

**Official Minutes of the
Oak Park Board of Education District 97,
970 Madison Street, Oak Park, Cook County, Illinois
Meeting February 11, 2014**

President Spatz called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Present: Spatz, Gates, Sacks, Felton, O'Connor, Brisben and Traczyk
Absent: None
Also Present: Superintendent Dr. Al Roberts, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations Therese O'Neill, Director of Policy, Planning and Communications Chris Jasculca, Director of Special Education Mike Padavic, Director of HR Steve Cummins and Board Secretary Sheryl Marinier

ROLL CALL

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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Traczyk moved, seconded by Gates, that the Board of Education move into executive session at 6:34 p.m. to discuss (Collective Negotiations, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), Other Student Issues 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10), Purchase or Lease of Real Property 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5)). Roll call vote.

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

OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION

O'Connor moved, seconded by Sacks, that the Board of Education move into open session at 6:56 p.m. All members of the Board were in agreement.

The meeting was reconvened at 7 p.m.

SPECIAL REPORTS

SPECIAL REPORTS

BRAVO THEATER STUDENT PRESENTATION

The members of the Brooks BRAVO troupe shared their winning performance of Annie from the Junior Theatre Festival competition.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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Carollina Song, an Oak Park resident and parent of a student in the BRAVO program, thanked the Board for the steadfast support to the arts programs. She read a quote by Timothy Allen McDonald about how districts are cutting funds in the area of arts and questioned how a district could cut an award winning program. She acknowledged BRAVO director Tina Reynolds for her leadership. Song explained how her daughter is growing and becoming a leader thanks to her experience in the BRAVO program.

Scott Kruger, Oak Park resident and parent of a student in the BRAVO program, shared how his son has benefited from his experience in BRAVO. Kruger shared that the experience helped his son's outlook, and helped him to become successful. Additionally, Kruger reported that the experience helped his son to ease the transition into the Brooks Middle School. Kruger noted that BRAVO is an outstanding program that helps to develop self-esteem, setting and reaching goals, fostering confidence and creating a culture of achievement both on and off the stage.

ACTION ITEMS**2.1.1 Approval of Minutes from the January 25, 2014 meeting**

Sacks moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the minutes from the January 25, 2014 meeting.

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

2.1.1 Approval of Minutes from the January 28, 2014 meeting

Traczyk moved, seconded by Sacks, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the revised minutes from the January 28, 2014 meeting.

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

2.2 Approval of Consent Agenda

Felton moved, seconded by O'Connor, 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

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

2.3.1 Approval of District Calendar for 2014-2015

Felton moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the school calendar for the 2014-2015 school year. It was reported that the district will consider a multi-year calendar for future school years and will reach out to District 200 and 90 to participate in this process.

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

2.3.2 Approval of Insurance Broker

Traczyk, moved, seconded by Sacks, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve a one-year agreement with Corporate Benefit Consultants (CBC) for benefit consulting services at an annual cost of \$42,000 net of all commissions, with optional second and third year renewals each also at an annual cost of \$42,000.

Steve Cummins came to the table. He shared the process and explained why CBC was chosen. CBC representatives Rhonda Sanders and John Herr came to the table. They explained that CBC represents over 30 school districts and are excited to bring some fresh ideas to the staff of District 97. Member Traczyk reported that the process was enlightening and overdue. CBC's analysis and direction will be necessary to help the district avoid paying taxes that are not necessary.

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

2.3.3 Approval of iLearn 75 Student Fees

Gates moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the implementation of a \$15 fee for students participating in iLearn 97. This fee is prorated for the 2013-14 school year and will cover costs incurred by the district in conjunction with the 1:1 initiative.

It was noted that changes were made to the document to reflect the discussion during the January 25, 2014 Board meeting. A parent orientation will be held to explain the process to the parents before the devices will be allowed to go home with the students. The fee process will be evaluated at the end of the school year and a decision will be made regarding the fees for the 2014-15 school year at that time.

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

Nays: None

Motion passed.

2.3.4 Action on Student Residency Hearing

Traczyk moved, seconded by Sacks, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the findings of the Residency Hearing for family 02112014.

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

Nays: None

Motion passed.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

ADMINISTRATIVE
ITEMS

REVIEW INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT
Felicia Starks Turner came to the table. She explained that this reciprocal reporting agreement is required by the Illinois Code, regulated by numerous statutes, including the Juvenile Court Act, the School Code (Section 10-20.14), the Illinois School Student Records Act (ISSRA), and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), and facilitates the exchange of information between school districts and law enforcement about criminal offenses committed by students.

Starks Turner reported that the agreement has been thoroughly negotiated between the legal counsel for District 97 and the Oak Park Police Department. It will enable both parties to adhere to the reciprocal reporting statutes and ensure they are able to share information easily and effectively. It will also protect the district if it releases student records to the police prior to the adjudication of a student. The agreement is scheduled to be presented to the Board for approval on February 25, 2014.

Starks Turner reported that the current process requires parent consent before records can be shared between the two entities. It was noted that this agreement will remain in effect until one or both of the entities choose to end it. Additionally, it was noted that the Parent Teacher Advisory Committee, is required by law and should be in place to assist with this process. It was noted that the transfer of data will only occur between the Police Department and Starks Turner as the district's representative.

Board interest was expressed in reviewing the law. Concern was expressed that those involved will understand what they will be allowed to do according to the law.

STATUS OF THE OAK PARK TEACHER ASSISTANT ASSOCIATION (OPTAA) TENTATIVE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

It was reported that the final draft of the OPTAA collective bargaining agreement is scheduled for ratification by the union on February 19, 2014. If passed, it will be presented to the Board for approval on February 25, 2014.

COMMITTEE / WORK GROUP REPORTS
EVALUATION OF BOARD GOALS

President Spatz reported that the Board timeline needs to be updated to reflect reporting of goals for the second half of the year. The status of the following items was reported;

Architects –	Completed successfully.
Air Conditioning study –	Completed. The vertical ducted ventilators pilot will take place in the next few months.
Accessibility -	The study is done and has been reviewed by the Board. An elevator at Whittier and three small projects were identified for completion this summer. Additional work will be necessary over the next five -10 years, and identified in the Cap-Ex spreadsheet.
Administration Building -	STR did a review of the administration building needs. Discussion on this topic will continue in the late spring.
Summer 2014 projects -	The bid process is in progress.
Capacity -	The Board received an update from STR during their last meeting, and FAC will review the data at their next meeting. Consideration will be given to the possibility of investigating boundary changes during the next Board retreat.
FORC Update -	The FORC update should be included on the April 8, 2014 Board agenda.
DSEB -	DSEB will be reported on later this year.
Dashboard Committee -	FAC and FORC are assisting this committee.
5Sight -	Consideration of this item will be given for a year with a review at the end of the year.
RFP Review -	The RFP review should be scheduled on the April 8, 2014 Board agenda.
C.L.A.I.M. -	This committee presented at the joint School Board Conference in November. They are working on data sharing. The superintendents need to meet to agree before a document can be sent to Senator Harmon. This committee will discuss the Senate Education Finance Committee Report during their next meeting. This committee will determine staggered terms for its committee members and consider a revised direction for the committee. These topics will be reviewed by the Board on March 18, 2014.
Ad Hoc Benchmark / - Data Committee	This committee has been formed, a charge has been written, and meetings have begun. This committee will be reviewing the ECRA data to determine if there is enough technical detail included in the ECRA reports. This committee will report to the Board on February 25, 2014. A second report in June was suggested.
Policy Review -	The Board’s norms / goals were reviewed. Review of the “Oak Park” policies was suggested.
Community Engagement –	The Board of Education Web page has been revised.
Board Annual / Multi- Year Calendar	The need to find a better way to share documents was suggested. Before the end of the year, President Spatz and Dr. Roberts will work with the board secretary to identify multi-year contracts.
Self Evaluation / Goal Setting –	President Spatz suggested moving up the goal setting process from June/July to March/April. Vice President Gates and member Felton volunteered to take on this task and plan the spring retreat. They will update the Board on February 25, 2014.
Madison Street TIF -	This item is still pending.

- Budget Reductions - Members Brisben and Traczyk reported that there is currently nothing to report on this topic.
- Collaboration for - It was reported that this item is moving forward and is out of the Board's control.
- Early Childhood IGA - This item will be addressed during the Oak Park Teacher Association PERA - Collective Bargaining Agreement negotiations.
- Capital Expense - The framework and the first review has been completed. Regular use still needs to be determined and some work will need to be done with FORC in the spring.
- Parks IGA – This item has been completed.
- IB Early Years – This item has been completed.

POLICY REVIEW UPDATE

No report was given.

FACILITIES UPDATE (FAC)

Reported under Evaluation of Board Goals

FINANCIAL UPDATE (FORC)

Reported under Evaluation of Board Goals

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE (C.L.A.I.M.)

It was reported that the revised C.L.A.I.M. charge will come to the Board for review on February 25, 2014 with anticipated action at the March meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION UPDATE

Member O'Connor shared data of growth measures over time. He expressed the need for additional time and will share what other districts are doing and make a recommendation on February 25, 2014.

Vice President Gates shared a PowerPoint on the superintendent's evaluation tool. He noted that all details and programming have intentionally not been completed to allow for Board feedback and direction, and the Webmaster input and oversight. Gates addressed past problems and explained how the proposed tool will make the process easier for the Board members. John Gates III, Manager of Information Systems, Lake Park Community High School District 108 and Stephanie Grammens, Oak Park District 97's Webmaster, were acknowledged for their efforts on this project. Vice President Gates anticipates that this tool will be available for Board use by mid April and MAP testing is scheduled for May 5 – 21, 2014.

MADISON STREET PROPERTIES UPDATE

It was reported that a draft letter from the village on the status of the Madison Street TIF, will be shared with the Council of Governments (COG) tomorrow.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PLAN UPDATE

It was reported that STR Architects are working out the details for the ADA modification to Whittier School and the classroom needs.

AD HOC DASHBOARD/BENCHMARK COMMITTEE UPDATE

The need for a special report from the AD-HOC Dashboard/Benchmark committee on February 25, 2014 was identified.

CONCLUDING ITEMS

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Roberts reported that member O’Connor shared an article on the best teachers that money can buy and noted some of the highlights. He suggested that the district keep in mind what impact moving a master teacher into a lagging classroom might have. It was noted that an update on the Research for Better Teaching class (RBT) will be shared with the Board on March 18, 2014.

It was noted that Dr. Roberts continues to meet with teachers about their concerns.

The Education Council is considering ways to reduce the stress for faculty and staff, build a comfort level while working with common core, establish a better system of communication, and collaborate to address the issues that are helping to build the faculty’s stress levels. Additionally, they are considering ways to schedule staff time to do the work they need to do. Dr. Roberts noted the many tasks on the faculty’s plates and asked the Board to find a way to wait on special request to make it easier to successfully accomplish what is already on the plates of the staff.

New report cards and grading will be discussed at Ad Leadership on Thursday. The concept of standard based grading has been implemented with new report cards. Administration is seeing the need for more parent development and is considering improvements to the new process.

Dr. Roberts expressed the need to give principals the opportunity to become the instructional leaders they need to be at their buildings.

BOARD CONCERNS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

BOARD
CONCERNS /
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board visits to the school PTOs was discussed and a couple visits were identified. It was noted that Brooks Middle School would very much like a visit in the near future. Member Felton will ask the PTOs to identify meeting dates that they would like to have a Board member attend.

Member O’Connor shared a teacher hiring tool, “Teacher Match”. This tool would allow candidates to take an assessment that would help the district determine which candidates might be the most effective at meeting the needs of the district.

It was suggested that the district meet with representatives from District 65, as this district is organizing its strategic plan around the 5Essentials survey.

Member Felton attended the Board meeting for the Collaboration for Early Childhood. She noted that the three governing bodies agreed that a document will be created that all agree upon. The meeting also included an update on home visiting, the database, Chapin Hall and fundraising efforts. It was noted that the annual symposium invitations were included at the Board table. The symposium will be held at Julian Middle School on February 22, 2014.

BOARD RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT

BOARD
RESPONSE TO
PUBLIC
COMMENT

None

PREVIEW AGENDA FOR THE FEBRUARY 25, 2014 MEETING

PREVIEW
AGENDA FOR
FUTURE
MEETING

Additions were made to the February 25, 2014 Board agenda, however, it was noted that the Board will try to keep this meeting as short as possible so they can enter into Executive Session following the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Sacks moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education move into executive session at 8:52 p.m. to discuss (Collective Negotiations, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)). Roll call vote.

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

OPEN SESSION

O’Connor moved, seconded by Sacks, that the Board of Education move into open session at 10:48 p.m. All members of the Board were in agreement.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, President Spatz declared the meeting adjourned at 10:48 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday, February 25, 2014 beginning at 7 p.m. at the Administration building located at 970 Madison Street, Oak Park, Illinois.

Board President

Board Secretary