

BOARD ACTION REPORT
Corporation Office
April 12, 2021
6:00 p.m.

- The meeting was called to order by Mr. Monts.
- Present at the meeting were: Mr. Blaydes, Mrs. Hess, Mr. Hutson, Mr. Kinkead, Mr. Mason, Mr. Monts and Dr. Shawn E. Greiner. Present via phone conference was Mr. Spencer.
- There was no presentation due to the restrictions of Covid. Mr. Monts thanked all for attending.
- Approved Revisions to the Agenda:
 - Southmont Parents for After Prom request permission to use Southmont HS Fieldhouse and Gym from the evening of Friday, April 30th @ 4pm to Sunday, May 2nd @ 3 am to host After Prom.
- Communications To and From the Board:
 - Mr. Monts announced he was not aware of any communications.
 - Dr. Greiner explained that Mrs. Schafer was unavailable to attend this evening to comment on Ladoga Elementary School presentation, but Dr. Greiner and Mrs. Roth will help with questions.

Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

- none
- Approved the following consent agenda items:
 - Minutes of previous meetings.
 - Claims 103785 through 103930 and prewritten claims.
 - March payrolls.
 - Approve resignation of Katie Powell – 6th grade Teacher – Southmont Jr. High – effective at the end of the 2020-2021 school year.
 - Margaret Savage – Speech Language Pathologist – New Market Elementary – begin 2021-2022 school year.
 - Mercedes McCormick – Southmont Jr. – Sr. High School Nurse – begin 2021-2022 school year.
 - Samantha Dittmer – Instructional Assistant – 2nd grade – Walnut Elementary.
 - Appoint Machel Helms – Crawfordsville District Public Library Board of Trustees – April 30, 2021 through June 30, 2024.
 - Sophia Reimondo – JH Tennis Coach - \$1053.00.
 - Peyton Wininger – Varsity Assistant Baseball Coach – Volunteer.
 - Eric Mason – Varsity Assistant Baseball Coach – Volunteer.
(Mr. Mason abstained from the vote on Varsity Assistant Baseball Coach)
 - Food Service Management Company Renewal.
 - Southmont Parents for After Prom request permission to use Southmont HS Fieldhouse and Gym from the evening of Friday, April 30th @ 4 pm to Sunday, May 2nd @ 3 am to host After Prom.
- Report from Superintendent:
 - Dr. Greiner explained the current proposal for how to use ESSER II funds to provide stipends as Hazard Pay for teaching and support staff. Stipends that cannot be paid through the rules of ESSER II can be covered through local funds due to the fiscal responsibility of the board. The proposed stipend for all employees (\$1500 for certified staff and \$600 for non-certified staff) represents a small token of appreciation of the above and beyond work of all of our Southmont team. ESSER II dictates that stipends cannot be across the board; hence local funds Will be used. This will be discussed with the teacher’s association as well.

-The majority of ESSER II funds will also be used to pay for additional remediation teachers for 1-2 years. We will focus heavily on K-2 added teacher support for a two year block and 3-12 support for next year.

-We will also look to purchase 6-12 Chromebooks with ESSER II funds. Using ESSER II funds for this purpose will help us strategically use future G.O. bond funds to help update and replace classroom furniture. Principals will work with teachers to understand furniture needs.

-Dr. Greiner spoke of the increased interest in welding through CTE. Because of the high interest, SHS facilities will be used as a site for the CTE Welding Program. Advanced Manufacturing will pause for one year to help develop a feeder program.

-Dr. Greiner invited questions from the board; there were none.

-Dr. Greiner presented a brief overview of all that the board has supported the district in doing over the past 8 years. Dr. Greiner explained that he received the district Superintendent of the Year award and was inspired by one of the speakers. Dr. Greiner explained that in the time he has worked with Southmont Schools, the board has remained focused on being proactive in 1) planning ahead and balancing the budget, 2) high achievement for ALL students and good school grades, and 3) addressing facility improvement needs that had been neglected because of the reliance on the rainy day fund. Overall, the morale and culture of the district has greatly improved as the budget has remained balanced enabling facilities upgrades and raises for teachers and support staff. Dr. Greiner thanked the board for their leadership and their support in moving Southmont Schools forward to be a progressive and proactive district team focused on doing what is best for students while being fiscally responsible through strategic planning and monitoring tax rates that remain low to respect our community.

-Report from Director of Business:

-Mrs. Charles shared that the typical audit conference will take place virtually next week. There are some things we do very well, and it appears that we will have no repeat issues. Any audit issues will be addressed through a rebuttal and/or corrective action. New hire orientation is scheduled for our certified new hires. Mr. Monts reminded all board members that they are invited to attend the audit. Mrs. Charles clarified the time of the virtual audit for Mr. Hutson.

-Reports from Directors and Principals:

-Mr. Mike Tricker – Director of Operations: Mr. Tricker thanked the Chartwell’s team and offered to answer any questions.

-Mrs. Anna Roth – Director of Curriculum: Mrs. Roth reported on ILEARN 3-8 and Biology will begin. ILEARN will not “count” but we are still required to take it. We already use NWEA data to understand student learning loss. There is not possibility for students and families to “opt out” and no virtual testing option.

-Mr. Eric W. Brewer – Director of Transportation & Safety: no report

-Mrs. Sonna Schafer – Principal – Ladoga Elementary School – SIP Update

Public Comments on All Items

-Mr. Hutson thanked Dr. Greiner for his commitment to Southmont Schools.

-Items for Discussion by the Board:

-Mr. Monts invited any discussion or comment on the proposed use of ESSER II funds to pay Hazard Pay, purchase technology and hire additional remediation teachers temporarily. Mr. Monts reminded all that the ISBA sponsored a webinar about ESSER II.

-Mr. Monts highlighted the upcoming dates for events. Dr. Greiner stated that Mr. Burgess will attempt to work around the conflict. Mrs. Hess proposed moving forward the board meeting to 5:30 pm to finish early. Board discussion was favorable to this solution.

-Mr. Monts announced that the May board meeting will occur May 10th at the NEW time of 5:30 pm to permit board members and patrons to be involved in the board meeting and to attend scholarship night.

-Adjourned.