REGULAR MEETING
December 17, 2018

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 7 Madison County, Edwardsville, Illinois met in regular session at 7:53 p.m. at Woodland Elementary, 59 S. State Rte. 157, Edwardsville, IL 62025 on Monday, December 17, 2018. President Monica Laurent presided over the meeting. The following members answered roll call: Jill Bertels, Paul Pitts, Terri Dalla Riva, Lelan Olsen, Deb Pitts, Nekisha Williams Omotola and Monica Laurent. Also in attendance were: Dr. Lynda Andre, Superintendent; Nancy Spina, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel; Dave Courtney, Assistant Superintendent of Business Operations; Bill Miener, Director of Technology; Craig Bosomworth, Technology; Channel 10 technician; and Diane Walkenbach, Secretary to the Superintendent.

Other administrators present were: Matt Sidarous, Beth Crumbacher, Cornelia Smith, Kiersten Saenz, Beth Renth, Jennifer Milburn, Curt Schumacher, Adam Garrett, Rich Fore, Ryan Ketchum, Jasen Foster, Tara Fox, Steve Stuart, and Allen Duncan.

Welcome to Visitors
President Monica Laurent welcomed visitors and guests.

Recognition of Those Wishing to Make Brief Statements
none

Minutes approved:
Terri Dalla Riva moved for approval the minutes from the regular meeting held on November 26, 2018 and Nekisha Williams Omotola seconded the motion.

Roll Call:
Ayes – Dalla Riva, Omotola, Bertels, Paul Pitts, Olsen, Deb Pitts, Laurent Carried 7-0

Board Committees, Special Committees
Jill Bertels, Personnel Committee Chair, reported that the Personnel Committee met earlier this evening in open session to approve the action items on the agenda which will be presented later to the full board for approval.
Terri Dalla Riva, Finance Committee Chair, reported that the Finance Committee met earlier this evening to approve the 2018 tax levy for the 2019-2020 school year and to approve the November 13, 2018 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

**Superintendent’s Announcements:**

The update and redesign of the District 7 website and all school websites is nearly completed. The administration completed the first major update and revision in 12 years. Features of the redesign include:

- Websites are now compatible with mobile devices
- Websites meet ADA Compliance Requirements - these requirements became a priority based on the Office of Civil Rights guidance on website accessibility in 2016
- Functionality is a closer match to how visitors used the current sites for information

This 18-month process involved all District 7 administrators in not only the redesign but the navigation that will provide an improved experience for stakeholders.

The website analytics and research revealed that much of the old website content was rarely accessed as the public’s information consumption habits had changed dramatically over the last 10 years.

The current website contains over 24,000 pages while the redesigned version has been streamlined to just over 200. As with any new initiative, we welcome feedback from parents, employees, and community residents on the updated websites. Over the next few months, we expect to make minor modifications to improve the use of the websites for our constituents.

Also during January, the District will make a parent portal available through School Messenger which will allow parents to view all District 7 communications sent via Phone Call, Email or SMS text messages from a mobile application on their smartphone.

In February, District 7 will release a Bus Transportation app “FirstView” which will provide real-time bus stop times for parents of students who ride buses each day.

Tonight, Bill Miener, District 7 Director of Technology, will provide an overview of the redesigned web pages that are scheduled to be live this week.

The last day of student attendance for the first semester is Wednesday, December 19. School resumes on Wednesday, January 2, 2019.

We wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season!
ACTION CONSIDERATIONS:

A.C. 18-48- Approval of Personnel

A motion was made by Paul Pitts and seconded by Lelan Olsen to approve the personnel action items.

I. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. **Ashley Eyster**: has been subbing as a Monitor at Glen Carbon Elementary School since November 26, 2018. When she is hired in the same position this date will serve as the official date of employment by District 7 with respect to the above contractual legislative requirements.

2. **Donna Bartley**: has been subbing as a Monitor at Glen Carbon Elementary School since December 3, 2018. When she is hired in the same position this date will serve as the official date of employment by District 7 with respect to the above contractual legislative requirements.

3. **John Grindstaff**: has been subbing as a School Safety Officer at Worden Elementary School since December 3, 2018. When he is hired in the same position this date will serve as the official date of employment by District 7 with respect to the above contractual legislative requirements.

II. ACTION ITEMS

A. It is recommended that the following classified resignations be accepted:

1. **Crystal Monroe**: 6 hour Cafeteria Worker, Albert Cassens Elementary School; effective November 19, 2018.

2. **Daniel Abert**: 6.5 hour School Safety Officer, Albert Cassens Elementary School; effective November 30, 2018.

3. **Amanda Kurtz**: 7 hour Program Assistant, Lincoln Middle School; effective December 7, 2018.

4. **Kassidy Wilson**: 6.5 hour Cafeteria Worker, Glen Carbon Elementary School; effective December 7, 2018.

5. **Karen Williams**: 6.5 hour School Safety Officer, Worden Elementary School; effective November 27, 2018.

B. It is recommended that the following classified transfer be approved:

1. **Tamara Bauer**: from 2.5 hour Monitor; to 7 hour Program Assistant, Woodland Elementary School; PARA, Step 2, $10.50 per hour; effective November 30, 2018.
C. It is recommended that the following classified candidates be employed:

1. **Ashley Eyster**: 3 hour Monitor, Glen Carbon Elementary School; Step 1, $9.36 per hour; effective December 18, 2018.

2. **Donna Bartley**: 3 hour Monitor, Glen Carbon Elementary School; Step 1, $9.36 per hour; effective December 18, 2018.

3. **John Grindstaff**: 6.5 hour School Safety Officer, Worden Elementary School; Step 1, $14.14 per hour; effective December 18, 2018.

D. It is recommended that the following certified paid and unpaid leaves be approved:

1. **Ryan Lipscomb**: Band Teacher, Edwardsville High School; Paternity/Child Care Leave beginning approximately January 19, 2019; returning approximately February 4, 2019.

2. **Elizabeth Koonce**: Math Teacher, Liberty Middle School; Maternity/Child Care Leave beginning approximately January 14, 2019; returning approximately February 11, 2019.

3. **Carlyn Underwood**: Preschool Teacher, Goshen Elementary School; Maternity/Child Care Leave beginning approximately February 8, 2019; returning approximately February 25, 2019.

4. **Brooke Reed**: Special Education Teacher, Lincoln Middle School; Maternity/Child Care Leave beginning approximately April 10, 2019; returning approximately May 20, 2019.

5. **Carry Bailey**: Social Science Teacher, Edwardsville High School; Paternity/Child Care Leave beginning approximately January 7, 2019; returning approximately January 11, 2019.

E. It is recommended that the following exempt resignations be accepted:

1. **Kayleigh Brummett**: 5.5 hour Kid Zone Site Counselor, Nelson Elementary School; effective January 25, 2019.

2. **Ariel Enlow**: 5.5 hour Kid Zone Site Counselor, Albert Cassens Elementary School; effective December 19, 2018.

3. **Makenzie Goodheart**: 5.5 hour Kid Zone Site Counselor, Albert Cassens Elementary School; effective December 14, 2018.

4. **Zachary Leonard**: 5.5 hour Kid Zone Site Counselor, Columbus Elementary School; effective December 19, 2018.

5. **Emily Holland**: 5.5 hour Kid Zone Site Counselor, Columbus Elementary School; effective December 19, 2018.

6. **Courtney Ford**: 5.5 hour Kid Zone Site Counselor, Nelson Elementary School; effective December 17, 2018.
F. It is recommended that the following exempt candidates be employed:

1. **Haley Mather**: 5.5 hour Kid Zone Site Counselor, Goshen Elementary School; $10.00 per hour; effective December 11, 2018.

2. **Rickesha Anderson**: 5.5 hour Kid Zone Site Counselor, Nelson Elementary School; $10.00 per hour; effective January 14, 2019.

3. **Brea Cox**: 5.5 hour Kid Zone Site Counselor, Leclaire Elementary School; $10.00 per hour; effective December 13, 2018.

4. **Xian Couch**: 5.5 hour Kid Zone Site Counselor, Albert Cassens Elementary School; $10.00 per hour; effective January 14, 2019.

5. **Emma Hallberg**: 5.5 hour Kid Zone Site Counselor, Glen Carbon Elementary School; $10.00 per hour; effective January 14, 2019.

G. It is recommended that the following stipend resignation be accepted:

1. **Donna Farley**: Assistant Softball Coach, Edwardsville High School; effective November 21, 2018.

H. It is recommended that the following persons be approved for a stipend for the 2018-2019 school year as indicated:

1. **Emily Ottwein**: Spring Musical Vocal Director, Edwardsville High School.


I. It is recommended that the following person be approved for as a volunteer for the 2018-2019 school year as indicated:

1. **Donna Farley**: Assistant Softball Coach, Edwardsville High School.

J. It is recommended that the following persons be approved as substitute teachers for the 2018-2019 school year:

   Eric Moroney

Roll Call:
Ayes – Paul Pitts, Olsen, Bertels, Dalla Riva, Deb Pitts, Omotola, Laurent  Carried 7-0
A.C. 18-49 – Approval of December Bills

A motion was made by Jill Bertels and seconded by Terri Dalla Riva to approve the December bills in the amount of $540,185.10.

Roll Call:
Ayes – Bertels, Dalla Riva, Paul Pitts, Olsen, Deb Pitts, Omotola, Laurent Carried 7-0

A.C. 18-50 – Approval of 2018 Tax Levy

A motion was made by Terri Dalla Riva and seconded by Deb Pitts to approve and sign the 2018 "Certificate of Tax Levy" and "Resolution for Tax Levy".

The Truth in Taxation Act (35ILCS 200/18-55 et seq. Created by Public Act 82-102 effective 7/29/81) requires that "...At least 20 days prior to the adoption of its aggregate levy, the local board of education shall estimate the dollar amount of the aggregate levy for the current year..." At the November 13, 2018 meeting, the Board of Education signed the "Resolution Regarding Estimated Amounts Necessary to be Levied for the Year 2018".

The Act continues by stating that "Any district proposing to increase its aggregate levy more than 105 percent of its prior year’s extension, exclusive of election costs, must publish a notice, as prescribed by law, in a newspaper of general local circulation." The Act requires that a public hearing be set no more than 14 days or less than 7 days after publication of the notice.

The aggregate levy estimate for 2018 did not exceed 105 percent of the prior year’s extension. Therefore, no public notice or hearing was required.

Per current estimates from the Assessor’s office, the District’s growth in equalized assessed valuation (EAV) next year is estimated at 2.90%, before the multiplier is finalized and the Board of Review issues final rulings on pending tax appeals.

The District is expecting that the 2018 tax levy (for the 2019-2020 school year) will not exceed the current year levy of $4.69.

Roll Call:
Ayes – Dalla Riva, Deb Pitts, Bertels, Paul Pitts, Olsen, Omotola, Laurent Carried 7-0

A.C. 18-51 – Approval of Adoption of 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan Document for Edwardsville Community Unit School District #7

A motion was made by Terri Dalla Riva and seconded by Lelan Olsen to approve the adoption of a 457(b) deferred compensation plan document for Edwardsville Community Unit School District #7 effective January 1, 2019.
The District currently offers a 403(b) Retirement Plan to give its employees the opportunity to save additional funds for retirement. In December 2008, the District restated and amended its current Plan to comply with final regulations issued with respect to Internal Revenue Code section 403(b) which became effective on January 1, 2009. On January 1, 2011, the District expanded its 403(b) Retirement Plan to allow for “Roth 403(b) Contributions”.

A 457(b) plan is an employer-sponsored plan that is offered to state and local government employees, including employees of school districts. The 457(b) plan is similar to the District’s current 403(b) plan. The 457(b) plan is offered through the employer and contributions are taken from employee paychecks on a pre-tax basis, lowering taxable income. However, the interest and earnings on that money are not taxed until the funds are withdrawn at retirement.

Another benefit of the 457(b) plan is that it works well with other plans. Employees would be offered both 403(b) and 457(b) plan options. If the employee chooses, they can contribute to both plans and maximize their pre-tax benefit.

The District has had numerous employees request that the District consider establishment of a 457(b) deferred compensation plan. There is no cost to the District and all contributions are made to the plan via employee payroll deductions.

Roll Call:
Ayes – Dalla Riva, Olsen, Bertels, Paul Pitts, Deb Pitts, Omotola, Laurent  Carried 7-0

Discussion
Dr. Andre reviewed the proposed 2019-2020 school calendar which will be recommended for approval at the January 14, 2019 board meeting.

President Monica Laurent reported that the Board is in the process of selecting two groups for the February 12, 2019 stakeholder meetings to interview the final candidates for the district’s new superintendent.

Information Items
none

Other Business
none

Brief Questions from the Public
none
Questions and Announcements From the Board

none

Adjournment:

At 8:19 p.m. a motion was made by Lelan Olsen and seconded by Paul Pitts to adjourn the meeting. All members present (7) were in favor and the motion carried.

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President

_________________________________
Secretary