

Minutes of the Argos Community Schools
Regular School Board Meeting
Held on October 23, 2023

The Board of School Trustees held a regular school board meeting on October 23, 2023. The following individuals were present for all or a part of the meeting.

A. Pat Rensberger, Chris O'Dell, Jennifer Hurford, Karra Duff and Monty Peden, Board Members

B. Ned L. Speicher, Superintendent

C. Kelli VanDerWeele, Business Manager

D. Amy Miller, Administrative Assistant

E. Beth Cohagan, Teacher and Patron

President Rensberger called the Public Hearing on Capital Projects and Bus Replacement Plans to order at 7:01 P.M. In opening statements, Mr. Speicher stated that because we have purchased 3 new buses recently using GO Bonds, we are not expecting to use the bus replacement plan, but it is there if we need it. He also stated that with all of the construction projects that Argos has had ongoing for the past year, he doesn't foresee expecting to do much in the improvements area, but it will also be there if we need it. With that being said and no public here to testify, the hearing was adjourned at 7:03.P.M.

Before the start of the regular meeting, Mr. Speicher took the Board members down to see the newly completed elementary addition.

Pat Rensberger called the regular meeting to order at 7:16 P.M and led the Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence.

There was no communication from patrons.

Chris O'Dell moved to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2023 regular meeting and executive session. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it passed 4-0. Monty Peden abstained from the vote, due to not being in attendance at the September meeting.

Jennifer Hurford made a motion to approve all personnel changes per the attached listing. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Mr. Speicher asked for approval of the 23/24-24/25 Master Contract for Certified Staff. He stated that changes were made in the compensation model, sick bank leave and an increase to the base health insurance premium paid by the school. Monty Peden moved to approve the contract as ratified by teachers with Chris O'Dell seconding and the new contract was approved 5-0.

Chris O'Dell moved to approve Brown and Brown Pay App No. 9. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Karra Duff moved to approve Yoder Construction Pay App No's 14 and 15. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Mr. Speicher presented the Board with a copy of the proposed 2024-2025 Argos Schools Calendar. The calendar falls in line with Plymouth Schools and is very similar to past calendars with one exception. In the past, graduation has taken place on Sunday afternoons. With this new calendar, graduation will move to Friday evening, which will allow our graduates and their families the entire weekend for celebratory events and us to more easily staff the graduation ceremony. Monty Peden moved to approve the calendar as presented. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Chris O'Dell moved to approve the Capital Projects and Bus Replacement Plans as advertised. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Monty Peden moved to approve the payment of a December stipend for full time employees who are rated effective and highly effective. Classified staff members who work 5 days a week and are considered full time will receive a \$300.00 stipend payable December 15. Certified staff members with the same evaluation ratings will receive a \$500.00 stipend. Karra Duff seconded Monty's motion and it was approved unanimously.

Chris O'Dell moved to recognize and approve the donation of a coronet to the Band Department from William "Hugo" Reese. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Kelli VanDerWeele asked for approval of September claims in the amount of \$498,651.47. This amount includes both accounts payable and payroll. Chris O'Dell moved to approve the claims with Monty Peden seconding and the motion was approved 5-0.

Mr. Speicher presented the financial reports to the Board. With $\frac{3}{4}$ of the year in the books, we have spent 72% of our operations fund. This fund continues to be tight so Mr.

Speicher doesn't anticipate being able to pay bills ahead for 2024 at this time. The education fund continues to look healthy. Argos Community Schools, as a whole, continues to look very good financially.

In closing comments, Mr. Speicher wanted to thank staff and teachers for all of their hard work done to come to a successful ratification of the new teacher contract.

With no other closing comments being heard, Karra Duff moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m. Jennifer Hurford seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

ARGOS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

Pat Rensberger, President

Chris O'Dell, Vice President

Jennifer Hurford, Secretary

Karra Duff Member

Monty Peden, Member

Board Approved Personnel October 23, 2023

A. Employment

1. Laura Jones-Temporary Elementary Physical Education Teacher

B. Resignation

1. Dede Crum-Full time custodian

C. Coaches

1. Robert Hines-JV Boys Basketball Coach
2. Joe Manikowski-7th Grade Boys Basketball

D. Volunteers

1. Mathew Smith-Jr High Boys Basketball