

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Middle School Library 7:00 – 10:56 p.m. February 21, 2007

Members Present:

Sandra Hannan, Presiding Officer
 Rosaria Becker
 Patti Essig
 Mark Mirabile
 Scot Orsic
 Leandra Sedlack

Members Absent:

Barbara Lamb

ROLL CALL AND VISITORS

Present with Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf were staff members Mary Ann Molina, Catherine Chang, Meg Pokorny, Matt Vandercar, Kim Freislinger, Maria Smith, and Ruth Burke; visitor Larry Heidemann of StratPlan; and residents Dianne Norris, Lisa Houk, Beth Tegtmeier, Ellen Blakeman, and Karen O'Halloran.

ACTION NO. 40
Consent Agenda

Motion by Orsic, seconded by Becker, that the Board of Education approves the closed session minutes of December 20, 2007; regular meeting and closed session minutes of January 17, 2007, payment of January payroll and February warrants and the February 2007 Personnel Report. Motion carried by roll call of 6 ayes (Orsic, Sedlack, Becker, Essig, Hannan, and Mirabile). Absent – Lamb.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Annual Board Report to Community

The Board received a revised draft of the Board's *Annual Report to the Community*, which reflected changes suggested by various Board members subsequent to its January Board meeting. Superintendent Fredisdorf advised the Board that any references to the State Board of Education website have been deleted due to ongoing testing reporting problems at ISBE. To provide further clarification, the revenue source pie chart will list an expanded explanation of "operating grants and contributions", and "other". Board President Sandra Hannan questioned the calculations of school-wide ITBS scores from 2002-03. Superintendent Fredisdorf committed to checking the data before posting the final report on the website and sending out in newsletter form. Superintendent Fredisdorf thanked Board members Lamb and Hannan for their diligent work on this report.

Board Room Change Order

Dr. Fredisdorf provided copies of a change order for a special door/window into the new Board meeting room in the administration building, Gilbane's review of the estimate, pictures of current door (inside/outside), and drawings of the proposed doorway/window entrance to the Board room. The stained glass memorial to Gary Bozick is intended to be displayed in this area. After discussion, the Board requested the administration to solicit an additional bid(s) and consider the alternative of working within the current frame opening for the door/window and memorial. This topic will be addressed at the March 21 Board meeting.

Preliminary Discussion of FY08 School Calendar

The Board received the proposed FY08 school calendar, which is identical to the FY07 calendar with one exception; the January 2008 institute day is scheduled on a Friday rather than on the Tuesday following the school holiday (M.L.King birthday). This change still allows a four-day weekend for families and is consistent with the LTHS calendar. Formal adoption of the calendar is scheduled for March 21, 2007.

Property Tax Appeals

The Board discussed the recommendation from Superintendent Fredisdorf to contest property tax appeals at the PTAB level. Correspondence received from attorney Ares Dalianis advised the Board to contest three of the four appeals filed. The Board determined that it would contest all four appeals. The required resolution to be considered later in the meeting, will be modified to assure Board input prior to acting upon future property tax appeals.

StratPlan Financial Projections

The StratPlan Financial Projections authored by Mr. Larry Heidemann were presented to the Board. In his presentation of the five-year plan, Mr. Heidemann reported that enrollment and class sizes are two contributing factors to the financial welfare of the district. In fact, he predicted that end-of-year balances will continue to be favorable for at least the next five years as long as revenues continue to exceed expenditures. In turn, this will allow the Board to make thoughtful decisions regarding class sizes and staffing patterns to service the educational needs of the district. Mr. Heidemann stated that District 107 has less uncertainty than most of the other school districts with which he works. Mr. Heidemann will be available indefinitely to inservice Catherine Chang on the StratPlan software for future financial planning updates.

Academic Goals Committee Status Report

Superintendent Fredisdorf indicated that the committee had met several times with John Wick to accomplish the goal of completing a five-year study of testing data. Dr. Wick has completed the initial consolidation of testing data and statistical analysis requested by the Board of Education. As a next step, the Academic Goals Committee will meet on March 8 to review an additional analysis of 7th grade testing results as a prototype for establishing academic targets for 2007-08. Board member Leandra Sedlack advised the Board that Dr. Wick has completed the initial project, and additional requests to Dr. Wick will require an expenditure of funds.

Procurement Card Program

The proposed procurement card program was again discussed. To gain approval of the procurement card on the consent agenda at the next meeting, the following changes were determined:

- consequences of employee fraud or abuse must be enumerated
- potential circumventing of bid procedures needed to be prevented per school code
- checks and balances of approval signatures must be established
- exit procedures for departing employees must include removal of user status of procurement card.

ACTION NO. 41

Annual Board Report To Community Motion by Sedlack, seconded by Mirabile, that the Board of Education approves the Annual Board Report to the Community as modified. Roll call vote of 5 ayes, 1 nay (Hannan). Motion carried.

ACTION NO. 42

Property Tax Appeals Motion by Becker, seconded by Hannan, that the Board of Education adopts the Resolution Authorizing Intervention in Proceedings before the State of Illinois Property Tax Board as amended. Motion carried by roll call vote of 5 ayes (Becker, Essig, Hannan, Mirabile, and Sedlack) and 1 nay – Orsic. Absent – Lamb.

NEXT AGENDA

Items submitted for the March agenda included: construction update; approval of the FY08 school calendar; preliminary FY08 staffing recommendations; document retention policy; academic goals report; customer service survey; change May Board meeting date; Board room change order; procurement card approval; and Bright Beginnings and extended-day kindergarten program fees.

BOARD SELF-EVALUATION

The Board postponed it’s self-evaluation until its April Board meeting.

WRITTEN REPORTS

The Board received written reports on middle school construction progress, Bright Beginnings Program and Extended-Day Kindergarten cost/revenues, and a FOIA request and response.

ACTION NO. 43

Closed Session Motion by Sedlack, seconded by Becker, that the Board of Education move into closed session to consider information regarding (1) appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of personnel and (2) compensation of specific school district employees (retirement benefit). Motion carried by roll call vote of 6 ayes (Sedlack, Becker, Essig, Hannan, Mirabile, and Orsic). Absent – Lamb.

The Board moved out of closed session at 10:56 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 10:56 p.m.

App. ___ President _____ Secretary _____