

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, March 12, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., in the Administration Bldg., 400 South Elm St., Centralia, IL 62801.

Members Present: Ron Johnson, Greg Dodson, Sue Williams,  
Michael Middleton, Derek Harlan, Blake Griffin

Members Absent: Renae Bauer

Also Present: Supt. Craig E. Clark, Christina Becker, Jennifer Stilt,  
Austin Williams, Jo Allen, and Amanda Marshall

Board President Johnson called the regular meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

MOTION #1:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Harlan to adjourn to closed session to discuss personnel matters relating to the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees.

Adjourned to closed session at 6:02 p.m.

Reconvened to open session at 7:05 p.m.

MOTION #2:

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

1. Approval of Minutes of regular meeting held on Tuesday, February 13, 2024.
2. Approval of Minutes of special meeting held on Thursday, February 22, 2024.
3. Approval of bills for \$1,959,685.79
4. Approval of March payroll.
5. Approval of taking bids for the 2024-2025 school year at the May meeting for bread, food, and milk.
6. Approval of the following out of district trips: (none)

MOTION #3:

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

RECOGNITION AND COMMENTS FROM EMPLOYEES AND PUBLIC

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

1. The Calendar Committee met to develop a proposed calendar for the 2024-2025 school year. Start date is August 14th with the last day for students being May 23, 2025. Inservice dates and holiday breaks were also included.

## CURRICULUM REPORT

Principal, Mrs. Amanda Marshall gave the Schiller School report. She explained their approach to Reading, Math, the After School Program, instruction for ELL students, outdoor activities, and other special events.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

## NEW BUSINESS

### MOTION #4:

It was moved by Middleton and seconded by Harlan to approve the 2024-2025 School Calendar. Motion carried.

### MOTION #5:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Middleton to schedule the Eighth Grade Graduation program for Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. Motion carried.

### MOTION #6:

It was moved by Middleton and seconded by Griffin to approve the employment of Caroline Riddle as Eighth Grade Boys Track Coach. Motion carried.

### MOTION #7:

It was moved by Harlan and seconded by Dodson to accept the Intent to Retire letter from Debbie Redfeairn effective July 31, 2024. Motion carried.

### MOTION #8:

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Dodson to accept the resignation of Kalynn McMillan as Girls Assistant Basketball Coach. Motion carried.

### MOTION #9:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Griffin to approve Glass and Shuffett to perform the yearly audit at a cost not to exceed \$15,000.00. Motion carried.

### MOTION #10:

It was moved by Harlan and seconded by Dodson to approve a three year Skyward extension with guaranteed pricing. Motion carried.

### MOTION #11:

It was moved by Griffin and seconded by Harlan to approve a Frontline Education for Absence Management and Evaluation Management Renewal for \$16,852.68. Motion carried.

### MOTION #12:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Harlan to approve Category 1 E-rate winning bids from Clearwave for WAN and Internet access. Motion carried.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Building Celebrations
2. Other

#### **Schiller:**

- Schiller School students learned about Black History Month. Each class focus on a hero for the month and presented projects at our Schiller Night at the Museum Night. We had a wonderful turnout with families and friends coming to see the hard work of our students and staff.
- Mama Katambwa traveled and visited our school for storytelling. She told us a very entertaining story with the help of our students. The interactive story was great! She concluded by dancing with the teachers and staff.
- Certified evaluations were completed and turned in with no evaluations under Proficient.
- Valentine's Day parties were held with LOTS of goodies. Students were sugared up, had a blast, and sent home!
- Staff attended the Tri-County Institute in person this year. Many comments were made about the great sessions they attended and shared information they learned.
- Staff had fun hunting the building for frogs on Leap Day. The staff member with the most frogs at the end of the day received a prize from Ms. Marshall. I was great seeing the staff have fun and the students helping them find treasures.
- Schiller students practiced what to do during a tornado during our tornado drill as spring approaches. It is very important to know what to do in an emergency before it happens!
- The CHS Drama Club invited us to come to the school to view their upcoming play, "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory." The drama club did a fantastic job with their play and our students enjoyed watching the live performance.
- Our annual school carnival took place in the gym this year. What a difference having the space made! We had a HUGE turnout from not only our students but community members as well. Students played games, jumped in the bounce house, won treats at the cake walk, and enjoyed food and drinks in the cafeteria. We were so lucky to have Mr. Morris and the SOAR students come to run the games so

parents could enjoy their time with their kids and the staff handled the food. I honestly think this was the best year yet!!!

- Students in Mr. Hughes' class were hard at work this week learning about different continents. They finished by writing a book about their findings. I was blown away by the knowledge they learned and their creative writing. Way to go Mr. Hughes' and room 3!

### **Jordan:**

- On Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, all teachers and classroom paraprofessionals attended the Tri-County Institute at Centralia High School. It was nice to attend workshops in person this year.
- We celebrated our U.S. Presidents during the week of Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> through Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Activities included a “Tuesday Tribute to Washington” where students were encouraged to dress up like George Washington or any other US President, “Whatever You Are Be A Good One Wednesday” where students participated in Abraham Lincoln activities and celebrated his birthday, “Red, White, and Blue Day” where students were encouraged to wear red, white, and blue to celebrate America, and “If I Were President Day” where students discussed what they would do as the President of the United States.
- On Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, our SEL Team hosted our Good Conduct Extra Play for students who met the behavior criteria. Students participated in three activities that went along with our Kids Heart Challenge. Fun was had by all who participated!
- On Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, students attended a performance of “Cows Don’t Fly and Other Known Facts”, presented by the Lexington Children’s Theatre, at the Centralia Cultural Society. Everyone enjoyed the show even though we thought we were going to see a play about Abraham Lincoln. Thanks to the Jordan PTO for funding this event.
- On Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, FFA students from Centralia High School visited the 3<sup>rd</sup>-grade classrooms. In celebration of FFA week, they played BINGO, which included facts about agriculture.
- On Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, Renee Bauer, from Grand Canyon University, brought information to share with faculty and staff about the university for anyone interested. She also provided lunch for everyone..
- This year's American Heart Association Kids Heart Challenge goal was \$1,500, and students surpassed this goal by raising \$2,425.55! Thanks to everyone who participated. A special thanks to Mrs. Wendy Jourdan and to our SEL team who organized this program. Also, thank you to the 27 Jordan families that learned Hands-Only CPR.
- Students auditioned for this year’s “Jordan’s Got Talent” show on Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> and Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Students are currently rehearsing with Mr. Bland. This show will be presented on Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at our annual Title I Family Fine Arts Festival.

- We celebrated reading with a “Dr. Seuss Week” during the week of Monday, February 26th through Friday, March 1st. Themed days included “One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish Day” where students were encouraged to wear red and blue clothing, “Green Eggs and Ham Day” where students were encouraged to wear green clothing, “Wacky Wednesday” where students were encouraged to wear their clothes backwards, inside out, or mismatched, “If I Ran A Zoo Day” where students were encouraged to dress like animals or wear animal print clothing, and “The Sleep Book Day’ where students were encouraged to wear their pajamas. Students took part in various reading activities relating to Dr. Seuss.
- On Tuesday, March 5th, 3rd-grade students traveled to Bryan Bennett Library in Salem to participate in the library’s Solar Eclipse Planetarium Experience. This was a great opportunity for students to learn about aspects of the solar system from inside the library’s inflatable planetarium. Students also participated in solar eclipse activities including a scavenger hunt. 2nd-grade students will participate on Tuesday, March 12th.
- On Thursday, March 7th, 2nd-grade students learned about careers in agriculture in the Ag in the Classroom program. Mrs. Meggan Heistand, Marion County AITC coordinator, shared that 1 in 4 jobs are agriculture related. She demonstrated this by giving students a Tootsie Roll and having them look at the ingredients. It takes over 40 different careers to make the Tootsie Roll. She then read, “Oh, the Places You’ll Go” by Dr. Seuss.
- On March 7th, SEL lessons focusing on self confidence were taught to 2nd-grade students by our SEL team and Mrs. Wendy Jourdan. Students created masks and became their own super heroes. 3rd-grade students will participate in these lessons on Thursday, March 21st.
- Girls on the Run began on Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. This program encourages girls to develop self-respect and healthy lifestyles through dynamic, interactive lessons and running games, culminating in a celebratory 5k run. Instructional coach, Mrs. Laurie Miller, coaches this program. This year there are 22 girls participating in grades 3-5 which is at full capacity for the program along with 3 returning participants who will be serving as junior coaches.
- 3rd grade students will be participating in the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) state testing in March. As an incentive, students will have a chance to get their name entered into a drawing for prizes at the end of testing. Students will earn tickets based on attendance, effort, and overall behavior during testing. We hope this will motivate students to ROCK this TEST!
- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students and teachers have been busy preparing for the upcoming IAR tests which will be administered during the week of March 11<sup>th</sup> through 15<sup>th</sup>. A “Don’t Sweat the IAR Day” was held on Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup> and a pep assembly featuring the CHS cheerleaders and our 3rd-grade students was held on this date.
- Mrs. Blair has been teaching art to students during her music classes. 2nd-grade students have been busy creating artwork based on the work of Paul Klee who is

known for his simple stick figures, suspended fish, moon faces, eyes, arrows, and quilts of color. 3rd-grade students have been creating abstract pieces based on the artwork of Wassily Kandinsky who is considered to be the father of abstract art. This artwork will be displayed in art galleries at our annual Title I Family Fine Arts Festival on Thursday, April 11th.

- Picture Person Program volunteers from the Centralia Cultural Society have started presenting art lessons to 3rd grade students. 2nd grade students will soon participate in lessons as well. Artwork from this program will be displayed at the Centralia Cultural Society in May, and students will have an opportunity to visit and view their creations.
- Mrs. Becker's 2nd grade class and Ms. DeBernardi's 2nd grade class recently completed swim lessons at the Centralia Recreation Complex. Students in Mrs. Eversgerd's 2nd grade class and Mrs. Miller's 2nd grade class are now participating. Mrs. Stroud's 2nd grade class, Mrs. Witzel's 2nd grade class, and Ms. Wysocki's class will participate in April.
- RtI math interventions are now being implemented by Mr. Krusinger, Mrs. Blair, and Ms. Issak. Lessons relating to specific student levels and deficiencies will be implemented daily to help students improve their math skills.

#### **Central:**

- **February 1st:** This marked the first day of Black History Month. Each day, students listened to a different version of 'Lift Every Voice' on the morning announcements.
- **February 6th:** First Annual CMS Science Fair. 4th and fifth grade students competed in the Science Fair and guest judges awarded first, second, and third place ribbons in each grade level. PAC council then awarded the two classes that housed the winning projects. Those students were treated to Dilly Bars from Dairy Queen.
- **February 7th:** CMS sold hugs and kisses (drinks and Hershey kisses) to students in celebration of Valentine Day. All students received a hug and a kiss courtesy of the CMS team.
- **February 12th:** Dental Safari took place over the course of two days. This program provides families with an opportunity to receive dental treatment for students since the dentist is brought into the school to accommodate the students. This date was a follow up session from earlier in the school year.
- **February 12th:** Spring Pictures were held at CMS. This is the second round of pictures provided by Lifetouch for parent purchase.
- **February 13th:** The 2nd annual School Wide Spelling Bee took place at CMS. The winners were Alliah Allgood (Reid, 4th grade winner) and Vincent Bates (Roth, 5th grade winner). Those students both went on to compete in the ROE spelling bee held at CJHS.
- **February 14th:** Classroom Valentine parties. Teachers provided treats for their students and students were permitted to enjoy the last hour of the day in celebration with their friends.

- **February 15th:** Swim lessons (in-class and at the pool) started for 5th grade students. Students travel to the Centralia Rec Complex to engage in water safety lessons.
- **February 16th:** Tri-county Institute was held in-person at CHS. Teachers had the opportunity to engage in professional development and fellowship with other area educators.
- **February 20th:** R2S2 Station Rotation. CMS students reviewed the CMS behavior expectations while using the early dismissal schedule. Students were taken through a series of mini-lessons on school wide expectations (hallway, restrooms, buses, classroom, cafeteria, and playground).
- **February 28th:** Cub of the Month Luncheon. This luncheon is used to recognize and celebrate students who have been determined to follow the CMS expectations, R2S2 (respect, responsibility, safety, and self-control). Students were treated to pizza, drinks, and dessert and they were each permitted to bring a guest.

### **CJHS:**

- The Tigers basketball team won their regional championship and the SIJHSAA State Title. It had been fourteen years since the last time this happened.
- Several all-school assemblies and a pep parade helped prepare the team for their big wins.
- Tigerette's volleyball team won 5th place at the St. Peter Lutheran Tournament.
- CJHS Band Parents hosted their first trivia night as a fundraiser. This was a successful event that we look forward to continuing each year. The funds raised will go towards the end-of-the-year trip to Holiday World.
- The CJHS blood drive met its goal of donations, and we look forward to hosting a bigger event next year.
- Dental Safari was able to provide its services to many of our students.
- We are currently working to restructure our PBIS system. Staff have been meeting to plan for next year's implementation.
- We were excited that Tri-County was back in person this year. Our staff attended so many wonderful presentations.
- Our winter sports awards were given out at an all-school assembly.
- The Tigers of the Month were celebrated with an awesome meal at Fairways and recognized at an all-school assembly.
- Tryouts were held for the musical Schoolhouse Rock Jr. Live, which Mr. Bland will lead. Our students are excited about this opportunity.
- CJHS had the pleasure of hosting the ROE 13 Marion County Spelling Bee. Twenty participants, ranging from grades 4 to 8, participated. There was a great turnout, and we were asked to host again next year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOTION #13:

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

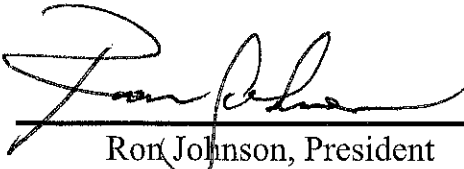
Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

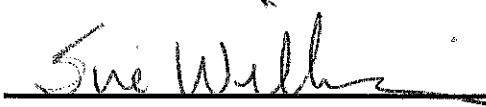
<u>MOTION #</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
JOHNSON	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
WILLIAMS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
HARLAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
BAUER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MIDDLETON	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
DODSON	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
GRIFFIN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

<u>MOTION #</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>
JOHNSON	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
WILLIAMS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
HARLAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
BAUER	-	-	-	-	-	-
MIDDLETON	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
DODSON	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
GRIFFIN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED  
Sue Williams, Board Secretary

APPROVED:

  
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Ron Johnson, President

  
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Sue Williams, Board Secretary