

OCTOBER 24, 2016
WILMETTE, IL
REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Monday, October 24, 2016 at the Mikaelian Education Center, 615 Locust Road, Wilmette, Illinois. President Alice Schaff called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Alice Schaff, Kimberly Alcantara, John Flanagin, Tracy Kearney,
 Frank Panzica, Mark Steen

Members Absent: Cindy Levine

Administrators Present: Ray Lechner, Gail Buscemi, Heather Glowacki, Katie Lee,
 Denise Thrasher

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Principal Cindy Anderson introduced fourth grade Outdoor Education students from Romona School to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

ARTWORK

The artwork on display in the Boardroom is presented by Katherine Robinson's Harper and Highcrest students. Sixth graders studied Op Art and Bridget O'Riley to create swirling self-portraits using symbols and words instead of a head and shoulder view. Fourth graders experiment with paint to create their "Color Wheel, All See-ing Eyes". Second graders focused on the relationship between warm and cool colors in their shape-filled skies. Finally, first graders studied vases from various cultures to create their mixed-media vases.

APPROVE THE MINUTES

Mr. Steen moved, seconded by Mr. Flanagin, to accept the minutes of the September 26, 2016 Regular and executive session meetings. The minutes were approved as submitted by **General Consent**.

AUDIENCE PRESENTATIONS

None

Board Committee Reports

Strategy Committee – President Schaff stated the next meeting is in January.

Facility Development – Mrs. Alcantara stated the committee met on October 17th. The committee received a presentation from Ingersoll Rand on performance contracting. The proposed projects were itemized by project with respect to the impact on facilities, financials, and sustainability, as well as project metrics and basic recommendations. STR Architects provided an update on stakeholder meetings for future library commons spaces at McKenzie and Romona. The next meeting is November 7th.

Insurance Advisory Committee – Mrs. Kearney stated the next meeting is on February 27, 2017.

Community Review Committee – Mrs. Schaff stated the October 10th meeting was cancelled. The next meeting is on November 7th.

Educational Foundation – Dr. Lechner stated the committee met October 19th. The committee discussed the success of the annual fashion show and Bingo Night. The annual fall appeal would be sent mid-November. He noted the Science Olympiad would begin soon and Gripp Grants were due Friday. The next meeting is on November 16th.

WCSEA – Mrs. Kearney stated the next meeting is on November 14th at MEC.

School Finance – Mr. Flanagan stated the committee met on October 17 and discussed the 2016 tentative levy. He said the committee received a report on the 1:1 iPad program. They also reviewed several fee schedules, which included Summer Enrichment, Connecting Kids, Science Olympiad, athletic, and credit card processing. The committee also discussed long range projections and expectations for a potential tax freeze and State revenue redistribution. The next meeting is November 7th.

Board Agenda Items

Legislative Update

Mrs. Alcantara explained the Illinois Transportation Taxes and Fees Lockbox Amendment also known as the “Safe Roads” amendment is slated for the General Election on November 8th. If approved, this measure would collect all the State’s revenue raised from tolls, fuel tax, and license and vehicle registration fees, and place them in a “lockbox” for transportation expenditures only. Passing of this amendment limits local taxing bodies by restricting their ability to transfer funds from transportation fund to operating fund.

Mrs. Alcantara stated the school funding reform commission continues to meet and confer with some discussion for potential alternative funding plans. She said while everyone agrees additional funding is needed in Illinois, finding additional revenue circles back to agreeing on a State budget. A new education budget formula is expected in the spring. Mrs. Alcantara also stated additional unfunded mandates affecting school districts has been enacted. She revealed several mandates on the extensive list.

INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Written Communication

The Board did not receive any written communication this month.

B. Administrative Announcements

Dr. Lechner announced the Solid Waste Agency of North Cook County has given District 39 a grant totaling \$1,200 to use toward the purchase of reusable soup cups. He thanked Lisa Winter for her efforts obtaining this grant as the District continues to reduce waste.

Dr. Lechner stated each fall District 39 partners with the Village of Wilmette to conduct a preschool vision and hearing clinic. This year, Village Nurse Dianne Bader and District 39 Nurses Mary Norkett and Ann Roche screened 37 preschoolers on a Saturday morning. This service helps local nursery schools meet the State mandate of screening children ages 3-5.

Dr. Lechner announced that on the evening of October 4th, Wilmette Junior High School partnered with the League of Women Voters of Wilmette to host a candidate forum featuring 9th District U.S. Congressional candidates Jan Schakowsky and Joan McCarthy Lasonde. Seventh graders read questions submitted by social studies students.

Dr. Lechner stated six staff members from Highcrest Middle School and Wilmette Junior High School participated in the Beyond Diversity seminar hosted at New Trier on October 4th and 5th. The Beyond Diversity seminar was a two-day workshop aimed at giving participants the opportunity to enter into courageous conversations about race and relationships within the school community.

The District is eager to have these participants share experiences and knowledge gained at this seminar to improve school climate and create a culture of empathy.

The District received two FOIA requests: Katherine Smyser of NBC5 Chicago asked if District 39 schools have a stock of undesignated epinephrine auto-injectors; Mary Zellers of Impact Networking requested copier/printer lease and maintenance or service contracts, managed print services contracts, outsourced managed IT programs, and current invoices.

C. Strategic Plan Updates

1. 2016-2017 Superintendent/District Goals

Dr. Lechner stated the Superintendents goal areas, including deliverables and measures, are an extension of the Strategic Plan that was approved last month.

D. Annual Business

1. Select Student Fees

Dr. Lechner stated a handful of student fees require early approval, as parents need information to make decisions about summer programs. He reported the fees were reviewed at the School Finance Committee meeting. As summer programs are to be fiscally self-sustaining, administration requested Board approval to reinstate the BASIC fee and increase enrichment fees slightly to reduce the fiscal deficit reported for summer programs last month. Dr. Lechner also noted the Connecting Kids Preschool tuition was compared to local preschools and tuition remains competitively low. Dr. Lechner reported the Curriculum and Instruction Department is taking over the competitive portion of the Science Olympiad formerly handled by the Educational Foundation. Administration recommended keeping Science Olympiad fees the same as last year.

2. Establish the Tax Year 2016 Estimate of Levy and Hearing Announcement

Dr. Lechner stated this request adopts the resolution of the estimated levy for 2016 and announced the public hearing scheduled for December 12th. The proposed increase, for all funds, is 3.4% over last year's levy. With CPI at .07%, the primary driver of the increase is new construction. Mrs. Buscemi reviewed the levy calendar process. She noted levy considerations include the Equalized Assessed Value (EAV), Consumer Price Index (CPI), new property growth, and bond and interest. Mrs. Buscemi noted the total levy extension request is for \$52.5M

3. 2016 Fall Assessment

Ms. Lee stated Performance series is a computer adaptive multiple choice test used to monitor student achievement over growth and time. She said students in grades 2-8 are assessed three times yearly (fall, winter, spring) in reading and math. She noted due to the first administration of PARCC in 2015, District 39, as well as many other school districts, eliminated the spring assessments for grades 3-8. Ms. Lee presented the Performance Series District average scaled scores, percentage of students scores in the average or above range nationally, and percentage of students who have met gains targets.

Ms. Lee explained the PARCC assessment was administered to grades 3-8 and measures students' current performance aligned to their grade-specific ELA and Mathematics Learning Standards. PARCC was administered in two sessions; performance based assessment given in March and end of year assessment given in May. She noted the assessment format has changed but PARCC considers 2015 scores the baseline comparison for future years. The PARCC test results will be released October 31, 2016. She reported the preliminary student, district, state results show District 39 well above the statewide results.

Board questions/comments included statewide PARCC results being dismally low; defined growth target as 25% of growth over seven years; comparing grade level growth trends over seven years; thoughts on how to identify trends or actions; noteworthy trends for students not meeting growth targets; PARCC used for Illinois State Report Card; other adaptive assessments such as Measures of Academic Progress (MAP); need for a metric; comparison of results with local feeder districts; and a request for gender performance analysis.

4. Fall Housing Report

Dr. Thrasher stated school districts are required to report annually to ISBE the number of students attending District 39 schools as of September 30, 2016. District 39 has 3,648 students housed in school buildings. She noted this is a slight decrease from fall 2015. She added the District is also required to report its enrollment number. Enrollment count is the number of students' education for which the District is responsible. This is obtained by subtracting any non-district students attending the District, adding early childhood itinerant students, adding outplaced students and parochial students. She noted the enrollment count totals 3,691 students.

Mr. Panzica noted a geographical trend with elementary enrollments and questioned how to balance enrollment numbers. Mrs. Schaff questioned kindergarten enrollment expectations.

E. Board Policy Review

1. Third and Final Reading of Revised Board of Education Policy 7:70 Attendance and Truancy

Dr. Lechner stated Policy 7:70 was reviewed by an attorney and has been renamed *Attendance and Truancy*.

Dr. Lechner stated legal counsel responded to a Board question regarding the ages of students in policies, referencing the ages of students typically served in District 39. Counsel indicated that the language in policies is directly related to statutory language and recommended leaving the ages as written, and added a few more items under the absenteeism and truancy program.

2. First Reading of Revised Board of Education Policies 7:190; 7:210; 7:220; 7:230

Dr. Lechner stated the first read policies presented are all related to student discipline. Dr. Thrasher worked diligently for almost a year to ensure current practices are in line with the new regulations. The revisions are the final step in aligning practices and policies to current laws.

President Schaff had suggested edits for Policies 7:190 and 7:210 for second read.

AUDIENCE PRESENTATIONS

None

ACTION ITEMS

Consent Agenda

Mr. Steen requested the *Dispose of Executive Session Audio Recordings* Action item be pulled from the Consent Agenda to confirm the audio recording dates prior to approval.

Mr. Steen moved, seconded by Mr. Flanagin, to approve the personnel report dated October 24, 2016, which included licensed full-time employment of **Susan Carlson**, effective October 6, 2016; educational support personnel full-time employment of **Mirna Imseih**, effective October 4, 2016; **Patrick Sullivan**, effective October 4, 2016; **Brandon Wright**, effective October 21, 2016; **Faith Zabin**, effective October 17, 2016; educational support personnel part-time employment of **Deborah Weiss**, effective October 4, 2016; release of a probationary employee, **Hugo Soto**, effective September 26, 2016; administrative retirement of **Gail Buscemi**, effective June 30, 2018; **Denise Thrasher**, effective June 30, 2018: to establish the tax year 2016 Estimate of Levy as per "Exhibit A" dated October 24, 2016; and,

approve the announcement of a *Public Hearing on the Proposed Levy* scheduled to immediately precede the regular December 12, 2016 meeting of the Board of Education: approve the 2016-2017 Superintendent/District Goals: to approve the student fee schedule dated October 24, 2016: to approve as third and final reading revised Board of Education Policy 7:70 Attendance and Truancy: to approve as first read revised Board of Education Policies 7:190 Student Discipline; 7:210 Expulsion Procedure; 7:220 Bus Conduct; and 7:230 Misconduct by Students with Disabilities: approve to release to the public the executive session minutes of November 16, 2015 and April 18, 2016 to approve the accounts payable for bills listed between September 27, 2016 – October 24, 2016 in the following amounts: Educational Fund \$486,664.18; O & M Fund \$144,546.76; Transportation Fund \$158,716.45; Capital Projects Fund \$39,414.00; total all funds: \$829,341.39: to approve the manual checks issued between September 27, 2016 – October 24, 2016 in the following amounts: Educational Fund \$420,582.05; O & M Fund \$28,449.24; Transportation Fund \$28.74; Capital Project Fund \$(26,546.25); total all funds: \$ 431,513.78.

On a roll call vote on the motion, voting “yea” – Kimberly Alcantara, John Flanagin, Tracy Kearney, Frank Panzica, Mark Steen, and Alice Schaff; voting “nay” – none; absent – Cindy Levine: **Motions Carried.**

Mr. Steen moved, seconded by Mr. Flanagin, to dispose of executive session audio recordings pursuant to District policy for the following dates: May 19, 2014; June 23, 2014; August 25, 2014; September 29, 2014; October 27, 2014.

On a roll call vote on the motion, voting “yea” – Kimberly Alcantara, John Flanagin, Tracy Kearney, Frank Panzica, Mark Steen, and Alice Schaff; voting “nay” – none; absent – Cindy Levine: **Motion Carried.**

CONFERENCE ITEMS

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Good and Welfare

None

Mr. Steen moved, seconded by Mr. Flanagin, to adjourn to executive session to discuss collective bargaining.

On a roll call vote on the motion, voting “yea” – Alice Schaff, Kimberly Alcantara, John Flanagin, Tracy Kearney, Frank Panzica, and Mark Steen; voting “nay” – none; absent – Cindy Levine: **Motion Carried.**

The meeting adjourned to executive session at 8:00 p.m. and returned to the regular meeting of the Board of Education at 8:37 p.m.

Being no further business, Mr. Flanagin moved, seconded by Mr. Panzica, to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education. It adjourned at 8:39 p.m. by **General Consent.**

President

Secretary