

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Administration Building 7:00 p.m.– 9:49 p.m. April 19, 2017

Members Present:

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

ROLL CALL AND VISITORS

Present with Superintendent Dave Palzet were staff members Erika Sawosko, Candy Kramer, Catherine Chang, Debbie Lubeck, Matt Vandercar, John Glimco, and Meg Knapik; and residents Giovanna Imbarrato, Pat Stryszak and Nicholas Dombrowski.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

School Citizen of the Year (SCOTY) Award winners were recognized and led the pledge of allegiance.

OPEN FORUM

Giovanni Imbarrato addressed the Board regarding her concerns with grade 3 math and staffing. She shared that grade 3 has experienced varied math programs and she is concerned they will miss items. She asked the Board to address this issue. She also shared that she feels we should keep good teachers and money should not be an issue.

Pat Stryszak addressed the Board to share her concerns regarding a recent correspondence she received from school about a student who was in possession of marijuana. She shared her feelings that the district needs to educate the teachers more on the issues of drug abuse as they will pass this knowledge on to the students. She offered to help in anyway with this issue that has become a nationwide problem.

Nicholas Dombrowski addressed the Board to share his own personal experiences regarding substance abuse. He felt that the district should offer more presentations to the students regarding drug abuse. He also offered to help in any way.

Gina Scaletta-Nelson stated that Willow Springs Police Station will take and dispose of your unused prescriptions.

ACTION NO. 32

Consent Agenda

Motion by Rak, seconded by Barker, that the Board of Education approve the revised consent agenda consisting of: regular meeting minutes of March 15, 2017; closed session meeting minutes of March 15, 2017; payment of March payroll/April warrants; staff device replacement cycle; and April 2017 personnel report consisting of the retirement of Principal John Glimco; the resignation of Karen Giblin, secretary; hiring of Maggie Bialobrzkeski, bilingual Polish ELL for the 2017-18 school year; and a Resolution of Dismissal for Educational Support Personnel Employees for Reasons other than Reduction in Force. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Negrón, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak, Violante). The parent/student handbook was removed from the consent agenda and will be placed for discussion at the May meeting.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Pleasantdale Middle School Principal Search

With the retirement of Middle School principal John Glimco, the district has set a process in place to identify the next leader for our middle school. The process will include paper screening of qualified candidates as well as several interviews. The interviews will include an administrative screening and committee interviews to include teachers, parents, students and Board members. It is the administration's goal to bring a recommended candidate to the May Board of Education meeting.

Strategic Blueprint Update

Superintendent Dave Palzet reported that work has already begun to achieve the goals set out in our district's new strategic blueprint. Since being approved in March, we have begun work on several action steps including the implementation of a device replacement cycle for staff and continuing collaboration with our teachers on improving our district's teacher evaluation system. In the coming weeks and months, we will continue work on completing the action steps in this wonderful plan.

5Essentials Survey of Learning Conditions Review

Superintendent Dave Palzet provided the Board an update on the results of the 5Essentials Survey of Learning Conditions. The 5Essentials survey is given to teachers, parents, and students in grades 6-8 and provides the district feedback in five categories: Ambitious Instruction, Effective Leaders, Collaborative Teachers, Involved Families, and Supportive Environment. Both our district's and schools' performance was reviewed and detailed information regarding the performance of each category was provided. Board member Michael Rak thanked Dr. Palzet for providing this information to the Board.

Math Pilot Recommendation

Assistant Superintendent Candy Kramer and Assistant Principal Meg Knapik provided the Board with an overview of the math programs that were piloted at our schools over the course of the school year. As part of the pilot program, teachers at both schools participated in the Metro Chicago Math Initiative (MCMI), a year-long math training program for teachers. In order to determine if the pilot resources are a positive fit for our district's needs, the committee considered teacher feedback, parent feedback, student feedback, Ed Reports (an independent nonprofit that publishes free reviews of instructional materials), MAP score comparisons, and price comparisons. Based on a year of research and extensive feedback, it was recommended that [Math Learning Center Bridges](#) would be the resource used at Kindergarten through fifth grade. At the middle school level, it was recommended to wait another year to adopt a new primary math resource. This additional year will allow for further investigation and the ability to identify the best program for our upper-grade students. Board member Kristin Violante stated that she has heard concerns from parents regarding the math curriculum and how will the district assure that items are not being missed by the student. Board President Mark Mirabile requested that the administration provide the Board with a report as to grade 3 math and to identify if there are any interventions that need to be put in place. Board member Kristin Violante asked that communication be provided to the parents regarding any future curriculum changes. Board Vice President Gina Scaletta-Nelson shared that a math night for parents would be beneficial so they could learn some of the new terminology.

Review School Board (sec. 2) Board Policies

Each month the Board reviews its policies to ensure that the current policy reflects the current realities of running a school district. This month the Board reviewed *Board Policy (sec. 2) Board Policies*. These policies will be on the May Consent Agenda for approval.

ACTION NO. 33

Information Request Motion by Violante, seconded by Scaletta-Nelson, that the Board of Education approve the information request consisting of specific data or lack thereof for each grade level who are involved the different math programs. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Negron, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak, Violante).

Review Service Provider Bids/Contracts

In an effort to ensure that the District is getting the best value from contracted service providers, District contracts are reviewed annually. At this month's Board meeting, Business Manager Dr. Catherine Chang reviewed our contracts and made recommendations for paper, transportation, auditing, food, and custodial services. These bids will be on the May Board of Education meeting agenda for approval.

NEXT AGENDA

Items submitted for the April 26 and May 2017 agenda include:
Organization of the Board: Proclamation of Election Results; Oath of Office; Election of President, Vice President and Secretary; Appointment of Recording Secretary; Establish Regular Meeting Day, Time and Location; Appointment of IASB Representative.
May Meeting: Summer Professional Development Work Update; Approve Paper Bid; Approve Auditor; Approve Transportation; Parent/Student Handbook Approval and Discussion; Approve Cleaning Service Contract; Approve School Board (sec. 2) Board Policies; Food Service Update; Hot Lunch fees; and Approve Math Recommendation.

OPEN FORUM

Giovanna Imbarrato thanked Candy Kramer and Meg Knapik for the grade job they have done with math curriculum and she had wished this work would have been started many years ago.

Michael Rak addressed the Board and thanked each of the outgoing Board members for all the hard work they have done over the years. Tough items needed to be addressed and they did so, because of this, he feels that the district is a better place.

ACTION NO. 34

Closed Session Motion by Barker, seconded by Scaletta-Nelson, that the Board of Education go into closed session at 8:38 p.m. to discuss matters relating to the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District; and student disciplinary cases. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Negron, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak, Violante).

The Board came out of closed session at 9:49 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Negron, seconded by Barker, that the regular meeting adjourns at 9:49 p.m. Voice vote. Motion carried.

App. ___ President _____ Secretary _____