

**Official Minutes of the
Oak Park Board of Education District 97,
970 Madison Street, Oak Park, Cook County, Illinois
Meeting December 2, 2014**

President Spatz called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Spatz, Felton, Sacks, Gates, O'Connor (6:31 p.m.), Traczyk (6:31 p.m.), and
Brisben
Absent: None
Also Present: Superintendent Dr. Al Roberts, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and
Operations Therese O'Neill, Senior Director of Policy, Planning and
Communications Chris Jasculca, Senior Director of HR Steve Cummins, Senior
Director of Administrative Services Felicia Starks Turner, Director of
Curriculum and Instruction Helen Wei, Senior Director of Special Services
Michael Padavic, and Board Secretary Sheryl Marinier

ROLL CALL

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

Sacks moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education move into executive session at 6:30 p.m. to discuss (Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), Collective Negotiations 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), Purchase or Lease of Real Property 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5), Student Discipline 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9). Roll call vote.

Ayes: Sacks, Felton, Traczyk, Gates, O'Connor, Brisben and Spatz
Nays: None
Absent: None
Motion passed.

OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION

Traczyk moved, seconded by Sacks, that the Board of Education move into open session at 6:57 p.m. All members of the Board were in agreement. The meeting was reconvened at 7:01 p.m.

SPECIAL REPORTS

SPECIAL
REPORTS

DISCUSSION WITH STR ON NEXT STEPS AND PRIORITIES – ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Therese O'Neill came to the table with STR representatives Jennifer Costanzo and Colby Lewis. They shared a presentation regarding the next steps for building an administration building at 260 Madison Street, including a timeline with a goal to occupy the facility in June, 2016. They recommended focus group meetings in December and community meetings in February. Invitations will be distributed in the near future, with many different municipalities being included. It was suggested that the Board should have representation at these meetings, but be cautious to not all be in attendance. Additionally, Dr. Roberts was encouraged to make a determination as to the future location of the Multicultural Center.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT - VILLAGE

It was reported that the documents required for this topic are not ready to be shared with the Board. President Spatz reported that he expects the documents to be shared publicly by the Village next week and ready for discussion by the District 97 Board before the December 16, 2014 meeting, where action can will be considered.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PUBLIC
COMMENT

ACTION ITEMS

ACTION ITEMS

2.1.1 Approval of Minutes from the November 18, 2014 Board Meeting

Sacks moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the minutes from the November 18, 2014 Board meeting.

Ayes: Sacks, Felton, Traczyk, O’Connor, Gates, Brisben, and Spatz
Nays: None
Absent: None
Motion passed.

2.2 Approval of the Bill List

Traczyk moved, seconded by Sacks, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the Bill List as presented to the Board.

Ayes: Traczyk, Sacks, Felton, O’Connor, Gates, Spatz, and Brisben
Nays: None
Absent: None
Motion passed.

COMMITTEE / WORK GROUP REPORTS
2014 – 2015 PRIORITIES

COMMITTEE /
WORK GROUP
REPORTS

Common Core and IB Implementation
No report was shared.

Evaluations
This topic will be discussed during the December 16, 2014 Board meeting. Vice President Gates, member O’Connor and Dr. Roberts will meet before that date.

Financial Stability
No report was shared.

Building and Facilities
This topic was covered under Special Reports.

Equity and Excellence in Student Achievement
Member Brisben will email the team’s summary report to the Board members tomorrow. He suggested that they use this report as a template when preparing their data for the December 15, 2014 Board retreat. He reminded the Board that the first 2-3 hours of the retreat will be led by the IASB representative, and focus on Board self-evaluation. He asked that the Super Seven teams share their summary documents with the Board Secretary by noon on December 11, 2014 for inclusion into the Board packet for the retreat.

Organization Structure
Dr. Roberts reported that he met with a consultant, and will get another meeting on the calendar.

Contract Implementation and Maintenance
It was reported that this team will meet before next Wednesday.

STANDING BOARD COMMITTEES

Facilities Advisory Committee (FAC)

It was reported that the FAC Committee will be meeting next Tuesday. The proposed accessibility work will be presented to the committee at that time and return to the Board for action on December 16, 2014.

Financial Oversight and Review committee (FORC)

It was reported that the FORC Committee will be meeting next Monday.

Committee for Legislative Action, Intervention, and Monitoring (CLAIM)

It was reported that the CLAIM Committee will be meeting on December 18, 2014. Vice President Gates reported that the two resolutions presented at the Triple I Conference were passed, and the complete results of the voting process was shared at the table. He acknowledged committee member Greg Smith and committee secretary Lou Anne Johannesson for preparing him to speak on behalf of the longitudinal data resolution.

It was reported that the IASB weekly newsletter covered the two resolutions, and EDRED has offered their support with this initiative. President Spatz will connect EDRED with CLAIM representatives Greg Smith and Anne Warden so they can support each other in this endeavor. It was also reported that the Federal Family Educational Records Protection Act (FERPA) is being revised at the federal level, noting the need for the state laws to stay in line with these changes.

It was reported that a resolution will be written to acknowledge the CLAIM committee's efforts and will be presented for action during the December 16, 2014 Board meeting.

OTHER ITEMS

It was reported that several Board members attended the Triple I Conference. Member Felton attended a session on early childhood strategies for district success. Vice President Gates attended a six hour LeaderShop for board presidents. President Spatz attended a board president's roundtable where it was reported that Senate Bill 16 will not be approved during the veto session. He noted that a separate bill is being considered if Senate Bill 16 passes. Member Brisben reported that this was his first Triple I conference and he found the sessions to be helpful.

OTHER ITEMS

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Presentation of the Final 2014 Levy

O'Neill reported that tonight's presentation is step three of a four step process. A public hearing will be held during the December 16, 2014 Board meeting and the Board will take action at that time.

ADMINISTRATIVE
ITEMS

She explained that a levy is a formal request sent to the County Clerk's Office asking that taxes be collected for district operations. The levy amount is based on the district's projected need and the final levy amount and related tax rate (or extension) is determined by the County Clerk's Office based on the requested amounts, after applying PTELL reductions (tax cap law). O'Neill explained that to ensure maximum dollars coming into the Education Fund, the direction to be given to the Cook County Clerk is to reduce other "capped" funds by the formal prepared resolution. She explained that although the levy requests a 2.41 percent increase, the community will only experience an average increase of 1.5 percent.

CONCLUDING ITEMS

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Roberts reported that he is working with the teachers who are members of the Education Council. He reported that their concern is not the standards; but the amount of instruction time that is lost to testing. He recommended that the district share some of the lessons and describe

CONCLUDING
ITEMS

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT (Continued)

them in an upcoming FYI newsletter, suggesting that it would provide examples to teachers and help with parent understand.

Dr. Roberts acknowledged Michael Arensdorff for his efforts to ensure security and safe keeping of the devices at the schools. He noted that Arensdorff is also following through with additional policies and practices to ensure the safety of the devices.

Dr. Roberts shared the teacher evaluation spreadsheet. He reported that a memo was sent to the principals today to remind them of the next deadline, which is December 19, 2014. Dr. Roberts shared that the principals are benefiting from this process.

Dr. Roberts expressed concern about administering the 5Essentials survey on an annual basis. He shared that he does not find the assessment to be as inclusive as it needs to be, as it does not include the elementary school students. He also expressed concern about the lack of parent participation. Additionally, he noted that the school improvement teams have expressed concern about the wording of the questions. He recommended hiring a consultant, perhaps from the University of Chicago, to help the district understand the assessment.

Dr. Roberts suggested developing some activities that would cover the areas that are not included in the 5Essentials. He suggested administering the assessment this year, but making an effort to bring in someone who can help the teachers, board and parents understand the questions. He also suggested that the district pursue hiring a data analyst who will make this their priority. He also suggested considering ways to enlist feedback from the elementary students. He suggested that no single survey should be used to characterize a school system.

The Board discussed Dr. Roberts' suggestions to bring in a consultant to help with the understanding of the survey, the hiring of a data analyst, and the annual administration of the 5Essentials survey. Additional comments about the usefulness of the survey were shared. Concern was expressed about the lack of information gathered regarding what the teachers feel is important in their classrooms and the possibility of gathering weird data this year, although it was noted that other districts are experiencing the same changes as District 97 and the data could still be useful. It was also suggested that the parent piece of the survey could be administered bi-annually.

The Board agreed with Dr. Roberts' recommendation to hire a data analyst. Interest in bringing in a consultant was supported, and it was suggested that the district consider a partnership to minimize any additional expense. It was agreed that members Brisben and O'Connor will help with the creation of a job description for the data analyst position.

BOARD CONCERNS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Member Felton was acknowledged for running the tri-board meeting for the Collaboration for Early Childhood, and the collaboration was acknowledged for their thorough reporting, especially the financial data piece.

The Board agreed to submit a proposal to the Triple I Conference to host a presentation about school districts supporting early learning. The Collaboration for Early Childhood would be invited to participate. President Spatz and member Felton will reach out to District 200 and the Collaboration Governing Board members in regards to their interest in participating.

BOARD RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PREVIEW AGENDAS

The Board reviewed the draft agenda for the Board meetings scheduled for Tuesday December 16, 2014 at 7 p.m., and modifications were recommended. Additionally, the Board reviewed the draft agendas for December 9 and 11, 2014, and talked about the agenda for the Board retreat scheduled for December 15, 2014.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Gates moved, seconded by Brisben, that the Board of Education move into executive session at 8:27 p.m. to discuss (Collective Negotiations 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)). Roll call vote.

Ayes: Gates, Brisben, Traczyk, Sacks, Felton, O'Connor, and Spatz
Nays: None
Absent: Motion passed.

OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION

Traczyk moved, seconded by Sacks, that the Board of Education move into open session at 9:54 p.m. All members of the Board were in agreement.

ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, President Spatz declared the meeting adjourned at 9:54 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday, December 16, 2014 beginning at 7 p.m. Special meetings will be held on Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at 5 p.m. for the purpose of student discipline, Thursday, December 11, 2014 at 6 p.m. for the purpose of Collective Negotiations and review of the Village IGA and Lease agreements, and Monday, December 15, 2014 at 5 p.m. for the purpose of Board self-evaluation. All meetings will be held at the district Administration building located at 970 Madison Street, Oak Park, Illinois.

Board President

Board Secretary