

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Administration Building 7:00 – 9:25 p.m. October 15, 2008

Members Present:

Leandra Sedlack, Presiding Officer
 Patti Essig
 Lisa Houk
 Mark Mirabile
 Scot Orsic
 Rick Rigley
 Beth Tegtmeier

ROLL CALL AND

VISITORS

Present with Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf were staff members Erika Sawosko, Catherine Chang, Maria Smith, Meg Pokorny, Matt Vandercar, Kim Freislinger, Kay Lewellyan, Erin Oskroba, Amy Windisch, Wendy Bedell, Judith Stevens and John McAtee; Jim Jaworski of the Doings; and residents Kelly Hansen, Michelle LeBeau, Caryn Stancik; Michael Rak, Susan Camba, Karen O'Halloran and Gina Nelson.

ADDITIONAL

ITEMS

Lisa Houk presented Board member Patti Essig with recognition from the Illinois School Board Association for obtaining Level I and II Master Board member status and Board President Leandra Sedlack for obtaining Level I Master Board member status. The recognition is earned based upon workshops attended and experience as a Board member.

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf shared information regarding the school receiving the A+ Award from SchoolSearch. This award is based on academic performance. The district is among 60 out of 861 Illinois districts that received this award. The Superintendent stated that the staff, students and parents should be very proud of this accomplishment.

OPEN FORUM

Karen O'Halloran shared that she is displeased that the current 6th grade will not have an art special this year. She requested the Board to reconsider the decision and felt that there could have been better communication to the parents ahead of time regarding this decision.

Susan Camba expressed that there could have been better communication in the Friday packet regarding the change in the art rotation.

ACTION NO. 58

Consent Agenda

Motion by Mirabile, seconded by Rigley, that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda as consisting of: regular meeting minutes of September 17, 2008; payment of September payroll/October warrants; appointment of designated Board election representative; and October 2008 personnel report. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Essig, Houk, Mirabile, Orsic, Rigley, Tegtmeier and Sedlack.)

REPORTS AND

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Grade 6 Art Change

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf reviewed the decision making process for determining the middle school special rotation change. It was pointed out that all members of the technology committee and curriculum council reviewed and approved the change. Over 25 teachers, administrators, and parents participated in the decision. After some discussion, the Board decided that they would not be revisiting the curriculum change. The current specials rotation will stay in effect. Art teacher Dianne Washburn has been offering 6th grade students before and after school opportunities as part of the transition process. Dianne is also working with Deb Cummins to incorporate art in the current 6th grade health curriculum.

Technology Plan Overview

Technology Specialist Judith Stevens presented the current technology deployment plan for the next three years. Technology Specialist John McAtee also discussed the future plans for technology and instruction. The Board was informed of many new technology related initiatives that have been implemented as a result of the plan.

Staff Recognition

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf presented the proposal for Board recognition of staff. Board members Patti Essig, Beth Tegtmeier, and Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf met with staff and one administrator to gather input regarding the staff recognition nomination process. It was recommended by the group that administrators will identify staff for Board recognition. The Board decided they will go forward with the plan for Board of Education Staff Recognition.

Elementary and Middle School 2008-09 Improvement Plans

Principal Matt Vandercar presented the Elementary School Improvement Plan for 2008-09. The priorities for the upcoming year will be social/emotional learning and technology. The elementary staff will continue to integrate laptop usage in the classrooms, set challenging test targets, advance Orton-Gillingham phonics instruction and Writer's workshop. Principal Meg Pokorny presented the Middle School Improvement Plan. The goal areas for the upcoming year are improving ITBS and EXPLORE test scores, social skills, student writing, and student organizational skills. Teachers will be working with students to set challenging academic goals. Teachers will also be implementing various tools to improve student writing.

Record Retention Plan

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf discussed the Record Retention Plan that was drafted by Board Member Mark Mirabile and himself. The plan specifies guidelines for retaining materials in addition to those records mandated by the Local Records Commission of Cook County. The policy will be up for Board approval at the November Board meeting.

Town Hall Meeting Planning

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf suggested the topic of social and emotional learning for the upcoming January 28, 2009 Town Hall meeting. After Board discussion, it was decided that the planning of the meeting would be moved to the November meeting pending October 20-21 Core Team strategic planning decisions that could be discussed at the Town Hall meeting.

Input to the Core Team

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf requested Board input to forward to the Core Team. Board Member Mark Mirabile asked that the Core Team discuss communication of information to the community. Board Member Scot Orsic would like the Core Team to look into what education will look like in the next 10 years so that we keep up with the trends.

Tax Levy

Business Manager Catherine Chang presented the process of developing the tax levy. The levy is finalized at the December 17, 2008 public hearing.

ACTION NO. 59
Tax Levy Hearing

Motion by Orsic, seconded by Sedlack, that the Board of Education adopt the Proposed 2008 tax levy and authorize publication of the public hearing notice. A voice vote was taken. The motion carried.

NEXT AGENDA

Items submitted for the November 2008 agenda included: Strategic Planning Status Report from Core Planning Team; Review of Progress toward Strategic Objectives using Standardized Test Data; Five Year Financial Projections; Audit Report; Town Hall Meeting Planning; and Approve Board Policies.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

App. — President *Leonard M. Sedach* Secretary *Debra A. Horak*