

## **BUDGET HEARING**

The Budget Hearing of the Board of Education of Sandwich Community Unit School District #430, DeKalb, Kendall, and LaSalle Counties, Illinois convened on Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at Sandwich Middle School.

## **ROLL CALL**

Present: President Miller, Secretary Saitta, Englehart, Wilson, & Morse

President Miller welcomed the Board and audience to the meeting.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Miller led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **BOARD SALUTES**

The Board saluted Ms. Clay and her SHS students for working on a farm to learn life-long living skills; and the SHS band and choral departments for participating in the 2021 Sandwich Fair opening ceremony and 911 ceremony.

## **2021-2022 BUDGET**

The Public Hearing and presentation of the proposed 2021-2022 Sandwich School District Budget was held.

## **ADJOURNMENT OF BUDGET HEARING**

Mr. Morse moved, seconded by Mr. Wilson to adjourn the Budget Hearing.

Ayes: Saitta, Englehart, Wilson, Morse and Miller. Nays: None MOTION CARRIED

Budget hearing adjourned 7:15 p.m.

## **REGULAR MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Sandwich Community Unit School District #430, DeKalb, Kendall, and LaSalle Counties, Illinois was held on Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 7:15 p.m. at Sandwich Middle School.

## **ROLL CALL**

Present: President Miller, Secretary Saitta, Englehart, Wilson, & Morse

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### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES, EXPENDITURES, PAYROLL, & INVESTMENTS**

Ms. Saitta moved, seconded by Dr. Englehart to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2021 Regular Board Meeting and the current expenditures, payroll, and investment plans as presented.

Ayes: Saitta, Englehart, Wilson, Morse and Miller. Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED

### **APPROVE 2021-2022 BUDGET**

Mr. Wilson moved, seconded by Mr. Morse WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Sandwich Community Unit School District #430, County of DeKalb, Kendall, & LaSalle, State of Illinois, caused to be prepared in tentative form a budget, and the Secretary of the Board has made the same conveniently available to public inspection for at least thirty days prior to final action thereon; AND WHEREAS, a public hearing was held as to such budget on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September, 2021, notice of said hearing was given at least thirty days thereto as required by law, and all other requirements have been complied with:

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Education of said District as follows:  
Section 1: That the fiscal year of this school district be and the same hereby fixed and declared to be beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022.

Section 2: That the following budget containing an estimate of amounts available in each fund, separately, and of expenditures from each is hereby adopted as the budget of this school district for the said fiscal year.

Ayes: Saitta, Englehart, Wilson, Morse and Miller. Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Schroeder arrived at 7:30 pm

### **APPROVE SCHOOL MAINTENANCE GRANT APPLICATION – PAVING**

Dr. Englehart moved, seconded by Ms. Saitta to approve the ISBE school maintenance grant as presented.

Ayes: Saitta, Englehart, Schroeder, Wilson, Morse and Miller. Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED

### **WRITTEN SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT REPORTS**

Ms. Greenacre – LG Haskin

The year has started out with much excitement! We are learning routines, assessing the students, and setting the expectations for the year. FastBridge assessments are being completed and we are looking forward to the SAEBRS (social-emotional) screening component to our

benchmarking. As soon as the benchmarking is complete we will analyze the data and form intervention groups. We are off to a great start!

Our building committees will be meeting to establish, or re-establish, the goals for this school year. Our committees will be working to make sure there is alignment with our Cognia goals, along with the goals of the various District committees. It is exciting to feel like we are doing some “normal” activities and planning.

We are gearing up to address social/emotional learning needs by implementing the Second Step curriculum in all classrooms. Our social worker and classroom teacher will be team teaching the lessons. We hope to see some systemic changes in our building that help address the vast social emotional needs of our students during this time. We have an increasing critical need for social/emotional support for our students because of the pandemic and the impact on families and learning. This has effects on all areas of the school community.

Our full day Pre-K classroom is back in action this year and it is making a difference. The students have done an amazing job of adapting to being in school all day! Miss Boyer has worked hard at developing the classroom and meeting the needs of the students. We will be monitoring the students’ growth over the year and will follow them into Kindergarten. Because this group of students are all heading into Kindergarten next year, we hope to have provided them with a good foundation for success.

The students, teachers, staff, and community have worked hard, been supportive through the beginning of school year, and transitioned well! The support is appreciated.

Mr. Ryan – Prairie View

Prairie View is off and running! Our students have settled into their daily routines, and staff is transitioning from the beginning of the year review into grade-level core content. Our students and staff are enjoying being at school each day. Laughter, excitement, and the voices of eager learners sharing answers and observations can be heard throughout the school. The halls and classrooms are beautifully decorated to align with our “Learning Colors Your World” theme. Students and staff are working diligently to review and play catch-up from our last two non-traditional school years. We are looking forward to completing our Fastbridge ELA and Math benchmarking, along with our My SAEBRS screenings. The data gained from these assessments and information our staff has learned about their classes thus far will be impactful during collaborative planning.

- Develop and implement school-wide behavioral expectations for all common areas of the building.
  - The Prairie View staff is in the early stages of development in our common area expectations. The staff is being very thoughtful and thorough in our collaborative planning to ensure the program’s success. Implementation of our common

expectations plan will reduce time spent on behavior management and, in turn, increase instructional time for our students and staff.

- Continue to foster and improve building-level committees and their impact on our school.
  - Building level committees are currently beginning to meet and create their plan of action for the school year. A significant focus for our building will be on staff and student recognition.
- Focus on the full implementation of ReadyGen and Foundations curriculums into ELA block
  - The Prairie View staff has been working collaboratively with their grade level and building level peers to roll our new foundational reading skills curriculum Foundations. Both students and staff are enjoying the new program.

Mrs. Kern – WW Woodbury

We are proud of how the school year has started. Students have done an excellent job in demonstrating the Woodbury Way despite the many challenges modified procedures and protocols are before us. A special shout out to our staff for making adjustments and being so flexible in these first weeks of school as well as our school nurses who are working many hours overtime to help keep us all safe and healthy. We began the first steps of our CHAMPS implementation that will help us reinforce common expectations for behavior in all areas of our school. CHAMPS stands for Conversation, Help, Activity, Movement, Participation, and Success. It is an effective way to clear up any confusion in all areas of the building by having common language and expectations for an activity or procedure without students having to relearn expectations year after year. Our goals for implementation include a progression of rollout in the classroom, followed by common areas and use of CHAMPS language by all adults in all areas of the building in order to build success and security in our students in knowing what to expect. Included in our plan is to build in school wide recognition to celebrate positive behavior demonstrated by our students who show the “Woodbury Way”. Our teachers have been working hard in their classrooms getting students acclimated and right to the busy work of learning. Fastbridge benchmarking is underway so soon we will have initial data to drive our conversations in order to make decisions about student learning. We have activities and events coming up in the next month including fundraisers, Take Your Parent to PE Day, Walk to School Day and more. We look forward to growing and thriving through September!

Our staff set goals and priorities for the 2021-2022 School year:

- Full implementation of core curriculum with the emphasis on ELA ReadyGen & Foundations at K-1 Level with add-ons (Reflex Math, IXL, Prodigy, RAZ Kids & Lexia)
  - In Progress
- 30 minutes daily of WIN (What I Need) intervention time.
  - Update: In Progress, Scheduled and being implemented
- PLC collaboration with grade level peers to focus on improving student learning outcomes and implementation of curriculum and intervention.
- MTSS focus on documentation of classroom intervention and school processes.

- Second Step Instruction in classroom via social worker 1 x per week per class.
  - Update: In progress, scheduled & being implemented
- Continue Pilot use of EMRACE MTSS data system to document intervention plans.
- Climate & Culture: Begin slowly with CHAMPS classroom environment priorities with focus on common language for volume based on activity.
  - Update: In Progress. Next steps: Develop plan for School-wide recognition, “We are the Woodbury Way!”
- Continued review of standards-based report card standards, assessments, and modifications needed.
- Theme for 2021-2022 School Year will be “Better Together” with a core focus of connecting with students once again and partnering/collaborating with our families to serve our students in order to meet their individual needs.

Mrs. Ford – HE Dummer

Dummer staff have met with their committees to create their monthly meeting dates and goals for the year. All committees are busy working on goals that support the district’s Cognia goals as well as our Dummer School Improvement Plan. The state is behind and has not released the Title 1 1003a school improvement grant application yet, but Dummer will be receiving \$30,000 again this year to spend to help our underperforming category on the state report card, “Children with Disabilities” according to an ISBE webinar I attended.

Fifth grade is working hard on their 5<sup>th</sup> grade standards based report cards as this is their first year using standards based grading. We will be meeting as a staff on our early release day, Sept. 17, to work as a school on our grading, assessments and report card expectations.

Classes have fallen into their somewhat normal routine and the students have adjusted well. The classrooms are pretty crowded but it is so nice to have all the students back! It is very obvious that the students enjoy seeing one another and enjoy the social aspect of school. We are currently FastBridge testing to see where the students fall academically, but teachers and staff have been working very hard to reach all the gaps that are very evident in their learning. Each classroom has a range of abilities and needs; both academic and social. Everyone is working together to help assist whenever and wherever they are needed. We have a great team of incredibly hard-working staff that makes our days look like a well-oiled machine, but I know how much work, effort, and time they put in and I am so thankful for everything they do!

Last year, Dummer did not have a parent group due to the limitations of what we were able to do because of Covid. I am happy to say that this year Dummer’s Parent Group is up and running. Our officers for the 2021-2022 school year are President Becky Englehart, Vice President Shelly Kuehlem, Secretary Mandy Denny, and Treasurer Andrea Byram. Our first Zoom parent group meeting was well attended and plans are in the process of what activities will take place this school year.

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Our Year Book Club application has been sent out for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students and our Art Club is in the process of getting started. Dummer has developed a school-wide behavior incentive plan as well as a program for our students to catch other students going above and beyond encouraging a positive and caring environment. Our Student of the Month and Character Counts is also in full swing.

Dummer was able to have their Dummer School fair booth this year which was a huge success! After having to restock a couple of times, we sold every last bottle of water, pop, and Gatorade by 4:30 on Sunday afternoon. The fair-goers were pretty distraught as they told us that this is their go-to booth and we couldn't be closed. A huge thank you goes out to the staff, parents, and community members that helped at the booth or bought beverages to help support our cause. All proceeds go right back to Dummer School. In the past, all the money that was raised went to technology and programs for our students and staff.

Mr. Heilemeier – Sandwich Middle School

The school year is off to a great start. Students and staff are settling in after a busy start. Our students and staff have done a fantastic job making the necessary adjustments to our Procedures and Protocol to make this year a safe one. Students are completing the first round of FastBridge testing. This is the first of three rounds of testing we will be doing for Fastbridge. Building level and District level committees are in the process of meeting this year. Our MTSS committee will work to help implement district initiatives at SMS. District and building safety will once again be a major focus for our building. The committee is instrumental in communicating any procedural changes to our staff and students.

**Cognia-** The District Cognia Committee has been focused on getting the district aligned in E-strategies. We are in the process of looking at the school plan, updating any activities and benchmarks while prioritizing what needs to be accomplished next year. Our focus should be on the MTSS priority, getting everyone on Fastbridge and getting a tier 2 math intervention up and running

Dr. Darnell – Sandwich High School

Cognia - we have discussed and will continue to discuss how to effectively use the Eleot tool to help staff identify student engagement and demonstration of knowledge.

MTSS - We are meeting once a week with members of both the student service dept. and the MTSS committee to develop a problem solving process which will stream line the identification of students who are at risk, social-emotionally and/or academically. The process will also include the option for staff to submit student's names. The purpose of streamlining this process is to create a process that not only identifies students early on but to provide data on how well students are doing with in the problem solving process.

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Habitudes (SEL) - The SHS staff have a habitudes training on Sept. 17. A committee that includes staff, counselors, and social workers will be meeting on a regular basis to roll out habitudes lessons to our staff and students. The students will receive the lessons once a month in advisory.

FAFSA College and Career Readiness - SHS will be hosting a financial aid seminar on Monday Sept. 13 and a FAFSA meeting on Sept. 14. Both provide an opportunity for our parents to get information on how to apply for college financial aid.

Mr. Bloemker – Technology Director

Technology regular updates – This past summer, we have moved to a new ticketing system, IncidentIQ, which is working out really nice and has lots of potential uses. At this time, we have almost all of the technology assets entered into the system and are able to track repairs and issues against those assets. In the very near future, we will be activating the Facilities/Maintenance part of the system so the maintenance department will be able to do the same with their assets and issue reporting as technology.

As the technology department continues its daily resolution of reported issues, this year has started off like previous years with a flood of reported issues ranging from online interventions having missing students or students not able to connect into the system, last minute teacher classroom additions and removals, desktop computer issues and cable replacements and moves.

From August 1<sup>st</sup> through September 13<sup>th</sup>, we have closed over 519 tickets which is on target as the same number as last year during the same period. As of this writing, we have 26 open issues ranging from system issues such as Tyler, Savvas/Pearson, IXL, Lexia and others; chromebooks repairs (5/26), and a few project requests.

With all of the district network upgrades performed last year, (knock on wood) there have been very few connectivity issues this year.

Chromebook Repairs and Support – Chromebook repairs have begun with the replacement of several screens, reseating of internal cables, power-washing devices are among the resolutions being performed. Since school started on August 19th, there have been 73 closed chromebook issues ranging from repairs needed (25) to various application requests and power issues. All devices are being repaired in a very timely manner so they can get back to the student. While repairs are being made, students have a loaner device to continue their learning and studies.

Applications Updates – All rosters have been uploaded to the applicable systems being used throughout the district. Uploads to ISBE have begun. I will be processing and correcting all issues arising from results reports. These reports will continue to be sent to ISBE on a weekly basis.

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ERATE: All form 471's have been filed with USAC/ERATE. We are now waiting for their approval process to be completed. I will be filing the BEAR forms for reimbursements this week & should receive the funds in a couple of weeks.

Other items – Some tasks being completed in the near future are mounting of security cameras at PV and SHS as well as additional cameras to monitor school buses parked outside. I am beginning a project of potentially upgrading the security camera system at the high school. The technology department will begin the conversion of the maintenance portal to the new system, IncidentIQ. We continue to do our best to keep the district fully operational at all times.

Mrs. Swan-Gravatt – Special Education Director

Our special education population is currently at 320 students. We have added 22 new move in students with disabilities to our rolls and we have had 10 students with disabilities move out of district. We have made 8 students eligible for services thus far this year with 1 student in the special education referral process. At the time of this writing, we have held 33 special education meetings during these first 18 days of the school year.

Along with special education meetings and coordination of services for special education students, our office has been ground zero for district wide coordination of our five school nurses as they navigate the daily screening needs and health needs of our students and staff during this pandemic. Our nurses have done a phenomenal job serving both our students and staff during this second straight unprecedented school year!

We received our annual LEA Determination review from the ISBE on 9/3/21. The ISBE conducts this review as required by the IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Act, Section 616). IDEA requires all states to make determinations about the performance of their local districts regarding the provision of special education and related services to students with disabilities. ISBE has determined that our district Meets Requirements in implementing one or more of the requirements of IDEA for the FY20. The determination is based on multiple data points and indicators described in detail in the Illinois Special Education Accountability and Support System located on the ISBE website. A determination of Meets Requirements requires no further action is needed unless we have an open finding of noncompliance and we have no open finding of non-compliance.



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**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

Citizens provided remarks and opinions regarding masks/legal cases, transportation, dress code, bullying & locker usage.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Englehart moved, seconded by Mr. Wilson to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of September 21, 2021.

Ayes: Saitta, Englehart, Wilson, Schroeder, Morse and Miller. Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED Meeting Adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

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President

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Secretary