

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**FIELD SCHOOL LEARNING CENTER**  
**3131 Techny, Northbrook, Illinois 60062**  
**7:30 PM, May 23, 2013**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by President Silver at 7:40 PM.

**ROLL CALL**

Board Members:

Present:	Laura Greenberg	
	Shel Leshner	
	Robert Resis	arrived at 7:48 PM
	Jeffrey Silver	
	Kosta Skoulikaris	
	Robert Spector	
	Peter Stamtis	arrived at 7:48 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 Silver.

**ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

None.

**READING OF COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

None.

**RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE**

Resident and Parent, Mrs. Zoe Borys residing at 2342 Indian Ridge Drive, Glenview Illinois, submitted a formal request to address the Board about offering a full-day kindergarten program. She expressed her concern that a half-day kindergarten program does not allow the time needed for the children to receive the entire curriculum needed. Member Resis asked if we have ever considered full day kindergarten. Superintendent Nicholson stated that she does have full-day kindergarten on her wish list of programs to offer. She explained that a study will take time as well as the preparations needed including the possible need to add on to Winkelman School in order to have enough classrooms. President Silver directed the administration to begin studying the need for a full-day kindergarten program and report back to the Board.

Mrs. Terah Bozarth reported that the PTC is ending the year on a good note. May was busy with the Laugh-Off event and the retirement party for Mrs. Kalant which was a wonderful celebration. The PTC is now beginning to plan for the 2013-2014 school year. PTC thanks all the parents that have been volunteering throughout the year. The PTC was able to recently donate \$18,000 to the District. This money allows the District to purchase a new stage for Winkelman, basketball hoops and backboards for Winkelman, a podium for Field, and six overhead projectors.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

In reference to Mrs. Suzanne Kahn's request for student contact information for a possible 2013-2014 grade eight Washington DC trip, Member Skoulikaris asked exactly what contact information will be provided to Mrs. Kahn if her request is approved. Superintendent Nicholson stated that it is the family names and phone numbers so that Mrs. Kahn can inform them of the trip to see who will be interested in participating.

Member Leshner made a motion to approve items a through h of the consent agenda. Member Silver seconded the motion. The motion passed on a roll call 7:0.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

Director of Business Services Cathy Lauria summarized the recommendation for the Board to approve the Apple, Inc. Master Lease purchase agreement for the 1:1 devices for grades 6 through 8, including the acceptance of lease payment obligation. This recommendation comes after requests for proposals were sent to various vendors. After careful review of the proposals, the administrators agreed that the agreement offered through Apple, Inc. would be in the best interest of the district. Through the lease, 400 iPads will be paid for in three annual installments beginning in July, 2013. The District is charging parents a Technology fee to help offset the cost of the 1:1 devices as well as technology already implemented at Winkelman.

Member Greenberg made a motion to approve the iPad lease agreement. Member Leshner seconded the motion. The motion passed on a roll call 7:0.

Mrs. Lauria explained that a School Maintenance Program Grant is being offered by the State to help school districts fund facility upgrades. She requested that the Board approve her being able to apply for the grant to aid in funding the redesign and reconstruction of the Field and District Office entrances. The improved entrances, a recommendation of the District 31 Safety Committee including the Northbrook and Glenview Police Departments, would prohibit direct entrance into the buildings. They would require all visitors to first enter the office areas in order to provide proper identification and sign in before being allowed access into the other areas of the building. This grant will allow school districts to award a construction contract within two years and spend the money within five. Mrs. Lauria explained that the District received \$40,000 in impact fees from the townhouse development that is going up next to Salem Walk. Impact fees must be placed into the Capital Interest Fund and spent to improve the facilities within a timely manner. Member Stamatis asked what an impact fee is. Mrs. Lauria explained if there is a residential development within the school district's boundaries, the district receives money from the developer. The amount is based on the anticipated number of students the development might generate for the school district. Member Leshner questioned how much the improvement to the entrances would cost. Mrs. Lauria stated the Field entrance would cost approximately \$50,000 and the District Office entrance around \$25,000 to \$30,000 using solid materials. Mrs. Lauria confirmed that the Board's approval is only for the application to be submitted and not approval to begin construction. After further discussion, the Board agreed to approve the request to apply for the School Maintenance Program Grant.

Member Leshner made a motion to approve to apply for the School Maintenance Grant. Member Greenberg seconded the motion. The motion passed 7:0.

Superintendent Nicholson summarized the history of paid summer work and reviewed the recommended paid work for the summer of 2013. She explained that the amount listed for school nurses is based on last summer's allocation and before this summer's allocation is finalized, Director of Student Services Katie Marshall will be meeting with the nurses to review the work historically completed during the summer and identify tasks that can be eliminated or completed during the regular work year. Member Resis asked if we can ride the coattails of another district to save some summer work of identifying the apps to put on the iPad. Principal Murphy shared that District 30 and 34 have invited our staff to join their summer technology trainings. Member Kosta asked for an explanation of Safe & Civil Schools. Superintendent Nicholson explained that Response to Intervention requires school districts to adopt a program that teaches behavioral, social, and emotional skills, and that Safe &

Civil Schools is the program that District 31 adopted to do so. She explained that once the staff undergoes the initial training, a building level Safe & Civil Schools leadership team is formed and each year, the program is expanded until all areas are being covered. This annual expansion sometimes requires planning by the Safe & Civil School building level teams. Principal Maria Kalant updated the Board that Winkelman has completed its planning for 2013-2014 and will not need summer work. Member Skoulikaris questioned how the hourly rate is determined for summer pay. Superintendent Nicholson stated that teachers are paid the curriculum rate from the District's Teacher Agreement. Director of Business Services added that the nurses are paid based on their hourly rate.

Member Greenberg made a motion to approve the 2013 Summer Work. Member Leshner seconded the motion. The motion passed on a roll call, 7:0.

### **INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Mrs. Lauria summarized the monthly budget summaries and the monthly general ledgers explaining that these two reports were added to the monthly packet a few months ago to provide the Board a general idea of the District's status with expenses and revenues on a monthly basis.

Member Greenberg asked when we will know if the \$3 million will need to be used as a result of the Allstate appeals. Superintendent Nicholson stated that there is no simple answer because it depends on how long it takes in the court system. She stated that we have been in court for at least two years litigating Allstate's 2004-2006 appeal. She explained that time between offers takes months, and the court has combined approximately 150 different appeals that are all using the same research as a basis for their claims which has caused a delay in settling the appeal. Superintendent Nicholson further explained that once the 2004-2006 appeal is settled, we will know how much of the \$3 million we will need to put into the Education Fund to make up for the tax revenue that will be lost. Then, we will move on to settling Allstate's 2007-2009 appeal. We anticipate that will be the last Allstate appeal as long as we can continue to proactively work with Allstate and the Cook County Assessor to agree upon Allstate's property assessments before the tax bills go out. Member Greenberg asked if the District was funded for both the 2004-2006 and 2007-2009 appeals. Superintendent Nicholson confirmed that the \$3 million is for that purpose.

Mrs. Laura updated the Board on the Glenstar project. Ryan McBride from Lennar Corporation informed Mrs. Lauria that they are moving forward with the construction documents and preliminary pricing with the general contractors and hoping to begin grading some of the sight work and construction in September. Mrs. Lauria also spoke with Mary Bak with the Village of Glenview who reported that the only building that received a permit to date was Gardener School which is a daycare.

Mrs. Lauria reported that preliminary audits begin the week of June 10, 2013.

Member Skoulikaris asked if Mrs. Lauria can provide a projection of the rest of the revenue and expenses calculated for the year. Mrs. Lauria stated that information is in the budget, and that she also does a cash flow report.

### **BOARD REPORTS**

Member Leshner reported on NSSSED wherein he stated that there was not a quorum because a lot of member Boards did not yet have their new representatives. The bulk of the discussion was on necessary budget expenditures for physical improvements on numerous properties. 85% of the money needed is not budgeted for the improvements; however, there is money to do them. Member Resis questioned the need for the building improvements. Member Leshner stated that the building needing improvements is just one of NSSSED's four buildings.

Member Greenberg reported that the Education Foundation raised \$27,000 from the Boosterthon. This has been the highest grossed fundraiser over. That coupled with what was raised with the Winter Benefit and play, the Foundation will be able to write a check for \$50,000 to the District to fund the needed technology infrastructure that will support going 1:1. Member Greenberg mentioned that Mr. Resis has volunteered to work on the 5K with the Education Foundation. The 5K is scheduled for October 6, 2013.

#### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**

President Silver summarized what Freedom of Information Act is and how we as a district need to respond to them. Mrs. Lauria is our Freedom of Information Act Officer and she responds to the requests. This month we had two; gas provider information for Barb Hughes and Annual Financial Reports from 1992-1995 from Bill Miller.

#### **STUDENT ENROLLMENT**

Superintendent Nicholson summarized student enrollment explaining that each month there are two reports in the Board packet – one that shows month to month enrollment for the current school year and one that provides information about students transferring in/out of the District.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

Member Greenberg made a motion to set the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 salary for Jennifer Day, the District Technology Support Specialist, at \$40,003.75 and \$42,836.11. Member Lehner seconded the motion. The motion passed 7:0.

#### **ADJOURN MEETING**

Member Greenberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Leshner seconded the motion. The motion was passed 7:0. The Board adjourned at 10:10 PM.

---

Board President

---

Board Secretary

---

Date