

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, May 14, 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, Derek Harlan
Michael Middleton, Renae Bauer and Blake Griffin

Members Absent:

Also Present: Supt. Craig E. Clark, Christina Becker, Elizabeth Elizarraraz,
Bobby Brenneisen, Jennifer Stilt, Steven Stilt, Austin Williams,
Timothia Reid, Jo Allen, Chloe Alcorn, Keely Frey, Chase Alcorn,
Blake McKay, Kelsey Brenneisen, Kelly Alcorn, Scott Alcorn, Terri
Rueter, Robert Furlong, and Jan Rueter

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

MOTION #1:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Griffin to adjourn to closed session to review personnel matters.

Adjourned to closed session at 6:01 p.m.

Reconvened to open session at 7:13 p.m.

MOTION #2:

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

1. Approval of Minutes of regular meeting held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024.
2. Approval of bills for \$1,211,157.68
3. Approval of May payroll.
4. Abolishment of the Working Cash Fund and the transfer of the fund balance to the Education Fund.
5. Approval of the final 2023-2024 School Calendar to reflect May 23, 2024, as the last day for students and May 24, 2024, as the last day for teachers.
6. Consideration of a resolution declaring surplus property and disposal of the surplus property.
7. Approval of CJHS Band, Color Guard, and Choir to Holiday World on May 24, 2024.

MOTION #3:

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

RECOGNITION AND COMMENTS FROM EMPLOYEES AND PUBLIC

1. Jenny Stilt was pleased that district employees attended a regional juvenile justice conference.
2. Bobby Brennaisen objected to a recent activity at Schiller School for a letter F countdown which involved painting student's fingernails.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

CURRICULUM REPORT

Mrs. Becker reported that final iReady diagnostics have been completed in reading and math in all grades and final F & P testing is wrapping up in grades K-5. All measures showed growth in both academic areas. The teacher mentoring program and instructional coaches received positive feedback and areas for improvement. The school improvement cycle at Schiller is ending this year. Mrs. Becker noted that Mrs. Marshall and the faculty and staff did an outstanding job continuing the work that was started after receiving initial support through this program.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

A second reading of the following PRESS Policy Updates was held:
2:40 Board Member Qualifications; 2:50 Board Member Term of Office; 2:60 Board Member Removal from Office; 2:140 Communications to and from Board; 2:140 E Exhibit Guidance for Board Member Communications, Including Email Use; 2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure; 2:265 Title IX Grievance Procedure; 2:270 Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited; 4:20 Fund Balances; 4:110 Transportation; 4:190 Targeted School Violence Prevention Program; 5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment; 5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited; 5:35 Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act; 5:40 Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease; 5:100 Staff Development Plan; 5:300 Schedules and Employment Year; 6:40 Curriculum Development; 7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities; 7:10 E Exhibit Equal Educational Opportunities within the School Community; 7:20 Harassment of Students Prohibited; 7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying Intimidation and Harassment

MOTION #4:

It was moved by Harlan and seconded by Dodson to adopt the PRESS Policy Updates as read. Motion carried.

MOTION #5:

It was moved by Bauer and seconded by Harlan to accept the bid from Kohls for food for the 2024-2025 school year. Motion carried.

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MOTION #6:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Middleton to accept the bid from S and L Produce for bread for the 2024-2025 school year. Motion carried.

MOTION #7:

It was moved by Bauer and seconded by Dodson to accept the bid from Prairie Farms for milk for the 2024-2025 school year. Motion carried.

MOTION #8:

It was moved by Bauer and seconded by Griffin to accept the resignation of Jordan Queen as Centralia Junior High School Principal. Motion carried.

MOTION #9:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Harlan to accept the resignation of Brandon Cook as Scholar Bowl Coach. Motion carried.

MOTION #10:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Harlan to accept the resignation of Stephanie Unverfehrt as Schiller School nurse. Motion carried.

MOTION #11:

It was moved by Bauer and seconded by Dodson to accept the resignation of Ashley Thompson as Classroom Paraprofessional at Jordan School. Motion carried.

MOTION #12:

It was moved by Williams and seconded by Harlan to approve employment of Erica Leger as bus driver for the 2024-2025 school year. Motion carried.

MOTION #13:

It was moved by Griffin and seconded by Harlan to approve the employment of April Kent as Centralia Junior High School secretary. Motion carried.

MOTION #14:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Griffin to approve the employment of Nicole Schwartz as ESY teacher. Motion carried.

MOTION #15:

It was moved by Harlan and seconded by Bauer to approve the transfer of Brandon Veller from 7th Grade Science to 4th Grade for the 2024-2025 school year. Motion carried.

MOTION #16:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Bauer to approve the transfer of Amber Winchester from CJHS Support Teacher to 7th Grade Science Teacher for 2024-2025 school year. Motion carried.

MOTION #17:

It was moved by Bauer and seconded by Harlan to approve the transfer of Mia Debernardi from 2nd Grade to 1st Grade for 2024-2025 school year. Motion carried.

MOTION #18:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Harlan to approve the transfer of Casey Hughes from 1st Grade to Schiller P.E. for the 2024-2025 school year. Motion carried.

MOTION #19:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Harlan to approve a maternity leave for employee #1738. Motion carried.

MOTION #20:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Harlan to accept an Intent to Retire letter from Darla Miller at the end of the 2027-2028 school year. Motion carried.

MOTION #21:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Bauer to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to prepare a Tentative School District Budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year with the Hearing for the said budget to be set for the Board Meeting on September 10, 2024. Motion carried.

MOTION #22:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Harlan to approve the School Improvement Plans for Schiller School, Jordan School, and Centralia Junior High School. Motion carried.

MOTION #23:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Bauer to approve the purchase of Benchmark Phonics for Schiller School for five years for \$48,028.90 to be paid by the School Improvement grant. Motion carried.

MOTION #24:

It was moved by Bauer and seconded by Harlan to approve the District Incident Response Plan. Motion carried.

MOTION #25:

It was moved by Dodson and seconded by Bauer to table approving a 4-year contract with the City of Centralia for a School Resource Officer. Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. CJHS Graduation will be held on Tuesday, May 21st at 6:00 p.m.
2. Building Celebrations
3. Other

Schiller:

- Schiller School has finished up iReady final diagnostic tests.
- Final F&P testing has started for us school-wide to get final reading fluency levels
- Students celebrated Earth Day with seniors from Christ Our Rock High School. The seniors came to Schiller School and ran Earth Day centers that the students rotated through. Lots of fun was had by all. A huge thank you to the seniors!
- First-grade students Zoom'd with musician Ed Hill. He is a musician from Centralia who has made his way to the music industry by playing the saxophone as well as many other instruments. He showed us around his studio, played the saxophone for us, and even included us in a music recording!
- Graphic Packaging visited the school to talk with our students and plant trees. Every student was able to plant their own tree to take home in tree cartons.
- Centralia High School Band and Choir came to Schiller School to perform for us. The students enjoyed their music with many dancing along with their music.
- Kindergarten and First-grade enjoyed their field trips to The Zone in Mt. Vernon, IL this year. The field trip was sponsored by the Schiller School PTO.
- First-grade students went to the Cultural Society to see their artwork displayed they completed with volunteers at the school. The students were excited to see their very own masterpieces on display!
- First-grade students visited Jordan School so they could have a chance to see their new school for next year.
- The ROE Pre-K came to Schiller School to visit. Incoming kindergarteners were able to walk the halls and see where they would be attending next year.
- Teacher Appreciation Week, Nurses Appreciation Week, and Principal's Day were celebrated! The staff was showered with goodies weeklong with food and treats from parents, PTO, the principal, and the moral team.

- Our very own Schiller School student Cora from Ms. Stinde's class, won the Halloween Parade theme contest. Her class will celebrate with a pizza party sponsored by the Halloween Chair and Committee.

Jordan:

- Our “ZYX Countdown” to the end of the school year continues. Each day will have a specific theme as we count down.
- Our annual Title I Family Fine Arts Festival featuring our “Jordan’s Got Talent” show, student art galleries, and a Scholastic Book Fair was held on Thursday, April 11th and was a big success. Over 300 people attended this event.
- Mrs. Stroud received an Ag Grant from the Marion County Farm Bureau and used the funds to purchase bee books, protective bee gear, tools used for beekeeping, and partner sets of “Give Bees a Chance” by Bethany Barton.
- We had a potluck on Thursday, April 18th to show our appreciation for Mrs. Donoho, our school secretary. We are grateful for all she does to help our school run smoothly.
- The FFA from CHS visited 3rd grade classes and presented a lesson on horses. Students made their own horse craft after learning lots of new things.
- Students in Mrs. Moore's 3rd grade class celebrated Earth Day by participating in various activities on April 22nd. They read "One Plastic Bag" and had fun completing a STEM activity of making their own bracelets out of plastic bags. Students were successful in completing this task and were treated to a "dirt cup." They worked with a partner to create their very own action plan of how we can make big changes in our community. As an ending to their adventures, they completed a scavenger hunt outside enjoying nature's surroundings.
- April 24th was the last day for our Reading Buddy Program. Jordan students and CJHS SOAR students were treated to a pizza party on the last visit.
- 17 Jordan staff members enjoyed the district bowling night on Wednesday, April 24th. It was a great night out with coworkers!
- On, April 26th, 2nd grade students in Mrs. Stroud’s classroom and Mrs. Witzel’s classroom participated in their last day of swim lessons and were treated to a play day. All 2nd-grade students had the opportunity to participate in swim lessons.
- April 30th was “Q’ day on our “Z,Y,X” countdown. Students decorated a quilt square. Each square was added to a schoolwide quilt in our hallway. It turned out great!
- On April 30th, the CHS Choir, Jazz Band, and Rock 101 musical groups presented an assembly to our students this afternoon. It was great to see so many former Jordan students displaying their talents in these musical organizations. Thank you to Mrs. Stephanie Aarons-Dennison, band director, and Mrs. Jami Jacobs, choir director, for bringing these talented musicians to our school and for exposing our students to what the music programs at CHS have to offer students.
- In September, Mrs. Stroud’s 2nd grade class adopted a cow from Berning Acres through the Adopt a Cow Program. Throughout the year, Farmer Natalie sent the class

information about their cow, Eleanor, (Ellie for short). She weighed 83 pounds at birth and now weighs 575 pounds. Students loved watching Ellie grow and learn facts about cows. Mrs. Stroud's class also joined a Zoom with Farmer Natalie and Ellie.

- On May 1st, students had the opportunity to travel to the Centralia Cultural Society to view the artwork they created recently during the Picture Person Program. This program is presented by the Centralia Cultural Society and provides students with exposure to famous artists and gives them the opportunity to create their own works of art.
- In honor of School Principals' Day on May 1st, Mrs. Moore's 3rd-grade students created a "What Does Our Principal Do All Day?" book. This book contained student writing about the many things that Mr. Bland does during the school day. Mr. Bland visited the classroom and read the writings with students.
- Our April "Jordan Stars" were recognized for their efforts during an assembly on Wednesday, May 1st. Students are encouraged to express and demonstrate positive behaviors daily in their classrooms and around the school to receive this recognition.
- Jacobi and Aliyanna, students in Ms. Wysocki's classroom, participated in the Special Olympics in Mt. Vernon on Friday, May 3rd. Mr. Krutsinger organized this opportunity and Ms. Thompson assisted.
- On May 3rd, we celebrated School Lunch Hero Day with our amazing cooks, Mrs. McMillan and Mrs. Whitelow, who prepare and serve delicious meals to our students throughout the school year! We are lucky to have them and appreciate all that they do.
- Third grade students had the opportunity to visit CMS.
- Mrs. Niepoetter, our school nurse, was celebrated in honor of School Nurse Day on May 8th. We appreciate the care that she provides for our students.
- Our After School Program concluded on May 9th. Students were treated to pizza and sweet treats on the last day of the program. This program offered interventions for students in the areas of reading and math. Thank you to Mr. Almy, Mrs. Nattier, and Mr. Kohlmeier who taught this program. Thanks also to our volunteers, Mrs. Glenna Bonner and Mrs. Barb McCaskey, who assisted with the program.
- 2nd grade students exhibiting good behavior and meeting our behavior criteria (75% positive Class Dojo points and no Skyward write-ups) attended a Swim and Gym at the Centralia Recreation Complex on May 10th. 3rd-grade students who qualify will participate on May 17th.
- All students attended a performance of "School House Rock Live! Jr." presented by students at CMS and CJHS and directed by Mr. Bland at City Hope Church Auditorium on May 10th.
- Students participated in the "Girls on the Run" program will participate in a 5K Run at Forest Park in St. Louis on May 11th. The final day of the program was on May 13th. This program encourages girls to develop self-respect and healthy lifestyles through dynamic, interactive lessons and running games and is led by instructional coach, Mrs. Laurie Miller.

- The 3rd iReady Diagnostic test has been administered by our classroom teachers. Students have shown growth in the areas of reading and math during the school year.
- Fountas and Pinnell testing has been administered by our sweep team consisting of Mrs. Witzel, Mrs. Nattier, Ms. Isaac, and Mr. Kohlmeier. Data displays that there has been significant improvement in reading levels and the majority of students have met or exceeded their goals for the school year.
- “Baseball Week” is May 13th-17. During this school-wide thematic unit week, the theme of baseball will be incorporated into various subject areas.
- Our Building Leadership Team will meet with Mrs. Henry and Mrs. Jourdan on May 15th to update our existing behavior plan for the upcoming school year.
- A special end-of-the-year event called “Top Notch Taco Tuesday” will be held on May 21st. This event is for students who have a 95% or above average for the school year on Class Dojo. This will be a great opportunity to celebrate those students who have exhibited good behavior and have made great choices all school year. We will have a food truck on our front parking lot and tables will be set up for these students during lunchtime.
- On May 23rd, our last day of student attendance, students will participate in both a “Play Day” for half of the day at Jordan Elementary featuring various bounce houses and treats, and a “Field Day”, organized by Mr. Krutsinger, at the CHS track featuring numerous track and field events and ribbons.

Central:

- **April 3rd, IAR/ISA Testing:** CMS students completed the testing season and demonstrated all of their hard work from the school year on the state tests. We are anxiously awaiting final student scores and will use this data to adjust our teaching strategies.
- **April 8th, Eclipse:** Teachers did activities with their students leading up to the April 8th Eclipse. Glasses were provided to all students and eventually, students spent the day at home with family and friends while watching the total eclipse.
- **April 19th, Earth Day:** CMS students traveled to Carlyle for Earth Day. A fun day was had by all and students had an opportunity to talk about current topics that impact our earth.
- **April 24th, Cub of the Month Luncheon:** recognized 12 outstanding 4th and 5th grade students. Students were invited to a pizza party and they were permitted to bring a friend of their choice.
- **April 24th, PBIS celebration:** was a snack and a movie. Students who have maintained 85% of their PBIS points were invited to an end of grading period celebration.
- **April 24th, Final I-ready diagnostic:** Students completed their final I-ready diagnostic. The results from this assessment will be used for planning for ongoing student lessons and the upcoming school year.

- **April 25th, Staff birthday celebrations:** Teachers celebrated April Birthdays with a potluck luncheon in the breakroom.
- **April 30th, Cultural Society:** Throughout the month of March and April, volunteers from picture person came into the school and worked with our students to complete art projects. The artwork was displayed at Cultural Society and students had an opportunity to take a trip and do a gallery walk of all of the artwork.
- During the month of April several of our team members were celebrated for their contributions to our team (Administrative Assistant Day, Principal's Day). Each day, team members signed up to bring in a treat to celebrate and acknowledge all of the hard work that goes into collaborating with one another to have a successful team.
- **May 1st, Conservation Day:** Fifth grade students traveled to Salem for Conservation days. Students competed in a poster making competition prior to the trip and several of our students were awarded with "best in show" certificates.
- **May 2nd, Parent of the Year Essay Contest:** Heaven Wallace in Ms. Roth's class won the Parent of the Year Essay writing contest. Her father was invited to come into the school to surprise her as her essay was read aloud and her classmates celebrated with her and her family. The family was awarded gift certificates to eat at a local restaurant.
- **May 3rd, Lunch Hero Day:** CMS recognized all of the hard work of Ms. Braun and Ms. Finckbone. We appreciate all that they do to keep our students fed. The CMS team celebrated our cooks with a potluck and a gift card.
- **May 3rd, BOGO Book Fair:** Ms. Graham organized a wonderful book fair for our students. They were able to attend and purchase books, posters, pictures, etc. The purpose of the book fair was to encourage a love of literacy. Our students look forward to the two book fairs that are held each year.
- **May 7th, 3rd Grade Tour:** Incoming 4th grade students (3rd grade Jordan School) traveled to CMS and had the opportunity to tour the building and ask questions. This activity serves to ease the transition for our incoming students.
- **May 6th-May 10th, Teacher Appreciation Week:** Every day during this week, CMS teachers were celebrated for all of their hard work. While we appreciate their hard work every day, we take this week to especially recognize them for all of their efforts to make certain that students are receiving a balanced education that will help them to become successful.
- **May 8th, 5th Grade Travel to the Arch:** Fifth grade students traveled to STL to take a trip on the waterway Tram. They enjoyed a lunch provided by the organization. A special shout out to Ms. Kenya Stacey who organized the trip and wrote the grant to secure funding for this experience. On May 16th, the 4th grade students will take the same trip and enjoy the experience of riding the waterway Tram and visiting the Arch Museum.
- **May 9th, School Nurse Appreciation Day:** Today we celebrate Nurse Amanda Schmidt and the way that she services the students at CMS and CJHS.

- **May 9th, School House of Rock:** CMS students who earned spots in the musical that is directed by Mr. Bland will perform at City Hope Church.
- **May 10th, School House of Rock:** CMS students will travel to City Hope Church to enjoy the production of School House of Rock. Several CMS students have earned lead and auxiliary roles in the production.
- **May 14th, 99%-100% PBIS celebration:** CMS students who have maintained 99-100% of their PBIS points for the entire school year will travel to Skyzone for a celebration. These students have been exemplary in following our school wide expectations and have served as role models to their peers.
- **May 17th, Cardboard Carnival:** CMS students have been working on their cardboard “video games” and carnival games for the preceding month. On the 17th, students will get to explore all of the creations from their peers when they visit the 2nd annual CMS Cardboard Carnival.
- **May 22nd, Final CMS Cub of the Month Luncheon:** The final group of students will enjoy a luncheon with their peers. These 12 students have exemplified what it means to be responsible, respectful, safe, and exercise self-control (R2S2).
- **May 23rd, EOY PBIS carnival:** Students who have maintained 85% of their points will participate in an EOY celebration with carnival activities, cake walks, and bouncy houses.

CJHS:

- CJHS celebrated Mrs. Hollenkamp for Assistant Principal’s Week. We are so thankful for all Mrs. Hollenkamp does for CJHS.
- CJHS celebrated Paraprofessional Appreciation Day with sweet treats in the lounge, a token of our immense gratitude. Our paraprofessionals play a pivotal role in our students' success, and their support and guidance are invaluable.
- CJHS Celebrated National School Librarian’s Day. We are genuinely grateful for Ms. Graham's dedication to helping grades 4-8.
- Our administrative assistants were celebrated with a nice lunch at Joe’s Pizza. The ladies in the office are valuable assets to our building, and we are grateful for all they do.
- The scholar bowl team finished 2nd in the consolation bracket at the Quad County Meet held at City Hope.
- Bradford Bank presented State Tournament Champion t-shirts to the Tigers and cheerleaders.
- Eighth-grade students went to Kaskaskia College to attend the Career Conference and listen to presentations about future career options in the area.
- SAFE came and presented to all of the physical education classes about human trafficking and being aware of your surroundings.
- Lifetouch was on campus to take spring sports pictures.
- 7th-grade SOAR students presented to area schools at the Carlyle Lake Earth Day Celebration.
- 8th grade students completed the ISA (Illinois Science Assessment).

- 6th-grade SOAR students presented at the Safety Ag Day at Rend Lake.
- CJHS's mid-term celebration consisted of blacklight bingo, kickball, movies, and board games in the library.
- April Tigers of the Month were celebrated with a lunch at Monicals and awarded at an assembly.
- Students who earned 99 & 100 percent of their PBIS points for the year were treated with attending the Gateway Grizzlies baseball game.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOTION #26:

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

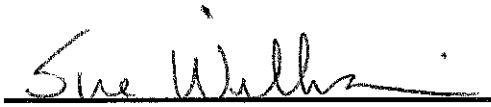
Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

MOTION #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
JOHNSON	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
HARLAN	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
MIDDLETON	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
GRIFFIN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

MOTION #	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
JOHNSON	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
HARLAN	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
MIDDLETON	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
GRIFFIN	Y	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