

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Administration Building 7:00 – 10:12 p.m. September 22, 2010

Members Present:

Leandra Sedlack, Presiding Officer
Patti Essig
Lisa Houk
Mark Mirabile
Karen O'Halloran
Rick Rigley
Beth Tegtmeier

ROLL CALL AND
VISITORS

Present with Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf were staff members Erika Sawosko, Meg Pokorny, Catherine Chang, Matt Vandercar, Joni Sherman, Amy DuVall, Julie Crist, Angela McGreal, Stephanie Macek, Niki Lasko and Eric Bush; Joseph Hillenmeyer, Patch Burr Ridge reporter; and residents Erik Thorell, Linda Thorell, Gina Nelson, Dariusz Ciucias, Beata Busza, and Barbara Lamb.

RECOGNITION
OF STAFF

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf announced that the Board will be presenting certificates of recognition to the staff members who have been piloting the standardized grading and reporting system. Board members Beth Tegtmeier and Patti Essig presented certificates of recognition to Angela McGreal, Niki Lasko, Amy DuVall, Julie Crist, Eric Busch and Stephanie Macek. Board President Leandra Sedlack thanked the teachers on behalf of the Board for taking the initiative on this matter.

ACTION NO. 7
Budget Hearing

Board President Sedlack declared the budget hearing open at 7:07 p.m.

Business Manager Catherine Chang presented an outline of the major components of the budget. The FY10 budget exceeded projected revenues by 8.4% and under budget 3.6% in expenses. Mrs. Chang also reviewed line item changes from the tentative budget provided last month. Resident Barbara Lamb commented that she thinks it is fantastic that the school is in the position it is financially and commends the Board of Education, Business Manager Catherine Chang, Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf and administration for the great work they have done.

Board President Sedlack declared the budget hearing closed at 7:14 p.m.

ACTION NO. 8
Tentative Budget
Amended

Motion by Mirabile, seconded by O'Halloran, that the Board of Education approves the amendments to the tentative 2010-11 budget as presented. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call of 7 ayes (Essig, Houk, Mirabile, O'Halloran, Rigley, Sedlack, Tegtmeier).

ACTION NO. 9
Budget Adopted

Motion by Mirabile, seconded by Tegtmeier, that the Board of Education adopts the 2010-11 school district budget as presented. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call of 7 ayes (Essig, Houk, Mirabile, O'Halloran, Rigley, Sedlack, Tegtmeier).

ADDITIONAL
ITEMS

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf shared with the Board the Chicago Magazine article ranking Pleasantdale Elementary and Middle schools in the top 25 schools in the county. The rankings were based on academic achievement, expenditure per student, and class size. The district also received the A+ Award for ranking in the top 5% of all schools based on academic achievement in the district.

OPEN FORUM

Barbara Lamb asked the Board if there would be a possibility to survey parents about interest in school uniforms. The parent expressed an interest in adopting uniforms at District 107 and requested parents be surveyed on whether or not they would be interested in requiring uniforms. The parent felt uniforms would have many benefits.

Dariusz Ciucias wanted to discuss the letter he received regarding the standards based grading pilot. He came from Poland and had the same type of standards-based grading and felt it was very subjective. He came to this country and was very happy with a letter grading system. He expressed concerns that the new system would be too stressful for the children. He stated that Pleasantdale is the best district on the south side and has had nothing but good experiences with the school. He expressed concern that the new system may pressure the children too much.

Beata Busza explained that she is having difficulty following her child's grades using a four point standards-based scale. She was not clear why some tests were limited to a scale score of 2 or 3.

ACTION NO. 10
Consent Agenda

Motion by Rigley, seconded by Essig, that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda as consisting of: regular meeting minutes of August 18, 2010; closed session meeting minutes of August 18, 2010; payment of August payroll/September warrants; 2010-11 ISBE Application for Recognition; Instruction (sec. 6) Board Policies; District 2010-11 curriculum goal; hiring an independent UPS Appraiser; and September 2010 Personnel Report. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Essig, Houk, Mirabile, O'Halloran, Rigley, Sedlack, Tegtmeier).

REPORTS AND
DISCUSSION ITEMS*Curriculum Goal Status Report*

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf reviewed the conditions of satisfaction regarding the curriculum goal. Since there is an extreme amount of work that is being done, the Board will be updated quarterly on the status of the conditions of satisfaction. Middle school teachers Eric Busch and Angela McGreal presented a PowerPoint presentation to the Board outlining the standards-based reporting and grading pilot. The standards-based reporting system accurately measures what students learn and reports how well they have learned it. Academic performance is reported separately from work completion, behavior, participation and group work (life skills). With academics and life skills separated, both students and parents receive more accurate information. Students and parents are also clearly informed of curriculum components that students are expected to learn and to what level.

Finance (sec. 4) Board Policies

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf reviewed the Finance policies that have changes based on Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) model policy and attorney review. The recommendations presented are scheduled for approval at the October Board meeting.

Communication Goal Status Report

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf reviewed the conditions of satisfaction of the communication goal. Board member Beth Tegtmeier reviewed the communication procedures for the community that explain who to contact with concerns about a particular issue. Board Secretary Lisa Houk informed the Board that the Communication Committee members met with two senior citizens who are war veterans. The veterans provided contact information for establishing a community service project between the elementary school and Hines Veterans Hospital. The Communication Committee also sent out a survey to new families to gather data on their initial perceptions of Pleasantdale District 107. The Committee also plans to survey alumni parents after the winter break to gather additional feedback about the district. The Board was informed that two letters have been sent to parents of students participating in the standards-based pilot program. Parent informational meetings have also been scheduled to increase communication regarding the pilot initiative. The Committee presented possible changes to the Board of Education brochure. Board input was requested.

NEXT AGENDA

Items submitted for the October 2010 agenda include:
Technology Plan Status Report; Elementary/Middle School Improvement Plans; Adopt Proposed Tax Levy; Approve Finance (section 4) Board Policies; Communication Goal Update; Review of Extra-Curricular Student Activities (written).

ACTION NO. 11

Closed Session

Motion by Essig, seconded by Tegtmeier, that the Board of Education move into closed session at 9:28 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations; and appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of personnel. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Essig, Houk, Mirabile, O'Halloran, Rigley, Sedlack, Tegtmeier).

The Board came out of closed session at 10:09 p.m.

ACTION NO. 12

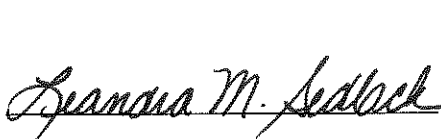
2010-15 Contract

Motion by O'Halloran, seconded by Tegtmeier, that the Board of Education approves the 2010-15 Contract with Teachers' Association of Pleasantdale. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call of 7 ayes (Essig, Houk, Mirabile, O'Halloran, Rigley, Sedlack, Tegtmeier).

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 10:12 p.m.

App. ___ President



Secretary

