

**Official Minutes of the  
Oak Park Board of Education District 97,  
970 Madison Street, Oak Park, Cook County, Illinois  
Meeting June 25, 2013**

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

Present: Gates, Felton, Sacks, Traczyk (6:37 p.m.), Spatz, O'Connor and Brisben  
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, Acting HR Director Trish Carlson and Board Secretary Sheryl Marinier

ROLL CALL

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

O'Connor moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education move into executive session at 6:30 p.m. to discuss (Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), Collective Negotiations, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)). Roll call vote.

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

**OPEN SESSION**

OPEN SESSION

Sacks moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education move into open session at 7:06 p.m. All members of the Board were in agreement.

The meeting was reconvened at 7:10 p.m. with all Board members in attendance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

PUBLIC HEARING

Joan Radavich, an Oak Park resident and Longfellow parent, thanked the Policy Committee for the revisions to policy 8:20 and noted that the policy now provides more clarity. She volunteered to help with future policy review and thanked the Board for a more descriptive agenda.

**ACTION ITEMS**

ACTION ITEMS

**2.1.1 Approval of Minutes of June 11, 2013**

Traczyk moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education, District 97, accept the minutes from the June 11, 2013 meeting. Roll call vote.

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

**2.2.1 Approval of Consent Agenda**

President Spatz read the items on the consent agenda. Felton moved, seconded by Sacks, that the following items be approved on the consent agenda. Roll call vote.

- 2.2.1 Bill Lists and Related Reports
- 2.3.1 Personnel Action

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

The new teachers were introduced to the Board.

#### **2.4.1 Resolution to Adopt Prevailing Wage Rates**

Gates moved, seconded by Sacks, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the Prevailing Wage Rate for the 2013-14 school year as per the attached delineated rates. Roll call vote.

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

#### **2.4.2 Resolution to Transfer Funds**

Felton moved, seconded by Sacks, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the following three formal transfer resolutions as outlined in the memorandum to the superintendent dated June 11, 2013.

- Resolution Abating Working Cash Fund (\$3,681,584) and Authorizing Accounting Transfer
- Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of Interest Income from the Operations and Maintenance, Debt Service and Working Cash Funds to the Educational Fund
- Resolution to Transfer \$633,695 from Education Fund to Debt Service Fund

Roll call vote.

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

#### **2.4.3 Forecast5 Proposal**

Traczyk moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the Forecast5 Service Agreement for the 2013-14 school year as outlined in the memorandum to the superintendent dated June 11, 2013, at a total cost of \$10,500. Roll call vote.

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

#### **2.4.4 Downtown TIF Amendment**

Traczyk moved, seconded by Gates, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the first amendment to the Downtown TIF Agreement between the Village of Oak Park, Oak Park and River Forest High School District 200 and Oak Park Elementary School District 97 as presented, that was entered into in December, 2011, with the remaining terms of the Settlement Agreement remaining in full force and effect.

President Spatz noted that District 97 is the first district of the three to approve the amendment.

Roll call vote.

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

#### **2.4.5 Change Board Meeting Date from July 23, 2013 to July 9, 2013**

Gates moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve changing the July 23, 2013 Board meeting date to July 9, 2013. Roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

Motion passed.

#### **TOPIC REPORTS**

TOPIC REPORTS

##### **APPROVAL OF ARCHITECTURAL FIRM**

It was noted that the contract for a new architectural firm was slated for approve during this meeting, however, details within the contract as still being worked out. This item will be presented for Board approval during the July 9, 2013 meeting.

##### **SELF – WORKER'S COMPENSATION RENEWAL**

O'Neill reported that SELF is a worker's compensation pool that the district belongs to. She reported that the fees have been lowered due to the smaller amount of claims made last year.

##### **RECERTIFICATION OF HAZARDOUS CROSSINGS**

O'Neill reported that this is an annual renewal to recertify areas in the community that are defined as hazardous routes/crossings and explained the process used to identify these locations. This item will return to the Board for approval on July 9, 2013. It was noted that the identification of hazardous crossing affects the districts income from the state.

##### **FOOD SERVICE SALARY INCREASE**

O'Neill recommended a salary increase of three percent for the food service staff members. She noted that this group of employees is not part of any other group, and did not receive a raise last year. This item will return to the Board for approval on July 9, 2013.

##### **STAGE CURTAIN FLAMEPROOFING**

O'Neill reported that the stage/auditorium curtains need to be flameproofed. Two bids were received and she noted a significant variance. The low bidder was verified to ensure that he understood the scope of the job and his price was affirmed. This item will return to the Board for approval on July 9, 2013.

#### **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

BOARD  
COMMITTEE  
REPORTS

##### **POLICY REVIEW**

Policy 8:20 – Community Use of School Facilities was reviewed. One small change was identified. This item will return to the Board for approval on July 9, 2013.

##### **FACILITIES UPDATE (FAC)**

No report was given.

##### **FINANCIAL UPDATE (FORC)**

President Spatz reported that Forecast5 had been reviewed by FORC. FORC will meet with representative from Forecast5 for a demo on July 10, 2013 at 7 p.m.

##### **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE (CLAIM)**

Vice President Gates reported that Thursday, September 19, 2013 has been identified as a tentative date for the legislative forum. It was agreed that C.L.A.I.M. will host this event. The legislators have requested that the questions from the C.L.A.I.M. committee be submitted ahead of time, and question from the floor will be accepted. It was recommended that the Superintendent contact the Village Manager regarding the need for security during this event as several political figures will be in attendance.

It was reported that the Data Sub-Committee has completed the study of data sharing. They are suggesting a temporary resolve of this committee and they are requesting new assignments. Their recommendation is to talk to the legislators during the forum about crafting legislation such that data sharing can be allowed between elementary and high school districts.

The committee is looking for new missions. It was noted that the Board may identify tasks for C.L.A.I.M. once they evaluate the results of the recent Board retreat. It was noted that more resources may be needed to focus on Senate Joint Resolution 32.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION TIMELINE**

This item was discussed in Executive Session.

#### **BOARD BUSINESS**

BOARD BUSINESS

President Spatz reported that the Board held a seven hour retreat on Saturday, June 22, 2013. As a result of that meeting, he shared that a few new work groups are being created to help the Board stay on task and work efficiently, goal setting will vary from year to year, depending on if the year is an election year, and the Board webpage will be updated to be more informative to the community. Additionally, he reported on the recommended committee assignments for the 2013-14 school year.

President Spatz reminded the Board that the Intergovernmental Agreement in support of the Collaboration for Early Childhood requires a meeting be held in November of each year.

President Spatz reported that the purpose of the work groups is to streamline the work of the Board, by taking on shorter-term initiatives that will facilitate Board discussion/resolution of a particular issue or subject. Members Sacks and Felton will review the Board Meeting Management Protocol document that was last revised in March, 2009. Board members were asked to send their comments on this document to member Felton.

The goal setting process was discussed. The Board was asked to submit all comments related to this topic to member Brisben by August 7, 2013. Member Brisben will work with President Spatz to prepare a timeline for the goal steps. It was determined that ideas should be filtered through the Board before sharing them with administration.

Dr. Roberts will share the administrative priorities with the Board prior to the August meeting. A retreat type meeting with administration was discussed and should be calendarized on July 9, 2013.

#### **MADISON STREET PROPERTIES – UPDATE ON STATUS**

President Spatz reported that the district was approached by the realtor who is selling the Robinson Ribs property. The possibility of bundling the district property with other properties was discussed, noting the possibility of the price increasing significantly. It was agreed that the Oak Park Development Corp could help determine the possibilities.

President Spatz is trying to set up a July meeting with the village management team to discuss the possibilities of a location behind the Village Hall for the district's administration building.

#### **UPDATE BOARD GOALS TIMELINE**

The Measures of Success timeline was reviewed and revised.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Roberts reported that the Board retreat was fruitful. He noted that both Jeff Cohn and Gil Herman did a great job facilitating.

Dr. Roberts noted that 1:1 access to technology and how it might profoundly affect teaching is part of the five year technology plan. In an effort for the Board to get a firsthand experience with the equipment, the technology committee will share a presentation on an iPad Mini with the Board sometime during the month of July. Dr. Roberts recommended an additional Board meeting during the week of July 16, 2013 for this purpose and to take care of any necessary business at hand. He shared a document from the tech team and asked the Board members to share their comments and concerns with him by July 3, 2013.

BOARD CONCERNS  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**BOARD CONCERNS / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Appreciation was expressed that the newly hired staff members have past experience in the district.

The new timetables and Board structure were acknowledged.

The Board retreat was noted as successful. Secretary Marinier was acknowledged for her assistance.

Member Gates expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve on the Policy Committee. He shared that it is a great way to learn about Board service.

Member Brisben noted that the retreat last weekend was his second weekend in a row dedicated to Board service, as he participated in the mandatory Board training the week before.

It was noted that the demographics study was based on 25 students per classroom, and that two or three of the schools are pushing capacity. It was suggested that the new architects review the needs and make some accommodations.

President Spatz was asked to participate in a panel on August 20, 2013 for the National Association for Welfare Research and Statistics with Elliot Regenstein from the Early Learning Council Data Research and Evaluation Committee for the Ounce of Prevention, and Teresa Haley who heads up the Governors' office for Early Childhood.

RESPONSE TO  
PUBLIC COMMENT**RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Traczyk moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education move into executive session at 8:41 p.m. to discuss (Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), Collective Negotiations, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)). Roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

**OPEN SESSION**

Traczyk moved, seconded by Sacks, that the Board of Education move into open session at 9:50 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 9:50 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday, July 9, 2013 beginning at 7 p.m. at the administration building located at 970 Madison Street.

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Board President

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Board Secretary