

**Official Minutes of the
Oak Park Board of Education District 97,
970 Madison Street, Oak Park, Cook County, Illinois
Meeting February 8, 2016**

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

Present: Brisben, Gates, O'Connor, Felton, Datta (6:57 p.m.), and Spatz
Absent: Spurlock
Also Present: Superintendent Dr. Carol Kelley, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations
Therese O'Neill, Senior Director of HR Steve Cummins, Senior Director of Special
Services Mike Padavic, Senior Director of Policy, Procedures and Communication Chris
Jasculca, Director of Technology Michael Arensdorff, Director of Curriculum and
Instruction Carrie Kamm and Helen Wei, and Board Secretary Sheryl Marinier

ROLL CALL

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Felton moved, seconded by Spatz, 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 or Legal Counsel for the District 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), Collective Negotiation 5 ILCS 12/2(c)(2), Pending Litigation 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)). Roll call vote.

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

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

OPEN SESSION

Felton moved, seconded by Spatz, that the Board of Education move into Open Session at 7:00 p.m. All members of the Board were in agreement. The meeting reconvened at 7:02 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

PUBLIC COMMENT

Victor Ancieta, an Oak Park resident and parent of a Brooks student requested clarification of a statement made by principal Khan regarding a Freedom of Information (FOIA) request as noted in an email sent to the Board today. He explained that the request was to understand the events that occurred on December 14, 2015, so he could help his student manage future interactions with certain students at the school. He noted that Khan's response was puzzling and unsupportive of the FOIA request. Ancieta would like to understand the basis of the statement that did not support his request, and would like to know how parents should go about submitting FOIA requests.

PUBLIC
COMMENT

Karen Yarbrough, an Oak Park resident and parent talked about standardized assessments. She reminded the Board of issues last year regarding the treatment of students who chose not to participate in testing. She explained that she has reached out to administration recently and has not heard back as of yet. Yarbrough requested the following;

- 1) The dates of when PARCC will be taking place.
- 2) A calendar for assessments dates for the 2015-16 school year.
- 3) Clarification on how students "opting out" will be treated.
- 4) She referenced the recommendation made by member O'Connor last year about an assessment audit, and expressed interest in knowing if that plan is moving forward? If so, what is the status? Additionally, Yarbrough volunteered to help with the process. She noted that she has a background in education policy.

PUBLIC
HEARING –
PROPERTY TAX
LEVY

Stephanie Thomas, an Oak Park resident and parent reiterated Yarbrough's questions, noting that she would be interested in seeing a calendar of testing for this year and next year. Additionally, she would like to see the policy regarding students opting out of testing. Thomas noted that her son will be testing for the first time this year.

ACTION ITEMS

2.1.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 26, 2016 BOARD MEETING

Gates moved, seconded by Datta, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, approve the revised minutes from the January 26, 2016 Board meeting. Roll call vote.

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

2.2 APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Gates moved, seconded by Brisben, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the consent agenda as presented.

- 2.2.1 Approval of Bill List
- 2.2.2 Personnel Action

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

2.3.1 APPROVAL OF TECHNOLOGY PLAN – YEAR II

Datta moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, direct that \$406,755 be included in the District 97 2016-2017 budget to cover purchases for the second year of the 3-year technology plan as presented and discussed at the January 26, 2016 meeting. Roll call vote.

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

2.4.1 APPROVAL OF 2016-2017 DISTRICT CALENDAR

O'Connor moved, seconded by Gates, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, reaffirm the School Calendar for the 2016-2017 school year. Roll call vote.

It was reported that the Calendar Committee met last week and agreed to support the district calendar that was adopted last spring, with no changes. Because the Board was being asked to adopt an already approved calendar, the motion was amended to read "reaffirm".

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

2.4.2 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING INTERVENTION IN PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT APPEALS

Gates moved, seconded by Spatz, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, approve the attached resolution authorizing intervention in property tax assessment appeals. Roll call vote.

It was noted that because of timing issues the Board was being asked to deviate from their norm and review (executive session) and approve this item during the same Board meeting.

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

2015-2016 DISTRICT GOALS

OTHER DISTRICT UPDATES

Dr. Kelley reported that the Vision Retreat was held on Saturday, January 30, 2016, and expressed an interest in holding a conversation with the Board on where she sees the district continue its work. Dr. Kelley explained that in order to address the enhancements in the 100-Day Report, she would like to work on helping to lead a process in the community to create a clear, shared vision, with a sustained focus. She explained that an explicit priority was for the vision to be co-constructed by the District 97 community (parents, community members, students, teachers, school and district administrators, and the Board of Education). Building off the "listen and learn" tour that shaped these priorities, the district is committed to continued collaboration with all of our stakeholders.

Dr. Kelley shared the eight six-word stories that were an outcome of the vision retreat, as well as a timeline and activity outline for future work. She expressed interest in using an online engagement tool to share the stories with the community to determine which one resonates the most with them and why. During the next Board meeting, Dr. Kelley will outline the initial engagement process and specific steps/activities to further engage in a focused targeted plan.

During March, the vision statement will be presented to the Board for approval. Following Board approval, the district will host a series of targeted community engagement events designed to capture a sense of the "current reality" in comparison to the shared vision for our schools.

In April, the Superintendent's Advisory committee will evaluate what has been learned and what, if any, mid-course corrections/additions are needed in this process.

During the month of May, the Superintendent's Advisory committee will develop two-three strategic priorities based upon the information collected in March. The strategic priorities will be selected based upon the efforts to close the "vision-reality" gap identified by this planning process. The strategic priorities will be presented to the Board for approval in late May. The Board will also determine the indicators for each priority area (interim and ultimate).

The initial (vision implementation) planning will begin in June or July by hosting a two-day retreat for the vision-implementation team. During the month of August, the administration leadership team will design action steps to achieve the interim indicators (Year-one) designated by the Board in May, and the teacher selection for the District's Leadership team will be finalized during the month of September.

The vision implementation "kick-off" event will take place during the month of October and community engagement, communication, and strategic priorities will be implemented throughout the school year, while the district's leadership team will monitor and adjust the plan as needed.

Dr. Kelley noted that the immediate next step, with the Board's support, would be to share the six-word stories with the community and include more information on what was done on January 30, 2016, explain why, and come back to the Board with a more specific community engagement plan. She expressed interest in updating the Board during the next Board meeting.

Board comments included noting that the process outline is clear. Support was shared in rewriting the mission and vision statements. It was noted that the Vision Retreat was organized well. Dr. Kelley explained that the Keynote Speaker was Hall Davidson and the event was facilitated by Discovery Education, who modeled many of the practices that help adults and students learn. Member O'Connor expressed interest in knowing how the district will be proactively reaching out to local media and using its own Website to ensure that the community has knowledge of the visioning process, can track how it is progressing, and understand when they can engage?

BOARD ASSIGNMENTS

STANDING BOARD COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORT FOLLOW FAC

This committee is scheduled to meet on February 16, 2016.

FORC

This committee is scheduled to meet on February 29, 2016.

CLAIM

This committee is scheduled to meet on February 25, 2016.

The data from Ralph Matire's report has been sent to the Board, and will be posted with the CLAIM liaison reports on the Website.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND LIAISON REPORT FOLLOW UP EARLY CHILDHOOD COLLABORATION

The Governing Board will be meeting again on February 24, 2016. The Board members were asked to review the draft agenda and send comments to member Datta and Dr. Kelley.

CITIZEN'S COUNCIL

This group will be meeting on Thursday, February 11, 2016.

IGOV

This group met on January 23, 2016 to review the 30-year Oak Park demographics study. A PowerPoint charts and graphs will be included on the Website. A tentative follow up meeting has been scheduled for February 20, 2016.

COG

This group met recently. Due to his absences at the meeting, President Gates will reach out to the Village Manager for notes to share with the Board.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

REQUEST TO CHANGE THE APRIL 26, 2016 BOARD MEETING DATE

Dr. Kelley asked the Board to consider rescheduling the April 26, 2016 Board meeting to April 25, 2016, enabling administration to attend the MSAN annual institute scheduled for April 26-27, 2016. This item will return for action on February 23, 2016.

CONCLUDING ITEMS

BOARD REMARKS

It was reported that two or three of the PowerPoints shared during the last ED-RED dinner have been posted online.

ED-RED announced that Michael Madigan will begin convening hearings on possible school funding reform ideas. Member Spatz will keep the Board and CLAIM committee updated.

It was reported that Governor Rauner supports additional funding to lower income schools without taking away from higher income districts.

It was noted that the Board has a conflict on Saturday February 27, 2016, as the Collaboration Symposium will be held at Julian School at the same time as the Board's special meeting. Everyone was encouraged to stop in to the Symposium and say "hello".

It was reported that Dr. Kelley is a nationally recognized thought leader in her field and will be presenting on how a global mindset changes learning during the AASA conference this week.

Appreciation was expressed for the newly formatted Bill List.

Support was expressed for the IGOV assemblies, noting that some entities are unaware of the district's interest in sharing data.

The Vex Robotics competition was held at Julian Middle School, where 39 teams from local communities competed. It was noted that this event is a state qualifying tournament for finals scheduled on May 5, 2016.

It was suggested that the Board consider making proclamations on occasion to recognize extremely good work.

BOARD RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Kelley will have administration respond to all three requests.

AGENDA MAINTENANCE

Preview Agenda for future Board meeting

The draft agendas for the February 23, 2016 Board meeting and the February 27, 2016 special Board meeting were reviewed and modifications were recommended.

Long-term Calendar

- FYI – add to open session in near future
- Committee for referendum - should have dates on February 23, 2016 and February 27, 2016
- Change of student discipline law - Scheduled at future meeting when time permits
- Recruitment of diversity. District should understand talent pipeline - Long-term unscheduled
- Calendar committee collaborating with District 200 and if it is worth prioritizing external calendars. It was suggested that the committee meet every month throughout spring, with a goal of finalizing the 2017-2018 calendar including District 200 and other entities. Share calendar timeline with the Board sometime in future, and add to the long-term calendar for April

Parking Lot – New Items

None

BOARD MEETING ASSESSMENT

It was agreed that the Board will be asked to complete an assessment after the February 27, 2016 special meeting and then every two months after that.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, President Gates declared the meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Board President

Board Secretary