

**MINUTES OF THE BUDGET HEARING MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

FIELD SCHOOL LEARNING CENTER

3131 Techny, Northbrook, Illinois 60062

7:00 PM, September 27, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

The Open Session of the Board of Education Budget Hearing meeting was called to order by President David Handler at 7:08 PM.

ROLL CALL

Board Members

Present:	David Handler	
	Jeffrey Silver	
	Mary Crowe-Richards	
	Bob Spector	
	Shel Leshner	Arrived 7:45 PM
	Bonnie Schoenberg	Absent
	Mike Berkowitz	

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.

PRESENTATION OF FISCAL YEAR 2013 BUDGET

Cathy summarized the changes from the additional tentative budget that was introduced at the September Board meeting. She reviewed some examples of the changes made including additional Lead 21 program materials needed for one regular instruction class and the Russian Bi-lingual class. The Band budget was split to separate the music and the Band accounts, and the Special Education tuition was increased according to NSSSED's new payment plan for its member districts. Mrs. Lauria explained that minor adjustments were made to change estimated to exact salaries of new personnel as well as credit card fees and auditor fees. She noted that once we get updated information, the budget is updated to reflect the changes.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE

None

ADJOURNMENT

Member Berkowitz made a motion to adjourn the Budget hearing. Member Crowe-Richards second the motion. The motion passed 5:0.

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

FIELD SCHOOL LEARNING CENTER

3131 Techny, Northbrook, Illinois 60062

7:00 PM, September 27, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

The Open Session of the regular meeting of the Board of Education meeting was called to order by President David Handler at 7:20 PM.

ROLL CALL

Board Members

Present:	David Handler	
	Jeffrey Silver	
	Mary Crowe-Richards	
	Bob Spector	
	Shel Leshner	Arrived 7:45 PM
	Bonnie Schoenberg	Absent
	Mike Berkowitz	

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 COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

None

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE

PTC President Elect Loren Schyman reported that the PTC will be presenting ET on movie night which is scheduled for October 19th. The catalog sales forms have been handed out to the students. The PTC gifted \$6,000 to the district for overhead projectors and document cameras. The first Blizzard Day has already taken place at Winkelman and Field School.

Superintendent Nicholson proudly recognized Suzanne Kahn for her years of service to the District and welcomed our new PTC President Susan Harrison and President Elect Loren Schyman.

The new certified staff introduced themselves to the Board: Daniel Scott, P.E. Teacher at Winkelman; Karen Schur, Speech and Language Teacher; and Erica Bolte, Literacy Coach at Winkelman.

CONSENT AGENDA

After President Handler read the consent agenda and there were no questions, Member Spector made a motion to approve items a through p on the consent agenda. Member Berkowitz second the motion. The motion passed 5:0.

ACTION ITEMS

Member Silver made a motion to approve the 2013 Budget. Member Crowe-Richards second the motion. The motion passed 5:0.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Director of Business Services, Cathy Lauria reported on the following:

- Research is still being done on landscaping plans with the landscapers in the area to see if they are willing to donate any items to the District. There is money in the student activity fund that is being used for the Student Council members to plant in the Field courtyard. Marty Frega, 6th grade Language Arts Teacher, has started working with the student council members to do so.
- Bertog Landscaping is being contracted for the District's snow plowing. We have been satisfied with their work in the past, they have been very dependable, and they have kept the same rate for the past seven years.
- Mrs. Lauria explained that we are looking into energy savings opportunities. One company, the National Retro Fitting Group (NRG), has proposed retro fitting the lights in the two gymnasiums and the commons at Field School. This type of light brightens up the area with no less than 90% illumination. Additionally, they have proposed changing the exit signs at both buildings to LED lights with three-hour battery backups. There is a matching grant available for this work. Mrs. Lauria explained that the District did get a lower rate on our electricity for changing suppliers, and the NRG has based their estimates on our new rate. If we have to replace the lights on our own, not counting the exit signs, it would cost about \$15,000. We can do both buildings with NRG for \$10,000, save money on usage right away, the bulbs are guaranteed for three years, and ballasts that go out are replaced at no cost to the District. President Handler questioned what the payback time would be. Mrs. Lauria stated that for the retro fitting it is less than two years.

Mrs. Lauria explained that another company, ENSEL, is coming out to check for energy spiking and loss. They will make recommendations based on the data gathered. President Handler asked if they charge for this service. Mrs. Lauria explained that they do not charge for the initial review, but if we want a formal monitoring completed, there would be a cost involved.

- Mrs. Lauria reported on the healthy food options for Winkelman School. Quest will be providing us with a list of healthier choices. Once a week, Quest has donuts and extra special treats, and they wanted to know if the

Board is interested in keeping treats one day a week. After further discussion, the Board decided to not continue the weekly treats based on the fact that parents can send their children with treats if so desired. Instead, we will provide the option of purchasing healthy snacks.

Member Berkowitz stated that there is a faded sign at Winkelman that states "Do Not Enter". Mrs. Lauria states that she will have that taken care of.

Winkelman Principal Search

Superintendent Nicholson summarized the procedure that has been done so far on the Principal search for Winkelman. Superintendent Nicholson has met with the Administrative Council, Cabinet, Winkelman Faculty, and Winkelman parents in regards to the characteristics they would like the District to look for when searching for the new principal who is scheduled to begin July 1, 2013. Superintendent Nicholson read the lists of qualities discussed in the search meetings and asked the Board if they wanted to add anything to the lists. She explained that a list of qualifications will be developed based on common qualities within the lists.

President Handler questioned if there was an update on the Glenstar Development. Superintendent Nicholson stated that the Village has asked us to review their proposed calculations. Mrs. Lauria has reviewed their calculations and agreed with them. They have asked us if we are in support of them approving the building and we said that we were in agreement with them. The first formal commission meeting is scheduled for October 30, 2012 to discuss the next stages of moving towards plan implementation.

Board Reports

Member Silver reported on the IASB dinner meeting that he and Superintendent Nicholson attended. He reported that the speaker Judy Baar Topinka announced that the State has several billion dollars of unpaid bills and education is going to continue to take a major hit with the burden falling on the local districts. Member Silver also announced that 4 Board seats will be open, and the deadline to file paperwork at the District Office is 5:00 PM, December 24, 2012 and the deadline for rescinding the Board packet is 5:00 PM, December 31, 2012.

Member Robert Spector reported that the biggest issue being reviewed by Ed-Red is the future of the Teacher Retirement System. There are several proposals that have been submitted in terms of how TRS benefits will continue in the future. Member Spector stated that he and Superintendent Nicholson will be attending the Ed-Red meeting tomorrow during which TRS will be discussed.

Policies

Field Principal Erin Murphy summarized the first read policies for the following:

- Abused and Neglected Child Reporting
- Access to Electronic Networks
- Board Member Oath and Conduct
- Curriculum Content
- Exemption from Physical Activity

- Library Media Program
- Personnel Records
- Preventing Bullying, Intimidation and Harassment
- Safety
- Teacher Qualification
- Use of Automated External Defibrillators

Member Spector asked if *Exemption from Physical Activity* could include emotional physiological disorders. Member Silver also questioned having the policy language reflect that an exemption note be from a health care provider and not from the parent. The administration will look into these and include edited language in the next read.

Member Spector questioned if the *Preventing Bullying, Intimidation and Harassment* policy could include bullying outside of school. Principal Murphy explained that if an issue is impacting the ability of a student to learn, then this policy would be applicable. President Handler suggested adding or clarifying whether it takes place on school property. The administration will look into these and include edited language in the next read.

Enrollment

Superintendent Nicholson summarized the enrollment along with the new student demographic chart.

Freedom of Information Act

None.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENENCE

None

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

None

ADJOURN MEETING

Member Berkowitz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Crowe-Richards seconded the motion. The motion was passed 6:0. The Board adjourned at 9:07 PM.

Board President

Board Secretary

Date