

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Villa Grove Community School District #302 of Douglas and Champaign Counties, Illinois was called and held Monday, November 18, 2019, at the Villa Grove Community Unit School District Building, within the boundaries of said District. Upon roll being called, the following members were found to be present: Jim Clark, Bill Fulk, Jill Stevens, Carol Ezell, Meagan Quigley, Charlie Mitsdarfer and Jerrad Zimmerman.

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Administrators present: Mr. Tracy, Mrs. Jones, Mr. Beck.

VGEA Representatives present: Jim Kestner, Shelby Eversole.

Visitors present: Pam Rutledge.

VISITOR RECOGNITION: None.

Clark moved and Fulk seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda, which includes Agenda Items D, E, F and G. All members present voted in favor.

The first order of business is to report on the findings regarding the pole inspection. The poles on the football field are in good shape. Two poles on the softball field, as shown on the available diagram, need replaced. The recommendation is to do the replacement in the winter months when the ground is frozen. No motion is needed at this time.

The second item is approval of a resolution authorizing and directing the deposit of certain funds of Community Unit School District 302, Douglas and Champaign Counties, Illinois, to the Bond Fund of said School District and abating the taxes heretofore levied for the year 2019 to pay debt service on the General Obligation School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2019A, of said School District. Each year, we need to pass a resolution for abatement. The day after this is approved, Ms. Badman will transfer that exact amount of money from the sales tax fund to the bond and interest fund each year. Quigley moved and Fulk seconded a motion to approve the above resolution. All members present voted in favor.

The third item on the agenda is to present an update on the Phase II Sound System. The Board was provided a price quote from Corson Music, total price of \$18,679.25.

This is a significant savings over the quote from Thompson and Corson is local and who currently services our sound system. No motion is needed at this time.

Brit Miller was present on behalf of Barbeck Communications to explain their quote for upgrading our radios and safety plan. He gave a very thorough explanation of the upgrades from VHF Analog to UHF Digital. Clark recommended a second bid before spending such a large amount of money, so no motion was made at this time.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Russ Leigh was unavailable for tonight's meeting, so he will give the audit presentation at the next regular meeting on December 16, 2019.

Just a reminder that the District passed a two-hour late start option for winter weather. We haven't exercised that yet, but it is a possibility in the future.

Tyler Drake successfully completed the SRO Training Course.

School Board Member Day was November 15, 2019. Thank you to the Board.

Press Plus Issue 102 is historical as far as the number of changes forthcoming.

The District is trying to secure the training services of Detective Richard Wistocki for both faculty and junior high/high school students. The training is expensive, but very important and timely on trends in internet crime, drug use warning signs, reporting abuse, online safety when using mobile devices and computer gaming systems, cyber bullying, extortion and protecting our digital footprint, etc., so very timely topics.

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS - ELEMENTARY - MR. BECK:

Congratulation to our Students of the Month, Ashton Costa (K), Lyle Finke (1), Addison Obenland (2), Sophia Smith (3), Jacob Christman (4), Rebekah Bloom (5), Allison Eisenmenger (6). Teacher of the Month is Ms. Clapp.

Parent/Teacher Conferences were November 5 & 7 and were well attended; there may be an error in reporting for 5th grade that needs double checked. A survey was sent out to parents on how we can improve.

The variety show was successful; thanks to Ms. Cardiff for organizing.

Thanks to VG State Bank for sponsoring our Red Ribbon Week and thanks to Ms. Malin and Ms. Osborne for organizing.

Our Veterans Day Assembly gets better every year; thanks to everyone who helped and to Mrs. Howard for organizing.

The District received our annual report card and Villa Grove Elementary received Commendable Status, which means no underperforming student groups, a graduation rate greater than 67%, but whose performance is not within the top 10% of schools statewide.

IAR/PARCC Testing showed a 3-6% increase in levels 4&5. The numbers are further explained in the written report.

The 5Essentials School Survey, designed to improve parent/school relationships, will be ongoing October 24, 2019 - February 14, 2020.

JH/HS - MRS. JONES:

The first JH Dance of the year will be Friday, November 22, 2019, 80s theme.

JH Boys Basketball is off to a good start.

JH Girls Basketball had their 8th grade night Tuesday, November 12, 2019.

Congrats to the HS Football Team for making Playoffs.

Students attended the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis.

Fall Sports Banquet was held Wednesday, November 13, 2019.

Shout out to Jim Kestner, who had 45 parents attend parent/teacher conferences.

HS Graduation has been set for Friday, May 22, 2020.

Thank you to Mrs. Howard and all of the teachers for the beautiful Veteran's Day Assembly.

Parent/Teacher conferences were well attended.

Mrs. Jones attended IPA conference in Peoria October 21-22.

Mr. Beck and Mrs. Jones attended EIU's Job Fair November 6.

Mrs. Acton and Mrs. Jones attended the IHSA Town Hall Meeting in Clinton November 7.

JH/HS staff are doing professional development by reading "A Framework for Understanding Poverty" by Ruby Payne.

Drug dogs were brought in last Friday. This was not included on the report because Mrs. Jones did not want that information to be shared. Thanks to the Douglas County and Arthur Police Departments for bringing in their dogs. We did get a couple hits, but did not find anything, which is good. The lockers in the junior high and high school were checked, as well as the locker rooms and cars.

The District Report Cards are available for review, but some of the highlights, we are still low in math, but reading and English numbers have improved. We have switched math curriculums and decreased class size to address those concerns. We also added a third math teacher.

Clark moved and Stevens seconded a motion to move to closed session. All members present voted in favor.

7:26 p.m.

Clark moved and Quigley seconded a motion to reconvene to open session. All members present voted in favor.

7:46 p.m.

No action taken following closed session.

Mr. Tracy mentioned that he received a recommendation not to seek liability insurance estimates while the District is under construction.

Meeting adjourned: 7:51 p.m.

ATTEST:

Board Secretary Jill Stevens

Board President Jim Clark