

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 186, SPRINGFIELD,**  
**SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS**  
**Monday, December 18, 2017 (6:30 PM)**

The Board of Education convened in Regular Session on December 18 A.D., 2017, at 5:31 p.m., there being present thereat:

Present: Adam Lopez, President  
Julie Hammers, Board Secretary

Chuck Flamini  
Judith Johnson  
Anthony Mares  
Donna Moore  
Jamie Sisti  
J. Michael Zimmers

Jennifer Gill, Superintendent

**CALL TO ORDER**

**1.1 Roll Call**

President Lopez called the meeting to order.

**APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mrs. Sisti moved to adjourn to Executive Session to consider the following matters:

- 2.1 The Appointment, Employment, or Dismissal of Employees – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)
- 2.2 Contract Negotiations – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
- 2.3 Pending and Imminent Litigation – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)
- 2.4 Security Procedures – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8)
- 2.5 Student Discipline and Other Matters Concerning Individual Students – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9,10)

Motion seconded by Mr. Zimmers and carried by the following vote:

Those voting "aye": Flamini, Johnson, Lopez, Mares, Moore, Sisti, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None.

**Adjournment to Executive Session**

The meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m. and reconvened at 6:42 p.m. Upon reconvening, it was noted that seven Board members were present.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**3.1 President's Comments**

Mr. Lopez made the routine announcement that public comment on published agenda items would occur during the Public Comments portion of the meeting. He instructed those interested in addressing the Board to fill out the required Public Participation at Board Meetings Form and

submit it to Ms. Mitchell in the front row of the audience. Additionally, he reminded those interested in addressing the Board that comments are limited to three minutes.

### **3.2 Board Salutes**

Mr. Mares reported visiting several schools over the course of the previous two weeks including: Fairview, Owen Marsh and Wilcox Elementary Schools, and Lincoln Magnet School. He saluted the administration, staff and students of these buildings. Also Mr. Mares reported that he visited Dubois Elementary School with Mrs. Gill recently for their annual Gift of Giving 2017 event. Lastly, Mr. Mares wished high school students well on their semester exams.

Ms. Johnson reported that she visited Fairview Elementary School with Mr. Mares. She expressed some concerns about the mobile classrooms at the school and asked Mr. Darrell Schaver, Director of Operations and Maintenance, to look into the issues. Next, Ms. Johnson saluted the high school boys' and girls' basketball teams on the season kick off. She reported attending games at Lanphier High School and Decatur MacArthur High School, where the Springfield High School girls' basketball team recently played. Lastly, Ms. Johnson commended Mr. Jason Wind, Director of School Support, on a smooth implementation of the new security screenings conducted at the basketball games.

Mr. Zimmers reported visiting Southeast High School. He thanked Mr. Williams for providing a tour of the building. Mr. Zimmers commended the administration and staff of Southeast for their work to increase the number of students enrolled in advanced placement courses. He indicated that over 100 additional students are taking those courses this year at Southeast versus last year. Next, Mr. Zimmers reported visiting Franklin Middle School, where Principal Tod Davis gave him a tour of the building. He commended the administration and staff on their work to advance the AVID program in their building. Lastly, Mr. Zimmers saluted the Springfield High School Seven and Senators group, who recently performed during his Rotary Club's regular meeting. He reported that members of the club were very impressed with the group's performance. He thanked Dr. Lisa Leardi for arranging the performance.

Mrs. Sisti read letters from four community members that she recently received regarding Lanphier High School teacher Jennifer Vargas, Washington Middle School teacher Bonnie Kahl, Lanphier High School Assistant Principal Chris Barham and Lincoln Magnet School Dean Serita Lott. Mrs. Sisti saluted these individuals for the work they perform and the positive impact they are having, as noted in the letters, on students and families.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **4.1 Old Business**

There was no old business at this time.

### **4.2 New Business**

There was no new business at this time.

### **4.3 Student Business**

There was no student business at this time. Mrs. Gill indicated that Ms. Goswami was unable to attend the evening's meeting, as she was busy preparing for final exams. Additionally, she reported that the Student Roundtable group continues their planning work for the upcoming Unity Day event.

## **PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD**

There were no presentations to the Board at this time.

## **BUSINESS REPORTS**

### **6.1 Treasurer's Report**

Board members were provided with electronic copies of the Treasurer's Report for November 2017. Copies have been filed with the Official Minutes and are available for public viewing on the [Electronic School Board](#).

Mr. Joseph Bascio, Business Manager, reported that the District ended the month of November with a cash balance of approximately \$42.6 million in the bank for all funds. Earned interest for the month was approximately \$64,200 and interest earnings year-to-date totaled approximately \$226,000. He also reported no changes to the status of incoming state payments over the course of the previous two weeks; however, he expects to receive the second payment for the current fiscal year in the next few weeks.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **7.1 Tax Levy**

Ms. Johnson motioned to adjourn into a public hearing regarding the tax levy. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mares and carried by the following vote:

Those voting "aye":	Flamini, Johnson, Lopez, Mares, Moore, Sisti, Zimmers
Those voting "no":	None.

The meeting adjourned into the public hearing at 6:53 p.m.

Board members were provided with electronic copies of the 2017 Tax Levy presentation. Copies have been filed with the Official Minutes and are available for public viewing on the [Electronic School Board](#).

Mr. Bascio provided an overview of the presentation. He indicated that property taxes constitute over half of the total district budgeted revenues. He then provided information on the PTELL tax cap law and requirements of the Truth in Taxation Act. Next, Mr. Bascio reported that although not required to do so by the Act, in an effort to remain transparent, the District chooses to hold a hearing on the levy and publish information about the levy in the State Journal Register.

Mr. Bascio then provided information on the amount levied during the previous fiscal year and the estimates for the current year.

Mrs. Moore motioned to return to open session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Johnson and carried by the following vote:

Those voting "aye":	Flamini, Johnson, Lopez, Mares, Moore, Sisti, Zimmers
Those voting "no":	None.

The open session resumed at 6:57 p.m.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **8.1 Superintendent's Report**

Mrs. Gill provided the following shout outs and information:

- Winter break is scheduled to begin later this week. Students will be dismissed an hour early on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, December 19-21, 2017. There is no school on Friday, December 22, 2017. Students return to school on January 3, 2018 with staff returning on Tuesday, January 2, 2018.

- She saluted the District’s high school students as they prepare to take semester exams.
- She saluted the students from the District that participated in a contest to design the new garden for the Governor’s Mansion. Several students will have their artwork displayed in the Governor’s Mansion.
- She saluted the Springfield High School students that recently volunteered at the Mini O’Beirne Holiday Store.
- Next, she saluted the MacArthur Park Neighborhood Association for their recent donation and ceremony honoring Black Hawk, Butler and Franklin Middle Schools. Additionally, she reported that the association honored Black Hawk’s principal, Terrance Jordan, and a group of volunteers from the association that volunteer to tutor and mentor students from apartment complexes within the association’s boundaries.
- Mrs. Gill thanked the Telephone Pioneers and Springfield Fire Department for providing over 250 pairs of new socks and shoes again this year to students in need.
- She then saluted Dubois and Hazel Dell Elementary Schools for their recent Gift of Giving events.
- Lastly, Mrs. Gill saluted the Feldman Wasser Law Firm for hosting a Scholastic Book Fair at Ridgely Elementary School, which provided students of that school with books.

Mr. Zimmers also saluted the National Honor Society students from Southeast High School that have assisted at the Mini O’Bierne Holiday Shop, also.

## **CONSENT ACTION ITEMS**

### **9.1 Approval of Consent Action Items**

Approval of consent action items as listed in the agenda.

**Resolution:** The Superintendent recommends approval of the consent action items 9.2 through 9.8 as described in the corresponding resolutions.

### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Michael Zimmers**) Moved, Member (**Judith Johnson**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends approval of the consent action items 9.2 through 9.8 as described in the corresponding resolutions'. Mr. Lopez then opened the floor for discussion

Mrs. Moore asked for some additional information regarding Consent Action Item 9.6 – Approval of an Agreement with Pearson Connexus Gradpoint. Mrs. Gill explained that due to some technical issues with the compatibility between the A++ software and technology devices, Pearson is going to provide some supplementation.

Next, Mrs. Moore asked about the mileage reimbursement allowed as part of Consent Action Item 9.7 Approval of an Agreement with BrightStar Care. Mrs. Gill and Mrs. Leu Baker, Director of Student Support Services, addressed Mrs. Moore’s concerns about the reimbursement. Mrs. Moore asked if it would be possible to request local nurses be called from the sub service before those living more than 25 miles away are called for duty.

Member (**Donna Moore**) Moved, Member (**Jamie Sisti**) Seconded to table Consent Action Item 9.7 Approval of an Agreement with BrightStar Care until the January 2, 2018 regular Board of Education meeting. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 5 Nay: 2. The motion **Carried. 5-2**

Those voting “aye”:	Flamini, Lopez, Mares, Moore, Sisti
Those voting “no”:	Johnson, Zimmers.

Mr. Lopez then called for a vote on the original motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Flamini, Johnson, Lopez, Mares, Moore, Sisti, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None.

### **9.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Session and the Regular Meeting of December 4, 2018**

**Resolution:** WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Springfield School District 186 reviews the minutes of the regular session and the executive session of the previous Board Meetings; and WHEREAS, copies of these sets of minutes were distributed to the Board in the board packet prior to this meeting; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the aforementioned set of regular session and executive session minutes and directs the Secretary to include them in the official records of the Board of Education meetings.

### **9.3 Approval of Payroll and Bills Payable**

**Resolution:** That the Board of Education approves payroll and bills payable as shown in the attached report.

### **9.4 Approval of Consultant Agreement with Melissa Mitchell for Matheny-Withrow School**

Melissa Mitchell will work with the Matheny-Withrow staff, and the SPS 186 team to design professional development sessions around providing a broader understanding of the community school development process. Dates: January 30, 2018 February 16, 2018 Cost: \$1,300 per day = \$2,600 Total Cost

**Resolution:** WHEREAS, Melissa Mitchell is qualified to provide Community School professional development sessions at a cost of \$1,300 per session with expenses for a total of \$2,600; and WHEREAS, Melissa Mitchell is being funded through the School Improvement Grant budget; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the retention of consultant Melissa Mitchell per the terms identified above and directs the Superintendent to execute the necessary documents on behalf of the board.

### **9.5 Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with the Regional Office of Education #51**

The Regional Office of Education #51 has developed a three-year plan for supporting Social Emotional Learning in schools. ROE #51 is committed to supporting these efforts financially, as well as providing high quality professional development. Using Panorama Education, ROE #51 will support the financial pilot of this SEL program in several classrooms at Lee and Feitshans schools and in two 9th grade classrooms at Lanphier High School. The cost to Springfield Public Schools is \$1,500 per year, which will be funded through Title 1. ROE #51 is providing funds for the remaining 70 percent of the contract with Panorama Education.

**Resolution:** WHEREAS, Springfield Public School District 186 is continually looking for ways to support Social and Emotional Learning; and WHEREAS, the Regional Office of Education (ROE) #51 is able to provide funding at 70 percent for three years for Panorama Education to support students social-emotional skill development; and WHEREAS, the District and ROE #51 will work together to implement Panorama Education at Lee School, Feitshans School, and Lanphier High School; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the agreement with the Regional Office of Education #51 regarding the Panorama Education program.

### **9.6 Approval of an Agreement with Pearson Connexus Gradpoint**

**Resolution:** WHEREAS, Pearson provides the services of a CONNEXUS GradPoint Program that provides online learning platform; and WHEREAS, Pearson agrees to provide assistive

services for online learning staff; WHEREAS, District 186 desires to provide online learning and credit recovery services for students at the alternative schools and high schools; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves an agreement between Springfield Public School District 186 and Pearson Connexus GradPoint for the 2017-2018 school year (January 2, 2018, through July 31, 2018) at a base cost of 48,664.42 with the possibility of additional courses not to exceed a grand total of \$61,534.42.

#### **9.7 Approval of an Agreement with BrightStar Care**

**Resolution:** WHEREAS, District 186 desires services of BrightStar Care of Springfield for medical staffing of Nursing Personnel; and WHEREAS, BrightStar Care is appropriately qualified and able to provide Nursing Personnel from time to time to Springfield Public School District 186; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves an agreement between Springfield Public School District 186 and BrightStar Care for the time period of January 3, 2018, through July 31, 2018, at a rate of no more than \$63.00 per hour, time and a half on holidays as stated in the agreement and weekends plus a mileage fee of \$0.34 per mile if the commute is 25 miles or more one way.

#### **9.8 Approval of Travel for the Springfield High School Band**

**Resolution:** WHEREAS, the Springfield High School Band has requested permission to travel to Memphis, Tennessee, and plans include touring Graceland, the Rock and Soul Museum, the National Civil Rights Museum, the Memphis Music Hall of Fame, and the Gibson Guitar Factory; and WHEREAS, the Springfield High School Band agrees to raise all necessary funds and abide by all rules and regulations of Springfield School District 186; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Springfield High School Band has permission to travel Memphis, Tennessee, on March 22-24, 2018.

### **ROLL CALL ACTION ITEMS**

#### **10.1 Approval of Personnel Recommendations**

**Resolution:** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the Personnel recommendations as presented.

#### **ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Donna Moore**) Moved, Member (**Jamie Sisti**) Seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'The Superintendent recommends adoption of the Personnel recommendations as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: 7 Nay: 0. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Flamini, Johnson, Lopez, Mares, Moore, Sisti, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None.

#### **10.2 Approval of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Service Employees International Union Local 15**

Approval of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with SEIU Local 15 for the 2017-18 through 2018-19 school years for financial terms and the 2017-18 through 2020-21 school years for language.

**Resolution:** WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Springfield Public School District 186 has concluded bargaining of a new collective bargaining agreement with the Service Employees International Union Local 15; and WHEREAS, the terms of the agreement have been tentatively approved by the bargaining teams of the Board of Education and Local 15; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Springfield Public School District 186 does hereby ratify the terms of that tentative agreement to be in effect for the 2017-18 through 2018-19 school years for financial terms and the 2017-18 through 2020-21 school years for language.

Mrs. Gill read the terms of the agreement.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Donna Moore**) Moved, Member (**Jamie Sisti**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Springfield Public School District 186 has concluded bargaining of a new collective bargaining agreement with the Service Employees International Union Local 15; and WHEREAS, the terms of the agreement have been tentatively approved by the bargaining teams of the Board of Education and Local 15; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Springfield Public School District 186 does hereby ratify the terms of that tentative agreement to be in effect for the 2017-18 through 2018-19 school years for financial terms and the 2017-18 through 2020-21 school years for language'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Flamini, Johnson, Lopez, Mares, Moore, Sisti, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None.

**10.3 Approval of a Resolution Regarding the General Tax Levy**

This resolution indicates the amounts necessary to be raised for the general levies.

**Resolution:** The Superintendent recommends the adoption of the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Board of Education of Springfield School District No. 186, County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, that: 1. The amounts of money as set forth on the Certificate of Tax Levy attached hereto and made a part hereof shall be raised by special tax for the next ensuing year for the purpose set forth on said Certificate of Tax Levy. 2. The President and Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to sign such Certificate of Tax Levy and file such Certificate with the County Clerk of Sangamon County on or before the last Tuesday in December of this year.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Donna Moore**) Moved, Member (**Judith Johnson**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends the adoption of the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Board of Education of Springfield School District No. 186, County of Sangamon, State of Illinois, that: 1. The amounts of money as set forth on the Certificate of Tax Levy attached hereto and made a part hereof shall be raised by special tax for the next ensuing year for the purpose set forth on said Certificate of Tax Levy. 2. The President and Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to sign such Certificate of Tax Levy and file such Certificate with the County Clerk of Sangamon County on or before the last Tuesday in December of this year'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Flamini, Johnson, Lopez, Mares, Moore, Sisti, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None.

**10.4 Approval of a Resolution Amending the Tax Levy for the Payment of the Taxable General Obligation Limited Tax School Bonds, Series 2014B of Springfield School District No. 186, Sangamon County, Illinois**

The General Obligation Limited School Refunding Bonds, Series 2014B were structured to allow for annual growth in the Debt Service Extension Base (DSEB) based upon the CPI each year. The bond documents filed with the County Clerk in March 2014 assumed no increase. Now that we know that the 2016 CPI is 2.1%, this resolution informs the County Clerk to extend taxes for the debt service payments for the 2017 tax year to capture the growth in the DSEB. This resolution is to be filed annually to adjust for the change in the CPI each year. This resolution must be adopted by the Board and filed with the County Clerk no later than February 28, 2018.

**Resolution:** The Superintendent recommends adoption of the resolution amending the 2014B bond levy as attached.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Donna Moore**) Moved, Member (**Michael Zimmers**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends adoption of the resolution amending the 2014B bond levy as attached'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Flamini, Johnson, Lopez, Mares, Moore, Sisti, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None.

**10.5 Approval of a Resolution Regarding the Special Tax Levies**

The levies for IMRF, Social Security/Medicare and Special Education are considered separately from the general levy according to The School Code of Illinois.

**Resolution:** he Superintendent recommends the adoption of the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education, Springfield School District No. 186, County of Sangamon, and State of Illinois, that for the next ensuing year, the County Clerk of Sangamon County is hereby authorized and directed to extend the following special taxes on behalf of Springfield School District No. 186: 1. The sum of \$2,751,046 to be levied as a special tax for municipal retirement purposes, and 2. The sum of \$2,844,439 to be levied as a special tax for social security/Medicare purposes, and 3. The sum of \$2,065,308 to be levied as a special tax for special education purposes.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Michael Zimmers**) Moved, Member (**Donna Moore**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'he Superintendent recommends the adoption of the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education, Springfield School District No. 186, County of Sangamon, and State of Illinois, that for the next ensuing year, the County Clerk of Sangamon County is hereby authorized and directed to extend the following special taxes on behalf of Springfield School District No. 186: 1. The sum of \$2,751,046 to be levied as a special tax for municipal retirement purposes, and 2. The sum of \$2,844,439 to be levied as a special tax for social security/Medicare purposes, and 3. The sum of \$2,065,308 to be levied as a special tax for special education purposes'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Flamini, Johnson, Lopez, Mares, Moore, Sisti, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None.

**10.6 Student Discipline**

**Resolution:** That the Board approves the student discipline as discussed in Executive Session and summarized by the Superintendent as follows:

That one 10th grade students be hereby expelled from further attendance at Southeast High School through the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of the 2018-2019 school year without a program and;

That one 10<sup>th</sup> grade student be hereby expelled from further attendance at Lanphier High School through the end of the 2018-2019 school year with a program.

**ORIGINAL - Motion**

Member (**Michael Zimmers**) Moved, Member (**Anthony Mares**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'That the Board approves the student discipline as discussed in Executive Session and summarized by the Superintendent'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **7** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 7 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Flamini, Johnson, Lopez, Mares, Moore, Sisti, Zimmers  
Those voting "no": None.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **11.1 Next Regular Meeting — Tuesday, January 2, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. — Board Room**

### **11.2 Upcoming District Events**

No School - Winter Break - December 22 – January 2 (regular calendar) December 18 – January 8 (balanced calendar)

### **11.3 Freedom of Information Report**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at this time.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Lopez declared the meeting adjourned until Tuesday, January 2, 2018. The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

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Adam Lopez, President

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Julie A. Hammers, Secretary

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_