

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
FIELD SCHOOL LEARNING CENTER
3131 Techny, Northbrook, Illinois 60062
7:00 PM, March 14, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by President Handler at 7:01 PM.

ROLL CALL

Board Members:

Present:	David Handler	
	Mike Berkowitz	
	Shel Leshner	
	Robert Spector	
	Mary Crowe-Richards	Arrived 7:15 PM
	Jeffrey Silver	
	Bonnie Schoenberg	Arrived 7:03 PM

District Administration

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

A quorum of the Board was confirmed by President Handler.

ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

None.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE

PTC President Susan Harrison reported that the pizza fundraiser was yesterday and the totals are not in yet to report but movie night that took place March 8th raised \$1,331.00. This was the most it raised in the past four years. PTC is hosting a retirement party for Maria Kalant on May 22nd in the Winkelman commons. The Taste of District 31 is April 19th from 6:30 to 8:30PM. The next general PTC Board meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2013. Mrs. Harrison stated that PTC organized a food drive in conjunction with the District for the District 31 families in need of food during Spring Break. They collected enough food for 14 back packs of food to be distributed evenly to families in need. Mrs. Harrison stated that there is a group of retired teachers that are District 30 community members that do this regularly. She will be contacting them to share ideas. Member Leshner stated that Kraft Foods has a back pack program that provides food for families in need. Member Leshner stated that he will share the contact name with Susan Harrison to see if they can work together for District 31 families.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

ACTION ITEMS

None

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Director of Business Services, Cathy Lauria reported that she is trying to find out if there would be any State mandates the District would not have to follow if we did not take State funding. So far, no one has been able to give any answers. President Handler explained that he asked Mrs. Lauria to research this because there are so many State mandates and he questions how much State money we receive verses how much District money we have to spend to implement the mandates. Superintendent Nicholson explained that the township superintendents are discussing what can be done about all the State mandates that are really taxing our budgets. She explained that some of the mandates replace things the districts have that are more effective than the mandates. Some of the township superintendents, including Superintendent Nicholson, have spoken with State Superintendent Chris Koch as well as Brent Clark who is in charge of the Illinois Association of School Administrators. Superintendent Nicholson explained that a State wide initiative is beginning that, if approved, would allow school district boards of education to have local control over which mandates to follow. To not follow a State mandate, a school district would have to establish that what it is doing serves the same purpose.

Mrs. Lauria summarized the financial projections for the operating funds as defined by the Illinois State Board of Education, including the education fund, the operations and maintenance fund, the transportation fund, and the working cash fund. Mrs. Lauria explained that the 2012 numbers are actual numbers based on the annual financial report that is filed with the State by our auditors once the annual audit is complete. The 2013 numbers are based on the legal budget once it is approved and filed by the Board. 2014 and forward is based on revenue and expense assumptions. Examples of such assumptions include increased revenue that will result from the referendum beginning with the fall 2013 tax bills, a partial assessment from Astellas, and CPI, as well as anticipated expenses including teacher salary increases of 2.9% based on the collective bargaining agreement, anticipated 8% increases to health insurance costs, and a 2.5% increase in student transportation. Director Lauria explained that the administration is taking the conservative approach to budgeting because the referendum was to maintain expenses. Superintendent Nicholson asked if the projections included any funds to cover the 2007-2009 Allstate appeal. Director Lauria explained that the \$3 million in escrow that will be placed in the education fund when the District loses tax revenue from Allstate was calculated to cover the 2004-2006 and the 2007-2009 appeals. Superintendent Nicholson also asked if the projections included the anticipated \$1.8 million additional annual revenue from the GlenStar project. Mrs. Lauria stated that it is not reflected in the revenue section. She also explained that, this year, we budgeted \$500,000 in capital projects in case we needed to do something big such as repairing or replacing boilers. So far this year, we have spent \$157,000 on the parking lots and we received \$50,000 back from a grant.

Audience member Robert Resis questioned if we issued bonds in 2010. He asked if we have a line item that shows paying interest. Mrs. Lauria stated that debt service is not included in operating funds therefore the bond interest is not included in the operating funds projection. Mrs. Lauria explained that we levy the bond payments so we have the funds needed to pay back the bond plus interest and that our debt service is decreasing because we have a couple years remaining to pay off the bond.

Mrs. Lauria informed the Board that the GlenStar new property project was approved by the Glenview Village at their March 7th meeting. At this point, the project is being reviewed by the Appearance Committee to be sure everyone is pleased with the appearance changes that were made to the original plan. The annexation agreement was also approved with some changes to reflect the land being incorporated into Glenview.

Mrs. Lauria explained that in order to move forward with 1:1 technology for students, the District needs to make arrangements to have our wireless access upgraded in time for the beginning of the 2013-2014 school year. CDW, the company that originally installed wireless throughout the District, provided the best pricing, \$29,000. This cost will be funded by the Education Foundation through the ACT Now campaign.

Mrs. Lauria reminded the Board that one of the safety changes recommended by the Safety Committee is to research the redesign of the Field and District main entrances so that visitors have to enter the offices before

gaining access to the school. Mrs. Lauria stated that she has discussed this with Architect Bill Straits from Arcon and he is proposing how to do so.

Board Reports

President Handler explained that the Township Board Presidents discussed what each district is doing in regards to safety changes recommended by the local police departments. They discussed maintaining a balance of quality safety measures for the students while doing so within budget. President Handler explained that the board presidents also discussed State mandates and their impact on school districts.

Member Silver stated that the spring dinner meeting for IASB is March 20th and that he and Superintendent Nicholson are scheduled to attend.

Member Crowe-Richards could not attend the NSSSED meeting. She stated that when she receives the minutes from the meeting, she will share that with the Board via email.

Member Spector stated that Ed-Red continues to provide updates of the proposed bills including those related to TRS.

Member Schoenberg reported that the Education Foundation Winter Benefit raised \$25,000. Member Schoenberg stated that she will no longer be the Board liaison for the Foundation once she retires from the Board but will always be willing to volunteer if needed.

Policies – first read

Field Principal Erin Murphy summarized first reads of the following policies:

- i. Agency and Police Interviews*
- ii. Assemblies and Ceremonies*
- iii. Community Resource Persons and Volunteers*
- iv. Complaints and Curriculum*
- v. Conduct Code for Participants in an Extracurricular Activity*
- vi. Course Substitutions*
- vii. Curriculum Development*
- viii. Duties and Qualifications – Educational Support Personnel*
- ix. Education of Students with Disabilities*
- x. Expenses*
- xi. Extracurricular Activities*
- xii. Homework*
- xiii. Instructional Materials*
- xiv. Non-Public School Students*
- xv. Organization of Instruction*
- xvi. Programs for Students At Risk*
- xvii. School Accountability*
- xviii. Student and Family Privacy Rights*
- xix. Student Assignments*
- xx. Student Support Services*
- xxi. Student Testing and Assessment Program*

Freedom of Information Requests

None.

Student Enrollment

Superintendent Nicholson summarized the March student enrollment by grade level and student transfer-in/out.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE

None.

CLOSED SESSION MEETING

Member Silver made a motion to move into closed session. Member Crowe-Richards seconded the motion. On a roll call, the motion passed 7:0.

ACTION REGARDING THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION OR PERFORMANCE OR SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES

Member Crowe-Richards made a motion to approve the leave of absence request for Kathleen McNeela. Member Leshner seconded the motion. On a roll call, 1 abstain, the motion was passed 4:2.

Member Silver made a motion to approve the leave of absence request for Stacey Geller. Member Crowe-Richards seconded the motion. The motion was passed 7:0.

ADJOURN MEETING

Member Schoenberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Crowe-Richards seconded the motion. The motion was passed 7:0. The Board adjourned at 9:31 PM.

Board President

Board Secretary

Date