

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Administration Building 6:30 p.m. – 10:58 p.m. December 21, 2011

Members Present:

Leandra Sedlack, Presiding Officer

Lisa Houk

Mark Mirabile

Karen O'Halloran

Rick Rigley

Gina Scaletta-Nelson

Beth Tegmeier

ROLL CALL ANDVISITORS

Present with Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf were staff members Erika Sawosko, Matt Vandercar, Meg Pokorny, Joni Sherman, Catherine Chang, Jana Stelter, Judith Stevens, and John McAtee; Terry Hodges, Hodges Loizzi; Kathy Cichon, Burr Ridge Patch; and residents Diane Norris, Amy Kittle, Kim Barker, and Susan Camba.

DISCUSSIONOPEN/CLOSEDSESSION

Board President Leandra Sedlack addressed the issue of conducting the discussion regarding an issue of a student in open or closed session. Board member Gina Scaletta-Nelson requested that the issue be heard in open session. She acknowledged that issues involving a student were typically discussed in closed session to protect privacy rights of the family but because the issue concerned her children, she requested discussion in open session. Board member Scaletta-Nelson expressed that other families may also have the same issue now or in the future. She also wanted the option to discuss her feelings about religious beliefs and standardized testing with others and does not want to be in violation of Board protocols by discussing a topic designated for closed session. Board President Sedlack sought clarification on whether this was regarding her family or the community at large. Board member Scaletta-Nelson stated that she would like her children opted out of standardized testing because such testing was in conflict with her family's religious beliefs. She requested the discussion be held in open session in the event others were interested.

ACTION NO. 23Closed Session

Motion by Mirabile, seconded by Tegmeier, that the Board of Education move into closed session at 6:40 p.m. to discuss matters relating to individual students. Motion carried by a roll call of 5 ayes (Houk, Mirabile, Rigley, Sedlack, Tegmeier) 2 nays (O'Halloran, Scaletta-Nelson).

The Board came out of closed session at 7:02 p.m.

STAFFRECOGNITION

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf commented on the success of the implementation of the Skyward Student Management Software due to the diligent work of Judith Stevens and John McAtee. Board member Gina Scaletta-Nelson presented certificates of appreciation to Judith Stevens and John McAtee.

STUDENTRECOGNITION

Board member Beth Tegmeier presented certificates of recognition to the 8th grade basketball team for winning the conference championship.

MOTION NO. 24
Tax Levy Hearing

Motion by Sedlack, seconded by Houk, that the Board of Education declares the tax levy hearing open at 7:12 p.m. Voice vote. Motion carried.

In her presentation to the Board, Business Manager Catherine Chang stated that based on the 2011 CPI figures, residents can expect an average 1.5% increase in property taxes assessed for District 107 school operations.

Motion by Sedlack, seconded by Rigley, that the Board of Education declares the tax levy hearing closed at 7:20 p.m. Voice vote. Motion carried.

ACTION NO. 25
Tax Levy Adoption

Motion by Rigley, seconded by Scaletta-Nelson, that the Board of Education adopts the 2011 tax levy as presented in the public hearing and authorizes the President and Secretary of the Board to sign all appropriate documents. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call of 7 ayes (Houk, Mirabile, O'Halloran, Rigley, Scaletta-Nelson, Sedlack, Tegtmeier.)

ACTION NO. 26
Tax Levy Resolution

Motion by Sedlack, seconded by Tegtmeier, that the Board of Education adopts a Resolution approving to proportionately reduce each fund where the levy exceeds the tax cap limitation. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call of 7 ayes (Houk, Mirabile, O'Halloran, Rigley, Scaletta-Nelson, Sedlack, Tegtmeier.)

ACTION NO. 27
Consent Agenda

Motion by Tegtmeier, seconded by Houk, that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda as revised consisting of: special meeting minutes of November 9, 2011; regular meeting minutes of November 16, 2011; closed session meeting minutes of November 16, 2011; and payment of November payroll/December warrants. Motion carried by a roll call of 4 ayes (Houk, Mirabile, Sedlack, Tegtmeier); 2 nays (O'Halloran, Scaletta-Nelson); present - Rigley.

OPEN FORUM

Kim Barker commended teachers for going above and beyond in furthering the district mission. Mrs. Crist and Mrs. Duvall were complimented for implementing the grade 4 Sumdog program. Mrs. Lewellyan was commended for her time and hard work to organize donations for families in need this holiday season.

Amy Kittle commented that the Board might have heard about her email that she sent out regarding her belief that two Board members and staff members were treated wrongly in the eyes of the community. She wants the best for her son and feels she needs to stand up for the students. She feels that the middle school does not want any parent input or involvement. She feels that the Board needs to provide a better environment and more technology for students and feels the School Board needs to work together.

REPORTS AND
DISCUSSION ITEMSReview of Fees

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf discussed the current fee structure for Bright Beginnings preschool and extended day Kindergarten that was reviewed by the Finance Committee. It was recommended that a slight increase in fees be implemented the 2012-13 school year of: Preschool 2 day \$1,300 to \$1,378; Preschool 3 day \$1,950 to \$2,067; Preschool 5 day \$3,250 to \$3,413; and Extended Kindergarten \$3,250 to \$3,413. The increase for the 5 day program would be less than the 2 or 3 day program to encourage enrollment in the 5 day program. Superintendent Fredisdorf will provide the Board with the amount that the district is reimbursed for special education students from the State Board of Education.

Preliminary Review of District Contracts

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf reviewed the current district contracts and made recommendations. Transportation: In 2010-11, the Board agreed to a two year extension of our transportation contract with First Student that limits cost increases to the consumer price index (CPI) through 2012-13. No action is required at this point in time.

Cleaning: Superintendent Fredisdorf recommended continuing with the same cleaning service for 2012-13. The District will know 2012-13 rates by May 2012. GCA has provided excellent service at competitive rates for 13 years. Food Service: The Finance Advisory Team will continue to explore options. The Finance Advisory Team will be investigating vendors providing similar food service programs at other schools comparing costs, menu selections, and gathering other information as needed. The Team will also determine if our current provider has other menu options available now or in the future. Auditing Services: Superintendent Fredisdorf recommended continuing with Barker Tilly for auditing services next school year assuming 2012-13 rates are acceptable to the Board. Requests for proposals conducted two years ago did not yield better options at lower costs. Data Analysis and Interpretation Contract with John Wick: Superintendent Fredisdorf recommended approval of an additional year at an annual cost of \$20,000. Dr. Wick's contractual period is by calendar year and action will be needed to approve the contract at the January 18, 2012 meeting. Dr. Wick's contractual fee remains the same as in prior years.

Review Community Relations (sec. 8) Board Policies

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf shared policy revisions that he and Board President Leandra Sedlack adopted from model policy. The policy will be presented to the Board for approval in January.

Communication Committee Charge and Operating Procedures

Board President Leandra Sedlack reviewed the charge of the communication committee. When the committee appointments were made at the November Board meeting for this Superintendent's committee, she felt there has been some misinterpretation of how the committee functions. She expressed that there were some possible violations of the Open Meetings Act. The Board understood that this was a Superintendent's committee and that the committee was going to recommend what the charge of the communication committee should be. Board member Karen O'Halloran suggested having the State's attorney conduct Open Meetings Act training. Terry Hodges explained to the Board that a Board committee is subject to the Open Meetings Act. The volunteer Board members of the committee said that it was never their intent to violate the Open Meetings Act. Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf shared the history of how these committees were established 8 years ago beginning with strategic planning committees including curriculum council, SEL, action teams, etc. These entities worked as Superintendent committees and not Board committees. This approach has worked well over the years as much has been accomplished. Board Vice President Mark Mirabile stated that if the communication committee was going to be a Board committee, then all the members should be on it. The meetings would then be subject to all the requirements of the Open Meetings Act. It was the thought of a majority of Board members that the communication committee would remain as a Superintendent's committee. Terry Hodges shared that the Superintendent is the one who presents information to the Board and the Board liaisons who work with him are there to expand ideas and work with assisting the Superintendent in meeting his strategic objectives. The Superintendent will work with the Board liaisons on the Superintendent's Communication Advisory Team.

Mid-team Review of Superintendent/District Goals

Superintendent reviewed the Superintendent/District goals. Timelines of the activities, survey results, and correspondence to parents related to goals were provided for Board review. Surveys that were received regarding the report cards were reviewed by the Curriculum Council and guidelines regarding comments and the format of report card were items that will be addressed due to survey results. In regard to the anti-bullying goal, additional class work has also been done through homerooms. Superintendent Fredisdorf

addressed legal fees that the Board has incurred since May regarding Board governance. The fee for Board governance issues totals \$5,517 not including charges to have Terry Hodges attend all Board meetings.

NEXT AGENDA

Items submitted for the January 2012 agenda include:
Mid-Year review of Non-tenured teachers and administrators, Approve Community Relations (sec. 8) Board Policies; Abatement of Bonds; Curriculum Council Update; Approve Annual Contract with Dr. John Wick for Data Analysis and Interpretation; Approve Fee Increase for Bright Beginnings and Extended Day Kindergarten; Food Service Contract Recommendation; Elementary School Roof Project; Communication Update; ITBS Results; and Declassify Selected Closed Session Minutes.

ACTION NO. 28

Closed Session

Motion by Rigley, seconded by Tegtmeier, that the Board of Education move into closed session at 9:20 p.m. to discuss matters relating to individual students. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call of 7 ayes (Houk, Mirabile, O'Halloran, Rigley, Scaletta-Nelson, Sedlack, Tegtmeier).

The Board came out of closed session at 10:49 p.m.

ACTION NO. 29

Appeal to Board

Motion by O'Halloran, seconded by Scaletta-Nelson, that the Board of Education approves appeal to Board of administrative denial of request to exempt Student 3334 from District's standardized testing program. Motion failed by a roll call of 2 ayes (O'Halloran, Scaletta-Nelson); 5 nays (Houk, Mirabile, Rigley, Sedlack, Tegtmeier).

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 10:58 p.m.

App. ___ President Shandra M. Sedlack Secretary Debra Houk