

Board Meeting Highlights

Regular Meeting

June 18, 2008

At its regular meeting on June 18, 2008, the Board of Education of Pleasantdale School District 107...

- Open Forum

Heard from a parent who wanted to address the preschool and extended day kindergarten situation. She stated that when her children were in Bright Beginnings some years ago, it was expensive for them but they made the decision to enroll. She paid her fees and doesn't feel the current fees for the program should be subsidized by the district and paid for by everyone.

Heard from a parent who agreed with the previous parent regarding the high quality of the preschool and extended day kindergarten programs but felt the district should continue with existing subsidies for the program.

- Consent Agenda

Unanimously approved the consent agenda consisting of: regular meeting minutes of May 21, 2008; closed session meeting minutes of May 21, 2008; payment of May payroll/June warrants; prevailing wage resolution; voluntary student insurance; transfer of interest; payment of June 30 warrants; appointing imprest fund custodian; designation of depositories for school district funds; June 2008 personnel report; Board policies as presented; resolution with DuPage/West Cook articles of agreement; and intergovernmental agreement for annuity compliance.

Reports and Discussions:

- Preschool and Kindergarten Tuition for 2008-09

Heard from Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf who presented three options for the 2008-09 tuition for preschool and kindergarten. After much discussion, it was decided that there would be four options that the Board would vote on at the July 16 Board meeting. They are as follows: Option 1 – Maintain the tuition increases approved by the Board in October 2007. Provide reductions or scholarships for families qualifying by free and reduced lunch per Federal guidelines. Option 2 – Maintain the tuition increases approved by the Board in October 2007 for age 3 and 4 preschool students. Extended day kindergarten tuition would remain at the 2007-08 rate because parents were not properly informed of the rate increase. Specifically, parents of students matriculating into kindergarten in 2008-09 did not receive the complete registration packet listing the revised fees for extended day kindergarten. Option 3 – Rescind the action made in October 2007 to raise tuition for both preschool and extended day kindergarten. Consider imposing a smaller increase for 2008-09 (e.g. 5-10%). Option 4 - Maintain the tuition increases approved by the Board in October 2007 for age 3 and 4 preschool students. Extended day kindergarten tuition would remain at the 2007-08 rate because parents were not properly informed of the rate increase. Specifically, parents of students matriculating into kindergarten in 2008-09 did not receive the complete registration packet listing the revised fees for extended day kindergarten. Also, provide tuition reductions or scholarships for families qualifying by free and reduced lunch per Federal guidelines. The Board is set to vote at the July 16 Board meeting.

- June Testing Report

Heard from Dr. John Wick regarding the recent GATES performance for reading comprehension and vocabulary comprehension. He explained the difference between the reading and vocabulary tests emphasizing that reading comprehension is the most representative of actual reading ability. Students took a higher grade level test this year and overall scores were up. Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf presented DIBELS scores showing the number of "at-risk" students has been decreasing over the past few years. Both the GATES and

DIBELS scores are the best recorded to date. Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf also presented disaggregated grade 3 and 4 ITBS total reading and math results to better inform the Board on how students perform according to preschool or kindergarten experiences as they matriculate through our system.

- SEL Program Evaluation Update
Heard from Board member Rick Rigley regarding the meeting that took place with Dr. Clark McKnown, an expert on SEL assessment, on June 11, 2008. In July, Board members Rick Rigley, Scot Orsic and Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf will meet with Dr. McKnown who will present a proposal on how to evaluate our current SEL program.
- Review Status of 2007-08 Board/Superintendent Goals
Heard from Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf who shared the conditions of satisfaction for each of the current 2007-08 Board/Superintendent goals. A status of completion of each goal was shared with the Board. He also shared with the Board the GATES reading scores, ITBS math and reading scores and grade 8 EXPLORE scores. The vast majority of academic goals for 2007-08 were met.
- Next Agenda
SEL Program Status and Evaluation; Establish Petty Cash Fund; Summer Academy Update (written); Hiring Status Report (written); Review Employee and Student/Parent Handbooks; District Goals; Declassify Closed Session Minutes; Full Day Kindergarten Program Discussion; Remedial Reading Program; Approve Option for Preschool/Kindergarten Fees for 2008-09.
- Open Forum
Heard from a parent who expressed her desire for the Board to take more than just one meeting to explore the possibility of full day kindergarten. She expressed that some people feel the extended day kindergarten needs to be more academic. She thanked the Board for putting the kindergarten fees on the agenda and complemented the district on test scores and how we are doing great compared to other districts.
- Closed Session
Met in closed session (9:12 p.m. – 11:50 p.m.) to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of personnel and Superintendent performance evaluation/compensation.
- Adjournment
Adjourned the regular meeting at 11:51 p.m.

**The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be
Wednesday, July 16, 2008
7:00 p.m. in the
District 107 Administration Building**