

Lexington Community Unit #7 School District  
Lexington, Illinois  
Regular Board Meeting  
July 16, 2020

President Jason Thomas opened the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. Roll was called with the following members present: Karin Atkins, Jamie Farrell, Andy Killian, Andrea McBurney, Chris Olson, and Jason Thomas. Also present were Paul Deters; Superintendent, Julie Strating; Elementary Principal, Jennifer McCoy; Junior High/High School Principal, Isaac Steidinger, Athletic Director/ Dean of Students, and Patti Thomas; recording secretary. There were 7 visitors present.

President Jason Thomas led the board with The Pledge of Allegiance.

Amy Hardman addressed the board with her concerns about not replacing the PE teachers and eliminating that class.

Jamie Farrell moved to approve the Consent Agenda:

- A.) Minutes from the June 30, 2020 Regular and Closed Session Board Meeting
- B.) Minutes form the June 30, 2020 Special Board Meeting.
- C.) Lexington July 2020, regular bills, the payroll liabilities and necessary additional payments made in June, 2020, and ratify Tri-County Special Education Association's bills for June, 2020.
- D.) District Finances: June 30, 2020 Treasurer's Report.
- E.) Approve the cafeteria bids from:
  - Prairie Farms- Milk
  - Alpha Baking Company- Bread
  - Kohl Wholesale- Food
- F.) Approve the resignation of Josh Weier as JH/HS PE teacher and HS track coach effective immediately.
- G.) Approve the resignation of Kristin Ahrens as Elementary PE teacher effective immediately.
- H.) Approve the resignation of Cathy Payne as food service employee effective immediately.

Seconded by Andrea McBurney. Roll call vote:

Atkins	- yes	McBurney	- yes
Farrell	- yes	Olson	- yes
Killian	- yes	Thomas	- yes

Motion carried unanimously

Superintendent, Paul Deters, reported on the following:

- The Governor has decided to release additional federal funding to schools. "These funds will be distributed in three areas. Most of it, \$40 million, will go towards our efforts to help close the digital divide. School districts will receive \$32.5 million to purchase devices, such as laptops and tablets, and \$7.5 million to purchase WiFi hotspots and increase internet connectivity for students and families.

- Governor Pritzker will invest \$7.5 million in training for educators and families, so they can strengthen their own understanding of new technologies and learning models, and thereby gain the tools to be able to support students' growth more holistically. The governor will direct \$2.5 million to create the Student Care Department within Illinois State Board of Education. This new department will lead the development of an inter-departmental student health and safety team, promote best practices for social-emotional learning, review and respond to constituent concerns about student safety and wellbeing, and provide targeted assistance to school districts." At this time, it is not known how and when this money will be allocated.

Junior High/ High School Principal, Jennifer McCoy reported on the following:

- At this time, we are considering all our options on filling the PE position vacated by Joshua Weier. The lack of physical exercise is very concerning but our traditional PE class as we know it cannot exist this year with the COVID-19 concerns

Elementary Principal Julie Strating reported on the following:

- We are looking at all our options for implementing a physical education class for the elementary. This position was vacated by Kristin Ahrens at the end of the FY20 school year. We have some options that we are exploring at this time.

Athletic Director/ Dean of Students, Isaac Steidinger reported on the following:

- IHSA sent out its weekly update on where they stand on the "Return to Play" guidelines. They are currently in Phase 4 of the plan and provided a few changes to that phase.

The board held the second reading and approval of Board Policy 7:325; Student Fundraising Activities.

The board held a discussion on the "At a Minute's Notice: Gathering Our Minutemen to Return to Learn Plan". A few bullet points below will briefly describe the plan:

- We believe that the best means of instruction involves in-person engagement between teachers and students. In addition, instructional practices are reinforced and strengthened when public education is able to engage staff, students, parents and its community. Though challenges exist, WE BELIEVE that it is essential for our students and our community that our schools be open in the fall of 20-21 with the intent to provide as many days of in-person instruction as possible.
- Consideration of CDC, AAP, IDPH and ISBE guidelines have been weighed and considered regarding best practices for returning to school. The following guidelines have been implemented.
  - Wear a mask/ face covering
  - Practice social distancing
  - Temperature & Symptom checking by families

- Temperature checking upon arrival at the building
- Encouraging proper hand hygiene
- Regular disinfecting common area/ used items.

Andrea McBurney made the motion to approve the resolution to approve CUSD #7's 2020-21 Re-Opening Plan. Seconded by Karin Atkins. Roll call vote:

Farrell	- yes	Olson	- yes
Killian	- yes	Thomas	- yes
McBurney	- yes	Atkins	- yes

Motion carried unanimously

Andy Killian made the motion to approve Mike Steffa as volunteer Bass Fishing Coach for the 20-21 school year. Seconded by Chris Olson. Roll call vote:

Farrell	- yes	Olson	- yes
Killian	- yes	Thomas	- yes
McBurney	- yes	Atkins	- yes

Motion carried unanimously

Jamie Farrell made the motion to approve special board meetings to be held on Tuesday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, and Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm. Seconded by Andy Killian. Roll call vote:

Killian	- yes	Thomas	- yes
McBurney	- yes	Atkins	- yes
Olson	- yes	Farrell	- yes

Motion carried unanimously

Andy Killian moved to adjourn at 9:09 p.m. Seconded by Andrea McBurney. Motion carried unanimously.

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Jason Thomas, President

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Andrea McBurney, Secretary