

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Administration Building 7:00–9:07 p.m. January 20, 2010

Members Present:

Leandra Sedlack, Presiding Officer

Lisa Houk

Mark Mirabile

Karen O'Halloran

Rick Rigley

Absent:

Patti Essig

Beth Tegtmeier

ROLL CALL ANDVISITORS

Present with Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf were staff members Erika Sawosko, Meg Pokorny, Catherine Chang, Kim Freislinger, Matt Vandercar, Jeanne Williamson, and Brent Eldridge; and residents Sharon Rak, Michelle LeBeau, Julie Ryan, Kristin Violante and Gina Nelson.

ACTION NO. 31Consent Agenda

Motion by Rigley, seconded by Mirabile, that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda consisting of: regular meeting minutes of December 16, 2009; closed session meeting minutes of December 16, 2009; special meeting minutes of January 6, 2010; payment of December payroll/January warrants; declassify selected closed session minutes; Community Relations (sec. 8) Board Policies; and appoint FOIA/OMA officer. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call of 5 ayes (Houk, Mirabile O'Halloran, Rigley, and Sedlack). Absent–Essig, Tegtmeier.

REPORTS ANDDISCUSSION ITEMSReview of Fee Based Programs:

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf discussed the parameters created by the Finance Committee regarding fee based program increases. Beginning the 2011-12 school year, the committee recommends that the fees increase by 3% and that the same increase be applied in subsequent years. The fee structure would continue to be reviewed by the Board each year to confirm whether the 3% increase should remain in place on a perennial basis. The Board reviewed future revenue, direct costs, and indirect costs for future years. Board member Karen O'Halloran inquired about researching the possibility of offering a free full day Kindergarten program. She also inquired about the best early education option for all stakeholders in our district with respect to expenses. Board member Rick Rigley requested additional financial projections for fee increases ranging from 2–5 percent. Review of fee based programs will be revisited in February.

Town Hall Meeting Planning:

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf reviewed the agenda for the upcoming February 3, 2010 Town Hall Meeting. A meeting flyer was included in the January 8 Friday packet and a parent endorsed flyer will be included in the January 22 Friday packet. Eighth grade student Mia Mologousis will be participating in the presentation sharing her own experiences about using data to better prepare for the EXPLORE test in grade 8.

Option for Auditing Procedures:

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf reviewed two estimates obtained for preparation of external financial reports. The Board directed the administration to create separate request for proposals (RFPs). One RFP will be for the audit and another for financial reports. The RFPs will be reviewed by the Board at the March meeting.

Communication Action Plan Implementation:

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf discussed the recent parent communication survey that was administered in the fall. One hundred and sixty-eight families responded. The majority of parents (86.7%) who responded to the survey are either satisfied or very satisfied with school to home communication. Personal email is the preferred method of receiving information from the school and sending information to the school. The following actions are being implemented: require parent email addresses as part of the registration process starting in 2011-12; establish parent email lists of families by classroom, grade level, and building; send the Friday packet to all parents electronically; separate academic grades and effort ratings as part of the standards based report card; create greater uniformity of communication protocols among teachers – especially at the same grade level (this may include both content of information and methods of delivering it); and assign responsibility to superintendent and principals to monitor building and district communication for assuring appropriate levels of uniformity and consistency.

Electronic Payment Option for Parents

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf explained to the Board the interest of parents to have an electronic payment option for fees. It was recommended that the district use The Illinois Funds E-Pay system. Many schools in the feeder districts are currently using the service. There are no fees to the district. Parents will be required to pay a fee for the service. The item will be on the February consent agenda for approval.

NEXT AGENDA

Items submitted for the February 2010 agenda include:

Review FY11 School Calendar; Staffing Recommendations; Annual Board Report to Community; Math Remediation Status Report; Town Hall Meeting Feedback; and Review Governance and Planning (sec. 1) Board Policies; Approve Electronic Payment Option; and Fee Based Programs.

OPEN FORUM

Gina Nelson felt that having the option to pay lunch fees online would be wonderful for the parents. She also felt that a survey to the community should be sent pertaining to interest in a half day or full day kindergarten program. She also felt that class sizes in the kindergarten classes are large.

ACTION NO. 32

Closed Session

Motion by O'Halloran, seconded by Rigley, that the Board of Education move into closed session at 8:18 p.m. to conduct a mid-term review of non-tenured teachers. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Board came out of closed session at 9:07 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

App. ___ President Seandra M. Sedlock Secretary Devi Houck