

**Official Minutes of the
Oak Park Board of Education District 97,
970 Madison Street, Oak Park, Cook County, Illinois
Meeting August 20, 2013**

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

Present: Sacks Spatz, Gates, Felton, Traczyk (6:35 p.m.), 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, and Board Secretary Sheryl Marinier

ROLL CALL

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Sacks moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education move into executive session at 6:34 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), Pending Litigation 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)). Roll call vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

OPEN SESSION

Sacks moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education move into open session at 7:01 p.m. All members of the Board were in agreement.

OPEN SESSION

The meeting was reconvened at 7:06 p.m.

2.3.1 Personnel Action

O'Connor moved, seconded by Sacks, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the Personnel Action as presented.

PERSONNEL ACTION

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

The new hires in attendance were introduced.

SPECIAL REPORTS

REPORT ON INITIATIVES IDENTIFIED DURING THE JUNE 22, 2013 BOARD RETREAT
Dr. Roberts led a discussion on the priorities identified during the June 22, 2013 Board retreat. He noted that the Board identified vision, mission, the belief system, policy, budget and the superintendent's employment as part of their responsibilities. Administration was identified as responsible for implementing the vision, achieving the mission, guaranteeing beliefs and ensuring that the beliefs are upheld. Additionally, the administration was identified as responsible for enforcement of policies, working with budget parameters, engaging in continuous improvement and complying with state and federal mandates. Dr. Roberts noted that to ensure student growth and achievement, the team needs to focus on partnerships, creativity, ingenuity, engagement, support, quality of staff development and meaningful, relevant and student centered teaching and learning.

SPECIAL REPORTS

REPORT ON INITIATIVES IDENTIFIED DURING THE JUNE 22, 2013 BOARD RETREAT
(Continued)

Dr. Roberts shared a quadrant grid that displayed the priority of the initiatives.

Urgent		<p>Teacher Contract Dashboard Budget Administration Building Direction</p> <p>IB Implementation and Accreditation Implement Project Lead the Way Local Growth Model Para and Common Core Implementation KIDS HR Modernization Professional Development - Technology</p>
	IB - Early Years	<p>PERA Benchmarking Collaboration IGA's Facilities - Environment Study Trends - Home Schooling and On-Line Learning</p> <p>Study FLES and Spanish Immersion Possibilities 5 Essentials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fast ForWord • Technology Infrastructure, Software and Devices • PT3
		Important

It was noted that although facilities/maintenance and finance/operations are important, they were not included in this list.

DRAFT OF BOARD 2013-14 TIMELINE

Member Brisben shared a detailed draft timeline for the Board to consider and a few agenda revisions were recommended. President Spatz was acknowledged for his efforts to keep the Board goals on track. It was noted that the Board needs to leave time to take care of unexpected items. President Spatz shared that a team is working on preparing a list of when IGAs/contracts are signed and expire. He suggested that Chris Jасulca and Board representatives consider placing this document on the Web site.

The Board agreed that this document reflects the direction that it wishes to take. Board members were asked to review this document and send changes to member Brisben, including their timelines by September 3, 2013.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

ACTION ITEMS**2.1.1 Approval of Minutes from the July 16, 2013 meeting**

Sacks moved, seconded by Gates, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the minutes from the July 16, 2013 meeting.

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

2.1.2 Approval of Minutes from the August 6, 2013 meeting

Sacks moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the minutes from the August 6, 2013 meeting.

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

2.2.1 Approval of Bill List

Traczyk moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the Bill List as presented. Roll call vote.

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

2.4.1 Adoption of 1:1 Technology Initiative

Sacks moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the 1:1 technology initiative as presented to the Board on July 16, 2013 and August 6, 2013.

President Spatz explained that an agenda item was added to discuss policy revisions that may need to occur due to approval of this initiative.

Dr. Roberts noted that if the district does not take risks, it minimizes creativity. He reminded the Board that the benefits the iPads bring to the district will assist with accreditation as an International Baccalaureate district.

Lisa Schwartz explained that the principals have been in constant communication with the teachers this summer. Teacher comments have been positive and referenced tools to be used along with the iPads. Schwartz noted that the Oak Park Library will expand online access to literature which will save money and gets more books into the students hands. It was noted that the iPads would give the students a lot more opportunity to be creative and ensure that all students have access to information all of the time.

Board comments included a suggestion to aggressively follow the communication plan and to post a FAQ document on the Web site. It was noted that decisions made during the summer may not have full community input as families may be away on vacations. It was noted that one of the reasons the referendum was passed to support of the technology initiative. It was noted that this purchase will provide students with the appropriate platforms/technology for challenging classroom work including using technology to conduct meaningful research, assessments currently in use, and the full range of common core assessments in both Math and Language Arts. The Board has been assured that these new devices will be used appropriately, for academic

purposes, and will be under the watchful supervision of staff when in use on school grounds, and that the district doubled its efforts to install effective filters. The Board was reminded that there is no technology in the world that will ever come close to the impact on student learning as a highly qualified teacher in every classroom. Roll call vote.

Ayes: Sacks, Felton, Gates, Traczyk, Spatz, and Brisben
Nays: O'Connor
Motion passed.

2.4.2 Approval of Security Cameras

O'Connor moved, seconded by Traczyk, that the Board of Education, District 97, award a contract to Aero Group in the total amount of \$79,843.61 for the installation of 79 exterior video/security cameras at the district's eight elementary schools as described in the memoranda to the Board dated July 9, 2013 and August 20, 2013 respectively. Roll call vote.

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

2.4.3 Approval of the 457(b) Plan

Traczyk moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve District 97's participation in a 457(b) Plan by adopting the formal attached resolution prepared for its consideration at the August 6, 2013 meeting and as outlined in the memorandum also dated August 6, 2013. Roll call vote.

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

2.4.4 Adoption to Hold a Tri-Board Meeting Regarding the Early Childhood Collaboration on November 20, 2013

Felton moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education, District 97, agree to hold a tri-board meeting with the Village board and District 200 on November 20, 2013. This meeting will be in compliance with the Intergovernmental Agreement between the three governing boards regarding their support of the Collaboration for Early Childhood. Roll call vote.

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

TOPIC REPORTS

GRANT REPORT

Therese O'Neill came to the table. She presented a list of grants identifying the primary recipients. A second list was shared that delineates entities that receive support from these grants though District 97. O'Neill reported that by the Board taking action on this data, it is a way for them to affirm the grant monies coming in and going out. This item will return for approval on September 10, 2013.

NON ENGAGEMENT IN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS REGARDING NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT

Dr. Roberts explained that it is routine for districts to request space in neighboring districts under the No Child Left Behind Act, however, District 97 does not have space available for additional children. He noted that a majority of the schools in the nation will not make AYP this year. This item will return for action on September 10, 2013.

UPDATE ON TENTATIVE BUDGET

O'Neill reported on changes made from the first tentative budget until now, and shared that she will review expenditures after the first payroll to ensure accuracy of the expanded budget. She noted that the expenditures per student and the number of full-time teachers have not changed. O'Neill noted that a public hearing on the budget will occur on September 10, 2013. She reported that there has been an earnest effort to cut expenses for the last two years.

Board comments and concerns included noting that FORC will meet again prior to the next Board meeting. Their agenda will include a review of the tentative budget. A notation was requested to identify that ISBE recommends starting a school year with 25 percent of the budget on hand. A heading change were also requested. It was noted that the expenditures per student were cut prior to the 2010-11 school year and have not been added back into the budget. The staff was acknowledged for taking the salary freeze in the 2011-12 school year. It was noted that the district currently has about 500 more students than forecasted during the referendum. Concern was expressed about how realistic a target it is to keep expenditures level when the district is increasing students.

BOARD COMMITTEE/WORK GROUP REPORTS

POLICY REVIEW

Chris Jасulca came to the table. He reported on changes to numerous policies as listed below.

- 2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure
- 4:15 Identify Protection
- 4:140 Waiver of Student Fees
- 4:170 Safety
- 4:172 Video Surveillance and Electronic Monitoring
- 5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity
- 5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited
- 5:50 Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace
- 5:260 Student Teachers
- 6:170 Title I Programs
- 6:190 Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities
- 6:240 Field Trips
- 7:305 Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries
- 8:25 Advertising and Distributing Materials in Schools Provided by Non-School Related Entities

It was noted that all the policies listed above are expected to return to the Board for action on September 10, 2013.

The Board participated in a discussion to identify which policies may need to be reviewed due to the approval of the 1:1 Technology Initiative. Student Fees, video taping/recording inside the classrooms, commercial films, access to internet, movie policy, discipline policy, and classroom management were all identified. Board members were asked to send additional ideas to Chris Jасulca and Amy Felton.

FACILITIES UPDATE (FAC)

The FAC committee will meet on September 12, 2013. At that time, the committee will be setting their calendar for the year. Board members were asked to email Denise Sacks and Therese O'Neill if they have any calendar suggestions. It was noted that the space study is being done and the air conditioning needs are being considered. Additionally, Members Brisben and Sacks are working on a list of capital projects.

BOARD
COMMITTEE
/ WORK
GROUP
REPORTS

FINANCIAL UPDATE (FORC)

It was reported that the next meeting of FORC is scheduled for September 11, 2013.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

It was reported that the committee did not meet in August. The next scheduled meeting is on September 19, 2013 and a CLAIM get-together is being considered.

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION

It was noted that the majority of the feedback has been received and the data is being compiled.

MADISON STREET PROPERTIES

President Spatz reported that the scheduled meeting between the groups needed to be rescheduled. Additionally, it was reported that a plat survey was done on 970 Madison Street and STR needs to do a walkthrough of the property to identify needed repairs. Dr. Roberts was asked to look into what it will take to get a broker for the property.

Dr. Roberts reported that he will be meeting with Pat Daly later this week.

AD HOC DASHBOARD/BENCHMARK COMMITTEE

The draft charge for the Ad Hoc Dashboard/Benchmark Committee was reviewed and recommendations were made. It was suggested that two Board members sit on this committee. Dr. Roberts indicated that Harla Hutchinson, along with Lisa Schwartz, Felicia Starks Turner or himself should represent administration. It was suggested that five community members also sit on the committee and that they be the only voting members.

All agreed that this committee should be setting measures and not targets. It was suggested that comparisons to national data should be incorporated into the committee focus.

This item will return to the Board for action on September 10, 2013.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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REPORT

Dr. Roberts reported that the district has some wonderful new teachers in place.

Dr. Roberts met with the principals today. He noted the following completed summer projects:

- The playgrounds at Hatch, Irving, Mann and Whittier have been completed
- The Furniture at Hatch, Lincoln and Mann has been received
- A white board has been placed in every district classroom
- The auditorium curtains have been flameproofed
- New lunchroom tables have been purchased
- Acoustical panels have been installed in the band rooms at Julian and Brooks
- Exercise equipment at Julian and Brooks has been repaired or replaced
- Irving and Holmes now have air conditioning in their auditoriums, and a gym at Holmes is also air conditioned

He noted that the projects were done on time and under budget.

BOARD CONCERNS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

BOARD CONCERNS /
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Roberts was thanked for sharing the Closing the Achievement Gap data from Harvard. Interest was expressed in hearing more about this initiative. Dr. Roberts explained that September 24, 2013 has been identified for a report from the greater team (preschool through college). He explained that the team is considering ways to interactively share data across districts. A recap of what the team learned was requested, as well as information on how successful parents advocate for their children's education.

BOARD CONCERNS / ANNOUNCEMENTS (Continued)

An excerpt from the book, “The Smartest Kids in the World” was shared.

Members Sacks, Traczyk and O’Connor expressed interest in attending the ECRA Group meeting on August 28, 2013.

Administration was commended for the diversity and the quality of the 55 new teachers. Statistics on the new hires and how they meet the diversity of the district’s students was requested. The level of education each new hire possesses and the area within the district that they will be working in was also requested.

It was suggested that the Communication Engagement Board Web page can be used to share information regarding district initiatives, such as the 1:1 technology initiative.

It was noted that the Irving playground ribbon cutting will be held on August 28, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. O’Neill was asked to confer with the architect to see if there is a way to protect the windows in the home located on the south side of the new Irving field. It was noted that the soft field covering on the playgrounds was the appropriate choice. It was noted that the Park District is doing repairs on some of the ball fields as well, and benches are being added.

The Board members were asked to RSVP to the Elected Officials BBQ invitation on October 2, 2013.

September 30, 2013 is the West Cook Dinner. The topic is “Dealing with Rogue Board Members”. All were encouraged to attend.

President Spatz participated in a panel this morning with the National Association of Welfare Research and Statistics on Early Childhood.

Felicia Starks Turner, Angela Dolezal, Jorie Weigel and Mike Dolan were acknowledged for their presentation to the KIDS state level reporting committee. The Governor’s office expressed gratitude for hearing from the local districts, particularly teachers. It was noted that the people who are involved in the creation of the KIDS initiative and driving it forward heard what District 97 had to say about it. Appreciation was extended to all who are participating in the KIDS pilot program.

RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT

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None

PREVIEW AGENDA FOR THE SEPTEMBER 10, 2013 MEETING

The draft agenda for the September 10, 2013 meetings was shared. A discussion took place regarding the timeline for the bond sale.

PREVIEW AGENDA FOR THE NEXT BOARD MEETING

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, President Spatz declared the meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday, September 10, 2013 beginning at 7 p.m. at the Administration building located at 970 Madison Street, Oak Park, Illinois.

Board President

Board Secretary