

**Official Minutes of the
Oak Park Board of Education District 97,
970 Madison Street, Oak Park, Cook County, Illinois
Meeting September 27, 2016**

President Gates called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Gates, O'Connor, Felton, Spatz, Spurlock, Brisben, and Datta

Absent: None

Also Present: Superintendent Dr. Carol Kelley, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations Dr. Alicia Evans, Assistant Superintendent of HR Laurie Campbell, Chief Academic and Accountability Officer Dr. Amy Warke, Senior Director of Special Services Mike Padavic, Senior Director of Policy, Procedures and Communication Chris Jasculca, Sr. Director of Administrative Services Dr. Felicia Starks Turner, Senior Director of Technology Michael Arensdorff, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Carrie Kamm, and Board Secretary Sheryl Marinier

ROLL CALL

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Datta moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education move into Executive Session at 6:02 p.m. to discuss (Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance or Dismissal of Specific Employees or Legal Counsel for the District 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(1), Possible Litigation 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11), Collective Negotiation 5 ILCS 12/2(c)(2)). Roll call vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ayes: Datta, Felton, Spatz, O'Connor, Spurlock, Brisben, and Gates

Nays: None

Motion passed.

OPEN SESSION

O'Connor moved, seconded by Datta, that the Board of Education move into Open Session at 7:00 p.m. All members of the Board were in agreement. The meeting reconvened at 7:02 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

REPORTS

REFERENDUM/DSEB DISCUSSION

Alicia Evans and Saad Bawany came to the table. Member Brisben shared a work team update, noting that the team (Evans, Bawany, member Brisben and member Spatz), is meeting weekly. It was suggested that Chris Jasculca join the team. Their next meeting will focus on communications and strategies. They reported that nothing can be answered until they get the Forecast data in October.

REPORTS

Important messaging was considered, noting that the district has added approximately 1,000 students in the last 10 years. How the district is doing as far as expenditures was suggested, as well as comparing the district to the comparable districts.

It was reported that demographers are being considered. Bids have been received and will be shared with the Board for consideration after they have been reviewed by the team. It was noted that the current demographic study is good at the district level, but appears to be off by about 10 percent at the school level.

Evans met with the OPDC regarding new growth. She noted that they were very open and willing to share data. They suggested meeting with the Village to discuss the specifics. Evens is currently waiting for a response to her meeting request.

Brisben noted some of the decision making factors that need to be considered;

- What does the Board want to accomplish with the referendum?
- Does the Board want a five year, 10 year or more referendum?
- Are there programming standards the Board wishes to maintain (support existing or create new programming)?
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Suggested highlights included;

- Exceptional cost management by administration resulted in five consecutive years of expenses finishing FY below long-term projection targets on both a total and per-student basis (see subsequent slide)
- 2014-15 contract negotiations with our OPTA partners succeeded in lowering the growth trajectory of our largest expenditure (certified staff salaries)
- At the same time that the administration was coming in below budget expense projections, enrollment increased by 225 above the 2011 referendum projections and several mission-critical teaching & learning initiatives were implemented (i.e. middle school IB, 1:1 technology, Early Childhood Collaboration)
- In April 2015 Forecast5 presented updated forecasts to FORC; in November 2015 FORC affirmed the 2011 plan to begin discussing the need for a referendum in the 2017-2019 time frame.

It was suggested that future Board meetings include a 45 minute agenda item to continue the referendum discussion. Additionally, it was suggested that the October 13, 2016 Board agenda include a discussion on ways the Board can engage the community.

An executive summary was recommended that could be updated on the same cycle as Board packets. The summary would be written in laymen terms to help the community understand the need and the process.

REVIEW OF DRAFT AUDIT

Auditors John George and David Paul came to the table. They explained the audit process noting that it began on June 27, 2016 and ended in mid-August. The Annual Financial Report was reviewed, noting no compliance findings. This item will return to the Board for action on October 13, 2016.

DSEB DISCUSSION

Dr. Evans returned to the table. She noted that DSEB is a good way to fund some of the capital projects over the next few years and the Board should keep DSEB borrowing in mind with making decisions regarding the referendum.

ACTION ITEMS

2.1.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 13, 2016 BOARD MEETING

Spatz moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, approve the revised minutes from the September 13, 2016 Board meeting. Roll call vote.

Ayes: Spatz, Felton, Gates, O'Connor, Brisben, Spurlock, and Datta

Nays: None

Motion passed.

2.2 APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Felton moved, seconded by Datta, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the consent agenda as presented.

2.2.1 Approval of Bill List

2.2.2 Personnel Action (Revised at the table)

2.2.3 Adoption of Policies

Policy 1:30 (School District Philosophy)

Policy 2:70 (Vacancies on the Board of Education – Filling Vacancies)

Policy 2:70 – Exhibit

Policy 2:120 (Board Member Development)

Policy 2:120 - First Exhibit

Policy 2:120 - Second Exhibit

Policy 2:240 (Board Policy Development)

Policy 2:240 - First Exhibit

Policy 2:240 - Second Exhibit

Policy 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure)

Policy 4:42 (Capital Expenditures and Debt Service Goals and Objectives)

Policy 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment)

Policy 5:20 (Workplace Harassment Prohibited)

Policy 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives)

Policy 6:100 (Using Animals in the Educational Program)

Policy 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities – Exhibit)

Policy 7:20 (Harassment of Students Prohibited)

Policy 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Comments)

2.2.4 Approval of the School Recognition Applications

Ayes: Felton, Datta, Gates, Spatz, Brisben, Spurlock, and O'Connor
Nays: None
Motion passed.

2.3.1 **ADOPTION OF THE 2016-2017 BUDGET**

Brisben moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, adopt its final 2016-2017 budget in the total amount of \$97,677,830 as outlined in the memorandum to the Superintendent dated September 27, 2016. Roll call vote.

Ayes: Brisben, Felton, Gates, Spatz, O'Connor, Spurlock and Datta
Nays: None
Motion passed.

2.3.2 **APPROVAL OF THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE 2011 DOWNTOWN TIF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

Spatz moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, approve the second amendment to the 2011 Downtown TIF Settlement Agreement which was adopted on December 13, 2011 by District 97, District 200 and the Village of Oak Park. Roll call vote.

It was noted that the Village approve this amendment on September 19, 2016 and District 200 approved the agreement on September 22, 2016.

Ayes: Spatz, O'Connor, Brisben, Gates, Datta, Felton, and Spurlock
Nays: None
Motion passed.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

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UPDATE

Dr. Kelley reported that the Collaboration for Early Childhood approached the district on the possibility of partnering with them on the Early Development Instrument Pilot. Dr. Kelley hosted a session for the Kindergarten through fifth grade teachers where they met with Carolyn Newberry Schwartz from the Collaboration and were allowed to ask questions regarding the pilot. Once her decision has been made, Dr. Kelley will communicate her decision to Newberry Schwartz.

Dr. Kelley hosted the first community conversation on September 14, 2016. The highlight of the evening was the keynote speaker, Kelley Young from Education Reimagined and her conversation on transforming learning spaces to enable every child to feel empowered and be life-long learners. Dr. Kelley plans to meet regularly with those who expressed interest in participating in further conversations. She noted that the next step will be to invite this group to consider different literature. It was suggested that the district find classrooms where this is already being used and tour those facilities.

Member Brisben left the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Board comments included noting that some of them were already familiar with the concept and interested in hearing Young present in person.

Dr. Kelley reported that administration met on September 15 and 21, 2016 to further their discussion on the vision of creating positive learning environments. The discussion was led by the National Equity Project and focused on team charters, actions and plans. She reported that she will be prepared to share this data by the second meeting in October and could invite members from the SIT teams to share their plans and thoughts.

The central office team is preparing for their move to 260 Madison Street. She expressed gratitude to the Board, administration, buildings and grounds crew, technology team and central office team for their efforts to make this a smooth transition.

BOARD ASSIGNMENTS

BOARD
ASSIGNMENTS

STANDING BOARD COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORT FOLLOW UP FORC

The FORC committee will be meeting on October 24, 2016 to review the 5-year projections. At that time, they will be informed that Policy 4:42 has been adopted.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND LIAISON REPORT FOLLOW UP IGOV

President Gates and member Spurlock attended the last IGOV meeting where the team worked on a draft agenda for the upcoming assembly. The focus of the assembly will be the “Oak Park Experience” and the presenters will include the president of the Oak Park Relators Association and the Housing Center. The group will try to determine why people come to Oak Park; why they stay and how the community services help to shape the experience.

COLLABORATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD

It was reported that the Collaboration board will be meeting tomorrow. Presentations will include an update on the Illinois taxes.

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION TOOL

Members O’Connor and Spurlock met with Dr. Kelley today regarding the Superintendent’s Evaluation Tool. The need to begin discussions regarding new goals and metrics was recommended. Dr. Kelley will share her suggestions during the October 17, 2016 retreat or shortly after.

CLAIM

Vice President Felton reported that she has a conflict with the CLAIM meeting dates and will need to work it out.

CALENDAR COMMITTEE

Members Spatz and Spurlock will meet with Laurie Campbell prior to January to begin conversations about the 2017-2018 District Calendar. Campbell reported that she met with District 200 last week and a draft calendar has already been completed.

BOARD RETREAT PLANNING

Vice President Felton shared a link for the retreat planning. The agenda was reviewed and modifications were recommended.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY – OLD ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Evans came to the table. She explained that most of the old furniture in the currently administration building will be left behind. A plan is in place to utilize some of the furniture at the schools and the remaining items will be offered for sale. Evans requested that the Board consider approving the disposal of the equipment in advance, which will allow her to dispose of the remaining items within the 45 day window after the relocation of the central office team. It was suggested that the local non-profit organizations may be interested in purchasing some of the items and that a notice should be sent to the Community of Congregations. This item will return to the Board for action on October 13, 2016.

ADMINISTRATIVE
ITEMS

DONATION – HATCH WATER FOUNTAIN

Evans noted that the correct memo for this item has been included at their places at the Board table. She reported that the Hatch PTO expressed interest in donating an outdoor water fountain to the school and is seeking approval by the Board. This item will return to the Board for action on October 13, 2016.

CONCLUDING ITEMS

BOARD REMARKS

It was noted that the Middle School Cross Country meet was exciting.

Member O’Connor reminded the Board that he will not be in attendance at the October 17, 2016 retreat.

It was suggested that the district review the standards for bussing, as they have not been reviewed since 1976. However, it was noted that if the district decided to change boundaries, the transportation would become extremely important. Evans noted that the transportation figures in the current budget may appear higher because the district did not receive the state mandated reimbursements in a timely manner.

It was suggested that a quarterly update on the TIF escrow account be included as information only reports in future Board packets.

Member Spatz offered to take some student art work with him to the International conference that he will be attending in May. The art work will be included in an international art fare during this conference.

The Board members were reminded to attend the Elected Officials BBQ scheduled for tomorrow evening.

BOARD REMARKS (Continued)

The IASB resolutions for consideration were distributed at the Board table. It was agreed that some discussion time may be needed for this topic. President Gates will follow through.

Member Spatz and the superintendent from Maine Township shared a presentation on contract negotiations at the Kishwaukee Division meeting. They received positive feedback.

It was noted that about 100 policies will be sent down for review from the State Policy Committee in the next three to six months. Most of the changes will be in the footnotes, but some will include substantial changes.

It was noted that Policy 4:42 was adopted this evening and will require metrics. Information on this policy will be included into the referendum slides.

It was reported that CLAIM is asking the Board to amend their committee charge to go beyond bullet point number 5 to allow them to engage a broader section of the government. After a brief discussion, the Board expressed interest in expanding the wording of this committee charge. President Gates and Vice President Felton will draft a statement for considerations.

It was reported that the legislator forum is scheduled for October 18, 2016 at Julian Middle School and the next CLAIM meeting will be held on October 6, 2016. It was noted that the committee is interested in having Dr. Kelley share a presentation about her vision.

PARKING LOT REVIEW

The Parking lot items were reviewed and revised.

REVIEW MEMBER DATTA’S REQUEST ND OTHER LONG STANIDNG PARKING LOT ITEMS

It was noted that member Datta had asked administration if the district has a handle on how many of our children do not have home access to technology. Dr. Kelley reported that the social workers were asked to share their knowledge on this subject and it was reported that out of the 6,000 students in the district, about 220 students do not have access to the Internet at home. Michael Arensdorff researched the SPRINT Grant opportunities and reported that for a one-time cost of \$75- \$100 per child, the district could be able to provide these children with a hot spot that would be tied to their school device. The total cost would be about \$17,000. It was suggested that the PTOs be asked to chip in on the cost. Action will be taken on October 13, 2016 (approval of grant submission). It was suggested that the district see if District 200 is also doing something to support the children who do not have home Internet access.

BOARD RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT

None

BOARD MEETING AGENDA FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The draft agenda for the October 13, 2016 Board meeting was reviewed and modifications were recommended. The Board members were asked to submit their topics of interest for the upcoming Special Education report.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, President Gates declared the meeting adjourned at 9:49 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Board President

Board Secretary