

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Administration Building 7:00 p.m.– 9:25 p.m. November 20, 2019

Members Present:

- Mark Mirabile, Presiding Officer
- Jon Buralli
- Mary Lenzen
- David Negron
- Joy Tristano
- Charles Zona

Absent:

- Kristin Violante

ROLL CALL AND VISITORS

Present with Superintendent Dave Palzet were staff members Erika Sawosko, Jennifer Ban, Frank Adams, Debbie Lubeck, Kathleen Tomei, Griffin Sonntag, Brianne Malatt, Jeanne Williamson and Karyn Lisowski; and Mr. Williamson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Elementary students who have been participating the group Eddie’s Friends (elementary mascot), lead the pledge of allegiance. Elementary teacher Erin Berwick and Eddie’s Friends have been working on rewards and cutting of Eagle feathers and spreading the word to other students.

BOARD RECOGNITION

To recognize the efforts of nearly 6,000 school board members in the State, November 15, 2019, is designated School Board Members’ Day in Illinois. Pleasantdale Board members were recognized by the students and staff members with cards and posters signed by students and certificates of appreciation.

OPEN FORUM

Elementary teacher Jeanne Williamson addressed the Board regarding her nativity scene display. She requested clarification from the Board regarding allowing teachers to continue the practice of displaying the nativity scene in their classrooms.

ACTION NO. 12

Consent Agenda

Motion by Buralli, seconded by Lenzen, that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda consisting of: regular meeting minutes of October 16, 2019; payment of October payroll/November Warrants; November 2019 Personnel Report containing the hiring of part time instructional aide Erin Butvilas effective November 5, 2019 and superintendent bonus for goal attainment. Motion carried by a roll call of 6 ayes (Buralli, Lenzen, Mirabile, Negron, Tristano, Zona) absent – Violante.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Illinois Report Card Announcement

Each year, the Illinois State Board of Education publishes the Illinois School Report Card for all public schools in Illinois. The school report card includes information about our schools, including relevant student demographics, teacher demographics, and district financial information. The Illinois School Report Card is currently live, and a link to our schools' report cards can be found on our district website. The district schools received the top two designations again this year. The elementary school was designated exemplary, meaning that our school is among the top 10% of schools in the state. The middle school received the designation of commendable, which means we have no underperforming

student groups. We are proud of these results and will continue to strive to improve our outcomes.

#### Library Update

The library project has reached substantial completion and we have taken the space back from our contractor. The books have been shelved at both schools and the technology has been installed. The district is in the process of making the final arrangements and expects to have students in the spaces soon. **We will host a family reading night at each school as an unveiling on December 4 from 6:00 to 7:00 PM.** We encourage board members, parents, and the community to come out and celebrate these beautiful new spaces.

#### Class Size Update

Superintendent Palzet updated the Board on class size at the elementary school. The administration has been meeting with the fourth-grade team monthly to learn how to best provide support. Outcomes of these conversations include additional aide support to one of the sections in the afternoon. The administration will continue to meet with the fourth-grade teachers to support the great work that is taking place in their classrooms.

#### Strategic Blueprint

Superintendent Palzet updated the Board on the Building Human Capital goal. The administration implemented a robust teacher mentoring program. The goal of the program is to ensure that our newest team members have the information and support to provide the best school experience to our students. In year one, new teachers met with their mentors monthly, are observed and receive feedback from their mentor, and observe their mentor. To qualify as a mentor, teachers had to complete a training program provided through our partnership with Northwestern University. In year two of the mentoring program, our second-year teachers have developed stretch goals for themselves and are meeting regularly with the Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning to review their progress and continue to grow. As part of our Building Learning Capacity goal, we continue to support the implementation of the workshop model in our classrooms. This month all elementary school teachers met with our writer's workshop coach Newal Casiano. The work completed was customized to each grade level's planning needs. Some examples of this work included: kindergarten building conferring toolkit, first and second grade focused on developing checklists and assessments, and third and fourth grade focused on upcoming unit planning and conferring. We continue to make significant progress on our plan.

#### Multi-tiered Support System Update

At the October Board of Education meeting, the Board directed the administration to provide additional information on how we have implemented intervention support at the middle school. This month, the administrative team provided the Board an in-depth overview of the district's Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports, which support students who may be struggling within general education curriculum, but do not require special education services. The presentation focused on how these services are delivered at the middle school within the new 10-period schedule.

#### Lunch Line Update

At the October Board of Education meeting, the Board directed the administration to provide information on the length of time it takes students to be served in our cafeterias. Business Manager Frank Adams reported to the Board that the average wait at the elementary school is 6.8 minutes and 7.6 minutes at the middle school. Over the course of the past month, we have implemented efficiencies to the lunch lines, including separating the purchase of ala carte items and purchasing an additional point of service kiosk. These improvements have shortened the wait for meals and give students more time to eat.

Proposed Tax Levy

Each year, the Board of Education of Pleasantdale School District 107 adopts the proposed levy and authorizes the publication of the public hearing notice at the November Board of Education meeting. The levy is the amount of property tax dollars a school district requests to operate the district for the subsequent fiscal year. The property tax cycle is the annual process of adopting a levy and then receiving tax money to operate the district. The proposed levy for tax year 2019 is \$14,176,07. This represents a 4.95% increase over the 2018 extension. The district will not receive this amount but has to estimate for new property growth. The district will only receive a 1.9% (CPI) increase on existing property. The other 3.05% is estimated new property growth (new homes and new construction).

ACTION NO. 13

Proposed Levy

Motion by Negron, seconded by Lenzen, that the Board of Education adopt the proposed 2019 tax levy and authorize publication of the public hearing notice. Motion carried by a roll call of 6 ayes (Buralli, Lenzen, Mirabile, Negron, Tristano, Zona) absent – Violante.

Finance Tutorial #4: Property Tax Cycle

As part of our ongoing series on financial stewardship, Business Manager Frank Adams presented the fourth installment of our financial tutorial series. This installment focused on the property tax cycle. The goal of the financial tutorial is to ensure the Board has the information they need to ensure sufficient financial stewardship for the district.

Board of Education Information Requests

The Board asked that an update on the Wolf Road crosswalk be provided in a Friday packet to the Board.

ACTION NO. 14

Information Request

Motion by Lenzen, seconded by Tristano, that the Board of Education receive an update on the Wolf Road crosswalk in a upcoming Friday packet to the Board. Motion carried by a roll call of 6 ayes (Buralli, Lenzen, Mirabile, Negron, Tristano, Zona) absent – Violante.

NEXT AGENDA

Items submitted for the December agenda include: Middle School Schedule and Intervention Schedule Grade 5-8; Middle School Schedule Survey Results; Review Students (sec. 7) and Community Relations (sec. 8) and possible additional Board Policies; Tax Levy Hearing; Approve Tax Levy; Review Fees; Preliminary Discussion of Service Provider Contracts.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Lenzen, seconded by Buralli, that the regular meeting adjourns at 9:25 p.m. Voice vote. Motion carried.

App. \_\_\_ President \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary \_\_\_\_\_