

REGULAR
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
December 18, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

President Michael Lenisa called the regular meeting of the Board of Education in Bloomingdale Elementary School District 13 to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 18, 2023 in an in person and virtual setting. The District invited the public to join the School Board this evening by Zoom webinar platform.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present: Mr. Marc Kapral, Mr. Terry McKeown, Ms. Tamara Peterson, Mrs. Linda Wojcicki, Mrs. Kari Zehme, Mr. Michael Lenisa

Absent: Mrs. Nicole Majewski

Others Present: Dr. Jon Bartelt, Shannon Zinner, Valerie Varhalla, Rick McCall, Scott Duenser (Wipfli LLP), Ed Wright (DLA Architects), Ryan Kelley (DLA Architects), Ed Sullivan (Ed Sullivan Consulting), Elizabeth Hennessey (Raymond James), William Pokorny (Franczek P.C.), Kristine Puchalski

Above and Beyond

Board Member Terry McKeown recognized this month's Above and Beyond recipients, Henry Zielinski (DuJardin), Tayash Naidoo (Erickson) and Lola Alexander (Westfield).

Tentative Tax Levy Hearing

A motion was made by Mrs. Wojcicki and seconded by Mrs. Zehme to open the hearing for the Tentative Tax Levy. Voice Vote: all ayes

A Tentative Tax Levy Hearing was held to present the FY22 Tax Levy and allowed for public comment.

A motion was made by Ms. Peterson and seconded by Mr. McKeown to close the hearing for the Tentative Tax Levy. Voice Vote: all ayes

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Ms. Peterson and seconded by Mrs. Wojcicki to approve the items in the Consent Agenda which included Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting held on 11-27-23. Approval of Bills in the Education Fund in the amount of \$169,716.05; the Operations and Maintenance Fund in the amount of \$47,104.14; Debt Service in the amount of \$0.00; Transportation Fund in the amount of \$91,361.31; Capital Projects in the amount of \$0.00; and Tort Fund in the amount of \$144.20; Payroll (12-8-2023) in the amount of \$479,972.30; the Fund Balance Report as shown in (F.D. 12/18/23-2); the Balance Sheet as shown in (F.D. 12/18/23-3); the Revenue Report as shown in (F.D. 12/18/23-4); the Expenditure Report as shown in (F.D.

12/18/23-5); and Activity Report as shown in (F.D. 12/18/23-6); **New Hires**, John Donaubaer, Paraprofessional at DuJardin effective 12/18/23 for a salary of \$16.00/Hr; **Resignations/Retirements**, Brianna Vena, Paraprofessional at Erickson effective 12/7/23; **Re-Hire**, Edinson Calix, Paraprofessional at Erickson effective 1/8/24 for a salary of \$16.64/Hr.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Peterson, Wojcicki, McKeown

Nays: None

Abstained: Kapral, Zehme, Lenisa

Motion Carried: 3 – 0 – 3

Superintendent's Report

School Reports

Student Ambassadors, Brennan Shannon and Sloan Voytek gave the board a brief overview of events happening at each of the schools in the District.

Board Annual Calendar

Dr. Bartelt indicated that the Board Annual Calendar for 2024 is attached in the board packet for review.

2022-2023 Audit Report

Scott Duenser of Wipfli LLP was present to share highlights from the FY2023 Comprehensive Financial Report and answered questions from the Board.

Board Spring Workshop Planning

Dr. Bartelt proposed three potential workshops through the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) to the Board for their ongoing development; Reflecting on Communication and Community Engagement Tactics, Myers Briggs Team Workshop and Making Meetings Matter. The Board will choose one of these options for their training session in March.

Public Comment

None

Board Reports and Requests

BIG – Ms. Peterson indicated that there was no meeting this month. The next meeting will be in January.

CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition – Mrs. Wojcicki indicated that there was no meeting this month. The next meeting will be in January.

Education Foundation – Mrs. Wojcicki shared that the Education Foundation raised over \$8,000 at their 25th anniversary fundraising event on October 26th. In addition, grant requests were just sent out. The Foundation is planning to award grants in February, and again at Spring Fling.

LEND - Mrs. Zehme reported that at their December meeting, discussions were held regarding chronic absenteeism, world language requirements and the shortage of world language teachers, as well as SAT benchmarks for high school. The next meeting is scheduled for January 26th

NDSEC – Mr. Kapral indicated that there was a special meeting last week where they discussed staffing, including the loss of paraprofessionals, which has caused them to begin using contracted employees. There were discussions about starting pay rates for paraprofessionals, and a plan for all current paraprofessionals to receive a 13% raise. The next special meeting will be in January.

Bloomington Council of Teachers – Mr. Lenisa stated that there was no December meeting, and that the next meeting will be in January.

Freedom of Information Act Requests

Mr. Lenisa indicated that there were three FOIA requests that were summarized in the Board packet.

Action Items

Certificate of Tax Levy (F.D. 12/18/23-7)

A motion was made by Mr. McKeown and seconded by Mrs. Wojcicki for the Board to certify compliance with the Truth in Taxation Act, approve the Certification of Tax Levy, Authorize the Board President and Secretary to sign the necessary documents, and authorize the Finance Director to deliver these to the County Clerk’s office by the last Tuesday in December.

Roll Call Vote

- Ayes: McKeown, Wojcicki, Kapral, Peterson, Zehme, Lenisa
- Nays: None
- Abstained: None
- Motion Carried: 6 – 0 – 0

Resolution Authorizing a Supplemental Tax Levy (F.D. 12/18/23-8)

A motion was made by Ms. Peterson and seconded by Mrs. Zehme for the Board to approve the attached resolution, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Peterson, Zehme, Kapral, McKeown, Wojcicki, Lenisa
Nays: None
Abstained: None
Motion Carried: 6 – 0 – 0

Board of Education Meeting Schedule (F.D. 12/18/23-9)

A motion was made by Mrs. Wojcicki and seconded by Ms. Peterson for the Board to approve the meeting schedule for 2024, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Wojcicki, Peterson, Kapral, McKeown, Zehme, Lenisa
Nays: None
Abstained: None
Motion Carried: 6 – 0 – 0

Approval of the 2024-2025 School Calendar (F.D. 12/18/23-10)

A motion was made by Ms. Peterson and seconded by Mrs. Zehme for the Board to approve the 2024-2025 School Calendar as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Peterson, Zehme, Kapral, McKeown, Wojcicki, Lenisa
Nays: None
Abstained: None
Motion Carried: 6 – 0 – 0

Approval of the FY 2023 School District Audit (F.D. 12/18/23-11)

A motion was made by Mrs. Wojcicki and seconded by Ms. Peterson for the Board to approve the FY 2023 Audit as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Wojcicki, Peterson, Kapral, McKeown, Zehme, Lenisa
Nays: None
Abstained: None
Motion Carried: 6 – 0 – 0

Resolution to Prohibit Sexual Harassment (F.D. 12/18/23-12)

A motion was made by Mr. McKeown and seconded by Mrs. Zehme for the Board to approve the attached resolution to prohibit sexual harassment in the workplace, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: McKeown, Zehme, Kapral, Peterson, Wojcicki, Lenisa
Nays: None
Abstained: None
Motion Carried: 6 – 0 – 0

Second Reading of Amendments to Board Policy (F.D. 12/18/23-13)

A motion was made by Ms. Peterson and seconded by Mrs. Wojcicki for the Board to approve amendments to the policies identified above as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Peterson, Wojcicki, Kapral, McKeown, Zehme, Lenisa
Nays: None
Abstained: None
Motion Carried: 6 – 0 – 0

Approval of Bids for DuJardin HVAC Project (F.D. 12/18/23-14)

A motion was made by Ms. Peterson and seconded by Mrs. Zehme for the Board to approve the bid submitted by Oak Brook Mechanical in the amount of \$339,900 for the HVAC Replacement Project at DuJardin Elementary School as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Peterson, Zehme, Kapral, McKeown, Wojcicki, Lenisa
Nays: None
Abstained: None
Motion Carried: 6 – 0 – 0

Discussion Items

Engagement Committee Report

The Community Engagement Committee met on Wednesday, November 29 to review some initial messaging and engage in dialogue regarding elements they like and would like to see improved in District 13. A survey was also conducted to gather further information. Ed Sullivan of Ed Sullivan Consulting was present to review the survey results with the Board and discuss what the next steps will be. Ed Wright and Ryan Kelley of DLA Architects were present to answer questions related to costs associated with options provided to the Board in October and discussed in November. Elizabeth Hennessey of Raymond James was present to answer questions related to the District’s

ability to issue bonds or debt certificates for the work as well as a tax rate increase to hire additional staff.

Topic(s) for Future Agendas

None

For Information

Enrollment Update

Available for review in the Board packet.

NDSEC Profile

Available for review in the Board packet.

Adjourn to Closed Session

A motion was made by Mrs. Wojcicki and seconded by Ms. Peterson for the Board to adjourn to closed session at 8:30 p.m. to discuss the employment/evaluation of personnel and potential litigation.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Wojcicki, Peterson, Kapral, McKeown, Zehme, Lenisa

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Motion Carried: 6 – 0 – 0

President Michael Lenisa called the regular meeting of the Board of Education in Bloomingdale Elementary School District 13 back to order at 9:22 p.m.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Kapral and seconded by Ms. Peterson to adjourn the meeting. All ayes.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Michael Lenisa, President

Linda Wojcicki, Secretary