

**Official Minutes of the
Oak Park Board of Education District 97,
970 Madison Street, Oak Park, Cook County, Illinois
Meeting August 16, 2016**

President Gates called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Present: Gates, O'Connor, Felton, Datta, Spatz, and Brisben (6:30 p.m.)
Absent: Spurlock
Also Present: Superintendent Dr. Carol Kelley, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations
Dr. Alicia Evans, Assistant Superintendent of HR Dr. Laurie Campbell, Chief Academic
and Accountability Officer Dr. Amy Warke, Senior Director of Special Services Mike
Padavic, Senior Director of Policy, Procedures and Communication Chris Jasculca, Sr.
Director of Administrative Services Dr. Felicia Starks Turner, Senior Director of
Technology Michael Arensdorff, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Carrie Kamm
and Helen Wei, and Board Secretary Sheryl Marinier

ROLL CALL

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

Felton moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education move into Executive Session at 6:03 p.m. to discuss (Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees 5 ILCS 120/2/(c)(1), Possible Litigation 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11), Collective Negotiation 5 ILCS 12/2(c)(2)) Roll call vote.

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

OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION

O'Connor moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education move into Open Session at 6:52 p.m. All members of the Board in attendance were in agreement. The meeting reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC
COMMENT

Benjamin Newton, an Oak Park resident and parent of a Lincoln student, encouraged the Board to consider expanding the Spanish immersion program. He noted that his daughter was currently 37th on the waiting list, which suggests to him that there is a huge demand for the program. Newton reported that he shared a survey on Facebook seeking interest in the program and over 200 people responded to his survey. He expressed interest in sharing the results of the survey with the Board and requested time to discuss his recommendation to expand the program. Newton noted that Berwyn is currently expanding their program to include Kindergarten and first graders. Newton ended by offering to send the survey data to administration and reporting that he is scheduled to meet with Principal Hamilton tomorrow.

2.2

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

ACTION ITEMS

Felton moved, seconded by Datta, 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 (Revised at the table)
- 2.2.3 Approval of Out-of-State and Overnight Fieldtrips (7/26/2016)

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

The new staff members were introduced.

2.2.2 APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL AT JULIAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Spatz moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, hire Dan Goodwin as an Assistant Principal at Julian Middle School, effective August 17, 2016. Roll call vote.

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

2.1.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JULY 26, 2016

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

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

2.1.2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 9, 2016 BOARD RETREAT

Spatz moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, approve the minutes from the August 9, 2016 Board retreat. Roll call vote.

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

2.2.1 APPROVAL OF 2017-2018 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Brisben moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, approve the School Calendar for the 2017-2018 school year. Roll call vote.

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

2.2.2 ACCEPTANCE OF PROCLAMATION FOR MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION

Gates moved, seconded by Spatz, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, adopt the following proclamation supporting multicultural education. Roll call vote.

**PROCLAMATION OF CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO
MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION**

Whereas, Oak Park Elementary School District 97 and the Oak Park Public Library have entered into an agreement to relocate the thousands of artifacts from the district's Multicultural Center to the Dole Branch of the library during the 2016-17 school year; and

Whereas, this agreement will provide the community with greater access to the center's valuable resources, while also helping the district effectively manage the projected increase in student enrollment at Julian Middle School over the next few years; and

Whereas, while the center will no longer be housed in its schools, the district will continue to support the success of this endeavor in its new location and encourage its stakeholders to utilize the collection; and

Whereas, the district will also continue to embrace the importance of multicultural education, and seek out opportunities to use its powerful messages and positive lessons to further promote student learning;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, by the District 97 Board of Education that it affirms its aforementioned commitment to multicultural education and the vital role it plays not only in fostering critical conversations about topics such as race, ethnicity and diversity, but also in teaching people of all ages about the virtues of cultural sensitivity, tolerance, civic action and mutual respect; and

Be It Further Resolved that, on behalf of District 97, the board expresses its sincere appreciation and gratitude to the center and its coordinator, Lynn Allen, for their significant contributions to the advancement of multicultural education in our community;

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

2.2.3 APPROVAL OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE PARK DISTRICT – BIKE SHARING

Spatz moved, seconded by Datta, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, approve the Bike Sharing Intergovernmental Agreement with the Park District as presented in the memorandum to the Board of Education and Superintendent dated July 26, 2016. Roll call vote.

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

2.2.4 APPROVAL OF DUST MOP BID

Gates moved, seconded by Spatz, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, approve the Towel, Wet Mop and Dust Mop bid submitted by G & K in the amount of \$21,005.92 for the 2016-2017 school year. Roll call vote.

President Gates expressed gratitude to Dr. Evans and the maintenance team for cutting the cost of this expense.

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

2.2.5 APPROVAL OF THE CLAIM WORK GROUP AREAS OF FOCUS

Datta moved, seconded by Gates, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, approve the CLAIM Committee work group areas of focus for the 2016-2017 school year. Roll call vote.

It was noted that this item was also discussed during the June meetings, and the Board was reminded that these statements are intended to help the committee focus on their areas of interest. The Board was assured that the committee will not be distributing literature that includes these statements. An email was sent to the Board and to the committee chairperson regarding the change to an interim Director of the Governor's office of Early Education.

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

OTHER DISTRICT UPDATES

Update on National Equity Project

Dr. Kelley reported that the Ad Leadership team, four members of the Board of Education and a few members of the community participated in a two day workshop led by the National Equity Project. The purpose of the workshop was to develop a common understanding of equity and understand of what the term means. Dr. Kelley will be meeting again with several members of the administration team on September 6, 2016 and with each school principal and their SIT teams at a later date to prepare for a communication tour with the rest of their staff. Members of the Board who were in attendance reported that the workshop was well managed, time well spent and a good mechanism for the Board to work with staff and get to know them on a one to one basis.

Dr. Kelley suggested that equity be one of the topics at a future Board work/study session, and noted that part of the next steps should be conducting community sessions around some of the working definitions.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
UPDATE

BOARD ASSIGNMENTS

STANDING BOARD COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORT FOLLOW FORC

The liaison report for the August 15, 2016 FORC meeting was emailed to the Board members earlier today. It was reported that the draft Debt Policy is ready to be reviewed by the Policy committee, which will be meeting next Tuesday.

The next FORC meeting is scheduled for October 24, 2016, one day before the second Board meeting in October. The committee will discuss referendum related items at that time.

FAC

The Board was reminded that the annual FAC presentation was intentionally delayed until the district office staff has been moved into the new administration building.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND LIAISON REPORT FOLLOW UP

It was reported that IGOV is scheduled to meet on Saturday, August 20, 2016. This group is working on finalizing the draft of the first IGOV FYI. It was noted that each taxing body has identified a direct contact person (Chris Jasculca for District 97) to review it one last time. The next IGOV meeting is scheduled for October 29, 2016 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Township office. Presentations will be focused on community services (realty, housing authority, and each taxing body) followed by table discussions.

RETREAT PLANNING

Recap of the August 9th Retreat

It was reported that President Gates met with member Datta to catch her up on the items of discussion during the August 9, 2016 retreat. Dr. Alson was acknowledged for his help in planning and facilitating the meeting.

Board comments included noting that the retreat was very productive. It was suggested that goal three include the word “policy” somewhere within the statement. The need to use policy to stay focused on the goals was suggested. It was noted that the last IASB conference recommended that board agendas identify the policy that supports each action.

August 23, 2016 retreat planning

The draft agenda for the August 23, 2016 retreat was reviewed and modifications were recommended. It was suggested that the Board create a brief video to welcome staff back during the Institute Day scheduled for August 24, 2016.

Future retreat planning

The next Board retreat will be held on Monday, October 17, 2016 from 5 p.m. – 9 p.m. Dr. Kelley will communicate with Dr. Alson about the needs for that meeting and determine if anything needs to be addressed during the August 23, 2016 retreat in preparation for the October meeting.

It was reported that members Brisben and Spurlock will meet in the near future to discuss the superintendent’s evaluation process for this year.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

DISPOSAL OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

Alicia Evans reported that the District needs to dispose of some fitness and computer equipment. She noted that some of the equipment is obsolete, some has no value and has been replaced, and some needs to be removed for safety issues.

It was noted that the Village has an environmentally sensitive electronic recycling program that could count as a recycling service.

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING – LOGO FOR BOARD ROOM

Evans introduced the idea of mounting the district logo on the wall behind the board table in the new facility. The Board expressed interest in not spending money for the signage and suggested having a student mural on the wall instead. It was noted that student artwork can include visual science projects, and it was suggested that the Board not just consider traditional art.

WAREHOUSE SALE UPDATE

Evans noted that the sale of the warehouse was discussed in executive session this evening. Evans noted that the intent to sell the property was published for three weeks and no bids were received. She explained that at this time, the options in front of the Board are to sell the property without a broker, use a broker to sell the

WAREHOUSE SALE UPDATE (Continued)

property, or lower the price of the property and repeat the process. Evans recommended using a broker for the sale and noted that the discussion in executive session supported that recommendation. Evans noted that a resolution to support that process will be included on the August 23, 2016 agenda for action.

DONATION – IRVING WATER FOUNTAINS

Evans reported that the Irving PTO expressed interest in providing (purchase and installation) three indoor and one outdoor water fountains at Irving School.

A history of problems with outdoor water fountains was shared. It was agreed that this is a building level decision, but Irving should be made aware of the history. Interest was expressed in knowing if the Health Department needs to be involved, and it was suggested that everything be vetted before approval. It was also suggested that guidance be sought from the Park District as they have a lot of experience in this area.

CONCLUDING ITEMS

**CONCLUDING
ITEMS**

BOARD REMARKS

It was agreed that the Longfellow and Lincoln expansion needs should be considered when discussing the District’s capital improvement plans and the next steps for the District regarding a referendum on August 23, 2016.

On Thursday, August 11, 2016, member Spatz participated in a school funding reform meeting hosted by Senator Lightford as part of his continuing work with ED-RED.

Appreciation was expressed in the amount of energy felt in the board room when the new teachers were introduced. The Board was reminded that every employee is a \$2,000,000 investment over their careers, and encouraged to be selective when hiring new teachers (student teachers) and encourage the district to partner new teachers with the most effective teachers.

It was noted that Vice President Felton and member Brisben will need to leave early on August 23, 2016.

Appreciation was expressed to everyone working on contract negotiations.

BOARD RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT

Administration was asked to respond to the public comment.

BOARD MEETING AGENDA FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The draft agenda for the September 13, 2016 Board meeting was reviewed and modifications were recommended.

LONG-TERM CALENDAR AND PARKING LOT

ADJOURNMENT

No changes were made to the Long-term calendar and Parking Lot Document.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, President Gates declared the meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Board President

Board Secretary