

**Whiteside School District #115
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Thursday, December 14, 2023
7:00 pm
Whiteside Middle School**

MINUTES of a regular public meeting of the Board of Education of School District Number 115, St. Clair County, Illinois, held at the District Office Board Room of the Whiteside Middle School, 111 Warrior Way, Belleville, Illinois, in said School District at 7:00 o'clock P.M., on the 14th day of December, 2023.

* * *

Administrators: Mark Heuring, Monica Laurent, Nathan Rakers, Kim Bossler, Jaime Cotto

Visitors: as noted on the sign-in sheet

1.0) Call to order & Pledge of Allegiance

2.0) Roll Call of Members

The meeting was called to order by Rod Euchner, the President, and upon the roll being called, the following members were physically present at said location: Jeremy Bochantin, Angela Dickerson, Rod Euchner, Derek Houston, Sean McKee, Christine Mitchell-Endsley, and Nancy Sanchez

The following members were allowed by a majority of the members of the Board of Education in accordance with and to the extent allowed by rules adopted by the Board of Education to attend the meeting by video or audio conference: None

No member was not permitted to attend the meeting by video or audio conference.

The following members were absent and did not participate in the meeting in any manner or to any extent whatsoever: None

3.0) Accept / Amend Consent Agenda

Motion by Dickerson, second by Sanchez to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Ayes – 7, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

4.0) Public Comment

President Rod Euchner welcomed visitors and members of the WFT.

Gina Parker, parent, addressed the board in regards paraprofessional's compensation.

5.0) Consent Items

5.1) Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting November 13, 2023

Motion by Bochantin, second by Mitchell-Endsley to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting November 13, 2023. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

5.2) Approval of Minutes from Closed Session November 13, 2023

Motion by Mitchell-Endsley, second by Dickerson to approve the minutes from the Closed Session November 13, 2023. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

5.3) Approval of the Minutes from Special Meeting November 20, 2023

Motion by Mitchell-Endsley, second by Dickerson to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting November 20, 2023. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

5.4) Approval of Treasurers Report

Motion by Mitchell-Endsley, second by Dickerson to approve the Treasurers Report as presented. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

5.5) Approval of Claims / Bills Payable

Motion by Mitchell-Endsley, second by Sanchez to approve the claims / bills payable as presented. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

6.0) Board Secretary Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

7.0) Administrative Reports

7.1) Elementary Report – Mr. Rakers' reviewed his written report.

7.2) Middle School Report – Mrs. Laurent reviewed her written report.

7.3) District Superintendent Report – Mr. Heuring reviewed his written report.

Mr. Heuring also shared information he had learned about the 1% Sales Tax that is being proposed for the November 2024 Election.

8.0) Committee Reports

8.1) Referendum

Nothing to report.

8.2) Policy

Committee meeting was set for 6:30 pm on Tuesday, January 9, 2024.

9.0) New Business

9.1) First Reading of PRESS

Motion by Dickerson, second by Mitchell-Endsley to approve the first reading of PRESS. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

9.2) Resolution to Approve the Truth in Taxation Hearing

Motion by Bochantin, second by Euchner to approve the resolution providing publication that the district followed steps for a Truth in Taxation Notice. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

9.3) Resolution to Levy Taxes

Motion by Bochantin, second by Euchner to approve the 2023 Tax Levy as presented. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

The President announced that the Board of Education would next consider the adoption of a resolution providing for and requiring the submission of the proposition of issuing School Building Bonds to the voters of the District at the general primary election to be held on March 19, 2024.

Whereupon Member ___Rod Euchner_____ presented and the Secretary read by title a resolution as follows, a copy of which was provided to each member of the Board of Education prior to said meeting and to everyone in attendance at said meeting who requested a copy:

- 9.4) Resolution providing for and requiring the submission of the proposition of issuing School Building Bonds to the voters of the School District Number 115, St. Clair County, Illinois, at the general primary election to be held on the 19th of March, 2024.

* * *

WHEREAS, the Board of Education (the “*School Board*”) of School District Number 115, St. Clair County, Illinois (the “*District*”), has considered the existing school facilities and the improvements and extensions necessary to be made thereto in order that the same will adequately serve the educational needs of the District; and

WHEREAS, the School Board does hereby find and determine that it is advisable, necessary and in the best interests of the District that the School Board be authorized to build and equip a classroom addition to the Whiteside Elementary School Building for early childhood and

pre-kindergarten programming, eliminate mobile classrooms and acquire and install a solar array at said School Building (collectively, the "Project") at an estimated cost of \$10,608,885; and

WHEREAS, the School Board does hereby further find and determine that the Project is needed to provide a quality educational program; and

WHEREAS, the School Board does hereby further determine that there are insufficient funds on hand and available to pay the costs of the Project; and

WHEREAS, before the School Board can provide the Project and borrow money and issue bonds for such purpose, a proposition therefor (the "Proposition") must be submitted to the voters of the District and be approved by a majority of the voters of the District voting on the Proposition at an election to be held in and for the District; and

WHEREAS, the School Board has determined that it is advisable, necessary and in the best interests of the District that the Proposition be submitted to the voters of the District at an election to be held and conducted in accordance with the general election law:

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It and It Is Hereby Resolved by the Board of Education of School District Number 115, St. Clair County, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1. Incorporation of Preambles. The School Board hereby finds that all of the recitals contained in the preambles to this Resolution are full, true and correct and does incorporate them into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. Need for Project. It is necessary and in the best interests of the District that the School Board be authorized to provide the Project, and that it is necessary and in the best interests of the District that money be borrowed and in evidence thereof bonds of the District be issued therefor to the amount of \$10,608,885.

Section 3. Submission to Voters. The Proposition shall be submitted to the voters of the District in accordance with the general election law at the general primary election to be held on

Tuesday, the 19th day of March, 2024, between the hours of 6:00 o'clock A.M. and 7:00 o'clock P.M. on said day (the "*Election*").

Section 4. Voting Precincts and Polling Places. The Election shall be held in the voting precincts and at the polling places established by the County Board (the "*County Board*") of The County of St. Clair, Illinois (the "*County*"), for voters of the District at the Election.

Section 5. Election Notice. The County Clerk of the County (the "*County Clerk*") shall give notice of the Election (the "*Notice*"), in accordance with the general election law by (i) publishing the Notice once not more than 60 nor less than 10 days prior to the date of the Election in a local, community newspaper having general circulation in the District, and (ii) posting a copy of the Notice at least 10 days before the date of the Election at the principal office of the County Clerk.

Section 6. Local Notice. The Secretary of the School Board shall post a copy of the Notice at the principal office of the District at least 10 days before the date of the Election.

Section 7. Newspaper of General Circulation. It is hereby found and determined that the *Belleville News-Democrat* is a local, community newspaper having a general circulation in the District as required by Section 12-5 of the Election Code of the State of Illinois, as amended (the "*Election Code*").

Section 8. Form of Notice. The Notice shall appear over the name or title of the County Clerk and shall be substantially in the following form:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at the general primary election to be held on Tuesday, the 19th day of March, 2024, the following proposition will be submitted to the voters of School District Number 115, St. Clair County, Illinois:

Shall the Board of Education of Whiteside School District Number 115, St. Clair County, Illinois, build and equip a classroom addition to the Whiteside Elementary School Building for early childhood and pre-kindergarten programming, eliminate mobile classrooms and acquire and install a solar array at said School Building and issue bonds of said School District to the amount of \$10,608,885 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?

The polls at the election will be open at 6:00 o'clock A.M. and will continue to be open until 7:00 o'clock P.M. of that day.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2024.

Thomas Holbrook
County Clerk, The County of St. Clair, Illinois

Section 9. Form of Ballot. The ballot to be used at the Election shall be in substantially the following form, with such necessary alterations, changes, deletions and insertions as may be required by Articles 24A, 24B or 24C of the Election Code if an electronic, mechanical or electric voting system is used at the Election:

(Face of Ballot)

OFFICIAL BALLOT

PROPOSITION TO ISSUE \$10,608,885 SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS

(INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: Mark a cross (X) in the space opposite the word indicating the way you desire to vote.)

Shall the Board of Education of Whiteside School District Number 115, St. Clair County, Illinois, build and equip a classroom addition to the Whiteside Elementary School Building for early childhood and pre-kindergarten programming, eliminate mobile classrooms and acquire and install a solar array at said School Building and issue bonds of said School District to the amount of \$10,608,885 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?	YES	
	NO	

(Back of Paper Ballot)

OFFICIAL BALLOT

Official ballot for voting on the proposition to issue School Building Bonds of School District Number 115, St. Clair County, Illinois, at the general primary election held on March 19, 2024.

Precinct Number: _____

Polling Place: _____

(Facsimile Signature)

County Clerk, The County of St. Clair, Illinois

Section 10. Election Judges. The Election shall be conducted by the election judges appointed by the County Board to act in the precincts at which the Proposition will be submitted to the voters of the District.

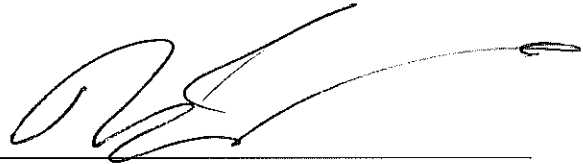
Section 11. Filing of Resolution. After the adoption hereof and not less than 68 days prior to the date of the Election, the Secretary of the School Board shall certify a copy hereof to the County Clerk in order that the Proposition may be submitted to the voters of the District at the Election.

Section 12. Canvass of Election. The Election shall be held and conducted and the returns thereof duly canvassed, all in the manner and time as provided by the general election law.

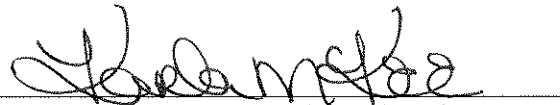
Section 13. Severability. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Resolution shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph, clause or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Resolution.

Section 14. Repealer and Effective Date. All resolutions and parts of resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed, and that this Resolution be in full force and effect forthwith upon its adoption.

Adopted December 14, 2023.



President, Board of Education



Secretary, Board of Education

* * *

Member Derek Houston moved and Member Jeremy Bochantin seconded the motion that said resolution as presented and read by title be adopted.

After a full discussion thereof, the President directed that the roll be called for a vote upon the motion to adopt said resolution.

Upon the roll being called, the following members voted AYE: Jeremy Bochantin, Angela Dickerson, Rod Euchner, Derek Houston, Sean McKee, Christine Mitchell-Endsley, and Nancy Sanchez

The following members voted NAY: None

Whereupon the President declared the motion carried and the resolution adopted and did sign and approve the same in open meeting and did direct the Secretary to record the same in the records of the Board of Education of School District Number 115, St. Clair County, Illinois, which was done.

Other business not pertinent to the adoption of said resolution was duly transacted at the meeting.

* * *

10.0) Closed Session

Motion by Mitchell-Endsley, second by Sanchez to enter closed session for the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of a specific employee(s), discussion of district legal matters / pending litigation and student discipline matters. Ayes – 7, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

Board went into closed session at 7:44 pm.

Motion by Bochantin, second by Mitchell-Endsley to return to open session. Ayes – 7, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

Board returned to open session at 8:18 pm.

11.0) Action Items Following Closed Session

11.1) Approval of Tuition Reimbursements

11.1)1. Motion by Houston, second by Bochantin to approve the tuition reimbursement for Amanda Dermody. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

11.1)2. Move the previous roll for Casey Taylor. Ayes – 7, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

11.1)3. Move the previous roll for Sondra Kingsbury. Ayes – 7, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

11.2) Approval of Stipend Positions

11.2)1. Motion by Sanchez, second by Bochantin to approve Amanda Dermody as the 23-24 Bowling Coach for 1 season Maternity leave. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

11.2)2. Move the previous roll for Sarah Branson, Track Assistant. Ayes – 7, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

11.3) District Resignations

11.3)1. Motion by Houston, second by Sanchez to approve the resignation of Liz Adkins, Elementary School Paraprofessional. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

11.3)2. Move the previous roll for Jasmine Childers – MS Paraprofessional. Ayes – 7, Nays – 0. Motion carried.


11.4) Approval of Maternity Leave

11.4)1. Motion by Houston, second by Bochantin to approve the maternity leave for Ashley Seibold (MS 5th grade teacher) starting April 25, 2024. Roll Call: Bochantin – yes, Dickerson – yes, Euchner – yes, Houston – yes, McKee – yes, Mitchell-Endsley – yes, Sanchez – yes. Motion carried.

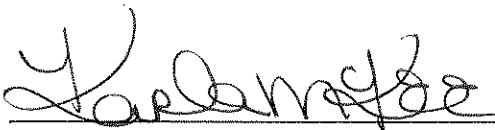
12.0) Adjournment

Upon motion duly made by Mitchell-Endsley, second by Sanchez to adjourn. Ayes – 7, Nays – 0. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm.



Rod Euchner, President



Karla McKee, Secretary

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF ST. CLAIR)

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES AND RESOLUTION

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I am the duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Education (the "Board") of School District Number 115, St. Clair County, Illinois (the "District"), and that as such official I am the keeper of the records and files of the Board.

I do further certify that the foregoing is a full, true and complete transcript of that portion of the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on the 14th day of December, 2023, insofar as the same relates to the adoption of a resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION providing for and requiring the submission of the proposition of issuing School Building Bonds to the voters of School District Number 115, St. Clair County, Illinois, at the general primary election to be held on the 19th day of March, 2024.

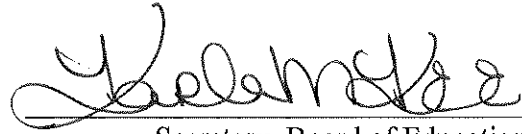
a true, correct and complete copy of which said resolution as adopted at said meeting appears in the foregoing transcript of the minutes of said meeting.

I do further certify that the deliberations of the Board on the adoption of said resolution were conducted openly, that the vote on the adoption of said resolution was taken openly, that said meeting was held at a specified time and place convenient to the public, that notice of said meeting was duly given to all of the news media requesting such notice, that an agenda for said meeting was posted at the location where said meeting was held and at the principal office of the Board at least 48 hours in advance of the holding of said meeting, that at least one copy of said agenda was continuously available for public review during the entire 48-hour period preceding said meeting, that a true, correct and complete copy of said agenda as so posted is attached hereto as *Exhibit A*, that said meeting was called and held in strict compliance with the provisions of the Open Meetings Act of the State of Illinois, as amended, the School Code of the State of Illinois, as amended, and the Election Code of the State of Illinois, as amended, and that the Board has complied with all of the provisions of said Act and said Codes and with all of the procedural rules of the Board.

I do further certify that the geographic or common name of the District by which the District is commonly known and referred to is Whiteside School District Number 115, St. Clair County, Illinois.

There is hereby certified to the County Clerk of The County of St. Clair, Illinois, for submitting to the voters of the District at the general primary election to be held on the 19th day of March, 2024, the proposition set forth in said resolution, which said resolution was duly adopted by the Board on the 14th day of December, 2023.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto affix my official signature, this 14th day of December, 2023.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kalamita", is written above a horizontal line.

Secretary, Board of Education