

**LELAND COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**370 NORTH MAIN STREET, LELAND, IL 60531**  
**March 20, 2024 – 7:00 p.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

President Anderson called the regular meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Present: Al Kinney, Jake Swenson, Dan Todd, Heather Wesson, Megan Brennan, Tage Shumway, and Claire Anderson  
Absent: None

Also in attendance were administrators Jodi Moore and Chris Bickel.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**4. OPEN FORUM**

No one was present from the public body.

**5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Todd moved and Kinney seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- 5.1 Regular Meeting Open and Closed Session Minutes from February 21, 2024
- 5.2 Monthly Bills and Financial Statements for February and March as presented
- 5.3 Annual District Consolidated Plan for 2024-2025
- 5.4 Updated District Calendar for 2024-2025

Kinney moved and Todd seconded the motion to approve the items in the consent agenda.

Ayes: Heather Wesson, Dan Todd, Tage Shumway, Jake Swenson, Al Kinney, Megan Brennan, and Claire Anderson

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED on 7-0 vote.

**6. SENIOR TRIP FUNDRAISING**

Dr. Moore discussed previous Board actions regarding Senior Class trips dated back to January 2015. Historically and presently, the board had expressed concerns about fundraising for a senior trip that has a history of issues, including but not limited to lack of a clear focus, planning, and educational relevance.

Shumway moved and Swenson seconded the motions to 1.) discontinue future practice of school sponsored senior trips, with the exception of permitted day trips for the current senior class of 2024; and 2.) discontinue fundraising specific to graduating class accounts and to retain funds currently in those accounts to offset the cost of prom for their respective junior years.

Ayes: Jake Swenson, Heather Wesson, Megan Brennan, Dan Todd, Tage Shumway, Al Kinney, and Claire Anderson

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED on 7-0 vote.

### **7. IVVC COMMITTEE BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENT**

At the February 2024 Board Meeting, Al Kinney expressed a desire to step down as the board member representative on the IVVC Executive Committee. After discussion, Al decided to continue as the board member representative for IVVC.

Shumway moved and Todd seconded a motion to reappoint Al Kinney to fill the role of board member representative on the IVVC Executive Committee.

MOTION CARRIED on 6-0 voice vote.

### **8. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

*For Discussion Only*

Mr. Bickel presented the following updates:

Shout out to everyone who contributed to Grandparents Day. It was a successful event!

#### Leader in Me

On March 15<sup>th</sup>, Leland hosted Grandparents Day from 2:00pm - 4:30pm. The grandparents spent some time in the classroom before being invited down to the gym for an all-school assembly where they got the chance to hear from a few student speakers and play "The Price Is Right." Grandparents and students were then invited to some rounds of Bingo in the gym from 3:15 - 4:30.

Mr. Bickel has asked the CIA to collaborate in getting community involvement in the planning for Community Awards Night. Tentatively, Leland will host the awards night on May 16<sup>th</sup> with a similar format as has been used in the past. Students, staff, and parents were at the first planning meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup> and will continue to contribute to the event as it is planned.

The first elementary lighthouse team has been formed consisting of students in grades 2-4. They will be having their first meeting right after spring break during their lunch/recess time. Mrs. Hart, Mrs. Flewellin, and Mrs. Featherston are helping lead this group to get started.

#### 24-25 Working Master Schedule and Courses

Mr. Bickel provided a link for board members to view a working draft of the schedule for next year. In one model, there is an attempt to move our Drivers Ed instruction to Homeroom time and would meet every day. If Leland went with this model, Drivers Education would be offered for Sophomore students in 1st semester and Freshman students who turn 15 before January 1<sup>st</sup>. With this model, there would be an update to the HS health education class, making it a full-year course. It is also possible that Leland would offer an additional HS agriculture course. This is dependent on staffing options working with Somonauk and the FFA Chapter.

## K-6 ELA Curriculum

K-6 teachers and Mr. Bickel have continued working hard on securing a reading and language arts resource that is the best fit for Leland students. As a team, we have narrowed our focus to two different options. Those options were provided to the board via online links. A final decision will be made after meeting with Book Worms curriculum specialists.

## Upcoming Dates

3/21 – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Springfield Trip  
3/22 – End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 1:00pm Dismissal  
3/25-4/1 – Spring Break  
4/3-4/5 – JH Washington DC Trip  
4/8 – State testing window opens

## **9. WCC DUAL CREDIT INFORMATION**

### *For Discussion Only*

Dr. Moore discussed our current policies and procedures for students earning dual credit through Waubensee Community College. Each student has been assigned to a staff member who checks in with them, checks TeacherEase for grades and missing assignments, and reports progress periodically to the counselor. There are a few issues that administration and the counselor are addressing. One concern is that students who drop dual-credit courses or do not end up signing up for a course are placed in an 85-minute study hall instead of an academic class. Another issue is that students are taking more courses, some courses being dual-credit, than are included in the high school schedule. A possible solution for this issue is to offer “Zero Hour” classes (i.e. classes start at 7:15a.m., before school starts for the day). Mr. Shumway identified a concern with students taking dual-credit courses who are not scoring in the proficient range on state testing. Mrs. Moore agreed to investigate his concern.

## **10. INMAN FUNDS**

### *For Discussion Only*

The Inman Scholarship Fund was initially established with a \$5,000 donation by Mrs. Donna Inman in memory of her husband, Dick Inman, for the purpose of an annual scholarship to a graduating senior. This past year, an additional endowment fund was provided to the district from Donna Inman’s estate after her passing. There are no stipulations or requirements associated with the funds. Dr. Moore would like direction from the current Board as to how to utilize the additional funds. They could become part of the scholarship account, they could be used to offset costs of the gym floor resurfacing, or they could possibly be used for fitness equipment. A decision can be made as an action item on a future agenda.

## **11. OTHER BUSINESS**

### *For Discussion Only*

Mr. Bickel reported that the Regional Office of Education (ROE) compliance visit went well. Mrs. Brennan stated that the Earlville cooperative for baseball has been wonderful. She recounted how welcoming the Earlville principal and coaches were with Leland students. The cooperative has been so successful that they have hired additional coaches and added a JV team with 10 more games in the season.

**12. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Wesson moved and Brennan seconded the motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body; and collective negotiating matters.

MOTION CARRIED on 7-0 voice vote.

Adjourned to closed session at 7:55 p.m.

**13. COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT**

Kinney moved and Todd seconded the motion to approve the 3-year Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Leland Education Association.

MOTION CARRIED on 7-0 voice vote.

**14. APPROVE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NON-REEMPLOYMENT OF FULL-TIME NON-TENURED TEACHER**

Anderson moved and Todd seconded the motion to approve the resolution authorizing non-reemployment of full-time, non-tenured teacher, Amy Wormely, not in last year of probationary service.

MOTION CARRIED on 7-0 voice vote.

**15 and 16. APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL**

Brennan moved and Kinney seconded the motion to approve the recommendation to hire Tracie Huss as paraprofessional and to accept Michelle Scheller's letter of intent to retire at the end of the 2023-2024 school year.

MOTION CARRIED on 7-0 voice vote.

**17 ADJOURNMENT**

Todd moved and Swenson seconded the motion to adjourn the March 20, 2024 meeting at 8:26 p.m..

MOTION CARRIED all in favor.

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Board President – Claire Anderson

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Board Secretary – Heather Wesson