

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
LEMONT-BROMBEREK CSD 113A  
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES  
OLD QUARRY MIDDLE SCHOOL – LRC  
LEMONT, ILLINOIS 60439  
Wednesday, October 25, 2023**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Damon Ascolani called to order the Business Meeting of the Lemont-Bromberek CSD 113A Board of Education at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 25, 2023 in the Old Quarry Middle School LRC.

**A. Roll Call**

Upon roll being called, the following board members were present: Damon Ascolani, President, Bethany Martino, Secretary, Angela Andrus, Patrick Kerrigan, and Joseph Pogvara. Al Malley, Vice President, arrived at 6:35 p.m.

Board Members Absent: Kevin Collins.

Administration present: Dr. Anthony McConnell, Superintendent, Dr. Daniela Fountain, Assistant Superintendent, Barbara Germany, Business Manager, Heidi Rudy, Assistant Director of Student Services, Megan Mundt, Assistant Director of Student Services, Dr. Tracey Miller, Director of Teaching and Learning, Jake Smith, Director of Technology, Pat Crean, Director of Operations, Ryan Talaga, Assistant Principal/Oakwood, Kate Koch, Principal/River Valley, Sara Weeks, Assistant Principal/River Valley, Shirley Kleehammer, Principal/Central, Ali Lincoln, Assistant Principal/Central, Joe Sweeney, Principal/Old Quarry, Jennifer LaCombe, Assistant Principal/Old Quarry, and Dave Jones, Assistant Principal/Old Quarry.

Staff Present: Adrian Ramierz, Alyssa Hansen, and Elizabeth Brendich.

Audience Members (from sign in sheet, if legible): None.

**B. Pledge of Allegiance:** Damon Ascolani.

**C. Approval of the Agenda:**

Damon Ascolani proposed to amend the agenda, moving closed session to after recognition.

Motion made by Patrick Kerrigan, seconded by Bethany Martino, to approve the agenda as amended.

Upon the voice vote called, the members voted as follows:

Angela Andrus	yes	
Damon Ascolani	yes	
Kevin Collins		absent
Patrick Kerrigan	yes	
Al Malley		absent
Bethany Martino	yes	
Joseph Pogvara	yes	

With a vote of Yeas 5, Absent 2, the President declared the motion passed.

**D. Approval of Minutes:**

Motion made by Angela Andrus, seconded by Joseph Pogvara, to approve the open session minutes dated September 20, 2023, and October 5, 2023, as submitted.

Upon the voice vote called, the members voted as follows:

Angela Andrus	yes	
Damon Ascolani	yes	
Kevin Collins		absent
Patrick Kerrigan	yes	
Al Malley		absent
Bethany Martino	yes	
Joseph Pogvara	yes	

With a vote of Yeas 5, Absent 2, the President declared the motion passed.

**E. Recognition:**

- The Board of Education recognized the Old Quarry softball team for their 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish at the IESA State Softball Tournament.
- The Board of Education recognized Pat Crean, Director of Operations, as the recipient of the Lemont Fire Department's Life Safety Award.

**2. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

**A. Motion to Adjourn to Closed Session**

Motion made by Al Malley, seconded by Patrick Kerrigan, at 6:39 p.m. to adjourn to closed session for the purpose of:

- a) Discussion on the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors, or specific volunteers of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor, or a volunteer of the District or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), amended by P.A. 101-459.

The Board of Education DOES NOT anticipate action as a result of closed session.

Upon voice vote being called, the members voted as follows:

Angela Andrus	yes	
Damon Ascolani	yes	
Kevin Collins		absent
Patrick Kerrigan	yes	
Al Malley	yes	
Bethany Martino	yes	
Joseph Pogvara	yes	

With a vote of Yeas 6, Absent 1, the President declared the motion passed.

**3. CLOSED SESSION**

**4. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

**A. Motion to Reconvene to Open Session**

Motion made by Patrick Kerrigan, seconded by Al Malley, at 7:21 p.m. to reconvene the Open Session Meeting of the Board of Education.

Upon voice vote being called, the member voted as follows:

Angela Andrus	yes	
Damon Ascolani	yes	
Kevin Collins		absent
Patrick Kerrigan	yes	
Al Malley	yes	
Bethany Martino	yes	
Joseph Pogvara	yes	

With a vote of Yeas 6, Absent 1, the President declared the motion passed.

**5. COMMUNICATIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, ADMINISTRATION REPORTS AND SCHEDULES**

**A. President's Report**

**B. Board Committee Reports**

- Facilities – Mrs. Martino reported that the Facilities Committee met on September 25, 2023 and discussed various topics including upcoming technology projects, life-safety work, Central School drainage bids, alarm system updates, and the River Valley LRC.

**C. Union Representation Reports**

**D. Principals' Reports**

- Oakwood School – Mr. Talaga provided an update on benchmark data and ECRA meetings with staff as well as parent-teacher conferences. Mr. Talaga also thanked the PTO for running a successful book fair.
- River Valley School – Mrs. Koch provided an update on the River Valley playground and parent-teacher conferences. Mrs. Koch also reported on the book fair and upcoming Halloween parties and parade.
- Central School – Mrs. Kleehammer reported on the parent-teacher conferences and the upcoming book fair at Central School. Mrs. Kleehammer also provided an update on MTSS data meetings with staff.
- Old Quarry Middle School – Mr. Sweeney reported on parent-teacher conference and the upcoming book fair at Old Quarry. Mr. Sweeney also provided an update on extracurriculars.

**E. Assistant Superintendent's Report**

- Dr. Daniela Fountain provided the Board with an update federal and state grants.

**F. Superintendent's Report**

- Dr. McConnell provided the Board with an update on parent-teacher conferences and Bagels with the Board. Dr. McConnell also reported on the preschool program's Gold Circle of Quality recognition.

**G. Treasurer's Reports**

Motion made by Al Malley, seconded by Patrick Kerrigan, to approve the Treasurer's Report, Reconciliation Schedule, Variance Explanation, Bank Statement and PMA Analysis, Revenue and Expenditure Detail, Balance Sheet, Investment Structure, and FRIS Report for the Month of September 2023, as presented.

Upon the voice vote called, the members voted as follows:

Angela Andrus	yes	
Damon Ascolani	yes	
Kevin Collins		absent
Patrick Kerrigan	yes	
Al Malley	yes	
Bethany Martino	yes	
Joseph Pogvara	yes	

With a vote of Yeas 6, Absent 1, the President declared the motion passed.

## 6. PRESENTATIONS, SPECIAL EVENTS, DISCUSSION

- The Board of Education held a discussion regarding the IASB resolutions.
- Dr. Tracey Miller presented to the Board an update on the 2023 Illinois School Report Card.

## 7. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Board President Ascolani asked if there was anyone on the Board that would like any item(s) removed from the consent agenda. No one had any requests at this time.

Motion made by Patrick Kerrigan, seconded by Joseph Pogvara, to approve the consent agenda which includes the following:

- Monthly Report of Open Accounts Payable/Bills and Payroll
- The hiring of listed employees pending compliance with applicable Board policy and State and Federal law:
  - Nicole Steffen, OW Paraprofessional, effective September 25, 2023
  - Nicole Aubuchon, OW Sign Language Club Sponsor, effective October 26, 2023
  - Nicole Matson, OW Part-Time Paraprofessional, effective October 23, 2023
- The Resignation of:
  - Joann Sworan, RV Lunchroom Supervisor, effective September 27, 2023
  - James Cieslik, Bus Driver, effective September 28, 2023
  - Renee Altmann, OQ 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, effective November 8, 2023
  - Lisa Kross, CE Learning Resource Center (LRC) Assistant, effective November 3, 2023
- The Leave of Absence of:
  - Teacher, 6 week FMLA leave, effective November 3, 2023
  - Administrator, 10 week FMLA leave, effective December 17, 2023
  - Teacher, 6 week FMLA leave, effective January 8, 2024
  - Teacher, 12 week FMLA leave followed by Parental Leave, effective January 29, 2024
- The Dismissal of Probationary Employee:
  - James Watson, Bus Driver and OW Lunchroom Supervisor, effective October 23, 2023
- Monthly Report – Enrollment
- Monthly Report – Discipline
- Monthly Report – Food Service
- Monthly Report – Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)
- Approval of Extracurricular Proposals

- Approval of Contract with SWCCCASE for Leased Space for 2023-2024
- Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with the Lemont Park District

Upon the voice vote called, the members voted as follows:

Angela Andrus	yes	
Damon Ascolani	yes	
Kevin Collins		absent
Patrick Kerrigan	yes	
Al Malley	yes	
Bethany Martino	yes	
Joseph Pogvara	yes	

With a vote of Yeas 6, Absent 1, the President declared the motion passed.

**B. Monthly Report – Open Accounts Payable/Bills and Payroll**

**Payroll:**

9/22/2023

Regular: \$775,303.15

Stipend: \$77,718.06

10/6/2023

Regular: \$782,592.92

10/20/2023

Regular: \$779,001.06

Stipend: \$25,330.87

**Bills/Accounts Payable:**

Bills dated October 20, 2023 in the amount of \$1,370,911.77.

**C. Monthly Report – Personnel**

The hiring of listed employees pending compliance with applicable Board policy and State and Federal law:

- Nicole Steffen, OW Paraprofessional, effective September 25, 2023
- Nicole Aubuchon, OW Sign Language Club Sponsor, effective October 26, 2023
- Nicole Matson, OW Part-Time Paraprofessional, effective October 23, 2023

The Resignation of:

- Joann Sworan, RV Lunchroom Supervisor, effective September 27, 2023
- James Cieslik, Bus Driver, effective September 28, 2023
- Renee Altmann, OQ 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, effective November 8, 2023
- Lisa Kross, CE Learning Resource Center (LRC) Assistant, effective November 3, 2023

The Leave of Absence of:

- Teacher, 6 week FMLA leave, effective November 3, 2023
- Administrator, 10 week FMLA leave, effective December 17, 2023
- Teacher, 6 week FMLA leave, effective January 8, 2024

- Teacher, 12 week FMLA leave followed by Parental Leave, effective January 29, 2024

The Dismissal of Probationary Employee:

- James Watson, Bus Driver and OW Lunchroom Supervisor, effective October 23, 2023

**D. Monthly Report – Enrollment**

- As of October 18, 2023, enrollment has decreased by 2 students, with 7 new students entering the district and 9 students transferring out of the district.

**E. Monthly Report – Discipline**

**F. Monthly Report – Food Service**

**G. Monthly Report – Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)**

- FOIA – Bo Kim

**H. Consider Approval of Extracurricular Proposals**

**I. Consider Approval of Contract with SWCCCASE for Leased Space for 2023-2024**

**Purpose:** To secure continuation of the contract with Southwest Cook County Cooperative for Special Education to lease space at Lemont-Bromberek CSD 113A.

For many years, the Cooperative to which we belong has housed its Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) special classes in our District. The result is that members of the DHH classes gain opportunities for education alongside their general education peers, and our resident students experience peers with a variety of special needs, with the potential of learning to accept and make friends with those who are different from themselves. Some even learn sign language to enable communication.

The attached contract outlines the intended payment to the District for the use of classroom and office space.

**Recommendation:** Approve the lease with Southwest Cook County Cooperative for Special Education for their lease of classrooms and offices across the District, as specified in the contract.

**J. Consider Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with the Lemont Park District**

**8. BOARD ACTION**

**A. Consider Approval of National Principals Month Resolution**

Motion made by Angela Andrus, seconded by Bethany Martino, to approve the National Principals Month Resolution as presented.

Upon the voice vote called, the members voted as follows:

Angela Andrus	yes	
Damon Ascolani	yes	
Kevin Collins		absent
Patrick Kerrigan	yes	
Al Malley	yes	
Bethany Martino	yes	

Joseph Pogvara     yes

With a vote of Yeas 6, Absent 1, the President declared the motion passed.

**B. Consider Approval to Seek Bids for Life-Safety Work**

Motion made by Patrick Kerrigan, seconded by Joseph Pogvara, to approve the administration's recommendation to go out to bid for life-safety work at Old Quarry, Oakwood, and River Valley for plumbing, mechanical and electric work to commence in the summer of 2024.

Upon the voice vote called, the members voted as follows:

Angela Andrus	yes	
Damon Ascolani	yes	
Kevin Collins		absent
Patrick Kerrigan	yes	
Al Malley	yes	
Bethany Martino	yes	
Joseph Pogvara	yes	

With a vote of Yeas 6, Absent 1, the President declared the motion passed.

**C. Consider Approval of School Maintenance Grant Application**

Motion made by Patrick Kerrigan, seconded by Bethany Martino, to approve the filing of the 2024 Round 1 School Maintenance Grant.

Upon the voice vote called, the members voted as follows:

Angela Andrus	yes	
Damon Ascolani	yes	
Kevin Collins		absent
Patrick Kerrigan	yes	
Al Malley	yes	
Bethany Martino	yes	
Joseph Pogvara	yes	

With a vote of Yeas 6, Absent 1, the President declared the motion passed.

**9. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Mr. Ascolani invited members of the audience to address the Board. No one came forward at this time.

**10. ADVANCED PLANNING**

**NOVEMBER**

- Acceptance of Audit
- Proposed Tax Levy Presentation
- Adopt Tentative Levy
- Establish Public Hearing for Tax Levy
- School Board Members' Day

**DECEMBER**

- Tax Levy Hearing
- Adopt Final Tax Levy
- Resolution of Fund Levies


**11. ADJOURNMENT**

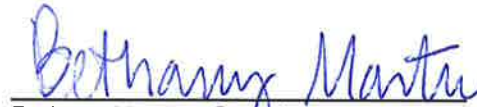
The motion was made by Patrick Kerrigan, seconded by Angela Andrus, to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education at 7:58 p.m.

Upon voice vote being called, the members voted as follows:

Angela Andrus	yes	
Damon Ascolani	yes	
Kevin Collins		absent
Patrick Kerrigan	yes	
Al Malley	yes	
Bethany Martino	yes	
Joseph Pogvara	yes	

With a vote of Yeas 6, Absent 1, the President declared the motion passed.

  
 Damon Ascolani, President  
 11/29/23  
 Date

  
 Bethany Martino, Secretary  
 11/29/23  
 Date