

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Administration Building 7:00 p.m.– 8:41 p.m. February 21, 2018

Members Present:

Mark Mirabile, Presiding Officer

Jon Buralli

Vipul Dedhia

Mary Lenzen

Michael Rak

Kristin Violante

Absent:

David Negron

ROLL CALL AND VISITORS

Present with Superintendent Dave Palzet were staff members Erika Sawosko, Catherine Chang, Jennifer Ban, Kathleen Tomei, Griffin Sonntag, and Karyn Lisowski; LADSE employees Ellie Ambuehl and Jessica Sredzinski.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Middle school Spanish students, whose work was highlighted on the display boards, led the pledge of allegiance.

ACTION NO. 18
Consent Agenda

Motion by Lenzen, seconded by Rak, that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda consisting of: regular meeting minutes of January 17, 2018; closed session meeting minutes of January 17, 2018; payment of January payroll/February warrants; FY19 School Calendar; and February 2018 Personnel Report consisting of: hiring of elementary school instructional aide Patricia Gully effective January 22, 2018 and Terry Maly as elementary clerical aide effective February 5, 2018. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 5 ayes (Buralli, Dedhia, Lenzen, Mirabile, Rak) abstain – Violante, absent - Negron.

ACTION NO. 19
Abatement Bonds

Motion by Violante, seconded by Rak, that the Board of Education approve a resolution transferring \$750,000 from the Operations and Maintenance Fund to the Bond and Interest Fund for the payment of principal of and interest on the District's outstanding General Obligation Refunding School Bonds, Series 2016, and abating a portion of the taxes heretofore levied for the year 2017 to pay the debt service on said bonds. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 6 ayes (Buralli, Dedhia, Lenzen, Mirabile, Rak, Violante) absent - Negron.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Strategic Blueprint

Superintendent Palzet reported to the Board that the district continues to make good progress accomplishing the action steps laid out in the district's Strategic Blueprint. This month, the district made progress in both the Building Learning Capacity goal as well as the building Human Capital goal. At the February 16th institute day, teachers and staff learned about the new evaluation system that will be put in place next school year. The new system will enhance teaching and learning through a foundation of thoughtful reflection by teachers and coaching by evaluators. Our new system uses the Charlotte Danielson Framework for Effective Teaching to guide conversations about great teaching and learning. Also, in the month of February, the district hosted writing workshop expert Nawal Qurooni-Casiano who helped our middle school ELA teachers dig deeper into the writer's workshop model of instruction. This allows us to accomplish our goal of better differentiating instruction to meet

students' various needs. Finally, in the afternoon of our February 16th institute day, the staff came together to draft potential actions steps for year two of our five year Strategic Blueprint. The administration will refine this exhaustive list and bring recommendations to the Board at the March meeting. Board Vice President Violante questioned when the writing strategies would begin. They are currently being piloted and will begin next year.

Preliminary Staffing Recommendations

Superintendent Palzet presented the preliminary staffing recommendations to the Board of Education. These recommendations include staffing levels that best reflect our projected student enrollment. Additionally, Dr. Palzet recommended the addition of a math intervention teacher and a special education teacher at the elementary school. The purpose of these new positions allows us to gain parity with the staffing at the middle school and best meet the needs of students receiving academic interventions. The Board would like to see enrollment figures in July.

Program Cost Analysis

Per Board Policy 4:85 (Cost Accounting), Business Manager Catherine Chang presented a cost analysis of the district's non-mandated programs. These programs include Bright Beginnings Preschool, extended day Kindergarten, and the 1:1 technology program. Dr. Chang's analysis took into account the "full" cost of programs and services that enhance basic academic programs. Full cost is defined to include all direct and indirect costs related to the program or service. Direct costs include salaries, wages, and benefits of employees and other associated operating costs such as utilities, occupancy, training, and travel. Indirect costs include shared District administrative expenses (e.g. technology, maintenance, finance, human resources etc.). Board President Mark Mirabile requested to see additional information regarding payments received from LADSE. Board Vice President Violante stated that in the future the Board will have to consider these optional programs when the District could be in financial need.

FY19 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 which reflect changes in state law and model policy. "Parent/Student Handbook Approval" will be on the consent agenda at the March Board of Education meeting.

Review Governance and Planning (sec. 1) Board Policies

Each month, the Board reviews its policies to ensure that district policy reflects the current realities of running our schools. This month the Board reviewed *Governance and Planning* (sec. 1) Board Policies. These policies will be on the March Consent Agenda for approval.

NEXT AGENDA

Items submitted for the March agenda include:

Professional Learning Update; School Improvement Plan Update; Approve Preliminary Staffing Recommendations; Approve Pleasant Dale Park District Before and After School Program Intergovernmental Agreement; Re-employment of Non-tenure Personnel and Non-Renewal of Non-tenure Teachers; Approve Governance (sec 1) Board Policies; and Approve Parent/Student Handbook.

ACTION NO. 20

Closed Session

Motion by Buralli, seconded by Dedhia, that the Board of Education go into closed session at 7:40 p.m. to discuss appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees to the District; and Litigation, when an action against,

affecting or on behalf of the particular District has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the District finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the findings shall be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes; Motion carried by a roll call vote of 6 ayes (Buralli, Dedhia, Lenzen, Mirabile, Rak) absent – Negrón.

The Board came out of closed session at 8:40 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Violante, seconded by Rak, that the regular meeting adjourns at 8:41 p.m. Voice vote. Motion carried.

App. ___ President _____ Secretary _____