

Date: December 13, 2024

To: Pana C.U.S.D. #8 Board of Education

From: Dr. David R. Lett, (Interim) Superintendent of Schools

Subject: **Superintendent's Report and Board Actions for December 16, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

A. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Consent Agenda Items - Please contact me or Kari Medler or Dr. Lett prior to the meeting if you have any questions with any of this month's payables. We had no FOIA requests this month.

A. Reading/Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes 11.18.24

B. Approval of Monthly Bills and Payrolls - The good news is Kari had all of this month's bills on the financial system to be paid by mid-week of Board week. This is definite progress!

i. Accounts Payable and Payroll Report

C. Treasurer's Report (November)

i. Financial Reports - We will not have the Treasurer's Report this month because we are still working to reconcile our bank account with our financial system from the past 3 months and at this point I would prefer not putting an unreconciled Treasurer's Report in the consent agenda for you to approve if I'm not completely sure of its completeness. We are also working on a plan to have our Cafeteria Report scrutinized by Robin Yockey along with having her make recommendations on how we want to structure consolidating and creating better controls over our Activity Accounts moving forward. I made the decision not to include the Cafe Report this month in the packet due to that oversight work being conducted by Robin in early January.

ii. Other Financial Information

1. Donation Approvals - We had 2 significant donations this month that we are recommending you approve. The 1st is from Janice & Wayne Crowl for the Music Boosters in the amount of \$500 and the 2nd donor would like to remain anonymous and was \$1,470 for girls basketball, \$1,600 for boys baseball, \$548.69 for Drama and \$1075 for FFA.

D. FOIA Request(s) - No FOIA Requests

Action: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda inclusive of payables totaling \$426,723.01 and payrolls totaling \$2,417,370.18 for a total payables and payroll of \$2,844,093.19.

3. Visitor, Teacher, & Support Staff Considerations

A. No requests this month.

4. Committee Reports

A. **Facilities** - James Moon, Jeff Stauder, and Dr. Lett will provide an overview of the meeting held on 12.04.24. We held the meeting at the PHS Library and invited public participation. I believe the Facility Committee members walked away from this meeting believing the best solution for Washington & Lincoln Schools remains demolition. I will be seeking confirmation of this position as part of our reflection on the outcome of this meeting. In addition, I will be making the Board aware of a potential partnership with the City of Pana to purchase the old WalMart Building. I will explain how this potential partnership would work. We will also have a presence at the City Council Meeting also on Monday night to explain what our thoughts are for the use of the building. Finally, it was decided to use Price-Spracklen locally to conduct an Auction of the contents of Washington & Lincoln Schools with the District splitting the proceeds equally with Price-Spracklen for conducting the Auction. This will be a Facilities Committee recommendation coming to the full Board. Next Meeting: TBD

Action: Motion to accept the proposal with Price-Spracklen Auction Group to conduct an Auction of the contents of Washington & Lincoln Elementary Schools.

B. **Finance** - Did not meet this month. (Tentative) Next Meeting: Mon., Jan. 13th @ 6:30am

C. **Curriculum** - Mr. Donahue, Mr. McDonald, & Kyle Anderson will provide an overview of the meeting held on 12.09.24. There will be a recommendation brought forward from the Curriculum Committee to approve the HS Course Guide changes recommended and reviewed by the High School Staff & Administration. As part of this recommendation there is also a plan to phase out Valedictorian and Salutatorian recognitions and replacing those recognitions with Latin Honors recognitions (i.e. Magna Cum Laude, Summa Cum Laude, and Cum Laude). Next Meeting: TBD

Action: Motion to accept the H.S. Course Guide Changes for 2025-2026 and the recommendation to phase out Valedictorian and Salutatorian recognitions and replace those with Latin Honors Recognition at the conclusion of the 2027-2028 School Year.

- D. **Pana Education Foundation** - Mrs. Miller will provide an overview of the meeting held on 11.20.24. Next Meeting: Wed., Dec. 18th @ 7:00am

5. Administrative Reports

- A. **Principals** - All of our building principals will be present for this meeting and will provide at least 1 highlight from their submitted reports.

- 1. **Athletic Director's Report** - We've asked Stile Smith, District AD to provide us with a fall athletic highlight summary of our programs. We would also like him to provide us with some preview/early season comments about our winter athletic programs.

- B. **Building & Transportation** - Jeff Stauder will provide highlights from his submitted written report. Jeff will also have a recommendation for the District to sell 3 buses and a forklift.

Action: Motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing The Sale of Two School Buses, One Minibus, and One Forklift That is Property of the Board of Education of Pana Community Unit School District No. 8

- C. **Curriculum & Instruction** - Mr. Donahue will provide highlights from his written curriculum & grant report(s).

- D. **Superintendent**

1. Personnel Recommendations (Will follow Executive Session)

Action: Motion to approve the December Employment Report as reviewed and presented in the Executive Session.

- 2. **2024 Tax Levy** - Last month we provided in-depth analysis of the levy request. In summary we are recommending an overall levy increase of 13% from the previous year. Despite this aggressive increase the overall rate is not projected to increase 4.79 (2024 Est.) vs. 4.80 (2023 Actual). The reason we need to be this aggressive with the levy increase is to be able to capture another projected double digit EAV Increase. I am predicting the double digit growth in EAV is going to slow dramatically in the future so capturing that growth while it is available is important as other state and federal revenues slow or decline in the future.

If the EAV projections hold true this would mean an additional **\$476,509** for the Education Fund, **\$93,433** new dollars for the Operations & Maintenance (Building) Fund, and **\$37,373** for the Transportation Fund. This would be a total increase of **\$607,315** in the three primary operating funds.

Action: Motion to approve the District's 2024 Tax Levy

3. **Resolution abating the taxes heretofore levied for the year 2024 to pay debt service on the General Obligation School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2019, and General Obligation School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2023, of Community Unit School District Number 8, Christian, Shelby and Montgomery Counties, Illinois** - Passage of this resolution is now an annual procedural step needed to be taken by the Board until the alternative revenue bond principal and interest is paid off. The abatement resolution must be approved by the Board and delivered to each of the County Clerk's prior to the end of February 2025 in order to prevent property taxes from being collected during the 2025 calendar year for the 2024 bond issue. The 1% sales tax revenue has been pledged to make our annual bond payments for the PES project.

Action: Motion to approve the resolution(s) abating taxes heretofore levied for the year 2024 to pay debt service on the General Obligation School Bonds (Alternative Revenue Source), Series 2019, and General Obligation School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2023, of Community Unit School District Number 8, Christian, Shelby and Montgomery Counties, Illinois.

4. **NPT Special Education Cooperative Report** - Dr. Lett will provide a brief overview of the NPT Board Meeting held 11.19.24. The next meeting is scheduled for Tues., Dec. 17th.

Action: No Action Required.

6. Executive Session

- A. Discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District, student discipline, litigation, the setting of price for sale or lease of property owned by the District, and collective negotiating matters.
- B. Employment/Compensation/Resignation recommendations.

Action: Motion to enter executive session for the discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District, student discipline, litigation, the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the District, and collective bargaining matters, as well as employment/compensation/resignation recommendations.

Action: Motion to leave Executive Session and return to Open Session.

Action: Motion to approve Executive Session minutes as read in executive session.

Action: Motion to approve the Superintendent's personnel recommendations as reviewed and presented from executive session.

7. Communications

8. Board Member Considerations

9. Adjournment

Action: Motion to adjourn the meeting.