

Minutes of the Argos Community Schools  
Regular School Board Meeting  
Held on November 20, 2023

The Board of School Trustees held a regular school board meeting on November 20, 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. Randy Snead, Fern Snead, Celina Kreft, patrons

Pat Rensberger called the meeting to order at 7:06 P.M and led the Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence.

In communication from patrons, Celina Kreft, Randy and Fern Snead expressed their concern regarding the unlocked gate on the north edge of the playground that leads to the trailer park. Mr. Speicher and the Board will look into this.

Monty Peden moved to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2023 regular meeting. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Karra Duff 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 presented the Board with Pay Application No. 10 for Brown and Brown Construction for the Elementary addition and the Final Release of Retainage from R. Yoder Construction for the cafeteria project. Pay Application No. 10 is for \$106,347.67 and the final retainage is \$40,000. Jennifer Hurford moved to approve both with Monty Peden seconding the motion. Both were approved 5-0.

Karra Duff moved for the Approval of TAG (Teacher Appreciation Grant) for 2023-2024. This grant will be divided among 40 qualified returning teachers. Teachers receiving a highly effective 2022-2023 evaluation rating will receive \$759.00 and those with effective ratings will

receive \$607.20. The grant will be paid out on December 14, 2023. Chris O'Dell seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Chris O'Dell moved to approve the new PATHS agreement. PATHS stands for Plymouth, Argos, Triton Helping Students and is the new Special Education Cooperative for the 2024-2025 school year. The agreement will be effective 7/1/24. The former Special Education Cooperative, JESSE, will officially dissolve June 30, 2024. Monty Peden seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

Mr. Speicher presented the Board with his Superintendent report. He updated the Board on construction progress. Projects 1 and 2 are complete. Project 3 is nearly complete and Project 4 is underway. He showed slides on the ADM comparison. Argos continues to attract and grow our student population and there are a combined 742 students being educated here. Superintendent Speicher went over the December 2023 pay schedule. Contract back pay will be issued 12/1/23, TAG payment will be issued 12/14/23 and the holiday stipend will be issued 12/15/23.

Mr. Speicher presented the October financial reports to the Board. Both the operations and education budgets continue to look good going into the final month of the budget year. Slides were shown for what Mr. Speicher and Kelli are hoping to encumber for the 2024 budget in both the operations and education budgets. Those encumbrances will happen in the next month as purchase orders are put into the system to pull payables from to protect the budget for next year.

Kelli VanDerWeele asked for approval of claims in the amount of \$372,212.09 with \$72,174.479 of that being accounts payable and \$255,037.60 being payroll claims. Jennifer Hurford moved to approve the claims as presented. Monty Peden seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

In closing comments, Mr. Speicher reminded the Board that the final meeting of 2023 is scheduled for December 18, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

With no other closing comments being heard, Chris O'Dell f moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m. Karra Duff seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

ARGOS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

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Pat Rensberger, President

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Chris O'Dell, Vice President

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Jennifer Hurford, Secretary

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Karra Duff Member

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Monty Peden, Member

Board Approved Personnel November 20, 2023

A. Employment

1. Kirsta Gardner-Temporary Third Grade Teacher
2. Karah Walter-Full Time Custodian
3. Mat Smith-7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach
4. Ty Adley-Varsity Girls Soccer Coach

B. Resignation

1. Hannah Garner-Third Grade Teacher