

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Centralia City Schools Board of Education, District No. 135, Marion, Clinton, Jefferson and Washington Counties, Illinois, held on Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., in the Administration Bldg., 400 South Elm St., Centralia, IL 62801.

Members Present: Ron Johnson, Derek Harlan, Greg Dodson, Sue Williams, Renae Bauer, Michael Middleton

Members Absent:

Also Present: Supt. Craig E. Clark, Christina Becker, Blake Griffin, Jennifer Stilt, Austin Williams, Kyle Blanchard, Cinnamon Blanchard, Matthew Packman,

Board President Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

MOTION #1:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Middleton to adjourn to closed session to discuss personnel. Motion carried.

Adjourned to closed session at 6:01 p.m.
Reconvened to open session at 7:00 p.m.

MOTION #2:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Bauer to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Approval of Minutes of regular meeting held on Tuesday, October 10, 2023.
2. Approval of Minutes of the special Building/Grounds Committee meeting held on Monday, October 30, 2023.
3. Approval of Minutes of the special Personnel Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, November 1, 2023.
4. Approval of Minutes of the special Technology Committee Meeting held on Monday, November 6, 2023.
5. Approval of Minutes of the special Curriculum Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, November 8, 2023.
6. Approval of bills for \$1,010,139.77
7. Approval of November payroll.
8. Approval of the out of district field trips:
 - a. Jordan 3rd Grade to R and J Tactical Lazer Tag in Woodlawn on May 14, 2024.
 - b. CJHS Tigers of the Month to Ronald McDonald House in St. Louis on November 30, 2023.

MOTION #3:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Harlan to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

RECOGNITION AND COMMENTS FROM EMPLOYEES AND PUBLIC

1. Cinnamon Blanchard reported to the Board about PAWS activities at CJHS which serve to boost the morale of faculty, staff and administrators. She inquired about the possibility of the district providing financial support for these activities. Mr. Clark suggested that building funds could be used for this.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

1. The Building/Grounds Committee met on 10/30/23 to review projects completed in the district over the past 8 years and to discuss ideas for future projects. Building administrators will be surveyed and a prioritized list will be created.

2. The Personnel Committee met on 11/01/23 to discuss current methods for recruiting and retaining teachers, as well as other ideas that could be implemented in the future. Mr. Clark and Mrs. Becker will review financial information that will drive the plan.

3. The Technology Committee met on 11/06/23. Mr. Ford shared a five-year plan with three main areas of focus: student information system, network security, and reasonable security practices.

4. The Curriculum Committee met on 11/08/23. Mrs. Becker reviewed that status of current curricula with discussion following about curricular needs and how they should be prioritized.

CURRICULUM REPORT

Christina Becker announced that for the first time since 2018 all district buildings have been given the designation of "Commendable". This means that as a district, there are no subgroups (20+ students) of students who scored in the bottom 5% in the state. It also means that no new school improvement cycles were initiated. Mrs. Becker noted that while there is still work to be done, our district should be proud of the progress achieved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION #4:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Harlan to appoint Mr. Blake Griffin to fill the vacancy of the Board of Education. Motion carried.

The Board Member Oath was taken by Mr. Griffin.

MOTION #5:

It was moved by Bauer and seconded by Dodson to approve the 2023 Tentative Tax Levies, to be adopted December 12, 2023. Motion carried.

MOTION #6:

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Harlan to approve the hiring of Kailynn McMillan as 7th Grade Girls Basketball Coach. Motion carried.

MOTION #7:

It was moved by Bauer and seconded by Dodson to approve the hiring of Stacey Garner as CJHS cook. Motion carried.

MOTION #8:

It was moved by Middleton and seconded by Dodson to approve the hiring of Leslie Wall as CJHS Chorus Director. Motion carried.

MOTION #9:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Middleton to accept the Intent to Retire letter from Paula Helm at the end of the 2027-2028 school year. Motion carried.

MOTION #10:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Middleton to accept the resignation of Cortini Yarbrough as Girls Seventh Grade Basketball Coach. Motion carried.

MOTION #11:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Middleton to approve purchasing a 22-passenger bus from Centralia High School at a cost of \$26,000.00. Motion carried.

MOTION #12:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Middleton to approve purchasing a building sign from T Ham Sign for Schiller School for \$29,332.59. Motion carried.

MOTION #13:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Middleton to approve purchasing a building sign from T Ham Sign for Jordan School \$24,966.69. Motion carried.

MOTION #14:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Bauer to approve purchasing a building sign from T Ham Sign for Central School for \$30,693.81. Motion carried.

MOTION #15:

It was moved by Middleton and seconded by Dodson to approve purchasing a building sign from T Ham Sign for Centralia Junior High School for \$ 13,151.46. Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Parent-Teacher Conference Report - at least 93% parent contacts were reported at each grade level with several grades achieving 100% parent contact.
2. Building Celebrations:

Schiller:

- Fire safety week started with an assembly with Patches and the fire department. The students loved learning fire safety with Patches singing songs and teaching them what to do in case of a fire.
- Spooktacular took place with record numbers of families coming out to trick or treat with staff.
- Schiller School completed their parent-teacher conferences with 100% participation.
- Students enjoyed their Halloween class parties with lots of treats and games.
- Students have been moving up reading levels like crazy! The students work hard with their reading in balanced literacy and get to move up levels when they master skills. Students get a certificate and get to pick a sticker from Mrs. Marshall's Sticker Chart in her office.
- Red Ribbon Week was celebrated with special activities throughout the week to celebrate being drug-free!
- Organwise Presentations were done in the Kindergarten classes with special emphasis on germs and why proper handwashing is important to keep us from getting sick!
- Mrs. Linder and Ms. Stinde's classes studied the parts of a pumpkin, carved a pumpkin, and then made a pumpkin volcano to celebrate Halloween with our students.
- Our first grade completed their field trip to the pumpkin patch and wrote a paper about their favorite part of their trip.
- Staff enjoyed the building-wide search for pumpkins in everybody's pocket. The lucky winners who had a pumpkin in their pocket were surprised with a treat and a gift card. Let's say we have a very competitive staff at Schiller School!
- Sonic donated drinks for teachers on conference night to refuel them and get them ready to tell parents how awesome their children are doing.

- Room 1: learned about Veterans in their family and drew pictures or brought in photos of veterans in their families.
- Room 17 celebrated Mr. Dray in the classroom for Veterans Day as he is still active in the Reserves.

Jordan:

- On October 13th, Ms. McMillan's 3rd-grade class spent time outside while conducting an experiment with pumpkins. The class dissected their pumpkins, and Ms. McMillan helped by adding baking soda and vinegar to create a bubbly reaction.
- SAFE presented their body safety program to students on Monday, October 16th, and Tuesday, October 17th.
- On Thursday, October 19th, the Jordan Faculty and Staff had a team-building potluck lunch and celebrated Ms. Heather Wehking, Mental Health Paraprofessional, who recently got married.
- Third Grade students began the Great Garden Detective Program with Krystal Pruden from the Illinois Nutrition Education Program. Ms. Krystal will come once a month to teach students about nutrition.
- 3rd-grade students participated in a fun family project to promote a love for reading. Students were asked to choose a book character and create a pumpkin to resemble it. Students and parents had a chance to read the story and be creative.
- Students from Centralia High School's FFA program visited third grade again. The October lesson was on pumpkins.
- Red Ribbon Week was celebrated during the week of October 23rd through Friday, October 27th. District-wide events for each day have been planned and include "Give Drugs the Boot/Red Day", "Being Drug Free Is No Sweat", and "Sock It to Drugs". We had a school-specific "Drugs Are Scary" day where students wore Halloween costumes, participated in a costume parade, and celebrated with classroom parties.
- Students who met the behavior requirements/criteria were treated to a Halloween-themed movie, "Monsters, Inc.", and popcorn at City Hope Church on Monday, October 23rd. This movie's SEL message included the identification of humor, the value of laughter, talking about fear, exploring well-being, and understanding well-balanced emotions.
- Our annual Title I "Halloween Spooktacular" was held on Tuesday, October 24th, and was a huge success! Over 500 people were in attendance for this event! A special thank you to the Jordan PTO, SSM Sleep Center, Foundation Church, CHS Soccer, Tri Chi '27, and parents who helped to make this event so special for our students and their families!
- Halloween Keepsake Photos were taken on Wednesday, October 25th, while students were in their Halloween costumes. All proceeds went to the Jordan Elementary School Activity Fund.

- Parent Teacher Conferences were held on Thursday, October 26th, after school and in the evening and in the morning on Friday, October 27th. 100% of our parents attended conferences.
- On Tuesday, October 31st, students who participated in the Centralia Fire Department's Fire Prevention Week poster contest were honored. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each of our six 3rd-grade classes were awarded. Talaya, a student in Mrs. Moore's classroom, received 1st place overall in all of the Centralia schools. These students were also invited to attend a pizza party sponsored by the fire department.
- A "Jordan Stars" all-school assembly was held on Tuesday, October 31st. One student is selected monthly in each of our classrooms. Students who were selected received a "Jordan Star" t-shirt, a "Jordan Stars" certificate, and a coupon for a free kids' meal at Wendy's.
- The Jordan PTO official St. Louis Cardinals 2024 Calendar fundraiser ended on November 1st and was successful.
- The Jordan PTO is presently having a Meadow Farms Fundraiser. Brochures have been sent home with students. All orders are to be placed online, and orders will be mailed directly to the home.
- On Thursday, November 2nd, Ag in the Classroom teacher, Meggan Hiestand, presented lessons to 2nd-grade students on the topic of turkeys. Several classes were adopted by Heistand Farm. They received a jar of farm animal toys for the class to play with during inside recess.
- Students participated in our last required fire drill of the school year on Tuesday, November 7th.
- This month's SEL lesson was presented by our Mental Support team on Tuesday, November 7th, and focused on showing gratitude. Students focused on what is good in their lives and tried to find the good in every situation. Students decorated feathers to place on a turkey to remind them of things that they are grateful for and also drew pictures to remind them of what they are thankful for in their lives.
- Our After School Program began on Tuesday, November 7th, and will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30-4:30 PM. This program will focus on reading and math and will offer intervention activities in both subject areas. Students will also receive a snack prior to the start of the program each day. EL students will also take part in this program at Schiller.
- Students who met the behavior criteria participated in an Extra Play Good Conduct Party on Monday, November 13th. Students were given an extra period of play and received a treat.
- Our "Reading Buddies" program continues weekly. Volunteers read to students during our lunch periods. This program allows students to be paired up with an adult or older student and take turns reading to one another. It allows for authentic reading practice

and a model of fluent reading. This program is organized by Mrs. Jodie Witzel, Title I teacher.

- As part of American Education Week, the Jordan Elementary School Title I Program will be hosting our annual Christmas Craft Night on Thursday, November 16th, from 6:00-7:00 PM. This event is a great opportunity for us to connect with parents and build a sense of community. It is also a great opportunity for parents to spend quality time with their children. A Scholastic Book Fair, sponsored by the Jordan PTO, will also be held on Tuesday, November 14th through Friday, November 17th.
- The Jordan PTO provided lunch for faculty and staff in honor of American Education Week on Monday, November 13th.
- Santa and Mrs. Claus will be visiting Jordan Elementary School on Monday, December 4th, 2023. Our students and parents are invited to our "Breakfast with Santa" family event on this date. Photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus will also be taken as a Activity Fund Fundraiser. Mr. and Mrs. Claus will then visit classrooms before departing for the North Pole.

Central:

Station Rotation:

- On October 2nd, CMS students started the month with a station rotation review of the CMS expectations for appropriate conduct in our six targeted areas (playground, classroom, hallway, restroom, cafeteria, and bus).

Breakfast with your favorite adult:

- On October 4th, students had an opportunity to invite two of their favorite adults to a breakfast at CMS. The turnout was phenomenal with over 100 adults in attendance with their Cub.

Marlow's Pumpkin Patch

- On October 12th, 4th great students took a trip to Marlow's pumpkin patch. A great day was had by all as the students were able to play with friends and take home their very own pumpkin.

Great Shakeout

- On October 19th, students practiced a Tornado drill and Earthquake precautions and procedures to ensure appropriate safety protocols in the event of a natural disaster.

Halloween Activities

- On October 20th, students enjoyed classroom Halloween parties at the end of the school day. In the evening, they were able to attend the CMS Halloween Dance. The dance was well-attended and the teacher support was phenomenal. Teachers dressed in Halloween costumes to celebrate the day with the students.

Book Fair

- On October 23rd, the annual fall book fair was held in the library. Classes were scheduled by the Media Specialist to have the opportunity to shop for books and embrace their love of reading.

Red Ribbon Week

11/14/2023

- Beginning on October 23rd, in an effort to provide a consistent Red Ribbon experience, all schools collaborated to create a schedule of daily activities for students to participate in and recognize the importance of saying No to Drugs. CMS students were able to purchase flavored water and also win prizes by purchasing suckers from the sucker tree.

PBIS Celebration

- On October 26th, CMS students participated in the PBIS celebration. Students who maintained at least 85% of their points were treated to a movie, popcorn, and soda. Students enjoyed the chance to relax and visit with friends.

Parent Teacher Conferences

- October 26th and 27th was the start of Parent teacher conferences. The conferences were a formal opportunity for teachers and parents to meet and discuss student progress. CMS teachers embraced the opportunity to interact with parents and to share the current progress of each student. Almost all teachers were able to achieve 100% contact with parents.

Cub of the Month

- On October 31st, 12 Cubs, 6 fourth graders, and 6 fifth graders, along with a guest of their choosing, enjoyed a pizza, dessert, candy, and drink luncheon. The purpose of the program is to recognize those students who model appropriate behavior and strive for excellence while demonstrating our school wide expectations. Each month, a new set of students are recognized.

CJHS:

- Basketball is now underway for the girls and boys.
- Students and staff participated in “The Great American Shakeout” and also a tornado drill.
- CJHS hosted a fall dance for 6-8 students. This was a fundraiser for the CJHS Activity Fund.
- CJHS celebrated Red Ribbon Week with a different activity daily.
- Centralia High School tested the 8th-grade students to help develop their class schedules for next year.
- Fall retakes and sports pictures were taken by Life Touch.
- The Varsity Tigers won the Wesclin 8th Grade Basketball Tourney.
- We completed our 2nd fire drill and had the Centralia Fire Dept. on hand to evaluate our evacuation plan.
- Parent/Teacher conferences were held, and CJHS had almost a 97% communication rate.
- October Tigers of the Month were honored at an assembly and also treated to Monicals Pizza for lunch.
- The CC team was recognized during the assembly for their success during the season and for finishing 6th in the State Meet.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. A board retreat will be held on December 4, 2023.

MOTION #16:


It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Harlan to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

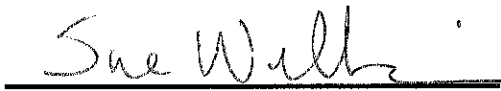
Meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

<u>MOTION #</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>
JOHNSON	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
WILLIAMS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
HARLAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
BAUER	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
MIDDLETON	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
DODSON	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
GRIFFIN	-	-	-	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
Sue Williams, Board Secretary

APPROVED:


Ron Johnson, President


Sue Williams, Board Secretary