

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
FORRESTVILLE VALLEY C.U.S.D. #221  
August 21, 2024

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The Board of Education of the Forrestville Valley Unit School District #221, Counties of Ogle and Stephenson, Illinois, met in the Forreton Junior Senior High School Library on August 21, 2024, for a regular meeting.

**A. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance**

The regular meeting was called to order by President Braker at 6:30 p.m. All rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B. Roll Call**

Members Present: Chip Braker, Don Cook, Shaun Gallagher, Bob Gronewold, Shawnda Ludwig, Dr. April Moore, and Dr. Craig Pauls

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Superintendent Sheri Smith, Travis Heinz, and Heather Politsch

**C. Review and Adoption of Board of Education Agenda**

A motion was made by Member Ludwig and seconded by Member Moore to adopt the Board of Education agenda as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Ludwig, Moore, Gallagher, Pauls, Cook, Gronewold, and Braker

NAY: None

**D. Recognition of Visitors and Public Comment**

No members of the public addressed the board.

**E. Consent Agenda**

Member Cook requested the consent agenda items be voted on individually due to his absence at the previous meeting. President Braker honored this request.

1. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Regular & Closed Meeting Minutes of July 17, 2024
  - b. Special Meeting Minutes of August 12, 2024

A motion was made by Member Gallagher and seconded by Member Moore to approve the minutes as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Gallagher, Moore, Ludwig, Gronewold, Pauls, and Braker

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Cook

2. Approval of Monthly Financial Statement

A motion was made by Member Gronewold and seconded by Member Gallagher to approve the monthly financial statement as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Gronewold, Gallagher, Cook, Moore, Ludwig, Pauls, and Braker  
NAY: None

3. Approval of Personnel Report – no personnel report

4. Approval of Payment of Bills & Claims

A motion was made by Member Ludwig and seconded by Member Cook to approve the payment of bills and claims as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Ludwig, Cook, Pauls, Gallagher, Moore, Gronewold, and Braker  
NAY: None

5. Approval of Activity Accounts

A motion was made by Member Moore and seconded by Member Pauls to approve the activity accounts as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Moore, Pauls, Gallagher, Ludwig, Gronewold, Cook, and Braker  
NAY: None

Mr. Schrader joined the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

**F. Cardinal Strong Spotlight – Introduction of New 2024-2025 Teaching Staff**

Mrs. Smith introduced new teaching staff for the 2024-2025 school year to the Board of Education as follows:

<b><u>STAFF MEMBER</u></b>	<b><u>POSITION</u></b>
McKenna Christianson	FGS 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Tylor Fuchs	FJSHS Special Education
Madalyn Hicks	GVGS Kindergarten
Debra Ross	FGS 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade

**G. Superintendent's Report**

1. Back to School Highlights
  - a. New Teacher Orientation
  - b. District Institute Days
  - c. 2024-2025 Staffing
  - d. 2024 – 2025 Registration
  - e. Free & Reduced Priced Lunch Guidelines
  - f. Assessment Testing Calendar
2. Building Highlights
  - a. FJSHS Highlights
  - b. FGS Highlights
  - c. GVGS Highlights
3. Athletic Highlights
  - a. Fall Sports Preview
4. Facilities Highlights
  - a. Summer 2024 Projects Update
5. Community Highlights
  - a. 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Forreston's Vedra Scramble for Education Golf Outing – September 21, 2024
  - b. Blessings Alamode
6. Staff Communications
  - a. August Staff Bulletin
7. Notes of Appreciation
8. Annual Reporting
  - a. EIS Administrator & Teacher Salary & Benefits Report 2023 - 2024

**H. District Financial Report**

1. FY24 District Audit – August 26 – 30, 2024

**I. Board Action and Discussion**

1. Resolution Calling a Public Hearing Concerning the Intent of the Board to Issue not to Exceed \$1,800,000 of Working Cash Fund Bonds

A motion was made by Member Gallagher and seconded by Member Pauls to approve a resolution calling a public hearing concerning the intent of the board to issue not to exceed \$1,800,000 of working cash fund bonds as presented. After discussion, on a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Gallagher, Pauls, Cook, Moore, Ludwig, Gronewold, and Braker

NAY: None

2. Resolution of Intent to Issue not to Exceed \$1,800,000 of Working Cash Fund Bonds

A motion was made by Member Gallagher and seconded by Member Cook to approve a resolution of intent to issue not to exceed \$1,800,000 of working cash fund bonds as presented. After discussion, on a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Gallagher, Cook, Moore, Ludwig, Gronewold, Pauls, and Braker

NAY: None

3. Approval of Municipal Advisory Agreement with PMA Securities

A motion was made by Member Gallagher and seconded by Member Cook to approve the municipal advisory agreement with PMA Securities as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Gallagher, Cook, Moore, Ludwig, Pauls, Gronewold, and Braker

NAY: None

4. Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with Village of Forreston & Forreston Police Department

A motion was made by Member Pauls and seconded by Member Ludwig to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Forreston and Forreston Police Department as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Pauls, Ludwig, Gallagher, Gronewold, Cook, Moore, and Braker

NAY: None

5. Approval of Intergovernmental Agreements with Stephenson County Sheriff's Office

A motion was made by Member Ludwig and seconded by Member Gronewold to approve the intergovernmental agreements with Stephenson County Sheriff's Office as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Ludwig, Gronewold, Moore, Gallagher, Cook, Pauls, and Braker

NAY: None

6. Approval of PRESS Issue 116 – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

A motion was made by Member Moore and seconded by Member Pauls to approve PRESS Issue 116 – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Moore, Pauls, Ludwig, Gronewold, Cook, and Braker

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Gallagher

**J. Closed Session**

a. A motion was made by Member Gallagher and seconded by Member Cook to adjourn to closed session at 7:10 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body for the public body-5ILCS120/2(c)(1); Litigation 5ILCS120/2(c)(11); Negotiations – 5ILCS120/2(c)(11); and Student disciplinary cases – 5ILCS120/2(c)(9). On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Gallagher, Cook, Ludwig, Gronewold, Moore, Pauls, and Braker

NAY: None

b. A motion was made by Member Gallagher and seconded by Member Ludwig to return to open session at 8:38 p.m. On a roll call, the motion passed.

YEA: Gallagher, Ludwig, Pauls, Moore, Cook, Gronewold, and Braker  
NAY: None

**K. Possible Action Items Resulting From Closed Session**

This item was addressed with no action items resulting from closed session.

**L. Calendar Items**

1. August 2024 Calendar
2. September 2024 Calendar

**M. Other Matters to Come to the Attention of the Board**


1. Board Election Packet
2. Northwest Division Meeting – October 2, 2024

**N. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Member Gallagher and seconded by Member Pauls to adjourn the meeting. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Gallagher, Pauls, Gronewold, Cook, Ludwig, Moore, and Braker  
NAY: None

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

  
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(President, Board of Education)

  
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(Secretary, Board of Education)