

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
FORRESTVILLE VALLEY C.U.S.D. #221
December 13, 2023

The Board of Education of Unit School District #221, Counties of Ogle and Stephenson, Illinois met in the Chorus Room at Forreston Junior / Senior High School on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, for a public hearing and regular meeting.

A. FY23 Tax Levy Hearing

A Public Hearing regarding the FY23 Tax Levy was called to order by President Braker at 6:30 p.m.

President Braker stated that there is a proposed tax levy increase for Forrestville Valley Unit School District #221 and asked for public comments to be shared. No members of the school community addressed the Board of Education regarding the FY23 Tax Levy increase.

A motion was made by Member Pauls and seconded by Member Moore to adjourn the Public Hearing at 6:31 p.m. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Pauls, Moore, Ludwig, Gallagher, Gronewold, Cook, and Braker

NAY: None

B. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

The regular meeting was called to order by President Braker at 6:31 p.m.

All rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

Members Present: Chip Braker, Don Cook, Shaun Gallagher, Bob Gronewold, Shawnda Ludwig, Dr. April Moore, and Dr. Craig Pauls

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Superintendent Sheri Smith, Travis Heinz, Heather Politsch, Ryan Schrader, and Kyle Zick

D. Review and Adoption of Board of Education Agenda

A motion was made by Member Ludwig and seconded by Member Moore to adopt the Board of Education agenda as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Ludwig, Moore, Cook, Gronewold, Pauls, Gallagher, and Braker

NAY: None

E. Recognition of Visitors and Public Comment

This item was addressed with no members of the public addressing the board.

F. Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Member Gronewold and seconded by Member Gallagher to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Gronewold, Gallagher, Moore, Cook, Ludwig, Pauls, and Braker

NAY: None

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Committee Minutes of November 15, 2023
 - b. Regular Minutes of November 15, 2023
2. Approval of Monthly Financial Statement
3. Approval of Personnel Report

Support Personnel

Transfer:

- Approve the transfer of the following Support Personnel:

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Mariena Pratt	Kindergarten Paraprofessional	ELA Paraprofessional	December 05, 2023

Employment:

- Approve the employment of the following Support Personnel:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Wendy Morgan	GVGS Paraprofessional	December 14, 2023

Differential Assignments

Employment:

- Approve the employment of the following Differential Assignments:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Robert "Butch" DeVries	FJH Girls' Volunteer Basketball Coach	Start of 2023-2024 Season

4. Approval of Payment of Bills & Claims
5. Approval of Activity Accounts
6. Approval of the Highland Community College – CollegeNOW Agreement for the 2024-2025 School Year
7. Approval of the Destruction of Closed Session Meeting Audio Recordings through June, 2022
8. Approval to Keep Closed Session Meeting Minutes Closed through November, 2023

G. Superintendent's Report

1. District Highlights
 - a. Mrs. Smith and the board congratulated Mr. Heinz and Mr. Zick on FJSHS Exemplary Status for the 2022-2023 school year.
2. Building Highlights
 - a. FHS Class of 2024 Commencement Ceremony – May 12, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.
3. Facilities Highlights
 - a. Regional Office of Education Annual Inspection – December 13, 2023 – Mrs. Smith recognized and thanked the FV Maintenance and Custodial staff on an excellent inspection and read a complimentary email from the Regional Office of Education.
 - b. Lighting Proposals
4. Community Highlights
5. Staff Communication
 - a. December Staff Bulletin
6. Business Operations Timeline

H. Board Action and Discussion

1. Approval of FY23 Final Tax Levy
Following presentation from Superintendent Smith and board discussion, a motion was made by Member Gallagher and seconded by Member Cook to approve the FY23 final tax levy as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Gallagher, Cook, Pauls, Ludwig, Gronewold, Moore, and Braker
NAY: None
2. Approval and Adoption of Resolution to Add Question of County School Facility Sales Tax to March 2024 Ballot
Following presentation from Superintendent Smith and board discussion, a motion was made by Member Cook and seconded by Member Ludwig to approve and adopt the Resolution to add the question of county school facility sales tax to the March 2024 ballot as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Cook, Ludwig, Moore, Pauls, and Braker
NAY: Gronewold, Gallagher
3. Approval of FY24 Property Tax Relief Grant Application
A motion was made by Member Gallagher and seconded by Member Moore to approve the FY24 property tax relief grant application as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Gallagher, Moore, Pauls, Cook, Ludwig, Gronewold, and Braker
NAY: None

4. Approval of Insurance Renewals
A. Commercial Package, Workers' Compensation Package, Automobile Package, Umbrella Package, School Board Legal Liability & Law Enforcement Packages

A motion was made by Member Gronewold and seconded by Member Ludwig to approve the insurance renewals as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Gronewold, Ludwig, Pauls, Cook, Moore and Braker

NAY: Gallagher

5. Approval of 2024-2025 Forreston High School Curriculum Guide – 1st Reading
A motion was made by Member Gallagher and seconded by Member Cook to approve the 2024-2025 Forreston High School Curriculum Guide – 1st Reading as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Gallagher, Cook, Moore, Pauls, Ludwig, Gronewold, and Braker

NAY: None

6. Approval of Policies – 2nd Reading
A motion was made by Member Ludwig and seconded by Member Moore to approve the policies – 2nd reading as presented. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Ludwig, Moore, Pauls, Cook, Gallagher, Gronewold, and Braker

NAY: None

I. Closed Session

1. A motion was made by Member Pauls and seconded by Member Gronewold to adjourn to closed session at 7:26 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body for the public body-5ILCS120/2(c)(1); Litigation – 5ILCS120/2(c)(11); and Student Disciplinary Cases – 5ILCS120/2(c)(9). On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Pauls, Gronewold, Ludwig, Moore, Gallagher, Cook, and Braker

NAY: None

2. A motion was made by Member Gronewold and seconded by Member Pauls to return to open session at 7:54 p.m. On a roll call, the motion passed.

YEA: Gronewold, Pauls, Moore, Cook, Gallagher, Ludwig, and Braker

NAY: None

J. Possible Action Items Resulting From Closed Session

1. No action was taken resulting from closed session.

K. Calendar Items

1. December 2023 Calendar
 - a.FHS Boys' Holiday Basketball Tournament
2. January 2024 Calendar

L. Other Matters to Come to the Attention of the Board

1. Board Retreat – February 1, 2024, at Highland Community College
2. Chadwick Milledgeville will be hosting a fundraiser for Cade Rudy and family on January 2, 2024, during the Boys' Basketball game
3. Mr. Braker expressed his thanks to the FV Wellness Committee for their caroling activity in the district.

M. Adjournment

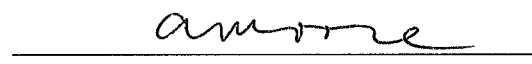
A motion was made by Member Gallagher and seconded by Member Pauls to adjourn the meeting. On a roll call vote, the motion passed.

YEA: Gallagher, Pauls, Gronewold, Ludwig, Cook, Moore, and Braker

NAY: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.


(President, Board of Education)


(Secretary, Board of Education)