laketown Elementary Schools. She thanked Board members for their thoughtful consideration of the proposal. She noted that a new elementary school will benefit students and the surrounding community. She asked Board members to remember that the plan is brought forth with the best of intentions for students and the future of the school district. She reported that there has been significant expert input on the plan. She noted that, if approved, significant planning that includes staff, students, families, and the community will be necessary. She indicated that a new school will take approximately 18 months to complete.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **7.1 Old Business**

There was no old business at this time.

### **7.2 New Business**

Mr. Miller reported that Chris Richmond of the Moving Pillsbury Forward group recently gave an update on work at the old Pillsbury Mill site. Mr. Miller reported that the group is now a Limited Liability Company (LLC) and has taken ownership of the site. The group has begun some cleanup on the site and an environmental firm will be hired to conduct a Phase 2 study of the site, the results of which will be used to solicit grants from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the federal government. He asked that the District and Board consider providing the group with a letter of support. There was general consensus to provide a letter of support.

### **7.3 Review Board Policy Updates**

Board members were provided with draft copies of updates to Board Policies for review. Superintendent Gill reported that the policies with draft changes are provided to the Board for review. She indicated that the policies will be presented for approval at the May 16, 2022, regular meeting. She specified that the proposed changes are based on recent legislative changes which necessitate updating the policies. She asked Board members to provide any feedback directly to her.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

### **8.1 Public Comment**

Mr. Mares read the following statement outlining requirements related to public comment:

*The Board of Education and I encourage public comment and public participation in Board meetings. However, it is inappropriate for any person to name a student or an individual employee, including designating an employee by job title rather than name, in open session. If any public commenter wants to address issues related to an individual student or a District 186 employee, that commenter is invited to contact the Board office or a member of the cabinet prior to public comment. It is not the intention of the Board to discourage public comment in any way; rather, it is the intention of the Board to address issues regarding individual students and employees in an appropriate manner. We thank you for respecting the privacy of our students and employees by following this rule.*

*District 186 streams board meetings on YouTube, and all content posted there is subject to YouTube's content guidelines. The meeting is also available on Cable Channel 22, U-Verse Channel 99 and at the public access streaming link.*

*Springfield Public Schools District 186 continues to encourage public comment. Statements made by speakers during public comment do not represent the views or opinions of the Board of Education or Springfield Public Schools District 186.*

The following individuals addressed the Board:

- Sean Rockwell regarding Lee School staffing shortages
- Shaun Wilkinson regarding the proposed consolidation

Superintendent Gill asked Ms. Schurman to provide information regarding class sizes at Hazel Dell, Laketown and Southern View Elementary Schools. Ms. Schurman reported that District class sizes tend to be small compared to other districts. She noted that the District's kindergarten classes average 20 students per class with a teaching assistant, compared to some collar county districts which average 28 students per kindergarten class. She reported that the intent of including Southern View in the consolidation plans is to provide students and staff with opportunities that they do not have in small classrooms, such as the opportunity for grade level collaboration. She further noted that when class sizes are too small it is difficult to appropriately group students. Superintendent Gill also noted that with the current shortage of teachers, it is unlikely that any teachers will be cut because of the consolidation.

## **PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD**

### **9.1 Legacy Point Sports Complex**

Superintendent Gill introduced Steve Luker, local developer. Mr. Luker addressed the Board. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to present. He indicated that a sports complex is planned for the Legacy Point area that will bring a variety of sporting events and tournaments to the area on weekends. He noted the importance of weekday usage to the success of the complex.

Next, Mr. Luker reported that the District will be provided with a letter of intent in the coming days that will overview a proposed agreement between the District and the Complex. He indicated that the proposed agreement includes the hours of usage offered to the District, rate charged for that usage and a property tax abatement for the land on which the fields will be built. He indicated that the area to be developed is approximately 70 acres of the 270 total acres in the complex. Superintendent Gill noted that the District will have 2000 hours annually to use if the agreement is approved. Mr. Luker noted that the complex will have eight multipurpose fields that will be used for baseball, softball, soccer, lacrosse, football. Additionally, there will be an indoor facility constructed on the property that will offer courts for basketball.

He reported that his group worked directly with the District to develop the proposed usage. Jason Wind, Director of School Support, reported that the District currently has trouble securing appropriate facilities for middle school softball, baseball, as well as high school softball, baseball, soccer, and basketball. He commended Mr. Luker for his work to develop the complex.

Mr. Ringer asked for a timeline. Mr. Luker reported that his group hopes to break ground in the summer with the indoor facilities opened for business in the late fall of 2023 and the outdoor facilities open in 2024. Mr. Ringer asked if Mr. Luker's group was requesting a letter of intent from the District. Mr. Luker confirmed that a letter of intent will be requested. Mr. Ringer then asked about the amount of property tax the group would like to have abated. Mr. Luker reported that the amount is approximately \$4,000 annually. He further reported that the District will collect property taxes from the improvements made on the remainder of land in Legacy Point that will not be in the sports complex. Additionally, the District will collect a portion of the sales tax, which is likely to increase significantly with the development of the sports park and other businesses that it will draw in.

Mr. Miller and Ms. Blissett indicated that they are in support of the agreement.

### **9.2 2022-2023 Student and Family Handbook**

Board members were provided with a draft copy of the 2022-2023 Student and Family Handbook.

Mr. Wind reported that the 32 members of the District's handbook committee met on March 16, 2022, via Zoom. He indicated that the committee is composed of teachers, parents, administrators, and other District staff. He thanked the committee members for their work. He noted that during the meeting, members chose to review one of the following topic areas of the handbook: Handbook Introduction, School Culture, Student Discipline, Technology Policies and Extracurricular/Athletic Activities Policies, or Bullying, Hazing, Harassment.

Mr. Wind then highlighted major changes to the handbook, as follows:

- Residency Information, - Updated information for United States Military Personnel based on new legislation
- Student Placement, - Included language about accelerated placement for students to include not only those identified as gifted and talented.
- Attendance Policy - Included information about mental health days for students
- Emergency School Closing and Remote Learning - Changed language to reflect that a plan approved by the Board of Education would be followed for any remote learning days. Additionally, there was discussion about removing remote learning from the handbook. However, the decision was made to keep the reference to remote learning due to the uncertainty of emergency days.
- School Culture - Student Teacher and Parent Responsibilities and Rights - A revision was made to language around Student, Teacher, and Parent Responsibilities and Rights. The group focused the language revision on the restorative approach to working with children.
- School Culture - Dress Code - Modified some of the dress code information to address current trends and listed the schools that participate in the enhanced dress code.
- Student Discipline - Classroom Managed Behaviors - Added specific information around the use of inappropriate language.
- Student Discipline - Behaviors Considered Gross Disobedience or Misconduct - Language revisions in Assembly/Gang Activity and pepper spray was added to the list of prohibited items.

Mr. Wind then noted that as revisions continue each year, there seem to be fewer changes needed

because the District's policies are better aligned with how schools operate. He reported that the current handbook is available on the District's website.

### **9.3 Minority Recruitment and Teacher Preparation Program Report**

Board members were provided with a presentation on the Minority Recruitment and Teacher Preparation Program Report.

Mr. Jamar Scott, Chief Equity and School Improvement Officer, addressed the Board. Mr. Scott presented information regarding the District's focus, current status related to efforts to become compliant with the 1976 Desegregation Order, and efforts to make the District reflective of the Springfield community.

Mr. Scott overviewed the definition of equity as it relates to education. He reported that the goals and expectations are the same for all students but the support needed to achieve the goals differ for each student. He explained that equity occurs when all students are provided with the support they need to become successful in their college and career preparedness. He shared a quote from Elena Aquilar, author of Coaching for Equity, that explains how equity touches almost every aspect of education. .

Mr. Scott then provided data from the 2020 U.S. Census, specific to Springfield, and the District. He gave a breakdown of the percentage of American Indian, Asian, Black, Hawaiian/Other Islander, Hispanic, Two or More Races and White students, administrators, certificated staff and classified staff as compared to the general Springfield population. He noted the correlation between student achievement and having a staff that is representative of the surrounding community.

Then, Mr. Scott provided information on increasing teacher diversity and the District's efforts around increasing teacher diversity. He reported that \$2 million in ESSER III funding has been allocated to cover tuition, fees, books, and student teaching support for District employees. Additionally, the District has put in place teacher pipeline partnerships with the University of Illinois Springfield (UIS) and Millikin University. Other partnerships are being developed with Northern Illinois University (NIU), the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC), and Grand Canyon University (GCU). As of the Spring 2022 semester, there are three minority students enrolled in the partnership with UIS, with four additional students enrolled for the summer and fall 2022 semesters. Mr. Scott reported that he has been working with Lincoln Land Community College, NIU, UIC, UIS, Millikin, and GCU to increase participation for Summer and Fall 2022.

Next, Mr. Scott provided information on additional recruiting efforts to increase teacher diversity. He indicated that he has attended recruiting events at UIS, Millikin, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, NIU, Illinois State University, Harris-Stowe State College, and the University of Arkansas Little Rock. Future recruiting plans and goals include building partnerships with the schools of education at a number of historically black colleges and universities (HBCU). He reported that he would like to recruit directly at these institutions with alumni who work or live in Springfield. He also plans to strengthen the District's relationship with the Golden Apple Scholar and Accelerator programs. He noted the inclusion of the SEA Grow Your Own Committee, District Equity Team, NAACP Education Committee, Faith Coalition for the Common Good's Education Task Force, and the Springfield Clergy Coalition in efforts to increase teacher diversity. He indicated that an application has been made for a CTE Education Career Pathway grant.

Lastly, Mr. Scott reported that the District's goal is to increase teacher diversity to 2020 census levels for each racial demographic group by August 1, 2026, the 50th anniversary of the Desegregation Order.

Mr. Zimmers asked if students are being offered information on the teacher pipeline. Mr. Scott reported that students at all levels are given information about the program. He gave details on the specific supports and benefits provided to students within the teacher pipeline program and challenges relating to retaining teachers of color.

## **BUSINESS REPORT**

### **10.1 Business Reports**

Board members were provided with the Business Report. Copies have been filed with the Official Minutes and are available for public viewing on the Electronic School Board.

Ms. Angela Burris, Assistant Director of Business Services, reported that the evening's report will provide a recap of the Capital Projects Fund and Outstanding State Payments as of April 30, 2022. She shared a slide with information related to the cash roll forward detail of the Capital Projects Fund revenues and expenditures. She indicated that the report details sales tax revenues and the separate bond transactions. The beginning balance in the Capital Projects cash roll forward was approximately \$80.82 million. New 2022 bond sales revenues of approximately \$65.99 million were recorded for the period, with additional revenue collection from sales tax of approximately \$862,000, for a total revenue for the month of approximately \$66.85 million. She indicated that interest and dividends were not available at the time of submission of the report, nor were complete expenses and draws. However, she reported that expenses recorded for the month of April 2022 were approximately \$1.97 million, leaving a balance of approximately \$145.7 million in the Cash Roll Forward Capital Projects Fund.

Next, Ms. Burris shared information related to Outstanding State Payments. She indicated that outstanding payments from the State of Illinois totaled approximately \$448,000 as of April 30, 2022. She provided a breakdown of those outstanding payments.

## **CONSENT ACTION ITEMS**

### **11.1 Approval of Consent Action Items**

Approval of consent action items as listed in the agenda.

**Resolution:** The Superintendent recommends approval of the consent action items 11.2 through 11.8 as described in the corresponding resolutions. Superintendent Gill noted one change to 11.5 Approval of an Agreement with Kidzeum Regarding a Maker Lab Summer Camp. She indicated that the students participating in the program are first through fourth grades, rather than third and fourth grades as stated in the resolution.

### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Michael Zimmers**) Moved, Member (**Sarah Blissett**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends approval of the consent action items 11.2 through 11.8 as described in the corresponding resolutions', with the noted correction.

Mr. Miller asked how students are selected for the Kidzeum program. Superintendent Gill and Terrance Jordan, Director of School Leadership, and Family and Community Engagement reported that students are able to self-select for the program.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0.**

Those voting “aye”: Austin, Blissett, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller, Ringer, Zimmers  
Those voting “no”: None

**11.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Session and the Regular Meeting of Monday, April 18, 2022, and the Public Hearings of Wednesday, April 6, 2022, and Tuesday, April 12, 2022**

**Resolution:** WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Springfield School District 186 reviews the minutes of the regular session and the executive session of the previous Board Meetings; and

WHEREAS, copies of these sets of minutes were distributed to the Board in the board packet prior to this meeting;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the aforementioned sets of regular session, special session, and executive session minutes and directs the Secretary to include them in the official records of the Board of Education meetings.

**11.3 Approval of Payroll and Bills Payable**

**Resolution:** That the Board of Education approves payroll and bills payable as shown in the attached report.

**11.4 Tabulation of Bids and Recommendation for Purchase and Payment**

**Bid #22-12 — Custodial Supplies**

**Resolution:** BE IT RESOLVED to accept the low acceptable bid for the following bids and to approve payment of same upon completion:

Bid #22-12 — Custodial Supplies

**11.5 Approval of an Agreement with Kidzeum Regarding a Maker Lab Summer Camp**

The District is seeking board approval of a new, one-year-only, partnership with Kidzeum. Sixty second grade students will participate in a one-week summer program, held at Kidzeum of Health and Science. This camp will feature the Maker Lab from Illinois Math & Science Academy. Maker Lab is a full-day camp and will be offered June 20-24, 2022, and June 27-July 1, 2022. This partnership will allow Springfield School District students to attend the camp at no cost. ARP ESSER III funds will be used to support this partnership at a total cost of \$23,100.

**Resolution:** WHEREAS, sixty Springfield Public School District 186 second grade students will benefit from the Illinois Math & Science Academy Camp, a one-week summer camp program at Kidzeum of Health and Science; and

WHEREAS, the Kidzeum is able to provide staff and will feature the Maker Lab from Illinois Math & Science Academy;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the agreement with Kidzeum pending final legal review for a total cost of \$23,100 to be paid from ESSER funds.

**11.6 Approval of an Agreement with Kidzeum Regarding a Summer Camp**

The District is seeking board approval of a new, one year only, partnership with Kidzeum. Thirty 3rd and 4th grade students will participate in a five-week summer camp, held at Kidzeum of Health and Science. Kidzeum is offering a full day summer camp focused on STEM/STEAM, literacy and social-emotional

learning through exploration and play. Topics will be wide-ranging, from pollinators, body systems and art, to engineering and technology (coding, drones, rockets, and 3D printing). This camp will change weekly over the course of the summer, so students remain engaged and are always learning something new. This camp runs Monday-Friday from 8:30-3:30. The dates are July 5-August 5, 2022. This partnership will allow Springfield School District students to attend the camp at no cost. ARP ESSER III funds will be used to support this partnership at a total cost of \$42,750.

**Resolution:** WHEREAS, thirty Springfield Public School District 186 third and fourth grade students will benefit from a five-week summer camp program at Kidzeum of Health and Science; and

WHEREAS, the Kidzeum is able to provide staff and educational opportunities focused on STEM/STEAM, literacy and social-emotional learning through exploration and play;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the agreement with Kidzeum pending final legal review for a total cost of \$42,750 to be paid from ESSER funds.

### **11.7 Approval of an Agreement with the Illinois Association of School Boards**

**Resolution:** WHEREAS, the Board of Education seeks to review and update all Board policies; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Association of School Boards provides a policy customization service to review, update, and align all policies with current laws, regulations, and practices; and

WHEREAS, the customization service will also allow the District to fully utilize PRESS, IASB's Policy Reference Education Subscription Service, to keep policies up to date in the future;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the agreement with IASB for policy manual customization services at a total cost of \$12,000.

### **11.8 Approval of the Schedule of Meetings of the Board of Education for the 2022-2023 School Year**

**Resolution:** BE IT RESOLVED that the attached calendar of dates for the regular meetings of the Board of Education of Springfield Public School District 186 be adopted for the 2022-2023 school year.

## **ROLL CALL ACTION ITEMS**

### **12.1 Approval of Personnel Recommendations**

**Resolution:** The Superintendent recommends the adoption of the Personnel recommendations as presented.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(William Ringer)** Moved, Member **(Sarah Blissett)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends adoption of the Personnel recommendations as presented'.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0.**

Those voting "aye":	Austin, Blissett, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller, Ringer, Zimmers
Those voting "no":	None

Superintendent Gill introduced several individuals in the audience that will be filling administrative positions during the upcoming school year, as outlined in the Personnel recommendations document attached to the meeting agenda, including Reiko Hurd, Chris Barham, and Steve Miller..

**12.2 Acceptance of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021**

Board Approval of the ACFR for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021

**Resolution:** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 105, Article 5, Section 2-3.17a require the completion of an annual financial audit by all school districts; and

WHEREAS, the accounting firm of Wipfli, LLP, has conducted such an audit in accordance with all prescribed statutory requirements, rules, regulations, and/or standards; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has received and reviewed said audit from, Wipfli, LLP;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (audit) for Fiscal Year 2021 as presented.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Michael Zimmers**) Moved, Member (**Erica Austin**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 105, Article 5, Section 2-3.17a require the completion of an annual financial audit by all school districts; and

WHEREAS, the accounting firm of Wipfli, LLP, has conducted such an audit in accordance with all prescribed statutory requirements, rules, regulations, and/or standards; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has received and reviewed said audit from, Wipfli, LLP;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (audit) for Fiscal Year 2021 as presented.'

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0.**

Those voting "aye": Austin, Blissett, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller, Ringer, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None

**12.3 Approval of the Recommendation to Include Southern View in the Consolidation of Hazel Dell and Laketown on a New Site**

**Resolution:** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Our Schools Our Future Master Facility Plan includes previously approved plans to consolidate Hazel Dell and Laketown schools in a new building on a new site; and

WHEREAS, after further review of the extensive needs at Southern View, the projected costs, and the proximity to the Stevenson Drive corridor; and

WHEREAS, the District, based upon advice from architects and engineers, recommends that the three schools are consolidated in a new school building on a new site;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the recommendation to include Southern View School in the planned consolidation of Hazel Dell and Laketown schools at a new site.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District will bring forth a recommendation for the new site for approval by the Board of Education at a future Board meeting.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(Michael Zimmers)** Moved, Member **(William Ringer)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Our Schools Our Future Master Facility Plan includes previously approved plans to consolidate Hazel Dell and Laketown schools in a new building on a new site; and

WHEREAS, after further review of the extensive needs at Southern View, the projected costs, and the proximity to the Stevenson Drive corridor; and

WHEREAS, the District, based upon advice from architects and engineers, recommends that the three schools are consolidated in a new school building on a new site;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the recommendation to include Southern View School in the planned consolidation of Hazel Dell and Laketown schools at a new site.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District will bring forth a recommendation for the new site for approval by the Board of Education at a future Board meeting.'

Ms. Blissett expressed the difficulty she experienced in making a decision on this resolution. Ms. Austin asked that assurances related to classroom sizes and staffing be honored. Superintendent Gill restated that while it is contractually impossible to guarantee class sizes of 20 students, it is the District's goal and intention to keep class sizes on average at 20 students. Mr. Zimmers asked if there will be opportunities for professional development with the staff members of all three schools over the course of the next 12 to 18 months to begin to develop the camaraderie and relationships needed for the consolidated school. Superintendent Gill reported that there will be opportunities for this. Mr. Miller stated that he is of the opinion that the consolidation of three schools on the south end of town is excessive. He referred to feedback from the community to support his opinion. He expressed support for a two school consolidation. He provided historical voting information from the last election and expressed concern over the possible loss of staff positions, the upkeep that will be required by the existing buildings, and loss of neighborhood schools. He commended the team of individuals, including the architects and engineers, that have worked to assess the individual school sites. He asked that further consideration be given to alternate sites for the new school as a means of investing in the surrounding neighborhoods. Mr. Zimmers reported that if Southern View is not included in the consolidation, renovations are not scheduled for the

building until approximately 2027. He also expressed concern over the number of students that my request to transfer into the school from Southern View if it is not included in the consolidation. He addressed the fiscal responsibility aspect associated with the consolidation. Ms. Lael-Wolf indicated that staff efficiency considerations informed her decision-making process. She thanked Darrell Schaver, Director of Operations and Maintenance, for providing the Board with information about the condition of the Southern View building. She spoke to the need to make fiscally responsible decisions and the teacher shortage.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 6 Nay: 1. The motion **Carried. 6 - 1.**

Those voting "aye": Austin, Blissett, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Ringer, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": Miller

#### **12.4 Approval of Revisions to Board Policies**

**Resolution:** WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Springfield School District 186 maintains Board Policy manuals giving direction to the District; and

WHEREAS, such policy and manuals reflect case law, legal rulings, legislation, and district practice;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approves the attached policies relating to:

Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting,  
Attendance,  
Physical Contact or Time out,  
Allergy Management, and  
Administering Medication.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Michael Zimmers**) Moved. Member (**Micah Miller**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Springfield School District 186 maintains Board Policy manuals giving direction to the District; and

WHEREAS, such policy and manuals reflect case law, legal rulings, legislation, and district practice;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approves the attached policies relating to:

Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting,  
Attendance,  
Physical Contact or Time out,  
Allergy Management, and  
Administering Medication.'

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0.**

Those voting "aye": Austin, Blissett, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller, Ringer, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None

#### **12.5 Approval of Travel Expenses for Board Members (State Conference)**

**Resolution:** That the Board of Education approves travel expenses as follows for the IASB/IASA/IASBO Joint Annual Conference from November 18-20, 2022:

Erica Austin  
Registration - \$499.00  
Hotel - \$750.00  
Transportation - \$80.00

Buffy Lael-Wolf  
Registration - \$499.00  
Hotel - \$750.00  
Transportation - \$80.00

Anthony Mares  
Registration - \$499.00  
Hotel - \$750.00  
Transportation - \$80.00

J. Michael Zimmers  
Registration - \$499.00  
Hotel - \$750.00  
Transportation - \$80.00

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member **(Sarah Blissett)** Moved, Member **(William Ringer)** Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'That the Board of Education approves travel expenses as follows for the IASB/IASA/IASBO Joint Annual Conference from November 18-20, 2022:

Erica Austin  
Registration - \$499.00  
Hotel - \$750.00  
Transportation - \$80.00

Buffy Lael-Wolf  
Registration - \$499.00  
Hotel - \$750.00  
Transportation - \$80.00

Anthony Mares  
Registration - \$499.00  
Hotel - \$750.00  
Transportation - \$80.00

J. Michael Zimmers  
Registration - \$499.00  
Hotel - \$750.00  
Transportation - \$80.00'.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0** Abstain: **1**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0 - 1**

Those voting "aye": Austin, Blissett, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Ringer, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None  
Those "abstaining": Miller

### **12.6 Student Discipline**

**Resolution:** That the Board approves the student discipline as discussed in Executive Session and summarized by the Superintendent as follows:

- That one 6<sup>th</sup> grade student be hereby expelled from further attendance at Franklin Middle School through the end of the 2022-2023 school year with a program; and
- That one 7<sup>th</sup> grade student be hereby expelled from further attendance at Franklin Middle School through the end of the 2021-2022 school year with a program; and
- That one 6<sup>th</sup> grade student be hereby expelled from further attendance at Grant Middle School through the end of the 2022-2023 school year with a program; and
- That one 8<sup>th</sup> grade student be hereby expelled from further attendance at Grant Middle School through the end of the 2021-2022 school year with a program.

### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Michael Zimmers**) Moved, Member (**Erica Austin**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'That the Board approves the student discipline as discussed in Executive Session and summarized by the Superintendent'.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Austin, Blissett, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller, Ringer, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None

### **ADJOURN SINE DIE**

#### **13.1 Adjourn Sine Die**

**Resolution:** That the Board of Education adjourn sine die.

### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Michael Zimmers**) Moved, Member (**Sarah Blissett**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'That the Board of Education adjourn sine die.'

A voice vote was taken. There were no objections.

The meeting adjourned sine die at 8:42 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL ACTION ITEMS**

#### **14.1 Nominations for President of the Board of Education**

The Superintendent will accept nominations for president.

**Resolution:** That the Board of Education nominate and elect a Board President for a one-year term. New president assumes the duties of presiding officer.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Michael Zimmers**) Moved, Member (**Micah Miller**) Seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board of Education nominate and elect a Board President for a one-year term. New president assumes the duties of presiding officer.' Mr. Zimmers nominated Mr. Mares, with a second by Mr. Miller. Superintendent Gill then called for any other nominations three additional times. There were no additional nominations.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Austin, Blissett, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller, Ringer, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None

Mr. Mares was declared the President.

The meeting resumed at 8:43 p.m.

**14.2 Nominations for Vice-President of the Board of Education**

The President will accept nominations for vice-president.

**Resolution:** That the Board of Education nominate and elect a Vice-President for a one-year term.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Erica Austin**) Moved, Member (**Buffy Lael-Wolf**) Seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board of Education nominate and elect a Vice-President for a one-year term.' Ms. Austin nominated Mr. Miller, with a second by Ms. Lael-Wolf. Mr. Mares then called for any other nominations three additional times. There were no additional nominations for Vice-President of the Board of Education.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Austin, Blissett, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller, Ringer, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None

Mr. Miller was declared the Vice- President.

**14.3 Nominations for Secretary**

The President will accept nominations for Secretary.

**Resolution:** That the Board of Education nominate and elect a Board Secretary.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Sarah Blissett**) Moved, Member (**Buffy Lael-Wolf**) Seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board of Education nominate and elect a Board Secretary for a one-year term.' Ms. Blissett nominated Julie Hammers, with a second by Ms. Lael-Wolf. Mr. Mares then called for any other nominations three additional times. There were no additional nominations for Secretary of the Board of Education.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Austin, Blissett, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller, Ringer, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None

Ms. Hammers was declared Secretary.

#### **14.4 Nominations for Assistant Secretary**

The President will accept nominations for Assistant Secretary.

**Resolution:** That the Board of Education nominate and elect an Assistant Board Secretary.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Micah Miller**) Moved, Member (**Erica Austin**) Seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'That the Board of Education nominate and elect an Assistant Secretary for a one-year term.' Mr. Miller nominated Nicole Irlam, with a second by Ms. Austin. Mr. Mares then called for any other nominations three additional times. There were no additional nominations for Assistant Secretary of the Board of Education.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Austin, Blissett, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller, Ringer, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None

Ms. Irlam was declared Assistant Secretary.

#### **14.5 Appointment of Treasurer**

**Resolution:** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that Mr. Thomas Osborne be appointed Treasurer to the Board of Education.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**William Ringer**) Moved, Member (**Micah Miller**) Seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that Mr. Thomas Osborne be appointed Treasurer to the Board of Education.'

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Austin, Blissett, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller, Ringer, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None

#### **14.6 Adoption of Board Policies and Code of Conduct**

**Resolution:** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board re-adopt Board Policies as currently in effect, that the Board observe Roberts' Rules of Order, Revised, except as otherwise provided by Board Policies or statute, that Roll Calls be made on a rotating basis and that the Board shall adhere to the attached Code of Conduct.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Micah Miller**) Moved, Member (**Buffy Lael-Wolf**) Seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'BE IT RESOLVED that the Board re-adopt Board Policies as currently in effect, that the Board observe Roberts' Rules of Order, Revised, except as otherwise provided by Board Policies or statute, that Roll Calls be made on a rotating basis and that the Board shall adhere to the attached Code of Conduct.'

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Those voting “aye”: Austin, Blissett, Lael-Wolf, Mares, Miller, Ringer, Zimmers  
Those voting “no”: None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**15.1 Next Regular Meeting — Monday, May 16, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. — Board Room**

**15.2 Freedom of Information Report**

Board members were provided with a copy of the Freedom of Information Act Report for the weeks covering April 16, 2022, through April 28, 2022. Copies have been filed with the Official Minutes and are available for public viewing on the Electronic School Board website.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Mares declared the meeting adjourned until Monday, May 16, 2022. The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

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Anthony Mares, President

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Julie Hammers, Board Secretary

Dated: May 16, 2022