

MINUTES OF THE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
of the Board of Education
Riverside School District No. 96
Held on Tuesday, October 1, 2013
At Hauser Jr. High School
Riverside, Illinois

Committee Chair Mr. Arthur Perry called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

Present: Mr. Arthur Perry
Ms. Mary Rose Mangia
Mr. Michael O'Brien
Mrs. Rachel Marrello
Mrs. Lisa Gaynor
Mr. Randy Brockway
Mr. David Kodama (by teleconference)

Absent: None

Also Present: Superintendent Dr. Bhavna Sharma-Lewis, Director of Academic Excellence, Dr. Brian Ganan, Director of Finance and Operations, Mr. Zack Zayed, one reporter from the *Landmark Newspaper*; and approximately 15 staff, parents and interested citizens of the community.

B. Public Comment/Statement.

A District 96 Parent of a special needs child expressed her disappointment after learning through the media of the recent Leave of Absence of the Director of Special Education, Dr. Mary Polk. This parent also stated that special need parents need to know, as they like to plan things.

B.1 Board President, Ms. Mangia stated that the Board has no control over what people tell the newspaper. She also stated that the Board did not release a statement to the newspaper and cannot comment on a personnel matter until action has been taken.

B.2. Board Member, Mrs. Marrello assured the parent that all of her needs will be addressed and that the Board does not know how the information got out to the public, before the Board had an opportunity to address the issue. However, District 96 is planning on releasing a statement on Friday, October 4, 2013.

- B.3. Dr. Sharma-Lewis also assured the concerned parent that no services have stopped, nor will any of the special needs services be impacted. Case Managers, Teachers, Principals, and LEA remain in place.
- C. District Logo Contest - Winner.
- C.1. There were a total of eight entries submitted by current and or previous students of District 96.
- C.2. Fourth Grader Anthony Marc Perry of Central Elementary, was declared the winner of the District 96 Logo Contest. In addition to the drawings and paintings, the applicants were asked to include a twenty-five-word essay describing "What District 96 Means to Me". Anthony's essay read as follows: "My logo is a school with each of the five district schools in it. It's surrounded by a blue sky, because school makes me happy".
- C.3. Dr. Sharma-Lewis revealed Anthony's drawing to the Board Members, staff, and the public.
- C.4. Dr. Sharma-Lewis also presented a gift card and certificate to Anthony, on behalf of District 96, including, Principal Peter Gatz, and Fourth Grade Teacher, Samantha Lutz. In addition, Anthony's logo will appear on all District 96 communication, letterhead, correspondence, calendars, and more.
- C.5. District 96 Overview.
- C.6. Dr. Sharma-Lewis gave a brief description of District 96 Education Overview Presentation before turning the floor over to Dr. Ganan.
- C.7. 2013 ISAT Results. (presented by Dr. Ganan).
- C.8. Dr. Ganan presented to the Board a Summary of Results with New Cut Scores as follows:
- ✓ District declined 12.6% in reading.
 - ✓ District declined 17.4% in math.
 - ✓ Combined average decline – 15%.
 - ✓ Combined state average decline – 22%.
 - ✓ Based on old cut scores – District's performance remained consistent over last three years.
 - ✓ Safe Harbor Standards – District 96 met standard in reading but not math.
- C.9. New State Report Cards.

C.10. Dr. Sharma-Lewis presented to the Board, the new design for the Illinois State Board of Education's (ISBE) report cards for every school and district as follows:

- ✓ October 31, 2013 date for implementation of new report card.
- ✓ Illustrative example which includes the following:
 - Enrollment, average class size, average teaching experience, spend per pupil, student transfers in or out, students with pre-school experience, racial & ethnic background, demographics, limited English proficiency, income, students eligibility to receive special education, school personnel resources, and foreign language classes.
 - From the Principals: Extracurricular activities, before and after school programs, health & wellness focus, awards received, and community partnerships.
 - Outcomes: What are student's achievements? 3rd and 5th grade.
 - Progress: Are students making sufficient progress? (On track, performance, and growth).
 - Environment – Is the school environment supporting students and teachers? (Consists of four categories, as follows): All ratings will be reported to the State.
 1. Presence & engagement
 2. Teacher qualifications (Excellent, proficient, basic, need for improvement).
 3. Professional climate
 4. Learning climate
 - 5 Essentials Survey – Spring 2014: 6th-8th grade students, District Certified Staff, and District Parents. Schools strong on the five essentials are ten times more likely to improve student learning. The 5 Essentials are as follows:
 1. Effective Leaders
 2. Collaborative Teachers
 3. Ambitious Instructors
 4. Supportive Environment
 5. Involved Families

After further discussion, questions and answers, Dr. Sharma-Lewis ended her segment of the presentation and returned the floor to Dr. Ganan.

C.11. Dr. Ganan continued the presentation by presenting to the Board the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Teaching and Learning alignment, as follows:

- ✓ Develop a strong CCSS: based order of introduction, scope and sequence.
- ✓ Pace the CCSS into integrated units.
- ✓ Create rigorous measurable objectives for each CCSS standard to drive lessons.
- ✓ Build CCSS progress, monitoring assessments into scope and sequence.
- ✓ Determine the use of current instructional materials as a tool to teach the CCSS.

C.12. Implementation Plan – English Language Arts (ELA):

- ✓ Late September: Committee applications available.
- ✓ Mid October: Common Core Alignment Team (CCAT) established and Administrator Training.
- ✓ November: (CCAT) K-8 and all Administrators meet for two consecutive days to build background knowledge; and two consecutive days for course planning.
- ✓ December-January: (CCAT) meets - grade level for four days of unit planning.
- ✓ February: (CCAT) Team to implement newly aligned units.

C.13. Implementation Plan – Math:

- ✓ February-March: (CCAT) K-8 and all Administrators meet for two consecutive days to build background knowledge; and two consecutive days for course planning.
- ✓ March-April: (CCAT) meets - grade level for four days of unit planning.
- ✓ April-May: (CCAT) Team to implement newly aligned units.
- ✓ June-July: (CCSS) University led by members of the CCAT Team in a “trained the trainers” model.
- ✓ Goal: District 96 ELA & Math aligned CCSS – August 2014.

C.14. Student Support Committee (SSC): Presented by Dr. Sharma-Lewis.

- ✓ Instructional practices need to support inclusion, differentiated instruction and response to intervention (RTI).
- ✓ Early September: Dr. Sharma-Lewis and Dr. Brian Ganan met with Paul Kluth, Inclusion Expert Staff Development – Hinsdale District 181.
- ✓ Early October: SSC Team selected.

- ✓ Meetings will take place on Thursdays, after school. Six days per year, with Paula Kluth leading the meetings.
- ✓ October-May: Eight committee meetings for professional development sessions with Paula and District 181 to lead the District 96 process, as follows:
 - Re-examine IEPs, processes and procedures.
 - Define RTI, support and interventions.
 - SSC train and educate staff.
- ✓ November 26: District Institute Day – “Joyful Learning: Using active and collaborative structures to differentiate instruction”.
- ✓ June 2014: Implement best practices, provide ongoing training and support.

C.15. Instructional Technology (21T3): Presented by Dr. Sharma-Lewis.

- ✓ Early October: Instructional Technology Team (21T3) selected.
- ✓ October-November: Define 21st Century Learning as follows:
 1. What does it look like by grade level in District 96?
 2. What do we need to implement successful teaching and learning?
 3. How do we do this? Research, communicate, and gather information from staff, parents and students.
- ✓ November-March: Identify instructional goals, grade level skills, and project-based outcomes centered CCSS-21st Century.
- ✓ April-May: Communicate to Board, staff and parents K-8 District Instructional Guidelines, Outcomes and Assessments.

C.16. ELL Compliance: (presented y Dr. Ganan).

- ✓ District 96 audited by the State in May of 2012.
- ✓ District 96 given thirty days to make corrective changes to findings.
- ✓ Findings and Corrective Action Plans are as follows:
 1. Home language survey not in student’s native language.
 - (a) Corrective Action: Home language will be linked to District 96 website.
 - (b) Corrective Action: Printed copies of language surveys will be made available to parents.
 2. Progress reports not in student’s native language.
 - (a) Corrective Action: Currently investigating programs to help with translations.
 - (b) Also add home language to surveys.

3. Transitional bilingual program not established for twenty or more students with native language.
 - (a) Corrective Action: District 96 will implement a TPI Program to offer instructions in Spanish for those students who qualify.

C.17. In addition, Dr. Ganan also informed the Board of the following:

- ✓ A TPI Program was already in place at Ames School.
- ✓ ELL Committee already established with twelve members, diverse group.
- ✓ Perfect Match Program already established and consists of six sessions that meet at the Resource Center.
- ✓ ELL Committee consists of staff, with various expertise levels.
- ✓ Cost for ELL sessions: \$2500 for team of three (covers complete sessions).
- ✓ Corrective Action now being reviewed at State Level. State will determine if District 96 is on the right track.

After further discussion, questions and answers, Dr. Ganan ended the presentation with the Board thanking him and Dr. Sharma-Lewis for their time and expertise.

C.18. Bring Your Parents to School Day, October 7, 2013

- ✓ Bill signed into Illinois Law.
- ✓ District 96 parent from Hollywood School asked the Board to consider this new law for the next school year.
- ✓ Same concept as, "Bring your kids to work day".
- ✓ Need to be structured, organized, purposeful, meaningful and District-wide before Board will consider implementing this new law into next year's calendar. Board elected to put on Agenda for December 2013.

C.19. Mr. Arthur Perry brought to the attention of the Board, "Kindergarten Grade Level Centers as an Agenda item for the December, 2013 Education Committee Meeting.

C.20. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. O'Brien, supported by Mrs. Rachel Marrello, that the Education Committee Meeting be adjourned.

The motion carried the following voice votes:

Ayes:	Mr. Michael O'Brien
	Ms. Lisa Gaynor
	Mr. Arthur Perry

Mr. David Kodama (by teleconference)
Ms. Mary Rose Mangia
Mrs. Rachel Marrello
Mr. Randy Brockway

Nays: None

Absent: None

The time was 8:20 P.M.

Recorded

Approved

Board Secretary

Board President