

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
FORRESTVILLE VALLEY C.U.S.D. #221
September 25, 2024

The Board of Education of the Forrestville Valley Unit School District #221, Counties of Ogle and Stephenson, Illinois, met in the Forreston Junior Senior High School Chorus Room on September 25, 2024, for a budget hearing, bond hearing, and a regular meeting.

A. Budget Hearing

A Public Hearing regarding the FY25 Budget was called to order by President Braker at 6:30 p.m.

President Braker stated that the Tentative Budget for FY25 has been on display since August 1, 2024, and asked for public comments to be shared. No members of the school community addressed the Board of Education regarding the FY25 Budget.

A motion was made by Member Ludwig and seconded by Member Moore to adjourn the Public Hearing at 6:31 p.m. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

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

NAY: None

B. Bond Hearing

A Public Hearing regarding the intent of the board to sell not to exceed \$1,800,000 working cash fund bonds was called to order by President Braker at 6:31 p.m.

President Braker stated that a hearing is being held to receive comments regarding the District's intent to sell bonds to increase the working cash fund. President Braker asked the board for any further comments about the sale, there were none. No members of the school community addressed the Board of Education regarding the intent to sell bonds to increase the working cash fund.

A motion was made by Member Moore and seconded by Member Pauls to adjourn the Public Hearing at 6:32 p.m. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

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

NAY: None

C. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

The regular meeting was called to order by President Braker at 6:32 p.m. All rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Roll Call

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

Members Absent: Shaun Gallagher

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

E. Review and Adoption of Board of Education Agenda

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

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

NAY: None

F. Recognition of Visitors and Public Comment

No members of the public addressed the board.

G. Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Member Pauls and seconded by Member Gronewold to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

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

NAY: None

1. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular & Closed Meeting Minutes of August 21, 2024

b. Special & Closed Meeting Minutes of September 3, 2024

2. Approval of Monthly Financial Statement

3. Approval of Personnel Report

Support Personnel

Employment:

- Approve the employment of the following Support Personnel:

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Kristi Owens	Bus Driver /District Sub Custodian	September 25, 2024
Chad Reemtsma	GVGS Paraprofessional	September 25, 2024

4. Approval of Annual Transportation Personnel Report

Transportation Personnel

- Approve the continued employment of the following Transportation Personnel:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
Marsha Birkholz	Bus Driver
Alex Fry	Bus Driver
Laura Hillman	Bus Driver
Michael Kortemeier	Bus Driver
Erin Leibow	Bus Driver
Dan Miller	Bus Driver
Kristi Owens	Bus Driver
Brent Smith	Bus Driver
Heather Weaver	Director of Transportation / Bus Driver

Transportation Sub Personnel

- Approve the continued employment of the following Transportation Sub Personnel:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
Kathy Bickford	Sub Bus Driver
Kirk Janicke	Sub Bus Driver
John Mershon	Sub Bus Driver
Steven Metzger	Sub Bus Driver
Kelley Parks	Sub Bus Driver
Chet Strehlow	Sub Bus Driver
Joel Tuten	Sub Bus Driver

5. Approval of Payment of Bills & Claims
6. Approval of Activity Accounts
7. Approval of Advertisers & Donors

H. Cardinal Strong Spotlight – Good Day Stateline

Mrs. Smith shared a news clip featuring FJSHS Special Education teacher, Hanna Kasten. Ms. Kasten was interviewed by channel 23 Good Day Stateline regarding her teaching experiences. Mrs. Smith and the Board recognized and thanked Mrs. Kasten for a great representation of Forrestville Valley School District and the work she does with our students.

Kyle Zick joined the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

I. Superintendent's Report

1. District Highlights
 - a. 6th Day Enrollment
2. Building Highlights
 - a. 2024 Hall of Fame

Mr. Zick presented on the Hall of Fame, schedule of events, and the inductees for this year. Mrs. Smith and the board thanked Mr. Zick for all of his work with the Hall of Fame to get it up and running.

Mr. Zick left the meeting at 6:56 p.m.
 - b. Free & Reduced Numbers
 - c. FHS Financial Aid Night – September 5, 2024
3. Facilities Highlights
4. Foundation Highlights
 - a. Forreton's Vedra Scramble for Education Golf Outing
 - b. Upcoming Foundation Board Meeting – October 2, 2024
5. Staff Communications
 - a. September Staff Bulletin
 - b. Communication Policy
6. Notes of Appreciation

J. District Financial Report

1. FY24 Audit Update

K. Board Action and Discussion

1. Approval of FY25 Final Budget

A motion was made by Member Cook and seconded by Member Ludwig to approve the FY25 Final Budget as presented. After discussion, on a roll call vote, the motion passed.

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

NAY: None

2. Approval of Resolution Authorizing Abatement of Working Cash Fund

A motion was made by Member Moore and seconded by Member Ludwig to approve a resolution authorizing abatement of working cash fund as presented. After discussion, on a roll call vote, the motion passed.

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

NAY: None

3. Approval of Amendment of the 2024-2025 School Calendar

A motion was made by Member Gronewold and seconded by Member Pauls to approve the amendment to the 2024-2025 school calendar as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

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

NAY: None

4. Approval of Policy 7:70 – Attendance and Truancy with no changes

A motion was made by Member Pauls and seconded by Member Moore to approve Policy 7:70 – Attendance and Truancy as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

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

NAY: None

5. Approval of PRESS Issue 116 – 2nd Reading

A motion was made by Member Ludwig and seconded by Member Moore to approve PRESS Issue 116 – 2nd Reading as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

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

NAY: None

L. Closed Session

- a. A motion was made by Member Cook and seconded by Member Pauls to adjourn to closed session at 7:05 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: Cook, Pauls, Ludwig, Gronewold, Moore, and Braker

NAY: None

- b. A motion was made by Member Pauls and seconded by Member Gronewold to return to open session at 8:09 p.m. On a roll call, the motion passed.

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

NAY: None

M. Possible Action Items Resulting From Closed Session

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

N. Calendar Items

1. September 2024 Calendar
2. October 2024 Calendar

O. Other Matters to Come to the Attention of the Board

1. FFA Plot Dinner – September 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.
2. Northwest Division Meeting – October 2, 2024
3. April 2025 – Board Election

P. Adjournment

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

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

NAY: None

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.



(President, Board of Education)



(Secretary, Board of Education)