

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
FIELD SCHOOL LEARNING CENTER
3131 Techny, Northbrook, Illinois 60062
7:00 PM, October 24, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Vice President Spector at 7:02 PM.

ROLL CALL

Board Members:

Present: Laura Greenberg
 Shel Leshner
 Robert Resis
 Jeffrey Silver Absent
 Kosta Skoulikaris
 Robert Spector
 Peter Stamatis

District Administration

Present: Dr. Alexandra Nicholson, Superintendent of Schools
 Cathy Lauria, Director of Business Services

Recording Secretary: Tina Nielsen

A quorum of the Board was confirmed by Vice President Spector.

ADDITIONS OF CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Superintendent Nicholson added Illinois Report Cards to the open session discussion items and self-evaluation practice and procedures under the closed session discussion items.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

None

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE

Superintendent Nicholson introduced Carrie De La Cruz. Carrie is the interim Director of Student Services during Katie Marshall's leave of absence.

PTC President Susan Harrison reported on the following:

- Fall catalog sales made over \$5,000.
- Movie night made over \$700. There will be another movie night in the Spring.
- PTC directory is complete, and Susan recognized Terah Bozart for all her work to get the directory completed.

- Pizza night is November 8th at the Village Inn located in Glenview. If you state that it is for “Fund 31”, District 31 will receive 20% of the profit.
- The next general meeting will be held November 7th at 1:00 PM.

CONSENT AGENDA

Member Leshner made a motion to approve items a through l of the consent agenda. Member Greenberg seconded the motion. The motion passed on a roll call 6:0.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Director of Business Services Cathy Lauria reviewed the monthly budget summary for July. She also reported that per Public Act 96-0434 requirements, by October 1 of each year, we must post total compensation on our web site of all IMRF employees. District 31 complied with this posting requirement. The budget was also posted on the web site once it was finalized, and it was delivered to the Cook County Clerk’s office and sent to the Illinois State Board of Education. Director Lauria also reported that the audit completed in September took one instead of two weeks, and the Annual Financial Report was completed and sent to appropriate parties by October 15, 2013.

Director Lauria reported that she has been working with the Northbrook and Glenview Park Districts to finalize five-year agreements. She explained that the park districts maintain our school grounds and playground equipment in exchange for using the school facilities. The Northbrook Park District will also help fund the gymnasium floor maintenance. Both park districts get first use of the school facilities when not in use by the District.

Member Skoulikaris asked to return to the monthly budget summary. He questioned if we budget more in the transportation fund than needed and if we make a profit on transportation. Director Lauria explained that the transportation expenses were more than originally estimated and we do not know the amount we will receive from the State, so she allocated more money in the transportation fund to be sure all expenses are covered.

BOARD REPORTS

Member Resis reported on the Illinois Association of School Boards wherein he highlighted the following:

- The Triple Ill conference is approaching.
- There is a roundtable meeting in Palatine in January, 2014 on regulations.
- IASB is stating Boards of Education need to be more of a voice and note their concerns and issues.
- During the October IASB dinner meeting, Illinois Treasurer Dan Rutherford was the speaker. He stated that we live in a great state, but the relationship between the Governor and Legislature are toxic. It was his view that it was a mistake to pass the income tax increase without an agreement on pension reform. He then took questions from the audience including a question from Member Resis.

Member Leshner reported on a NSSED meeting where they discussed the partnership with Wagner Farms, governance of special education cooperatives, policy committee update, educational and life skills, and an enrollment update. There was an unofficial notification that North Shore District 112 intends to withdraw from NSSED. A district considering withdrawing from NSSED must submit a written intent notice 18 months prior to the actual separation. If District 112 does withdraw, this could affect the cost to the other member districts.

Member Greenberg summarized the NSSED tour that she attended. She commented on the extraordinary learning experience that it was for her and highly recommended the other Board members attend, if they can, the next tour scheduled for Tuesday, November 12, 2013 from 8:30AM – 12:00 noon.

Member Stamatis stated that the Northbrook Economic Development Committee will meet in January. The Glenview Plan Commission gave an update to the Rotary Club on October 17th which covered all the projects going on in Glenview.

Member Spector reported on Ed-Red. He stated a proposal is expected to reach the governor's desk within the next year regarding Illinois mandating full-day Kindergarten. Member Spector summarized the comments from the Senator on pension reform. Member Spector explained that Ed-Red is a lobby (information organization) that takes a stand on every bill that may impact the quality of education.

Member Greenberg reported on the Education Foundation activities. She congratulated Member Resis for coming in first place in his category for the 5k. The 5k raised about \$3,500 and was a successful family event. The other activity that took place was Rainbow Loom. Thirty people RSVPed and 150 people attended. Families that have not been able to join us for events in the past attended the Rainbow Loom.

POLICES

Superintendent Nicholson summarized the first read of *Instructional Materials* wherein she stated that the Board approved this policy last year; however, a situation arose where the policy did not meet the needs of the district. The suggested change to the policy would allow parents/guardians an opportunity to request that their children not participate in a class showing of a movie, television program, or other media with a PG 13 or higher rating shown in its entirety.

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Superintendent Nicholson summarized the last discussion of the Board regarding the Board's usage of an iPad for Board meetings. Manager of Technology Operations and Infrastructure Dave DelBoccio was present to answer the Board's technical questions. After further discussion, the Board decided to have the regular iPad that requires WiFi to access their Board e-mail and to utilize the iPads for electronic Board packets.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

None.

COMING TO ORDER – Chapter Four

Superintendent Nicholson summarized chapter four of *Coming to Order*.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Superintendent Nicholson summarized the enrollment by grade level.

2013 ILLINOIS REPORT CARD

Superintendent Nicholson summarized the 2013 Illinois School Report Cards (ISRC) wherein she stated that the ISRCs for school districts and their respective schools throughout Illinois are being released by the State to the public on October 31, 2013. ISRCs include demographic information as well as Illinois State Achievement Test results. Data provided is compared to State averages. All data provided is from the 2012-2013 school year.

Superintendent Nicholson reviewed the various sections of the ISRC for the District including the following:

- Student racial/ethnic backgrounds
- Average class sizes
- Time devoted to teaching core subjects
- Finances
- Student performance on the spring 2013 ISAT
- Student academic growth

Superintendent Nicholson reminded the Board that the 2013 ISAT scores are lower than past years because the State changed the performance level cut scores and converted 20% of the test questions to common core. She emphasized that the lower scores do not indicate our students know less than they did in past years. Member Spector pointed out that the decrease District 31 experienced is much less than the decrease averaged across the State. Member Spector also asked if Superintendent Nicholson could access 2013 ISAT results from the surrounding school districts and report back to the Board on how their students scored. Superintendent Nicholson will be able to do so after the 2013 ISAT results are made public. She commented that the District 31 scores will most likely be lower than surrounding school districts due to the percentage of students with low language proficiency levels being significantly greater in District 31 than in the other districts.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE

None.

ACTION ITEMS

Member Leshner made a motion to approve Nancy Kim's FMLA leave of absence request. Member Greenberg seconded the motion. The motion passed 6:0.

Member Leshner made a motion to approve Stephanie Mats FMLA leave of absence request. Member Greenberg seconded the motion. The motion passed 6:0

DISCUSSION

None.

ADJOURN MEETING

Member Greenberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Skoulikaris seconded the motion. The motion was passed 6:0. The Board adjourned at 10:15 PM.

Board President

Board Secretary

Date