

Board Meeting Highlights
Regular Meeting
November 16, 2011

At its regular meeting on November 16, 2011, the Board of Education of Pleasantdale School District 107...

Board of Education Recognition

Heard from Student Council members Patrick Bailey, President; Megan Ng, Vice president; and Avery White, Treasurer; who presented the Board of Education certificates of appreciation for all the hard work and time they volunteer on behalf of Pleasantdale students. Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf shared the posters of appreciation that were created and signed by all middle school students to commemorate Board member Appreciation Day.

Consent Agenda

Unanimously voted to approve the consent agenda as revised consisting of: special meeting minutes of October 6, 13, 17, 2011; closed session meeting minutes of October 6, 13, 17, 2011; regular meeting minutes of October 19, 2011; closed session meeting minutes of October 19, 2011; payment of October payroll/November warrants; and library grant.

Reports and Discussions:

Fall Testing Report

Heard from Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf who presented the Fall Testing Report to the Board. The district did not receive ITBS test data due to a delay from Riverside Publishing. Superintendent Fredisdorf reviewed reading and math scores from Grades 8, 5, and 3 on the ISAT test. A significant accomplishment this past year for the district was that 85% of the district's special education students met State standard. As a result, the district made Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) for all subgroups. The grade 1 cohort had less than 5% of students "at risk" on the fall DIBELS. The district is on pace to have less than 5% of students in kindergarten and grades 1 scoring "at risk" on the DIBELS scale. Dr. Fredisdorf informed the Board that there are some major changes relating to the Educational Reform Act and standardized testing. By 2015-16, teacher evaluations in Illinois will be based on 30-50% student achievement data. Teachers will be placed in groups according to evaluation results (1-4, 1 being lowest – 4 highest). Reduction in Force (RIF) will no longer be determined by seniority. Tenure will be greatly impacted by evaluations based on student academic data. The State is going to require achievement data as an integral part of teacher evaluations placing a high emphasis on standardized testing.

Long Range Financial Planning

Business Manager Catherine Chang presented the revised long range financial projections using the StratPlan program. The finance committee reviewed and determined the assumptions necessary to make the projections including predicted consumer price index (CPI) and new growth. In January, the Board will discuss abatement of \$750,000 in bonds which would then be voted on in February. If approved, this action would provide tax relief for local property taxpayers.

Audit Report

Heard from Nick Cavaliere of Baker Tilly who gave a brief presentation on the FY11 audit. The results were very positive over the year for the district. The fund balance at the end of fiscal year 2011 was 12.7 million dollars. The district is in good financial standing. The district has very good controls in place and there are no deficiencies for the Board to be concerned with at this time. The only material weakness the district has is due to the changes that were implemented by the federal accounting regulations. In 2009, the Board reviewed its external reporting procedures to rectify this deficiency. It was determined that it was not a fiscally responsible decision to change from the district's current procedures.

Action Item

The Board unanimously approved the FY11 Audit Report as presented by Nick Cavaliere of Baker Tilly.

Next Agenda

Items for the December Board Meeting: Tax Levy Hearing; Adopt Tax Levy; Mid-term Superintendent/District Goals review; Communication Status Report; Review Community Relations (sec. 8) Board Policies; Review Fees; and Preliminary Discussion of Service Provider Contracts.

Open Forum

Heard from a parent who stated she attended the meeting because of the appointment of Board member Rick Rigley. She feels the community voted for a change and that the Board is not listening to what they want.

Closed Session

The Board met in closed session from 8:10 to 9:25 p.m. to discuss matters relating to individual students.

Adjournment

Adjourned the regular meeting at 9:26 p.m.

**The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be
Wednesday, December 21, 2011
7:00 p.m. in the
District 107 Administration Building**