

**Official Minutes of the
Oak Park Board of Education District 97
260 Madison Street, Oak Park
August 10, 2021 Meeting**

This meeting was held in-person and virtually using Zoom during the time of the Coronavirus pandemic. One or more of the board members met in-person and everyone else were virtual.

Vice President Duffy called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Duffy, Kearney, Spurlock, Ross Dribin, Hurd Johnson (joined remote)

Absent: Kim, Moore

Also Present: Interim Superintendent Dr. Patricia Wernet, Associate Superintendent of Education Felicia Starks Turner, Senior Director of Technology Michael Arensdorff, Senior Director of Communications Amanda Siegfried, Chief Academic and Accountability Officer Eboney Lofton, Senior Director of Equity Carrie Kamm, Senior Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Tawanda Lawrence, Senior Director of Finance Patrick King, Senior Director of Buildings & Grounds Jeanne Keane, Security and School Safety Manager Jim Hackett, Curriculum Specialist Carina Pruitt & Jennifer Logan, Rob Grossi, OPTA Co-Presidents Lary Grimaldi & Hannah Boudreau, Public Health Director Dr. Theresa Chapple McGruder (joined during Back to School Update) and Lonya Boose Board Secretary.

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

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Ross Dribin moved, seconded by Hurd Johnson that the Board move into executive session for the purpose of Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees, Collective Negotiating 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(1)(2) at 6:08 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

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Duffy motioned that the board move into Open Session at 7:07 p.m. All present members of the Board were in agreement. The Board convened in Open Session at 7:09 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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COMMENT

District 97 Board and Superintendents,

I am writing today with questions and concerns about the district's surveillance testing plan. I am very much in favor of layered mitigations to help limit spread of COVID within our schools, especially with a more contagious variant circulating this school year. This includes surveillance testing. That being said, parents have been asked to determine whether to opt out of surveillance testing without knowing the specifics of testing policies and procedures.

The SHIELD test has a 99% specificity. This means that 1% of people tested who are actually negative for COVID-19 will still test positive. In a population of 5800 students being tested weekly, this could potentially result in many false positives and quarantines, both for the students who test positive and their close contacts at school and at home. From my communications with the district thus far, I have only been able to determine that the health department will decide how long these students must quarantine. There is no formal policy in place for how confirmatory testing would be handled. If an asymptomatic student has a negative nasopharyngeal PCR test within 24 hours of their positive SHIELD, would they be allowed to return to school? What about 2 negative tests? Would they be required to quarantine a full 10-14 days no matter what confirmatory testing shows? Is there any testing that would be adequate to demonstrate the original test was a false positive? How long would a sibling of a student who tests positive be required to quarantine? That could be 20-28 days if they are required to stay home from the end of their sibling's quarantine and then an additional 10-14 days from their last exposure to someone who is considered contagious. The district should have transparent policies in place for these situations before the opt out deadline so that parents can make informed decisions about surveillance testing. Please consider publishing a more detailed policy and extending the opt out deadline for testing.

Thank all of you for your consideration of this matter and for your continued hard work preparing for this school year.

Mara Maas
Mom of 3 D97 students

Dear Board.

Hey please request any PCR TYPE TEST to have a couple clue threshold under 20 for more accurate results or a more accurate type of test considering the number of people affected by one test result.

Also, please consider this request for details and for privacy regarding crisis go or go crisis or any such collection of data, testing of DNA samples, etc... so far there is no information about long term safety and privacy with respect to sales, storage, transfer of ownership, etc. issues. For example, Please be aware of New York Teachers for Choice FOIA info:

Conflicts of interest:

When Fulgent Genetics was announced as one of the labs being used for NYC in-school COVID testing, it took me just a few minutes of searching to find a 2017 SEC filing which stated Fulgent owned a "proprietary library of genetic information." This led me to question whether my specimen which contained my DNA was protected, or if Fulgent would be allowed to catalogue, and profit from, my DNA. Neither my union nor my employer (NYC DOE) would answer that question. That forced me and a group of teachers (and parents) to retain a lawyer who eventually sued the DOE and was able

to obtain a stipulation in court ensuring our specimens were completely protected and would be destroyed.

Gail Galivan

ACTION ITEMS

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5.1 APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Spurlock moved, seconded by Kearney that the Board of Education, of Oak Park Elementary School District 97, approves the consent agenda as presented.

- 5.1.1 Bill List
- 5.1.2 Personnel
- 5.1.3 Approval of Minutes from June 29, 2021 Special Board Meeting
- 5.1.4 Approval of Minutes from July 13, 2021 Board Meeting
- 5.1.5 Approval of Minutes from July 21, 2021 Special Board Meeting
- 5.1.6 Approval of Minutes from July 27, 2021 Special Board Meeting
- 5.1.7 Adoption of 2:260 Uniform Grievance Policy (7/13/2021)
- 5.1.8 Adoption of 2:265 Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Policy (7/13/2021)
- 5.1.9 Adoption of 7:20 Harassment of Students Policy (7/13/2021)
- 5.1.10 Renewal of DuPage/West Cook Resolution Agreement
- 5.1.11 Alternative Learning Opportunities Program – I.G.A.

Ayes: Duffy, Kearney, Spurlock, Ross Dribin, Hurd Johnson
Nays: None
Absent: Kim, Moore
Motion passed.

5.2 Personnel

5.2.1 Approval of Board Level Three Grievance Answer

Spurlock moved, seconded by Kearney that the Board of Education, of Oak Park Elementary School District 97 moves to approve Board Level Three Grievance Answer in response to OPTA grievance dated April 9, 2021.

Ayes: Duffy, Kearney, Spurlock, Ross Dribin, Hurd Johnson
Nays: None
Absent: Kim, Moore
Motion passed.

5.3 Discussion and Action

5.3.1 Authorization to Publish FY22 Budget

Spurlock moved, seconded by Kearney that the Board of Education, of Oak Park School District 97 authorize the placement in the newspaper of the notice for budget hearing to be held on September 14, 2021, and for the tentative budget to be displayed at the district for a minimum of 30 days prior to the adoption of the final budget.

Ayes: Duffy, Kearney, Spurlock, Ross Dribin, Hurd Johnson
Nays: None
Absent: Kim, Moore
Motion passed.

5.3.2 Approval of Compensation for Lunchroom, Playground and Sub Custodial Personnel (7/13/2021)

Kearney moved, seconded by Ross Dribin that the Board of Education, of Oak Park School District 97 moves to approve the \$15 hourly compensation of Lunchroom Workers I, Playground Supervisors, Sub Custodians, and \$16 hourly compensation for Lunchroom Workers II.

Ayes: Duffy, Kearney, Spurlock, Ross Dribin, Hurd Johnson
Nays: None
Absent: Kim, Moore
Motion passed.

5.3.3 Approval of Daily Rate Increase for Permanent Substitute Teachers for the 2021-2022 School Year

Ross Dribin moved, seconded by Spurlock that the Board of Education, of Oak Park School District 97 moves to approve the amended motion, Permanent Substitute Daily Rate Increase from \$150.00 to \$180.00 or if needed not to exceed \$200.00 for the 2021-2022 school year.

Ayes: Duffy, Kearney, Spurlock, Ross Dribin, Hurd Johnson
Nays: None
Absent: Kim, Moore
Motion passed.

SPECIAL REPORTS

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Back to School Update

(Presentation Available Online)

Dr. Wernet explains, In response to CDC and IDPH guidance, District 97 has developed a comprehensive back-to-school plan designed to keep our students and staff healthy and safe while they learn in person five days a week. Our approach implements data-informed response measures that are aligned with the most up-to-date scientific research and best practices for K-12 schools. The plan also reflects rising concerns about the surge of the Delta variant and the resurgence of cases locally and nationwide.

Per CDC/IDPH guidelines, decisions regarding the management of positive COVID-19 cases, contact tracing and quarantine were made at the direction of the Oak Park Department of Public Health.

Here are Core Safety Mitigations that both IDPH and CDC recommend for schools to reduce the spread of COVID-19. IDPH guidance also allows for school districts to remove specific prevention strategies based on local conditions (community transmission and local vaccine coverage).

- Masking
- Physical Distancing
- Weekly PCR Testing
- Staying Home When Sick
- Ventilation
- Cleaning and Disinfection
- Handwashing/Respiratory Etiquette
- Contact Tracing/Quarantines
- Encouraging Vaccinations

Next Steps:

- Principals will communicate school-level plans, including details about lunch, recess, arrival and dismissal.
- District will update staff and families on plans to discontinue use of CrisisGo.
- Develop process for collecting proof of vaccination from students.
- Continue monitoring COVID-19 metrics and latest guidance for schools.

Curriculum Update

(Presentation Available Online)

SY21-22 Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Priorities

1. Continue to assist teachers with implementing adopted curricular resources to support student learning.
2. Conduct pilot of resources to strengthen instruction and increase student engagement.
3. Implement common assessments that allow teachers to think critically about student progress and provide meaningful feedback.
4. Transform K-8 social science curriculum through ongoing professional learning, a review of curricular resources, and unit design that reflects all voices and perspectives.

Presentation of 2021-2022 Tentative Budget

(Presentation Available Online)

Budget Timetable

May 19, 2021

Met with FORC to discuss budget development process, staffing plan and fiscal overview.

July 13, 2021

Update the Board of Education on budget development and preliminary results from FY 2021

August 4, 2021

Met with FORC to discuss and get feedback on tentative budget

August 10, 2021

Board of Education reviews tentative budget and calls for a September 14, 2021 public hearing.

August 11, 2021

Tentative budget goes on display in District office and notice of the

*public hearing is placed in newspaper.
September 14, 2021
District holds public hearing on the budget and the Board of Education
approves the final budget. Budget is filed with the Illinois State Board
of Education.*

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

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7.1 Board Room Video/Audio Integration

Video integration of the Districts Board Room is on schedule. Integration materials to enhance existing audio/video equipment for purpose of expanding the ability to Livestream Board Meetings is progressing. Orders for materials have been placed, once received the Technology department along with the company who installed the existing equipment will begin install on the upgrades. Once complete, meetings held in the Board Room will have the capability to stream direct to District 97's YouTube Channel. This will also allow for ongoing recordings of Board Meetings once the Districts return to onsite meetings.

7.2 Weeding/Disposal of Property (9/14/2021)

Hatch, Holmes and Julian are looking to dispose of curriculum and library books. They are dated in their content and in poor condition. The Teaching and Learning Department asks that the Board of Education approve this request at the September 14, 2021 meeting. Complete list is online.

BOARD ASSIGNMENTS

(No Information Reported)

CONCLUDING ITEMS

9.1 BOARD REMARKS

9.2 AGENDA MAINTENANCE

The draft agenda for the September 14, 2021 meeting was reviewed.

ADJOURNMENT

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Spurlock moved, seconded by Ross Dribin that the meeting be adjourned. There being no further business to conduct, President Kim declared the meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Board President

Board Secretary