

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Administration Building 7:00 p.m. – 8:55 p.m. February 17, 2016

Members Present:

- Mark Mirabile, Presiding Officer
- Kim Barker
- Vipul Dedhia
- David Negron
- Gina Scaletta-Nelson
- Michael Rak

Absent:

- Kristin Violante

ROLL CALL AND VISITORS

Present with Superintendent Dave Palzet were staff members Erika Sawosko, Candy Kramer, Catherine Chang, Matt Vandercar, John Glimco, Karyn Lisowski, Andrea Mars, and Julie Crist; and resident Jim Distasio.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Students from the Pleasantdale Middle School Sunshine Club lead the Pledge of Allegiance. The students and middle school health teacher Jen Driscoll shared with the Board a brief video of some of the activities the group has been doing.

ACTION NO. 37

Consent Agenda

Motion by Scaletta-Nelson, seconded by Barker, that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda consisting of: regular meeting minutes of January 20, 2016; closed session meeting minutes of January 20, 2016; payment of January payroll/February warrants; February 2016 Personnel Report including the hiring of Bernadette Kosnick as full time instructional aide beginning February 8, 2016; easement request; and FY17 school calendar. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 6 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Negron, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak) absent – Violante.

ACTION NO. 38

Refund Bonds

Motion by Mirabile, seconded by Barker, that the Board of Education approve a resolution providing for the issue of not to exceed \$6,100,000 General Obligation Refunding School Bonds, Series 2016, for the purpose of refunding certain outstanding bonds of the District, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the execution of a Bond Purchase Agreement with William Blair & Company, L.L.C., in connection with the proposed sale of said bonds. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 6 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Negron, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak) absent – Violante.

ACTION NO. 39

Transfer Funds

Motion by Mirabile, seconded by Scaletta-Nelson, that the Board of Education approve a resolution transferring funds from the Transportation Fund to the School Bond and Interest Fund of 2006 for the payment of principal of and interest on the District’s General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2006, and abating a portion of the tax heretofore levied for the year 2015 to pay debt service on said bonds. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 6 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Negron, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak) absent – Violante.

REPORTS AND
DISCUSSION ITEMS2016 Staff Summer Work Plan

Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Candy Kramer discussed a revised plan for approving summer professional work for teachers. Summer professional work allows teachers to continue the momentum made during the school year on district goals and initiatives. This year, all summer work will fall into three categories: Professional Development, District Initiatives, and Curriculum Review Projects. All projects will be approved and monitored by the administration.

District Goal Update

Superintendent Dave Palzet reviewed the progress toward successful completion of the District's Year-One Goals. The district's goals fall into one of six categories: Teaching & Learning, Technology, Communication, Finance & Facilities, Culture & Climate, and Board Governance. Over the course of the year, the staff at both schools have made great progress in each of these categories, and the successful completion of these goals has resulted in an improved school experience for our students. Some highlights of our goals include a successful Google Apps for Education pilot program, improved home/school communication, and the implementation of a 5-year facilities plan.

Learning Management System

As our C⁴ (Communication, Collaboration, Critical Thinking, and Creativity) Learning Plan evolves, we seek to ensure that our students, teachers, and families have the tools they need to be successful. A learning management system is a software application that allows teachers, students, and parents to present and access classroom materials, calendars, and grades in a "one stop shop" manner. The administration is recommending the purchase of Schoology as the learning management system for our schools.

Preliminary Staffing Recommendations

The administration presented staffing recommendations for the 2016-17 school year. The current enrollment projections show that our student count will remain flat for the next school year. Additionally, there are no new programs being proposed. The staffing of certified staff members will not change for next year with the exception of the .67 grade 6 teacher will flow to grade 7.

Food Service Update

Business Manager Catherine Chang reported to the Board her progress in implementing improvements to our food service program. She explained that the district would engage in the bid process to identify a new food service provider that allows for high quality meals at a reasonable price. If the district were to drop the National School Lunch Program, then the District would be able to enter into a school to school agreement. It is the recommendation of the administration to go forward for at a minimum of one year to not be a part of the National School Lunch program so they can explore a school to school agreement. The district can always go back to the National School Lunch program in subsequent years if the district chooses to. The Board advised the administration to move forward with submitting the bid and to continue to investigate vendors for a school to school agreement.

5 year Financial Projections

Business Manager, Catherine Chang presented the financial projections through Fiscal Year (FY) 2020. The 5 year projections incorporate the following assumptions about future revenues and expenditures: the current and estimated Consumer Price Index (CPI); bond refunding; abatement of debt service of \$500,000; cost increases at current contractual commitments; facilities and technology projects for the next five years. The 5-year projection shows District 107 remaining in good financial health. As good stewards of

taxpayer dollars, we continually make wise financial decisions while maintaining a high level of service to our students.

Review of Governance and Planning (sec. 1) Board Policies

The Board of Education regularly reviews Board policy to ensure that current policies reflect the realities of running a school district. The Board reviewed the Governance and Planning section of the policy manual. The policies are scheduled to be approved at the March Board meeting as part of the consent agenda.

Board of Education Information Requests

No Requests

NEXT AGENDA

Items submitted for the March 2016 agenda include:
Approve Learning Management System; School Improvement Plan Update; Approve Preliminary Staffing Recommendations; Approve Pleasant Dale Park District Before and After School Program Intergovernmental Agreement; Re-employment of non-tenure Personnel and Non-renewal of Non-tenured Teachers; Approve Governance and Planning (sec. 1) Board Policies; and Parent/Student Handbook.

ACTION NO. 40

Closed Session

Motion by Barker, seconded by Rak, that the Board of Education go into closed session at 8:15 p.m. to discuss collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives; and matters relating to the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 6 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Negron, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak) absent – Violante.

The Board came out of closed session at 8:54 p.m.

ACTION NO. 41

Contract 2015-2020

Motion by Rak, seconded by Dedhia, that the Board of Education approve the 2015-2020 Professional Agreement with the Teachers’ Association of Pleasantdale. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 6 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Negron, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak) absent – Violante.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Barker, seconded by Mirabile, that the regular meeting adjourns at 8:55 p.m. Voice vote. Motion carried.

App. ___ President _____ Secretary _____