

**SCALES MOUND COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #211
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
November 18, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Scales Mound Community Unit School District #211 was held in the district library on Monday, November 18th at 6 pm.

President Paul Homb called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Keri Connor called roll with the following members answering:

Paul Homb-Present
Peter Zito-Present
Katie Meusel-Present
Jim Stoewer-Present
Staci Duerr-Absent
Jeff Bader-Present
Ashlee Miller-Present

Administration Present: Dr. Marybeth DeLaMar, Superintendent & Dr. Matt Wiederholt, Principal

Others Present for the Meeting: David Hoftender, Andrea Pickel, and Amanda Stich

Peter Zito moved to amend the agenda and move personnel items to closed session prior to approving. This was seconded by Katie Meusel. All present voted in favor.

Ashley Miller moved to approve the open and closed session minutes from the regular meeting on October 21, 2024, approve bills, and payroll in an amount to be determined once entered, the Treasurer's report and other financial reports, FOIA report, and destruction of the closed session audio recording for March of 2023. This was seconded by Jeff Bader. All present voted in favor.

Staci Duerr entered the meeting at 6:10 pm.

Dave Hoftender presented to the board plans and costs for projects associated with asphaltting the school bus lot as well as a new lot to be created on property owned by the school located across the street and next door to the Old School Saloon. Dave and the building committee will visit with the Village of Scales Mound on their interest in working together on the project and he will then put out bids for the work.

Business Office Report: Dr. DeLaMar updated the board on training and cross training happening in the office for various financial and accounting duties.

Dr. Wiederholt provided the Principal's Report and reported on the following items:

- The school play "Holy Mother of Bingo" was held on November 8th and November 9th. Special thanks was extended to Krista Wilhelm, Andrea Pickel, and the students who participated in the play whom made it a success.

- The annual Veteran's Program was held on November 11th. It kicked off with a breakfast for all Veterans put on by the Scales Mound FFA and was followed by a program where all Veterans present were honored and the elementary, junior high and high school students performed to show their appreciation for all our local Veterans have done. Special thanks was extended to Lisa Oellerich and the FFA for putting on the breakfast, Krista Wilhelm for directing the musical portion of the program, and Penny Schelberger for leading the program.
- The Scales Mound annual Turkey Tournament will be held the week of November 25th to kickoff the area high school basketball season. Special thanks was extended to Mr. Wiegel for his working in organizing this tournament.
- The Christmas concerts for elementary, junior high and high school will take place on Sunday, December 8th.
- Midway of the 2nd quarter has arrived and Progress Reports will be submitted on Friday, November 22nd for all students.
- Last day of attendance before the Thanksgiving break will be November 26th with an early out.
- Ben Sondgeroth of Learning Technology Center presented to the staff on the November SIP day on the topic of AI (Artificial Intelligence) and the positive and negative impacts it will have on education. The presentation was very informative and Mr. Sondgeroth will return to the district again in February to provide more information on this very important topic.
- The week of November 18th is American Education Week. Several events are planned throughout the week including a family art evening, staff chili cookoff, educator swap day, and a subs for subs luncheon.

The School Advisors to the Board were not present and did not provide a report.

Dr. DeLaMar provided the Superintendent's Report and reported on the following items:

- The Wellness Committee has a meeting scheduled on 11/20/24 to review additional information regarding insurance options and plans. More information will be reported to the board after this meeting.
- Scales Mound School will undergo a district compliance review by the ROE of several items including our school policies, food service program, and student records. Results of this review will be forthcoming to the Board.
- Dr. DeLaMar and the school interventionists attended the Raising Student Achievement Conference to gather new insights on how best to assist our students in achieving their short term and long term academic growth goals.

There were no SMEA report.

PTO Report:

- PTO continues to need volunteers for upcoming concession stand dates and will now offer financial incentive to those students partaking in one of the upcoming Travelers' trips by offering \$20 to be used toward the cost of the trips for working an event in the concession stand.

Dr. DeLaMar reported on the CTE and ERVDS meeting held on November 12th

- Jenny Blocker from the Benning Group presented the CTE and ERVDS audit reports.
- The financial transition of bookkeeping from the ROE to the CTE continues moving forward.
- The CTE Maintenance Grant is now completed and ready to be submitted to the State of Illinois.
- The CTE Advisory Committees will participate at the upcoming Jo Daviess County all district in-service day scheduled for January 6, 2025.

Dr. DeLaMar reported on the NWSE meeting held on November 12th

- Training and professional development services continue throughout all the school districts.
- Certified staff members will attend the Raising Student Achievement conference.
- Enrollment stands at 27 students with 1 remaining spot to be filled beginning in December 2024. At that time, all students will be filled.

No other reports from other committees were presented.

Old Business:

Discussion was held on Press Plus Issue 116 which centers around Title IX and language regarding discrimination and grievances. The bank's attorney provided suggested language for the school to use in our policy. The board decided to not take action on this until additional information is shared through sessions at the upcoming School Board conference on November 21st and 22nd.

Dr. DeLaMar updated the board on the school's Maintenance Grant. All documentation has been completed and will be submitted once appropriate signatures have been obtained.

New Business:

Discussion was held on removing the former bookkeeper from all bank accounts held at Apple River State Bank. Jeff Bader motioned to approve the removal of Melissa Wachter from all bank accounts held at Apple River State Bank. This was seconded by Ashley Miller. Peter Zito abstained from the vote. All others present voted in favor.

Discussion was held on adding Keri Connor and Amanda Vondran to all bank accounts held at Apple River State Bank. Ashlee Miller motioned to approve the addition of Keri Connor and Amanda Vondran to all bank accounts held at Apple River State Bank. This was seconded by Katie Meusel. Peter Zito abstained from the vote. All others present voted in favor.

Dr. DeLaMar shared the results of Scales Mound's School report card and summative designations. She also shared information provided by Steve Herkert, Administrative Consultant with the ROE on the designations and areas that the school can focus on to raise our overall designations. He will be on site to meet with staff on January 10th to discuss further.

Discussion was held concerning this year's tax levy. Dr. DeLaMar will continue to work on this and will present it to the board for approval at the December meeting.


Discussion was held concerning a field trip for the FFA to travel to DuQuoin, Illinois (greater than 50 miles). Peter Zito motioned to approve the field trip. This was seconded by Jim Stoewer. All present voted in favor.

Discussion was held concerning a Junior High Quarter #1 Reward Trip to Top Golf in Byron, Illinois (greater than 50 miles). Katie Meusel motioned to approve the rewards trip. This was seconded by Peter Zito. All present voted in favor.


Jim Stoewer motioned to enter into closed session for the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees and for student disciplinary cases at Scales Mound CUSD #211 (5 ILCS 120/ 2@1), as amended by P.A.93-0057) at 6:50pm. This was seconded by Ashley Miller. All present voted in favor.

Jim Stoewer motioned to return to open session at 8:20pm. This was seconded by Jeff Bader. All present voted in favor.

Jeff Bader motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:22pm. This was seconded by Katie Meusel. All present voted in favor.



President



Secretary