

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 28
HELD TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2019

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, District 28, Cook County, Illinois, was held in the Homer O. Harvey room in said district on Tuesday evening, September 24, 2019.

President Tracy Katz Muhl called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. with the following members present at roll call:

Michelle Kohler
Lou Gross
Mara Silver-Schack
Tony Forchetti
Michael Gilmore
Jennifer Gallinson
Tracy Katz Muhl

Absent: none.

Also present were Dr. Larry Hewitt, Superintendent; Dr. Kris Raitzer, Assistant Superintendent; Jessica Donato, Chief School Business Official; Terry Ryan, Communications Director; Dr. Kelly Sculles, Director of Student Services; Michelle Jackson, Director of Learning; Nora Geraghty, Assistant Director for Student Services; Jenna Duffy, Assistant Director of Student Services; Mary Sturgill, Westmoor Principal; Pat Thome, Meadowbrook Principal; Dr. Ginny Hiltz, Greenbriar Principal; Dr. Scott Meek, NBJH Principal; Judi Epcke, Instructional Technology Coordinator; and teachers Jasmine Myalil, David Krauter, Ronit Shapiro, Katrina Streips, and Laura Scott. District 28 parents: Penelope Burke, Leslie Herbst, Bo Herbst, Kris Izenstark, Karen Nelson, Collette O'Regan, Bryce Budin, and Emily Green.

VISITOR'S COMMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

Leslie Herbst commented on information she had gathered from nearby districts regarding test scores, math placement and teacher practices. She presented a binder of information for board review.

SOCIAL STUDIES PRESENTATION

Assistant Superintendent Kris Raitzer introduced members of the Social Studies Committee. Ronit Shapiro, Instructional Technology Coach, David Kauter, 3rd grade teacher, Laura Scott, 4th grade teacher, and Katrina Streips, 7th grade social studies teacher, provided an overview of the concepts embedded in the

development of a new social studies curriculum for grades K-8. The new curriculum was developed around the learning priorities of: developing inquiry skills, considering multiple perspectives, improving literacy skills and learning social studies content of civics, geography, economics and history.

2019/20 BUDGET HEARING

Annually the Board of Education presents a legal budget, and after the required 30-day period for public access, the Board of Education calls for a hearing in order to hear public comment.

It was moved by Member Forchetti and seconded by Member Gross that the public hearing on the legal budget for 2019-20 open at 7:30 p.m.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Forchetti, Gross, Silver-Schack, Gallinson, Gilmore, Kohler, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Motion carried.

Chief Business School Official Jessica Donato had previously presented an extensive overview of the budget at the July 23 meeting, and Board members had the opportunity to ask questions to further their understanding. Mrs. Donato presented the highlights of the budget and noted any changes or adjustments from the preliminary budget.

Upon completion of the question-and-answer period, it was moved by Member Gross and seconded by Member Gilmore that the budget hearing close at 7:37 p.m.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Forchetti, Gross, Gilmore, Kohler, Forchetti, Silver-Schack, Gallinson, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

(Adoption of Budget for 2019-20) (Attachment A)

Having reviewed the budget and having concluded the public hearing, it was moved by Member Forchetti and seconded by Member Gallinson that the Board of Education adopt the budget for the 2019-20 fiscal year, as was on display and which is attached to and made part of these minutes.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Forchetti, Gallinson, Gilmore, Kohler, Gross, Silver-Schack, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATION
(Written Communications)

The Board was provided as information, recent copies of “Northbrook Star” and “Northbrook Tower” articles regarding District 28 and neighboring districts and other publications, including the “Board Briefs.”

(Board Calendar Review)

The Board reviewed the updated calendar of meetings.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Member Silver-Schack and seconded by Member Gross that the Board of Education approve the Regular Meeting minutes of August 27, 2019 and the Closed Session, August 27, 2019, since members had each previously been sent copies.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Silver-Schack, Gross, Gallinson, Gilmore, Kohler, Forchetti, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

It was moved by Member Gross and seconded by Member Kohler that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda as presented:

(Payroll – last half of August 2019 and first half of September 2019)

the payment of employee salaries for the last half of August 2019, in the amount of \$ 1,081,464.43 and covered by check numbers 63621 through 63632, and deduction check numbers 63633 through 63649, inclusive, as outlined in detail on the Payroll Summary, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District Board of Education, and dated September 24, 2019;

the payment of employee salaries for the first half of September 2019, in the amount of \$1,194,092.53 and covered by check numbers 63650 through 63683, and deduction check numbers 63684 through 63692, inclusive, as outlined in detail on the Payroll Summary, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District Board of Education, and dated September 24, 2019;

(Bills)

vendor invoices totaling \$476,604.71 and Warrants listed as Numbers 53085 through 53294, with the following voids 53203, 53252, and 53231, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District 28 Board of Education, and dated September 24, 2019.

(Personnel Report: New Hires, Contract Changes and Resignations)

The Employment of Staff:

Susan Blue	NBJH	Sp.Ed.Aide	\$15.00 hr.
Kevin Maisel	MB	Foundational Aide	\$16.75 hr.
Elizabeth Nass	GB	Sp.Ed.Aide	\$15.00 hr.
Daniel Nolan	NBJH	Foundational Aide	\$15.00 hr.
Jessica Safir	MB	Foundational Aide	\$18.25 hr.

Contract Changes:

Allison Prace	MB	Kindergarten Aide \$14.00 hr.
Nicole F. Kalisker	NBJH	6/7 TH Spanish Teacher From Step M+12-08, 66,087.00 to Step M+30-08, \$69,593.00 effective 08/19/19
Chelsea C. Freedman	MB	SP. Ed. Teacher From Step M+00-08, 65,668.00 to Step M+12-08, \$66,087.00 effective 08/19/19

Resignations:

George Miranda	WM	Custodian
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(Intergovernmental Agreement with Northbrook Public Library)

The intergovernmental agreement provides library services using facilities, equipment, and materials at the Library pursuant to the Library's usual policies and practices available to faculty and staff at the school, subject to terms and conditions of the agreement.

(Property Disposal Resolution Authorizing and Directing the Sale or Disposal of Personal Property in Accordance with 105 ILCS 5/10-22.8)

Excess furniture stored in an offsite facility will be donated to organizations that would benefit from this furniture.

On roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Gross, Kohler, Forchetti, Silver-Schack, Gallinson, Gilmore, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Motion carried.

FINANCE

(Financial Report)

The Board of Education received copies of the District 28 Financial Report for the period ending August 2019. The report included an update on posting requirements related to employee salary and benefits.

It was moved by Member Forchetti and seconded by Member Silver-Schack that the Board accept the District 28 Financial Report for the period ending August 31, 2019.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Forchetti, Silver-Schack, Gallinson, Gilmore, Kohler, Gross, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

(Transportation Update)

Chief School Business Official Jessica Donato reported that the district is continuing to experience bus route delays as the bus contractor, First Student, struggles to get enough bus drivers to staff the routes.

As of September 24th, of the 22 routes that run in the district, there were six routes that continue to be delayed. She said the root cause of the issue is the lack of qualified bus drivers, both locally and nationally. The bus company expects to be fully staffed by Oct. 1.

EDUCATION

(Enrollment Report)

The school enrollment for August 2019 for the District was provided as information.

(5Essentials Survey)

The 5Essentials Survey is a learning conditions survey developed by the University of Chicago. The state requires all schools to conduct either the 5Essentials Survey or another state-approved climate and culture survey annually.

Results show District 28 schools scored as well-organized or organized, the two highest designations, and each building scored at or above the benchmark score in all five Essentials. The 5Essentials Survey identifies five components, or Essentials, found to be critical for school and student success: Effective Leaders,

Collaborative Teachers, Involved Families, Supportive Environment and Ambitious Instruction.

Schools that are at or above the benchmark on three or more of the Essentials are 10 times more likely to show substantial gains in student learning over time than schools that are below the benchmark. The survey was taken between November 2018 and January 2019 by students in grades four through eight, teachers, staff, and parents.

Each school principal provided an overview of celebrations and areas for improvement for their school.

(School Calendar Update)

Dr. Hewitt proposed designating Casimir Pulaski Day, which is Monday, March 2, 2020 as an optional student attendance day should it be needed to prevent the school calendar from rolling into another week in June due to emergency days taken for inclement weather. In addition, summer school was proposed to start on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 to allow time to set up buildings for summer school and teachers to prepare. The Board concurred with these proposed changes.

BUILDINGS and GROUNDS

(Safety Audit Proposal)

Dr. Hewitt researched two firms offering to provide the district with a safety and security audit. After researching the proposal and references of Guidepost Security, Dr. Hewitt recommended the firm to perform Physical Security Surveys and provide a Physical Security Survey Report.

It was moved by Member Gallinson and seconded by Member Kohler to approve the security audit proposal from Guidepost Solutions in the amount of \$14,630. On a roll call vote, the following members voted Aye: Gallinson, Kohler, Forchetti, Gross, Silver-Schack, Gilmore, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

LEGISLATION

The Legislative Report by the Illinois Association of School Boards was reviewed, which listed several bills recently signed by the governor. Next month Dr. Hewitt will highlight any of the new laws listed that should be monitored due to their potential impact to the district.

COMMUNICATION

Communications Director Terry Ryan reported on the selection of a Communications Advisory Committee. There were over 30 parent volunteers, and 19 were selected to provide the broadest representation possible. Analytics

on the new Board Briefs, social media channels were also provided. The first meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 15 at 6:45 p.m.

NSSSED

The Board was presented, as information, the NSSSED Leadership Council Meeting minutes of August 28, 2019. Member Gilmore, the district's NSSSED representative, commented that he is part of an NSSSED Committee to review the coop's financial model and make recommendations for improvements.

NEW BUSINESS

Member Kohler noted an email sent to the board referencing solar panels for schools, indicating that it would be important to review costs and benefits as the financials are not always favorable. Mrs. Donato will explore the concept of solar panels and their potential.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:37 p.m., Member Kohler motioned to adjourn to closed session, seconded by member Forchetti. All members present voted Aye. Absent: none. Motion Carried.

All members present voted Aye. Absent: none. Motion carried.

Larry A. Hewitt, Secretary

Tracy Katz Muhl, President