



West Northfield School District 31

Board Briefs

Board of Education Regular Meeting — August 23, 2012

Board Briefs is a summary of developments at Board of Education Meetings for the community and staff.

2011-2013

Board of Education

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Bonnie Schoenberg
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Dr. Alexandra Nicholson
Superintendent

Board of Education meetings are held on the second and/or fourth Thursdays of the month at 7 p.m. in the Learning Center at Field School. The public is invited to attend.

PTC Report: Terah Bozarth, the new PTC Vice President of Publicity and Communication, introduced herself to the Board. She reported on the PTC's Welcome Luncheon for staff, as well as current fundraisers for school spirit wear and blizzard ice cream treats which are offered monthly at the schools during lunch. Order forms are available on the website. On behalf of the staff, Dr. Nicholson thanked the PTC for the wonderful luncheon and all their programs.

Consent Agenda Approval: The Board approved the Consent Agenda that included approving the employment of Erika Bolte, Winkelman Literacy Coach; Erica Sherman, Winkelman Russian Bilingual Teacher; Jacqueline Daul, Field Special Education Instructional Assistant; Erica Kallergis, Winkelman Special Education Instructional Assistant; Rosemarie Romano-Adler, Winkelman Special Education Instructional Assistant; Jamie Polakoff, Winkelman Special Education Instructional Assistant, Hilary Sinker, Winkelman Kindergarten Instructional Assistant; and Laura Blattner, Winkelman Title I Assistant. The Board also adopted policies on *Student Social and Emotional Development* and *Acceleration to the Higher Grade*.

Action Items:

- The Board approved the Educational Support Personnel Categorization, effective August 20, 2012.
- The Board approved the Tentative Budget for 2012-2013. A copy of the budget is available in the District Office as well as on the District website.
- The Board approved a 4-year lease agreement with Providence Capital Network for new Winkelman computer equipment. The first year's payment of \$36,000 will cost the District approximately \$8,000, with the Education Foundation donating \$28,000.
- The Board approved a resolution authorizing loans from the working cash fund into the education fund and transportation fund. These loans will be repaid as the District receives the 2012 property taxes.

Information and Discussion Items:

- **State of the District Report:** Prior to the meeting, Dr. Alexandra Nicholson provided the Board with a copy of the State of the District Report that she presented to staff at the first Teacher Institute meeting on August 20. This report will be featured on the website in the coming weeks.
- **ISBE ELL / Bilingual Compliance Review:** Katie Marshall, Director of Student Services, provided a report to the Board summarizing the results of the Compliance Review and improvements made to the ELL / Bilingual Program.

Board Report—Education Foundation: Bonnie Schoenberg regretfully reported that the District 31 Education Foundation has gone on inactive status until new volunteers step forward to provide leadership for this fundraising non-profit organization. Mrs. Schoenberg, a former Foundation Board President, noted that the most recent Board members have given their time and service to this District 31 organization for a number years, and successfully sponsored the 5K Family Fun Run/Walk and the Winter Benefit raising thousands of dollars for technology, professional development and other programs to enhance the education of children in District 31. New parent volunteers are encouraged to reactivate the Education Foundation and should contact Dr. Alexandra Nicholson for details.

Board Policies: Erin Murphy, Field Principal, submitted "first read" Board policies on *Communicable and Chronic Diseases*, *Teaching About Controversial Issues*, *Teaching About Religions*, and *Using Animals in Educational Programs*. The Board will vote to adopt these policies at the September meeting.

Student Enrollment: Dr. Alexandra Nicholson reported on enrollment for the new school year. Winkelman enrollment for the first day of school is 525 students including 67 students in kindergarten with four classes, 79 students in first grade with four classes, 96 students in second grade with five classes, 82 students in third grade with four classes, 96 students in fourth grade with four classes, and 105 students in fifth grade with five classes. Field's first day enrollment is 309 students with 94 students in sixth grade, 118 students in seventh grade and 97 students in eighth grade. Dr. Nicholson also summarized reports outlining the history of student enrollment dating back to 1999-2000.

Next Meeting: The Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, September 27, in the Field School Learning Center, 2055 Landwehr Road, Northbrook.