

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Administration Building 7:00 p.m.– 10:40 p.m. May 18, 2016

Members Present:

Mark Mirabile, Presiding Officer
Kim Barker
Vipul Dedhia
David Negron
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, Matt Vandercar, John Glimco, Karyn Lisowski, Dimitria Georganas, Andrea Mars, Simoen Ayala, Rikki Steinmetz, Meagan Bubulka, Erin Oskroba, Maribeth Kavanaugh, and Caity Collins; Mike Henderson, STR Partners; and residents Giovanna Imbaratto, Terrie Wepner, Paul Payne, Dariusz Ciucias, and Allison Striegel.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Middle school students who had participated in the NUMATS program lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPEN FORUM

Dariusz Ciucias thanked the Board of Education, administration and teachers for all the wonderful work they have done educating his children. He stated that his daughter in high school is doing very well and feels our district offers many opportunities that other districts do not.

Organization of Board

ACTION NO. 45 Board President

Motion by Violante, seconded by Barker, that the Board of Education elect Mark Mirabile President effective May 2016 through May 2017. No other nominations were made. Motion carried by a roll call of 7 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Negron, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak, Violante).

ACTION NO. 46 Vice President

Motion by Mirabile, seconded by Barker, that the Board of Education elect Gina Scaletta-Nelson as Vice President effective May 2016 through May 2017. No other nominations were made. Motion carried by a roll call of 7 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Negron, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak, Violante).

ACTION NO. 47 Board Secretary

Motion by Scaletta-Nelson, seconded by Violante, that the Board of Education elect Kim Barker as Board Secretary without pay effective May 2016 through May 2017. No other nominations were made. Motion carried by a roll call of 7 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Negron, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak, Violante).

ACTION NO. 48 Recording Secretary

Motion by Scaletta-Nelson, seconded by Rak, that the Board of Education appoint Erika Sawosko as Recording Secretary with pay effective May 2016 through May 2017. Motion carried by a roll call of 7 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Negron, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak, Violante).

ACTION NO. 49 Meeting Date

Motion by Rak, seconded by Barker, that the Board of Education agreed to schedule regular meetings of the Board of Education on the third Wednesday of the month, with the exception of July, at 7:00 p.m. in the administration building Board room and that the meeting schedule be published. Motion carried by a roll call of 7 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Negron, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak, Violante).

ACTION NO. 50

Consent Agenda

Motion by Negron, seconded by Violante, that the Board of Education approve regular meeting minutes of April 20, 2016; payment of April payroll/May warrants; paper bid; audit services; technology plan iPad purchase; standardized testing change for 2016-17; School Board (sec. 2) Board Policies; and May 2016 personnel report, containing the retirement of instructional aide Laurel Swintek effective at the end of the 2015-16 school year, and the resignation of elementary resource teacher Danyelle Dron effective at the end of the 2015-16 school year. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Negron, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak, Violante).

REPORTS AND
DISCUSSION ITEMSFood Service Update and Fees

Business Manager Catherine Chang reviewed the process the district went through with regard to the Bid process for school lunch services. In an effort to improve the quality of our school lunches, the District accepted bids from qualified food services providers. The District sought to partner with a company that provides freshly prepared foods, not pre-packaged meals. Additionally, qualified bidders needed to meet the National School Lunch Program guidelines. After accepting bids, the District engaged parents, students, staff and Board of Education members in a taste test. Just a Dash Catering was recommended to provide lunch services for the 2016-17 school year. The Board requested for Business Manager Chang to see if students are able to order a second entrée/lunch. All of the ala carte items will meet the regulations of the national school lunch program. Milk is included with the lunch meal.

ACTION NO. 51

Lunch Provider

Motion by Scaletta-Nelson, seconded by Barker, that the Board of Education approve Just a Dash Catering for food services for the 2016-17 school year. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Negron, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak, Violante).

ACTION NO. 52

Lunch/Milk Fees

Motion by Mirabile, seconded by Rak, that the Board of Education approve a lunch off of \$3.30 per meal and a milk fee of \$.29 per carton for the 2016-17 school year. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Negron, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak, Violante).

Math Curriculum Update

This year, our Curriculum Council began the process of a curriculum review in math. Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Candy Kramer and members of the committee presented the work they have done as part of their review. The committee will continue their work next year with teachers participating in the West Cook Math Initiative (WCMI). Additionally, teachers at the elementary school and middle school will pilot a variety of math programs during the 2016-17 school year.

Spanish Update

Superintendent Dave Palzet reported that the district Spanish teachers and administration are working with a local consultant to refresh our Spanish program. While this refresh is not a full curricular review, it will allow our teachers to address some priority improvements within our program. These improvements include: creating a transition Spanish class for students new to Spanish class, reviewing goals and outcomes of the program, and shifting current curriculum to fit the every-other-day Spanish classes in fifth and sixth grade. The Board would like to see foreign language and outcomes be a part of the strategic planning process.

Summer Work/Professional Development Update

Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Candy Kramer reviewed the summer projects to be completed by teachers over the summer. These projects include improvements to our science curriculum and our Spanish program. Additionally, Mrs. Kramer reviewed the plan for summer professional development. Our teachers will have the option to participate in professional development sessions on technology, student learning objectives, and math instruction.

Library Proposal and Staffing

The Board discussed the administration's proposal to consolidate our librarian positions into a single district librarian. The proposal allows for a library aide in each library to support the everyday operations of our libraries. The plan also calls for the creation of a district Innovative Teaching Coach (iTC) to work with teachers to better infuse innovative learning within our classrooms. In September the staff will be introduced and in January a mid-year review of the pilot will be presented to the Board.

ACTION NO. 53Library Proposal

Motion by Barker, seconded by Mirabile, that the Board of Education approve the Library Proposal as presented and staffing. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Negron, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak, Violante).

Board of Education Information Requests

No Requests

BUSINESS MGR**REPORTS***Flooring Replacement, HVAC Replacement, and Parking Lot Paving Replacement*

In an effort to beautify our facilities and make structural improvements, the Board approved several summer construction projects. These projects include resurfacing the back parking lot at Pleasantdale Elementary School, retiling the hallways at Pleasantdale Elementary School, and HVAC improvements at Pleasantdale Middle School. Bids were submitted and opened on May 10, 2016. The lowest bidder for each project is as follows:

Flooring Replacement - Johnson Floor Company \$68,450

HVAC Replacement - JR Industries \$38,382

Parking Lot paving replacement - J&R 1st in Asphalt, Inc. \$188,066

ACTION NO. 54Bid Approval

Motion by Barker, seconded by Violante, that the Board of Education accept the bid from Johnson Floor Company for flooring replacement at a cost of \$68,450, JR Industries for HVAC replacement at a cost of \$38,382, and J&R 1st in Asphalt, Inc. for parking lot paving replacement at a cost of \$188,066. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Negron, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak, Violante).

NEXT AGENDA

Items submitted for the June 2016 agenda include:

Amended Budget Hearing; Approve Cleaning Service Contract Renewal; Approve Student Transportation Agreement; Spring Testing Report; Freshman Report; District Goals/School Improvement Plan Report; Approve Prevailing Wage Resolution; Approve Voluntary Student Insurance; Approve Transfer of Interest; Approve Payment of June 30 Bill List; Approve Payment of July Board meeting Bill List; Extra-curricular Report (Written).

OPEN FORUM

Giovanna Imbarrato thanked the Superintendent for addressing her concerns regarding the library proposal. As a volunteer she sees the interaction of the librarian with the students, although she feels the iTC position is well overdue, she does have concerns regarding there not being a full time librarian at both schools. She also expressed that ordering for next year has been done at the elementary, so the library aide will have an easy time next year as the work has been done. She doesn't feel the evaluation that will take place in January will be accurate because of this. Board President Mark Mirabile asked Ms. Imbaratto to submit in writing to the Board her concerns so that they could address them when they evaluate the program.

Terrie Wepner volunteers in the school libraries and loves Pleasantdale. She expressed her concerns that the district will not be able to find an aide with MLS experience since the pay is low. She asked the district to explore working with our local villages and towns to establish a library for the community.

Paul Payne expressed his concern that an aide might not be motivated to invest the time to offer ideas and books for the students.

At 8:50 p.m. the Board took a brief break before making a motion to go into closed session.

ACTION NO. 55

Closed Session

Motion by Negron, seconded by Scaletta-Nelson, that the Board of Education go into closed session at 8:59 p.m. to discuss 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 7 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Negron, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak, Violante).

The Board came out of closed session at 10:40 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Barker, seconded by Mirabile, that the regular meeting adjourns at 10:40 p.m. Voice vote. Motion carried.

App. ___ President _____ Secretary _____