

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF INDEPENDENCE
23786 INDEE BOULEVARD, INDEPENDENCE, WI 54747
BOARD OF EDUCATION - REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, June 4, 2024 (6:30 PM)

1) Call to order & proof of public notice

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Education of the Independence School District was called to order at 6:35 pm by Joe Bragger, President.

Paul confirmed the agenda was legally and properly posted.

2) Roll call of members.

Present for roll call were Joe Bragger, Bob Guza, Jen Rombalski, Jenny Solberg, and Brian Bautch

3) Pledge of allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

4) Public input/delegations

- a) Review recent written suggestions or concerns board policy #870

5) Student Spotlight

Taylor Sylla - Taylor was 1 of 70 students chosen nationwide (out of 1800 applicants!) to be paired with a PhD candidate from Harvard to do virtual biology research this summer. Her research could potentially be published, and it could also lead to a scholarship. This is an amazing opportunity, and well-deserved! *Mrs. Guza and Mr. Guenther*

Jonathon De La Torre and Kevin Rodriguez - Jonathan and Kevin were both very helpful with translating for their newcomer classmates during physical science. They were both polite, respectful, and had a positive attitude all year.
On a side note, earlier this year, Jonathan served breakfast to my extended family at a local cafe. He was very respectful and an excellent server, and multiple family members commented at how impressed they were with him. *Mrs. A Guza*

Angel Ceballos Yanez - Angel came to Independence as a senior this year. He has done a tremendous amount of work in all of his business classes with me. He is also trying very hard to grasp the English language and intends on taking classes at WTC to learn English. He does great work even with the language barrier. He is also very respectful and polite to all people, especially his teachers. *Ms. Killian-Baures*

Gracie Rombalski - Performance at Graduation - wow!

Plant & Soil Science Class: Ally Conrad, Shauna Dejno, Danika Ekern, Ethen Estrada, Sebastian Franco Lopez, Perla Garcia Acosta, Angela Gutierrez, Avery Halama, Payton Helgeson, Emily Hovey, Emmalee Jasin, Catherine Kampa, Aliyah Kirtley, Arabelle Kniseley, Cris Pomeroy, Jaelyn Pronschinske, Morgan Schank, Nora Schank, Alex Tomas Torres, Alexa Torres, Shawna Whitewater - While learning about different plants and techniques for propagation along with landscaping techniques, the class split and transplanted plants. They worked on replacing the mulch and other pruning and items around the building and grounds and out by the community sign.

High: Josue Roman Gerena, Miriam Cano Alejo Middle: Brandon Montalvo Tecpile, Virriana Morales Cervantes, Ana Brissel Bautista Santiago, Estrella Sandoval Barrios - Two emergent bilingual students in the high school and four in the middle school tested at or above the 4.5 level on the most recent Access test, showing proficiency in English.

We also had two high schoolers and one middle schooler test out of the Newcomer class (scoring above a 2.0), and 29 students across the two schools showed growth in their English skills on the ACCESS test between last year and this year!

All students who helped out with community service day. A special shoutout to Andrew Bragger, Brendon Gunderson and Preston Solberg - All students did a great job with community service projects. When completing jobs to get back to school, Drew, Brendon and Preston offered to go back to the City Hall park to finish the landscaping after school. Great job everyone!

6) Celebrations

- a)** Thank you to Joe for helping with the reseeding/fertilizing of our Multi-use Community Sports Field, and for helping to remove the elementary playground equipment.
- b)** Thank you to Jody, Sue, and Tracy for helping out in the absence of our Health Assistant for the second half of this year
- c)** Senior Exit Interviews were amazing! (Dawn)
- d)** HS Awards and Scholarships ceremony went well - generous donations from our surrounding community. (Dawn)
- e)** Western Dairyland - cabinets of food (this summer and next school year) (Dawn)
- f)** Graduations (4K, 8th grade, and HS) (Brianna)
- g)** Band/Choir - Graduation, Memorial Day, and Indee Days Parade (Brianna)
- h)** Pilgrims Pride made another \$15,000.00 donation! (Paul)
- i)** Kari recently completed the Wisconsin School Governance Internal Controls for the School Business Office and Mastering WUFAR Courses as a part of the Wisconsin Association of School Business Officials University offerings - Congratulations Kari!

7) Consent

- a)** Treasurer's report, vouchers and payroll
 - i. Approve Treasurer's Report as of April 2024

INDEPENDENCE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INDEPENDENCE, WI 54747

MONTH: **June 2024**

BALANCE IN GENERAL FUND CHECKING – April 1, 2024

\$ 1,228,359.59

RECEIPTS #18287-18307 +\$132,918.55

PAYROLLS: April 15 & April 30, 2024 Regular/Supplemental - \$245,342.37

EXPENSE REGISTERS: - \$356,094.39

(Vendor Checks #139763-139838) (\$138,682.78)

(Manual Checks #90004410-11 & AutoPays) (\$ 217,411.61)

BALANCE AS OF April 30, 2024 \$ 759,841.38

FUND 46 – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

First Deposit Date – October 27, 2022 – Initial Investment \$1,000.00

Deposit June 28, 2023 - \$300,000.00

Fiscal YTD Interest Earned \$450.57

BALANCE AS OF April 30, 2024 \$301,546.82

OUTSTANDING DEBT & NEXT SCHEDULED PAYMENTS

FUND 10

Short Term Borrowing: \$0.00

(Line of Credit balance available \$800,000)

Short Term Borrowing: Interest Paid through April 30, 2024 \$0.00

FUND 38

#1 BCPL Loan for Energy Efficiency Building Upgrades

Outstanding Balance: \$168,978.53

Next Payment Due in March 2025

1) Receipts

2) Check Register

- ii. Activity Accounts - Please review this reconciliation and contact me if you have any questions. This link will be updated on Monday, June 3rd.

Motion by Jen Rombalski, second by Jenny Solberg to approve the Treasurer's Report and Activity Accounts as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

b) Minutes of the prior meetings

- i. Minutes of May 7, 2024 Regular Board meeting

Motion by Bob Guza, second by Jenny Solberg to approve the May Minutes as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

Employment (hire).

ii. Teaching Staff

- 1) Penny Danizinger - Special Education

Motion by Jen Rombalski, second by Jenny Solberg to approve hiring Penny Danzinger as the Special Education Teacher. Motion carried 4-0.

8) Action

a) Volunteer Approval

- i. Dustin Osborn

Motion by Jen Rombalski, second by Jenny Solberg to approve Dustin Osborn as a volunteer. Motion carried 4-0.

b) Approve Personal Electronic Device Policy (moved up in the agenda so that policy could be approved and then language copied into handbooks)

Motion by Brian Bautch, second by Bob Guza to add “no verbal warnings” to first offense. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Jen Rombalski, second by Jenny Solberg to add to the amendment “No verbal warnings. Students and families will receive notifications and education on this policy prior to the start of the school year”. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Bob Guza, second by Jen Rombalski to add “however they will be encouraged to talk with their peers and minimize the use of their PEDs” to field trip language. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Jen Rombalski, second by Jenny Solberg to accept the policy as written. Motion carried 4-0.

c) First reading of the Elementary Student Handbook

Add link to the PBIS matrix in the behavior expectations section.

Add link for updated Cell Phone/PEDs. Add: “Elementary students are strongly discouraged from bringing a PED to school (link Board policy).”

No action taken

d) First reading of the Middle/High School Student Handbook

Add link to the PBIS matrix

Update to new PED policy

Update the offenses of PED policy in the progressive discipline system

No action taken

e) First reading of the Middle School/High School Activities Handbook

No action taken

f) Second reading of the Teacher Professional Agreement

Motion by Bob Guza, second by Brian Bautch to add delinquent lunch account policy to teacher’s professional agreement (same policy that’s in the student handbook). Motion carried 3-2. Jen Rombalski and Jenny Solberg voted no. Bob Guza, Brian Bautch, and Joe Bragger voted yes.

Motion by Jen Rombalski, second by Jenny Solberg to accept the teacher professional agreement as written. Motion carried 4-0.

g) Second reading of the Support Staff handbook

Motion by Brian Bautch, second by Jenny Solberg to add delinquent lunch account policy to the support staff handbook. Motion carried 3-1. Jen Rombalski voted no. Bob Guza, Brian Bautch, and Jenny Solberg voted yes.

Motion by Jen Rombalski, second by Jenny Solberg to accept the support staff handbook as written. Motion carried 4-0.

9) Discussion (Possible Action)

a) Admin team presentation

Jen Rombalski: There is more math support than reading support even though our reading scores are lower. EL students need more support. Resources may be needed to help support student achievement & this is a board/admin/school focus.

b) 23-24 Student discipline data - Seclusion and restraint data

c) Jodi Meyer - Agriculture - extended contract

d) Lisa Newcomb - Librarian - extended contract

Motion by Jen Rombalski, second by Jenny Solberg to approve the Ag and Librarian extended contracts. Motion carried 4-0.

e) Alio Software Account - renewal and update from Kari

f) Administrator's report

- i. Mrs. Zwiefelhofer (4K-8 Principal)
- ii. Mrs. Olson (SPED Director)
- iii. Mr. Franzwa (District Administrator, 9-12 Principal)

g) YTD Budget Reports

- i. Revenue
- ii. Expenditures

h) Board Focus

- i. Board Focus [notes](#) from last meeting 3-18-24

No action

i) Board of Education 12 month calendar

July 9th 6:30

Send WASB information to Board prior to the next board meeting packet time - if we get it

Send list of changes proposed to the grading handbook asap as well

10) Set next meeting date

- a) Next Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, July 9th 6:30 pm

- b) Convene to closed session in accordance with WI Statute 19.85 (1) (c) and 118.125**

The board may also convene in closed session to discuss employment from the consent agenda

- i. Staffing

Motion by Jen Rombalski, second by Jenny Solberg to move into Closed Session at 9:35 pm.
Motion carried 4-0.

Roll call Joe Bragger – yes, Bob Guza – yes, Jen Rombalski- yes, Jenny Solberg - yes, Brian Bautch – yes.

11) Reconvene into open session to take action from closed if necessary.

Motion by Bob Guza, second by Jen Rombalski to go to open session at 10:19 pm. Motion carried 4-0.

No action taken.

12) Adjournment

Motion by Jen Rombalski, second by Bob Guza to adjourn at 10:20 pm. Motion carried 4-0.