

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Regular Meeting      Administration Building      6:00 – 8:03 p.m.      September 21, 2022

Members Present:

Arlene Cabana, Presiding Officer  
Bill Brockob  
Mary Lenzen  
Becky Walters  
Charles Zona  
Tarryne Marchione  
David Negron

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ROLL CALL AND VISITORS

Present with Superintendent Dave Palzet were staff members Beth Parker, Jennifer Ban, Griffin Sonntag, Jeanine Arundel, Kathleen Tomei and Brianne Malatt. Additional staff members in attendance included Shari Rami, Nicola Germann, Melody Murphy, Sean Diller, and Erin McGuire. Members of the community in attendance included Karyn Lisowski, Chris Beavers, Laura Besin and Kathleen Cordova.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the members of the Pleasantdale Middle School Student Council. The brag boards displayed photographs with examples of the district's partnership with the PTO.

BUDGET HEARING FY23

Board President Cabana declared the budget hearing open at 6:04 p.m.

The budget for FY23 meets the Board policy financial guidelines of the district. Business Manager Griffin Sonntag presented an outline of the major components of the budget. The FY23 proposed final budget projects revenues at \$18,142,703 and expenses at \$17,778,824. It is estimated that there will be a \$363,879 increase to the fund balance. Mr. Sonntag explained that the district takes a very conservative approach to budgeting and looks to spend tax dollars wisely. He let the Board know that nearly 70% of the district's budget goes directly to students through the education fund. The district continues to be in good financial standing due to the excellent stewardship and vision of the Board of Education. This vision includes being mindful of maintaining quality programs, reasonable class sizes, and sufficient fund balances as a safeguard in case of decreased government funding, economic downturns, and/or urgent facility repairs. There were no public comments.

Board President Cabana declared the budget hearing closed at 6:11 p.m.

ACTION NO. 3  
Budget Approval

Motioned by Mary Lenzen, second by Bill Brockob that the Board adopts the 2022-23 school district budget as presented.

OPEN FORUM

Laura Besin addressed the Board with questions about the Wit and Wisdom literacy pilot program.

ACTION NO. 4  
Consent Agenda

Motion by Becky Walters, seconded by David Negron, that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda as presented consisting of meeting minutes of August 17, 2022 board

meeting; payment of August payroll and September warrants; declassify closed session minutes; September 2022 Personnel Report containing the resignation of Sabrina Sharelis; and the hiring of Nicola German (Resource at PMS), Jessica Frye (PES Lunchroom Supervisor), Stacy Kafkes (PES Instructional Aide); and approve revised section 5 (Personnel) Policies (5:20, 5:40, 5:50, 5:60, 5:70, 5:90, 5:100, 5:125, 5:150, 5:180, 5:220, 5:240, 5:290). Motion carried by a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Brockob, Cabana, Lenzen, Walters, Zona, Marchione, and Negron).

## REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

### *Introduction of New Staff*

Principals Tomei and Arundel introduced our newest staff members to the Board of Education. This year the district hired 10 new teachers to fill our vacant positions. The Board welcomed those in attendance and wished them luck on their professional journey.

### *IASB Board Recognition*

The Board of Education achieved Board Recognition Status from the Illinois Association of School Boards. Across the state, only 33 School Boards earned this status. This program acknowledges school boards that learn and practice effective governance behaviors. The application for the award was completed over the summer and included evidence of sound governance practices.

### *Facilities Development*

As a potential construction project is considered, the Board directed Dr. Palzet to conduct interviews with community engagement consultants and make a recommendation for a potential firm. Dr. Palzet interviewed six firms and recommended the Board sign a contract with Minding Your Business. The Board accepted Dr. Palzet's recommendation, and the district will move forward with the community engagement process.

### *Curriculum Review Cycle*

Each year Dr. Ban and our Curriculum Council implement our curriculum review cycle. The purpose of the review cycle is to ensure the curriculum and resources used in classrooms meet the needs of our students and state requirements. Dr. Ban provided the Board with an update on our progress and areas of focus for the year.

### *Superintendent 2022-23 Goals*

Each year, the Board approves the superintendent's goals, which then become part of the superintendent's contract. In District 107, we observe a process of cascading goals, which means that the district goals become the administrator's goals. Administrators' goals then trickle down to the school level. This being the case, the superintendent's goals mirror those found in the Strategic Blueprint. Additionally, the superintendent's goals include a goal for academic achievement and a few other areas of importance. The goals will be on the consent agenda in October for approval.

### *Review Board of Education Member Handbook*

To continue to ensure sound governance practices, the Board considered the implementation of a Board Member Handbook. The handbook will be of critical importance to new board members as they navigate the ins and outs of Board service. The Board provided feedback and recommendations for improvements to the handbook. The revised handbook will be on the October Board Meeting agenda for approval.

Class Size Update

Principals Tomei and Arundel provided the Board with an update on class sizes at both schools. The goal is to ensure that class sizes remain at or near the guidelines that are established in Board policy 7:65. As stated in Board policy, if any class goes over the Board guideline, supports will be put in place for the teacher and students within that class.

Review Board Policy

The Board frequently reviews policies to ensure the policies reflect the realities of running a district. At the September 21, 2022 meeting the Board reviewed policies from section 6, Curriculum and Instruction .

NEXT AGENDA

Items submitted for the October agenda include: Approve Superintendent 2022-23 Goals; Approve Curriculum and Instruction (section 6) Board Policies; Elementary/Middle School Improvement Plans; Adopt Proposed Tax Levy; Review Superintendent Evaluation Tool; and Review Finance (section 4) Board Policies.

OPEN FORUM

No community members addressed the Board at this time.

ACTION NO. 5

Closed Session Motioned by Mary Lenzen, seconded by Charles Zona, that the Board of education go into closed session at 7:45 p.m. to discuss student discipline cases. Motioned carried by a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Brockob, Cabana, Lenzen, Walters, Zona, Marchione, and Negron).

The Board came out of closed session at 8:03 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Bill Brockob, seconded by Mary Lenzen, that the regular meeting adjourns at 8:03 p.m. Voice vote. Motion carried.

App. \_\_\_ President \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary \_\_\_\_\_