

**Official Minutes of the
Oak Park Board of Education District 97,
970 Madison Street, Oak Park, Cook County, Illinois
Meeting September 9, 2014**

President Spatz called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

Present: Spatz, Felton, Sacks Gates, Traczyk, Brisben, and O'Connor
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 Special Education Mike Padavic, Senior Director of HR Steve Cummins, Senior Director of Administrative Services Felicia Starks Turner, Directors of Curriculum and Instruction Carrie Kamm, Helen Wei, and Board Secretary Sheryl Marinier

ROLL CALL

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

Sacks moved, seconded by Traczyk, that the Board of Education move into executive session at 6:36 p.m. to discuss (Purchase or Lease of Real Property 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5), Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), Collective Negotiations 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), Discussion of Lawfully, Closed Meeting Minutes, ILCS 120/2(c)(21)). Roll call vote.

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

OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION

Sacks moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education move into open session at 7:02 p.m. All members of the Board were in agreement. The meeting was reconvened at 7:06 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

Therese O'Neill came to the table. She noted minor changes to the tentative budget that will be brought to the Board for action on September 23, 2014. Those in attendance were invited to speak regarding the budget, and no one expressed interest in doing so.

PUBLIC
COMMENT

SPECIAL REPORTS

C.L.A.I.M. UPDATE

Chairperson Greg Smith came to the table. He updated the Board on the plans for the October Forum and the two resolutions submitted to the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB). He reported that the IASB has submitted two questions regarding the resolutions and the committee will address them during their meeting next week.

SPECIAL
REPORTS

BOND DISCUSSION – WILLIAM BLAIR AND COMPANY

O'Neill and Liz Hennessy came to the table. The DSEB borrowing options for the fall were discussed, and the timeline for issuing bonds was identified. Various options were considered.

WORLD LANGUAGE UPDATE

Dawn Deaton came to the table. Dr. Roberts explained that additional research was done and Rosetta Stone continues to be the technology choice.

WORLD LANGUAGE UPDATE (Continued)

Deaton updated the Board on the steps that have occurred since her last report. She noted that a team of District 97 staff met with a representative from Rosetta Stone to identify the districts needs, and a team met to determine the best way that the product could be used within the district. Interest was expressed in bringing the product to Ed Council.

Deaton noted that the iPad Touches are ready to support this product. The current proposal is for 2,000 student users and 500 staff members. \$151,388 will be paid up-front with no other charges for the three year period. Deaton reported that the three year window would allow the district to analyze the program, and try activities designed for use with substitute teachers. It was noted that multiple languages (up to three per student) can be built in for specific students.

Deaton suggested that the adult learners are strong role models for the children, and that staff using the product will envision new ways to use the program. Additionally, Rosetta Stone tools will help with evaluating student growth.

Board comments included interest in the English Language Learners (ELL) population within the district.

This item will return to the Board for action on September 23, 2014. It was noted that, because the cost of the program exceed \$100,000, it should be accompanied by a cap-ex approval form.

PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC
COMMENT

Rick Boultinghouse, an Oak Park resident, thanked the Board for proactively addressing the heat issues at the beginning of the school year.

ACTION ITEMS

ACTION ITEMS

2.3.2 Appointment of Assistant Principal

Gates, moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education, District 97, appoint April Capruder as Assistant Principal at the Brook Middle School.

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

2.1.1 Approval of Minutes from the August 12, 2014 Special Board Meeting

Sacks, moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the minutes from the August 12, 2014 special Board meeting.

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

2.1.2 Approval of Minutes from the August 19, 2014 Special Board Meeting

Felton, moved, seconded by Gates, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the minutes from the August 19, 2014 Board meeting.

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

2.2 Approval of Consent Agenda

Traczyk moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the consent agenda as presented to the Board.

2.2.1 Bill List

2.2.2 Personnel Action

2.2.3 Adoption of Policies

7:180 – Prevention Bullying, Intimidation and Harassment

7:190 – Student Discipline

8:30 - Visitors and Conduct on School Property

Ayes: Traczyk, O'Connor, Sacks, Felton, Spatz, Gates, and Brisben

Nays: None

Motion passed.

2.3.1 Approval and Keep Closed Executive Session Meeting Minutes from 1/14/2014 – 6/24/2014

Sacks, moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve and keep confidential the executive session minutes from January 14, 2014 through June 24, 2014.

Ayes: Sacks, Felton, Gates, O'Connor, Traczyk, Brisben, and Spatz

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

2.3.3 Modification of IMRF Senior Director Contracts

Gates, moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the modifications to the IMRF Senior Director Contracts as defined in the executive session.

Ayes: Gates, O'Connor, Sacks, Felton, Traczyk, Brisben, and Spatz

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

COMMITTEE / WORK GROUP REPORTS

2014 – 2015 PRIORITIES

Common Core and IB Implementation

It was reported that this team is working on a plan.

Evaluations

This team plans on sharing an update on September 23, 2014.

Financial Stability

This team plans on presenting a recommendation to the Board after the next FORC meeting scheduled on October 6, 2014.

Administration Building and Facilities

This team will share an update sometime in the near future.

Equity and Excellence in Student Achievement

No report was given at this time.

Organization Structure

This team is collecting data and will present in executive session.

COMMITTEE /
WORK GROUP
REPORTS

Contract Implementation and Maintenance

Outlines are being created, and this team will try to prepare a document to share at the next meeting.

STANDING BOARD COMMITTEES

Facilities Advisory Committee (FAC)

It was reported that Vice President Gates attended this meeting as the new Board representative. During this meeting, the temperature sensors were demonstrated and a discussion took place regarding how data will be analyzed. This committee plans on reporting to the Board during March, 2015. A report on classroom temperatures from August, 2014 – September, 2014 was requested.

The summer 2014 projects were reviewed and the 2015 summer projects were considered.

The next FAC meeting will be held at Whittier School so the committee members can tour the facility and examine the work done there during the summer. O'Neill reported that a few punch list items are still in need of completion, but will be done shortly.

Financial Oversight and Review Committee (FORC)

It was reported that this committee will be meeting on October 6, 2014. Liz Hennessy from William Blair has been helping the committee regarding bond policies. The committee is also considering a disclosure policy. These policies will be submitted to the Policy committee for review when completed.

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

It was reported that the legislative forum will be held at Julian Middle School on October 8, 2014. The Village board and District 90 will be invited to participate. A small budget for the forum was discussed.

Board comments included a request for a tentative timeline for the resolutions approval.

It was reported that there is movement on Senate bill 16 (Funding Reform) and direction is needed from C.L.A.I.M. The finance sub-committee is working on a statement that they will want to share. ED-RED is looking for a small work group to consider other ways to address the funding issues without Senate bill 16.

OTHER ITEMS

IGOV Update

Vice President Gates and Member Brisben attended the last IGOV meeting.

It was reported that IGOV will hold a forum at Brooks Middle School on October 25, 2014 starting at 8:30 a.m., followed by the Elected Officials BBQ at 11:30 a.m. Electronic postcards were sent out inviting people to this event.

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (COG) Update

It was reported that the COG met last week. During that meeting, the library reported that they are coordinating an investigation to provide community Wi-Fi access. It was noted that the library is seeing an increase in the use of Wi-Fi by students.

COLLABORATION IGA GOVERNING BOARD Update

It was noted that the agenda for the September 17, 2014 meeting has been distributed. The Collaboration is interested in knowing how the Board feels about a Fund Balance Policy.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

2014-15 Out-Of-State and Overnight Field Trip Review

This item will return to the Board for action on September 23, 2014.

CONCLUDING ITEMS

CONCLUDING
ITEMS

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Roberts reported that the school year started with very hot weather, but the principals did an outstanding job of keeping everyone cool and communicating with the families.

He noted the need to prepare for the evaluations. He reported that the administrative team has met a couple of times. The team is planning in a way that will give the teachers the support they need to make improvements, and a professional development piece is being developed. Informal and formal observations will be conducted and written response expectations will be reviewed.

BOARD CONCERNS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Board was invited to attend the Those Who Excel Banquet on October 25, 2014 where several district staff and volunteers will be recognized. It was noted that this date is also the IGOV Forum and the Elected Officials BBQ.

It was reported that during the 900 N. Marion Street block party, residents expressed their delight with Principal Cole at Mann School.

Member Felton attended the Ladies Elected Officials Breakfast.

The Washington DC trip was discussed. Dr. Roberts explained that this trip is not a district sponsored trip. Parents may choose to take their students on a trip to Washington DC as a group, but it is not district or PTO sponsored.

BOARD RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PREVIEW SEPTEMBER 23, 2014 AGENDA

The draft agenda for the September 23, 2014 meeting was reviewed and revisions were suggested.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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Sacks moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education move into executive session at 8:41 p.m. to discuss (Purchase or Lease of Real Property 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5), Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), Collective Negotiations 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)). Roll call vote.

Ayes: Sacks, O'Connor, Felton, Gates, Traczyk, Brisben and Spatz

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION

Traczyk moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education move into open session at 10:40 p.m. All members of the Board were in agreement.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, President Spatz declared the meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday, September 23, 2014 beginning at 7 p.m. at the Administration building located at 970 Madison Street, Oak Park, Illinois.

Board President

Board Secretary