

**Official Minutes of the
Oak Park Board of Education District 97,
970 Madison Street, Oak Park, Cook County, Illinois
Meeting November 18, 2014**

President Spatz called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Spatz, Felton, Sacks, Gates, O'Connor, Traczyk, and Brisben
Absent: None
Also Present: Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations Therese O'Neill, Senior Director of Policy, Planning and Communications Chris Jasculca, Senior Director of HR Steve Cummins, Senior Director of Administrative Services Felicia Starks Turner, Directors of Curriculum and Instruction Carrie Kamm, Senior Director of Special Services Michael Padavic, and Board Secretary Sheryl Marinier

ROLL CALL

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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Traczyk moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education move into executive session at 6:30 p.m. to discuss (Collective Negotiations 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), Purchase or Lease of Real Property 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5), Student Discipline 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9). Roll call vote.

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

OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION

Traczyk moved, seconded by Sacks, that the Board of Education move into open session at 6:51 p.m. All members of the Board were in agreement. The meeting was reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

It was reported that Therese O'Neill would be filling in for Dr. Roberts who is unavailable for this evening.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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Kathy Hymson, an Oak Park resident, spoke on behalf of the 5Essentials survey and encouraged the Board to issue the survey annually. She acknowledged that there are many initiatives, and she believes that administering the 5Essentials would be valuable. She noted that the results from the 5Essentials seemed to mirror the CEC assessment issued a few years ago.

Libbey Paul, an Oak Park resident, spoke in support of administering the 5Essentials survey annually, especially in the high flux middle schools. She suggested that it would be too easy to dismiss the data on a bi-annual basis. She noted that a valid benchmark is difficult to obtain, and the 5Essential's data is good.

Lauren Brown, an Oak Park resident and teacher, spoke in support of administering the 5Essentials survey annually. She reported that Dr. Roberts indicated that we need full and thoughtful participation, and a mechanism that improves performance. She noted that the students have completed many surveys, and the 5Essential is offering the same opportunity as the IB instruments. It offers a benchmark, and an opportunity to be reflective and communicate valuable information. She acknowledged that there have been many new initiatives added within the district this year which may result in some negative feedback, but encouraged the process.

ACTION ITEMS**2.1.1 Approval of Minutes from the November 4, 2014 Board Meeting**

Sacks moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the minutes from the November 4, 2014 Board meeting.

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

2.1.1 Approval of Minutes from the October 25, 2014 Special (IGOV) Board Meeting

Felton moved, seconded by Gates, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the minutes from the October 25, 2014 special (IGOV) Board meeting.

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

2.2 Approval of Consent Agenda

Traczyk moved, seconded by Felton, 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 Approval of Special Meeting on December 15, 2014

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

2.3.1 Approval of Preliminary 2014 Property Tax Levy

Gates moved, seconded by Sacks, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the estimated 2014 levy as presented at the November 4, 2014 meeting, and as delineated on the attached Certificate of Levy.

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

2.3.2 Approval of Fee Addendum to the STR Contract

Sacks moved, seconded by Gates, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the proposed authorization and fee structure with STR Partners, LLC (architects) to compensate the firm for the work that will be required related to the new District 97 administration building.

O'Neill reported that the district entered into an agreement with STR in 2013. She shared a project authorization form, and noted that some of the basic fees are imbedded, such as the services of a civil engineer and five focus group meetings. Additionally, she noted that the architect fee will be 7 percent.

Member Sacks reported that the Facilities Advisory Committee (FAC) met last week (and President Spatz was also in attendance) and reviewed the STR proposal. The committee considered the recent public comments about the need for new construction in the village to be innovative, and agreed that STR would be able to meet the challenge. Sacks noted that the public listening events will be held for STR to receive input from the community regarding the new facility.

O'Neill noted that the composition of the focus groups will be designed to capture the valuable opinions of the community. A sizable quantity of people will be involved in the two sessions. STR will listen to their concerns and recommendations, and bring back drawings for the community to view.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

COMMITTEE / WORK GROUP REPORTS

2014 – 2015 PRIORITIES

Common Core and IB Implementation

The Board was thanked for submitting questions regarding Common Core and the IB Implementation. Their responses were compiled and forwarded to the Directors of Curriculum and Instruction who will use this input to guide their upcoming presentation.

Financial Stability

Information will be shared on this topic during the Board Retreat scheduled on December 15, 2014.

Building and Facilities

The District is working with the Village on the intergovernmental agreements needed regarding the administration building. This topic will be discussed in detail during the Board Retreat scheduled on December 15, 2014.

Equity and Excellence in Student Achievement

Member Brisben and Dr. Roberts met last Thursday. They developed a framework on how to measure success. The draft will be shared with the Board prior to the retreat, in preparation for a discussion at that time.

Contract Implementation and Maintenance

President Spatz commented on the OPTA Contract setup back.

STANDING BOARD COMMITTEES

Facilities Advisory Committee (FAC)

It was reported that this committee will meet on December 9, 2014. An evaluation on the unit ventilator sound quality will be reviewed at that time.

Financial Oversight and Review committee (FORC)

It was reported that with the seating of new member, Curt Bell, the committee is at full membership, and all newer members will participate in training in the near future. Their next meeting will be held on December 8, 2014.

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

It was reported that the sub-committee focusing on data sharing met with Senator Harmon last Friday. It was also reported that the Drury data legislation wording has been changed and is now acceptable.

It was noted that wording has been added to the district Website in opposition to Senate Bill 16. Vice President Gates reported that information regarding Senate Bill 16 was shared during the joint IGOV meeting and those in attendance were surprised at the amount of revenue District 97 would lose if the bill is approved. Greg Smith was acknowledged for submitting the text that will be used for the presentation of the CLAIM resolutions during the Triple I assembly.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

FALL HOUSING REPORT (Q and A)

No questions were asked regarding the Fall Housing Report. Surprise was expressed at the drop in the low income percentage points.

ILLINOIS YOUTH SURVEY (Q and A)

No questions were asked regarding the Illinois Youth Survey. Surprise was expressed at the number of teenagers who commented on the ability to access alcohol in their homes. It was suggested that an ongoing conversation on this topic should be encouraged. It was also suggested that Dr. Roberts should have a conversation with the Youth Interventionist and IMP.A.C.T. about this concern.

CONCLUDING ITEMS

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ITEMS

BOARD CONCERNS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members Traczyk, Brisben, Felton and O'Connor supported the public comment and recommended that the district administer the 5Essentials survey annually.

It was reported that IGOV met last Saturday and reviewed the raw data from the table comments from the joint meeting held on October 25, 2014. Another joint meeting is being considered within the next six months. Additionally, some of the IGOV representatives will be meeting with local businessmen to ask for their input.

It was reported that five Board members will be attending the Triple I Conference which will be held this weekend.

Member Sacks attended the Women's Elected Officials breakfast today. The success of IGOV was a topic of discussion at this event. Additionally, the group discussed the benefits of a community planning calendar.

Member O'Connor reported that he will be running for re-election to the School Board.

It was reported that the Collaboration Joint Governing Board annual meeting will be held tomorrow at the Oak Park and River Forest High School, beginning at 7 p.m.

BOARD RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PREVIEW AGENDAS

The Board reviewed the draft agenda for the special board meetings scheduled for Tuesday November, 19, 2014 at 7 p.m. Additionally, they review the draft agenda for December 2, 2014 and recommended modifications.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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Traczyk moved, seconded by Sacks, that the Board of Education move into executive session at 7:51 p.m. to discuss (Collective Negotiations 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)). Roll call vote.

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

OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION

O’Connor moved, seconded by Traczyk, that the Board of Education move into open session at 10:27 p.m. All members of the Board were in agreement.

ADJOURNMENT

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There being no further business to conduct, President Spatz declared the meeting adjourned at 10:27 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 beginning at 7 p.m. at the Administration building located at 970 Madison Street, Oak Park, Illinois. A special joint meeting with District 200 and the Village of Oak Park (for the purpose of the annual review of the intergovernmental agreement regarding the Collaboration for Early Childhood) will be held on Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at 7 p.m. at the Oak Park and River Forest High School located at 201 N. Scoville, Oak Park, Illinois.

Board President

Board Secretary