

Official Minutes of the
Oak Park Board of Education District 97
260 Madison Street, Oak Park
September 27, 2022 Regular Meeting

This meeting was held in-person and virtually using Livestream. Board members met in person along with Administration.

President Kim called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Kim, Kinhal, Hurd Johnson, Moore, Ross Dribin, Kearney, Spurlock(arrived at 6:15 | left at 7:18pm)

Absent: None

Also Present: Superintendent Dr. Ushma Shah, Associate Superintendent of Education Dr. Felicia Starks Turner, Interim Senior Director of Human Resources Dr. Tim Kilrea, Senior Director of Technology Michael Arensdorff, Senior Director of Communications Amanda Siegfried, Chief Academic and Accountability Officer Dr. Ebony Lofton, Senior Director of Equity Dr. Carrie Kamm, Senior Director of Finance Patrick King, Senior Director of Buildings & Grounds Jeanne Keane and Lonya Boose Board Secretary.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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SESSION

Hurd Johnson moved, seconded by Moore that the Board move into executive session for the purpose of Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees, Collective Negotiating 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(1)(2) at 6:13p.m.

OPEN SESSION

OPEN
SESSION

President Kim motioned that the Board move into Open Session at 7:18 p.m. All present members of the Board were in agreement. The Board convened in Open Session at 7:21 p.m.

3. BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

BUDGET
HEARING

The meeting opened with a hearing on the 2022-2023 Budget. There were no public Comment.

MOTION: Ross Dribin moved, seconded by Kearney that the Board of Education of Oak Park Elementary School District 97 moves in to Open Session with a Public Hearing on the District’s FY 23 Budget.

CLOSING MOTION: Kinhal moved, seconded by Kearney that the Board of Education of Oak Park Elementary School District 97 moves to Close the Public Hearing on the District’s FY 23 Budget.

Ayes: Kim, Kearney, Ross Dribin, Hurd Johnson, Moore, Kinhal

Nays: None

Absent: Spurlock

Motions passed.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Hi Everybody,

I am David Wells, one of the permanent substitutes at Julian, and I am here on behalf of myself and others at Julian who share the same concerns. Little of an introduction, if you close your eyes, and remember a substitute when you were in school. We have relationships with staff, students, custodians and know the curriculum. We are respected as part of the school community. I am also a D97 dad, nice to see my student and others out and about. I was hired during the pandemic. I had done some subbing, but mostly online until I received a call from Cory Marshall to be a permanent sub. In the first year, we received benefits, year 2, we were not given the same benefits, I reached out to the Interim HR Directors, who later got back to me and said at the Board request we are not offering benefits this year.

Because these positions seem to reoccur yearly, I think its inclusive and backs our ideas of equity to offer benefits to the permanent substitutes. I wanted to come here tonight to professionalize my request as I am sure you have seen written public comments from me on this topic in the past. I appreciate your consideration.

Have a good evening,
David Wells

5. #D97Joy

Dr. Shah opened with her 90-day report out to the Board of Education. Following this presentation, The Be Curious Team, which includes Cabinet sponsors, Amanda Siegfried, and Lonya Boose, presented a #D97Joy update.

The Be Curious work continues to co-create a culture that welcomes and instills in students, family and staff a sense of belonging, and building of our community. The hashtag #D97Joy is part of this mission as we work to streamline and celebrate staff and culture. Some important work coming soon, include a celebration calendar and request for community feedback as we work to draft protocols.

Celebration Highlights:

- IT Professionals Day, September 20, 2022. Thank you to our District 97 Technology Team! They manage and maintain all of our systems and applications that power our classrooms, schools and offices.
- National Custodian Day, October 2, 2022. Thank You to our awesome custodial staff for all their hard work making sure our schools are clean and safe for learning.
- Happy Retirement, Mr. Tillman! Hatch Elementary students and staff celebrate Mr. Tillman and wishes him well as he heads off to retirement.
- Julian Teacher, Nora Flynn won the 2022 Barack Obama Library Award by the Illinois Reading Council. This \$1,000 award is provided for books that are culturally relevant and inclusive.
- Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15 – October 15.

Dr. Shah's presentation and the complete #D97Joy celebration can be seen by viewing the board meeting livestream on the Districts YouTube channel.

6. ACTION ITEMS

6.1 APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Amended Motion:

Kearney moved, seconded by Kinhal that the Board of Education, of Oak Park Elementary School District 97, approves the amended consent agenda as presented.

- 6.1.1 Approval of Minutes from the September 13, 2022 Board Meeting
- 6.1.2 Bill List
- 6.1.3 Personnel
- 6.1.4 Approval : Press Plus Policy Updates (Policy 2:230 was pulled for additional discussion)
- 6.1.5 Approval : Public Official | Surety Bonds

Ayes: Kim, Kearney, Ross Dribin, Hurd Johnson, Moore, Kinhal

Nays: None

Absent: Spurlock

Motion passed.

6.2. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

*NEW Discussion | Pulled from Consent Agenda

Board member Kearney discussed with the board of education, changes to policy 2:230 Public Participation at School Board meetings and Petitions to the Board. Important changes to this policy include, change in time for individual public comment to 5 minutes; Flexibility for the Board President to shorten time and determine procedural matters regarding public participation. After discussion, a motion was brought to the table:

Motion

Kearney moved, seconded by Kinhal that the Board of Education, of Oak Park Elementary School District 97 moves to approve the Press Plus changes to policy 2:230 as presented.

Ayes: Kim, Kearney, Ross Dribin, Hurd Johnson, Moore, Kinhal

Nays: None

Absent: Spurlock

Motion passed.

6.2.1 Adoption of Final 2022-2023 Budget

Patrick King, Senior Director of Finance presented an overview of the budget to the Board of Education. This information can be found via the board packet, or livestream view of the board meeting on the district's YouTube channel.

Motion

Hurd Johnson moved, seconded by Kearney that the Board of Education, of Oak Park Elementary School District 97, moves to adopt the FY 2023 budget as presented to the Board.

Ayes: Kim, Kearney, Ross Dribin, Hurd Johnson, Moore, Kinhal

Nays: None

Absent: Spurlock

Motion passed.

7. BOARD ASSIGNMENTS

- IGOV recently had a sustainability forum. This was a great way to see what partnering agencies are doing around this initiative. Please view the village website at sustainoakpark.com for more information if you are interested in how oak park is progressing with sustainability.
- OPEF Base Camp is gradually getting back to pre-pandemic programming. Things are running smoothly.
- District 200 Community Council Update: D200 is implementing “Honors For All” starting with the incoming freshman class. They have also implemented their new phone policy. Students upon arrival to class place cell phones in cubbies, where they are held until class is over. This process seems to be working, students are seeming to complying. Students are also now required to wear ID badges while in the building. OPRF facilities in collaboration with the Park District is working on improvements to the Track and Field. Pool Updates are coming soon.
- Hephzibah Home recently had an open house on September 16. This was a nice opportunity to tour the renovations and hear about the program work that they do to support children.

8. CONCLUDING ITEMS

8.1 Board Remarks

Board member Ross Dribin: Thank you for the #D97Joy report. It truly brings joy to our meetings.

10. ADJOURNMENT

All Seven Present Members of the Board were in agreement that the meeting be adjourned. There being no further business to conduct, President Kim declared the meeting adjourned by voice vote at 8:44 p.m.

Board President

Board Secretary