

Litchfield Community Unit District No. 12  
Board of Education Meeting  
District Office  
1100 N Old Route 66  
Litchfield, IL. 62056  
Tuesday, August 15, 2023  
6:00p.m.

The Litchfield Board of Education held their regular monthly meeting beginning at 5:30p.m. at the South Central Illinois Workforce Training and Innovation Center (SCI), 2001 Eilerman Avenue, Litchfield, IL. 62056 Board members in attendance included: Julie Abel, President; Ron Anglin, Vice-President; Valerie Cain, Secretary, David Belusko, Mark Bloome and Jimmy Gorowski. Gregg Hires was absent. Also, in attendance were: Dr. Gregg Fuerstenau, Superintendent; Jennifer Thompson, Director of Curriculum; Kris Adamson, Recording Secretary and Administrators: Adam Favre, Jeremy Heigert, Russ Tepen, Hilary Wagenblast and Juletta Ellis. Bob Witter, Buildings and Grounds/Transportation Director was in attendance. John Hanafin, Litchfield News Herald and Mary Herschelman, Journal News. Concerned parents and citizens.

The Board had a final walk through at the SCI Area Career Center. Students would be starting classes there on Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. Programs offered at this time will be Automotive, Welding and Construction trades. McKay Napa Auto Parts and Worksaver have made donations to the center. The district received an \$8 million dollar grant from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to start this facility. Students from Montgomery and Macoupin counties will be attending. The facility has room for growth to offer other area career paths in the future.

#### Regular Board meeting

The Board of Education reconvened the meeting at the District Office, 1100 N Old Route 66, Litchfield, IL. 62056 The meeting was called to order at 6:15pm. Gregg Hires was absent from the meeting.

#### Citizens agenda

NA

#### Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Jimmy Gorowski to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

Approve regular meeting minutes from July 18, 2023

Approve monthly bills

Approve Treasurer's report

Bills payable total \$1,945,811.40. Total from Education fund: \$379,926.72. Operations & Maintenance: \$54,407.59.

Transportation: \$16,977.50. Capital Projects \$961,768.94. Tort \$6,887.10. Health-Life-Safety: \$525,843.55. Ending balance in all funds at 7/31/23 is \$23,885,856. Balance in operating funds is \$15,517,147. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

#### Old Business

The process for the search for a new superintendent continues. Mr. Jim Helton was available to speak with the staff on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Staff members were asked what they were looking for in the applicants. Board members had questions about the number of people who participated. It was a voluntary event. As the meeting, eleven applications have been received. Mr. Helton will attend the September board meeting with the results of the interviews and to answer questions from the board members. There will be a special meeting on October 3, 2023. The Board will go into closed session to discuss the slate of candidates and the guidance for the interview process.

#### New Business

Updates were given on each of the sites by Peter Ratermann, Poettker Construction and Emily Spindler, FGM Architects. Gave updates on the three projects the district has at this time. Litchfield Elementary School is open and minor construction issues were being addressed. With the rising temperatures and high humidity, moisture in the gym and cafeteria are have been an issue. Poettker Construction is working with Johnson Controls and other subcontractors to remedy the issue. Litchfield Elementary School held an open house on Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup>. Several community members attended. SCI is waiting on LVP flooring to be put down in classroom areas. Materials were sent to Texas instead of Illinois. Construction is moving forward with Litchfield Primary School. Foundation is formed for the kindergarten wing. The Prekindergarten addition is out for bid. Those bids will be opened in late August and presented at the September board meeting.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the contract change order PCCO # 027 with Poettker construction for the Litchfield Elementary School in the amount of \$ 0.00. This change event is for tracking the costs associated with R&R Glass defaulting on their contract. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the contract change order PCCO # 001 with Poettker construction for the Litchfield Primary School project in the amount of \$ 43,290.45. This change event is for tracking the costs associated with the omitted door hardware in the base bid specifications. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the contract change order PCCO # 028 with Poettker construction for the Litchfield Elementary School in the amount of \$ 2,579.57. This change event is for tracking the costs associated with HVAC design back charges. The change order involves wrapping three exposed runs of duct work that were sweating on occasion. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the contract change order PCCO # 002 with Poettker construction for the Litchfield Primary School project in the credit amount of -\$ 16,739.05. This change event is for tracking the costs associated with removing masonry scope of work with the site monument sign. Foundation and electrical work to remain. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the contract change order PCCO # 019 with Poettker construction for the South Central Illinois(SCI) Regional Workforce Training and Innovation Center in the amount of \$ 28,280.34. This change event is for tracking the costs associated with adding LVP flooring in lieu of sealed concrete. We anticipate this work to take place in late August/Early September. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Jimmy Gorowski to approve the contract change order PCCO # 020 with Poettker construction for the South Central Illinois(SCI) Regional Workforce Training and Innovation Center in the amount of \$ 4,810.64. This change event is for tracking the costs associated with parking blocks added into the project scope of work. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the contract change order PCCO # 021 with Poettker construction for the South Central Illinois(SCI) Regional Workforce Training and Innovation Center in the credit amount of - \$ 2,949.75. This change event is for tracking the costs associated with removing the CNC Exhaust hood, fan and associated ductwork. This change event is also for tracking additional electrical work for added welding power receptacles. This change event also tracks cost associated with painting the additional conduit and boxes needed. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Jimmy Gorowski to approve a budget hearing for the 2023-2024 fiscal year (beginning July 1, 2023) for Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the District Office 1100 N. Old Route 66, Litchfield, IL., and that the budget as prepared by the district's chief fiscal officer, Superintendent Dr. Gregory Fuerstenau, will be available for public inspection for at least thirty (30) days prior to its adoption on September 19, 2023; and that proper notice be given. School code requires that the tentative budget be on display thirty (30) days prior to final action taken on the budget. The budget must be adopted within the first quarter of the fiscal year, which ends September 30, 2023. The September 19<sup>TH</sup> budget hearing will be following the required amount of time between public review of the budget and adoption of the 2023-2024 fiscal year budget. Note this will be the last year for ESSR funding. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to designate Ida J. Russell Elementary School, 705 N Jefferson St, Litchfield, IL. 62056 as surplus property for the Litchfield Community Unit School District #12. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0. Bids will be received and presented to the Board at the September meeting.

#### Information Items

FOIA request were fulfilled for HERC Rentals, Inc. Dr. Fuerstenau stated that the auditors were at the District office this week. The FY24 budget would be on display at the district office and would be presented at a public hearing before the September meeting. Thanks went out to the technology and custodial departments for getting the buildings ready for the school year. Enrollment on day one as 1228. The Illinois State Board of Education has designated the SCI as an Area Career Center. Dr. Lett and Dr. Fuerstenau will present this project at an upcoming superintendent's meeting. iReady will be utilized again this year for testing the students in grades K-8. New classes are being offered at the Middle and High School this year. Mrs. Ellis and Dr. Tepen presented the offerings at a previous meeting. Mr. Heigert thanked everyone staff, parents, students, and Litchfield Police Department for the help in getting the year off to such a great start. The Litchfield police department provided guidance to traffic around the new Elementary School. Administrators are grateful for the District to start the school year fully staffed. Substitute teachers will be an issue again

this year. The Elementary schools K-5 will have a new fundraiser this year. It is based solely on donations. More information will be sent to the parents soon.

#### Closed Session

NA

#### Personnel

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to accept the resignation of Mae Shriver as the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Girls Basketball coach effective August 2, 2023. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to accept the resignation of Daniel Bonnell as the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Boys Basketball coach effective immediately. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the hire of Jennifer Fleming as the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Girls Basketball coach beginning the 2023-2024 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Gorowski. Abstain – Cain Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the hire of Sydney Weatherford as an aide to the Make It program effective immediately. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the hire of Emily Hasquin as an aide for the Make It program effective immediately. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the family medical leave request from Ashley Hunsinger, Pre-Kindergarten teacher beginning January 3, 2024 and returning on March 1, 2024. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to accept the resignation of Mary Jo Weeks, cafeteria cook as of August 7, 2023. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to accept the letter of intent to retire from Robin Meade, bus driver as of September 15, 2023. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

Seeing no further action to be taken, a motion was made Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to adjourn the meeting at 7:33p.m. Voice Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.