

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Administration Building 7:00 p.m.– 10:20 p.m. March 15, 2017

Members Present:

- Mark Mirabile, Presiding Officer
- Kim Barker
- Vipul Dedhia
- Gina Scaletta-Nelson
- Michael Rak
- Kristin Violante

Absent:

- David Negron

ROLL CALL AND VISITORS

Present with Superintendent Dave Palzet were staff members Erika Sawosko, Candy Kramer, Catherine Chang, Debbie Lubeck, Matt Vandercar, John Glimco, Meg Knapik, Julie Crist, Andrea Mars, Judy Sarwark, and Karyn Lisowski; guests Jennifer Ban and Andrew Ban; and resident Jacqueline Mistretta.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Members of the elementary school Start Your Day with a Smile Award lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION NO. 28 RIF Hearing Open

Motion by Violante, seconded by Scaletta-Nelson, that the Board of Education declares the RIF hearing open at 7:04 p.m. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 6 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak, Violante) absent – Negron.

In his presentation to the Board, Superintendent Dave Palzet stated that based on enrollment, the district was reducing the number of teachers in the district. The district followed the honorable dismissal process as dictated by School Code and our district's collective bargaining agreement (CBA). First year teachers and part time teachers were honorably dismissed.

Public Comments:

Judy Sarwark, elementary teacher, addressed the Board and thanked them for the privilege of being a part of Pleasantdale. She asked the Board to take into consideration the qualifications of the staff and not to make decisions based on the group they are placed in.

Jacqueline Mistretta, parent, addressed the Board regarding her concerns that we attempt to keep the best talent in the district. She also had concerns regarding the class sizes.

MOTION NO. 29 RIF Hearing Closed

Motion by Rak, seconded by Scaletta-Nelson, that the Board of Education declares the RIF hearing closed at 7:15 p.m. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 6 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak, Violante) absent – Negron.

ACTION NO. 30 Consent Agenda

Motion by Barker, seconded by Rak, that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda consisting of: regular meeting minutes of February 15, 2017; closed session meeting minutes of February 15, 2017; payment of February payroll/March warrants; strategic plan; 4:110 Transportation Board policy; Pleasant Dale Park District Before and After School Program Intergovernmental Agreement; FY 18 Preliminary Staffing Recommendations; and March 2017 personnel report consisting of the retirement of Marilyn Laskowski, middle school secretary; resignation of Kathleen Perry, instructional aide, Crissi Lawry, instructional aide, and Mike Jesewitz, PE teacher; hiring of Jennifer Ban, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching

and Learning; Honorable Dismissal of Teachers; Reemployment of Certified Personnel; and Non-Renewal of Technology Software Specialist's Contract. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 6 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak, Violante) absent – Negron.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Introduction of Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning

Superintendent Dave Palzet introduced Dr. Jennifer Ban as the next Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning. Dr. Ban will replace Mrs. Candy Kramer who will assume the position of principal at Sward Elementary School in Oak Lawn-Hometown SD 123. Dr. Ban currently serves a dual role in Norridge SD 80. Her responsibilities include principal of Leigh School and Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum. In addition to serving in these administrative roles, Dr. Ban has served as a middle school language arts teacher. Dr. Ban holds a bachelor's degree from Drake University in Iowa and a Master's and Educational Doctorate from Roosevelt University in Illinois.

School Improvement Plan Update

Principals Matt Vandercar and John Glimco updated the Board on the progress of our School Improvement Plans (SIP). Our school improvement plans closely mirror our district's one-year goals and also contain building-specific improvement goals. Some of this year's accomplishments include:

- Improved communication and community engagement
- Teacher training in test data analysis
- Refinements in our Talented and Gifted (TAG) program

While this is not an exhaustive list of accomplishments, it communicates a few of the successes of our building plans. The focus of these plans is to ensure a first class school experience for our students and move our schools from good to great.

Review Parent/Student Handbook

The Board of Education reviewed and discussed the Parent/Student Handbook. Each year, our principals meet with a committee of parents and teachers to review the parent/student handbook. The purpose of the handbook is to ensure that parents, students, and schools have clear guidelines for ensuring the success of our students. The committee's handbook suggestions included updates to reflect changes in state law and model policy.

"Parent/Student Handbook Approval" will be on the consent agenda at the April Board of Education meeting.

Math Pilot Update

Assistant Superintendent Candy Kramer and PMS Assistant Principal Meg Knapik updated the Board on the district's progress in math instruction. Over the course of the year, teachers at our school have piloted a variety of math programs to help us discover a program that will best meet our students' needs. Additionally, a cohort of teachers at both schools have participated in a professional development program called the [Metro Chicago Math Initiative](#) (MCMI). The goal of this program is to help teachers to provide the highest quality math instruction possible.

Future Planning: Staff Device Replacement Cycle

Superintendent Dave Palzet updated the Board on the plan to implement a computing device replacement cycle for our staff. The staff is currently using devices upwards of seven years old. This plan will replace aging computers and will put our devices on a four-year replacement cycle. The plan calls for a two year phase-in of devices and then the replacement of 25% of staff devices annually. Additionally, the plan calls for the replacement of aging LCD projectors in classrooms.

Board of Education Informational Requests

There were no requests made.

NEXT AGENDA

Items submitted for the April 2017 agenda include:
Review School Board (sec. 2) Board policies; Review of Service Provider Bids/Contracts;
Approve Parent/Student Handbook; Math Pilot Recommendations; 5 Essentials Update.

OPEN FORUM

Kristin Violante, as a parent, stated that she wanted to thank Judy Sarwark for her work at Pleasantdale and that everything she said was heard.

ACTION NO. 31

Closed Session

Motion by Rak, seconded by Scaletta-Nelson, that the Board of Education go into closed session at 8:16 p.m. to discuss matters relating to the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 6 ayes (Barker, Dedhia, Mirabile, Scaletta-Nelson, Rak, Violante) absent – Negron

The Board came out of closed session at 10:20 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Rak, seconded by Violante, that the regular meeting adjourns at 10:20 p.m. Voice vote. Motion carried.

App. ___ President _____ Secretary _____