



“Soar to Excellence.”

LIBERTY COMMUNITY UNIT #2 SCHOOL

505 N. PARK ST. LIBERTY, IL 62347

www.libertyschool.net

Board of Education

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*Liberty School District will equip the whole student with knowledge,
skills, and character to achieve personal success as they “Soar to
Excellence.”*

Board Meeting Agenda for September 21, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. in the Superintendent's Office.

1. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approval of the Agenda
 - B. Approval of the following Minutes:
August 17, 2016 Regular Board Meeting
 - C. Approval of the Bills, Payroll, and Additional Bills presented at the meeting
 - D. Approval of the Treasurer's Report
 - E. Approval of the Activity Report

2. Board Discussion and Action
 - A. Approve the FY 16 Audit Report.
 - B. Approve the FY16 Administrator and Teacher Salary/Benefit Compensation Report.
 - C. Approve the FY 17 Budget.
 - D. Approve the First Reading of the PRESS Policy.
 - E. Approve the Application for the Recognition of Schools.
 - F. Approve the pay rate increase for Para educator substitutes to \$9.15 per hour rather than \$8.25 per hour, effective October 3, 2016.

3. Personnel Report
 - Approve the hiring of Samantha Haley as the part-time Speech and Language Pathologist for 40% of MA, Step 0 effective September 13, 2016.
 - Approve the hiring of Lori Jackson as the Coach of Junior High Quiz Bowl for 2016-17.
 - Approve the hiring of Kristy Klingele as the Coach for High School Quiz Bowl for 2016-17.
 - Approve the resignation of Joel Dougherty as the high school special education teacher who was to begin in November 2016.
 - Approve the maternity leave return of Amber Feldner on December 19, 2016.
 - Approve the 8 week maternity leave for Courtney Roberts from January 6, 2017 to March 6, 2017.
 - Approve the temporary pay increase for Kristi May of \$1.00 per hour while being a student's 1-on-1 para educator for a student that has significant behavioral needs.
 - Approve Laura West as the SLP with Masters + 24, Step 21 for 1 hr, effective September 23, 2016.
 - Approve Liz Leonard as the Girls Junior High Basketball Assistant Coach for 2016-17.

Soar to Excellence. Every student, Every day!"

Superintendent's Comments:

Providing support for Staff

If you looked at our Personnel Report from last month, you would have seen that we hired quite a few new staff members. In order to support them, Liberty CUSD #2 is offering a staff mentor program that will be overseen by Chevi Ingalls and Melissa Seals. We want to insure that all staff members have a successful year. There are many things we assume people know when we have been here for awhile. So we are turning attention to those who are new to Liberty School. This professional development opportunity is available through our Title II funds.

Another way to support staff with instructional practices is through coaching. We have a few situations where we are providing this, in hopes of expanding this experience in the future. Best practice is done through coaching, mentoring, collaboration, and professional learning communities. I am proud that Liberty CUSD #2 is stepping it up a notch to provide quality professional development for our staff.

Chain of Command versus open communication

In each of the handbooks, we encourage parents and community members to follow chain of command. In a few instances, I might get a call about concerns a parent has of what a teacher is doing in their classroom. First of all, I should not be getting the call. The concern is with the teacher, so it needs to start with the teacher. Generally, no one did anything wrong, as it usually requires a discussion and open communication about what is truly happening. Perhaps instead of saying "use chain of command," maybe we need to ask people to adhere to open communication with each other. Clarifying and having difficult conversations really does help clear up many issues. As a society, we are so quick to avoid these crucial conversations so we don't hurt anyone's feelings. The bottom line is we should start having more of them, so everyone is informed and can be working on the same vision, which is making sure that every student, every day, is being the best they can be!

No Changes

I am so tickled to let everyone know there have not been any changes in instructional fees, admission tickets, lunch prices, program expenses, no staff reductions, etc. We have reached a point where we are holding our own financially. We also wanted to give relief to our community who has done an amazing job to support the school district. The State still needs to get their act together, but we can't wait on them or change them. Let's all keep working together to continue to let Liberty School District shine!

Great things are happening at Liberty!

Wow! We had three wonderful presentations by staff at the school board meeting. Callie Bushmeyer talked about the outstanding progress being made for our students in RTI. It seems that fewer students are in need of interventions due to what teacher are doing in the classroom. How awesome is that?

Sara Callahan invited the school board to take a road trip to her classroom. She showed us her science unit on monarch butterflies and all the amazing things the students were learning in this hands-on engaging opportunity. There was a butterfly release on Tuesday and she invited people to watch. It was spectacular! Mrs. Callahan's students were great little teachers to those observing while they talked about what they had learned.

One of our new staff members presented information about a way to promote revenue for the District. It was the first night this teacher met the school board and then she made a presentation. Way to go Alexis Partlow! We appreciate your support to our school district and having the courage to present information at a school board meeting. By the way, she's a Liberty graduate!!!!

We hope others will come to a school board meeting to share their stories, as there are ***great things*** happening at Liberty School District!!!