

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 27  
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Regular Meeting of 11/21/19      The regular meeting of November 21, 2019 of the Board of Education, School District 27 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Wood Oaks Library, 1250 Sanders Road, in said district.

Roll Call      On call of the roll, the following members were present:

Present:      Mrs. Helen Melnick, president  
                 Mr. Alex Frum, vice president  
                 Mrs. Laurie Garber-Amram  
                 Mrs. Melissa Copeland  
                 Mr. Ed Feld  
                 Mr. Brian Paich

Staff:      Dr. David Kroeze, superintendent  
                 Dr. Kimberly Arakelian, assistant superintendent  
                 Dr. Theresa Fournier, assistant superintendent  
                 Dr. Katharine Olson, assistant superintendent

Absent:      Mr. Frank Andreou

President Melnick called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Communications  
Board

Community Comments  
None

Staff

The Board of Education recognized Mr. Douglas Heurich, Director of Facilities for District 27, and the Building Custodial Chiefs for their dedicated service to provide best in class and best practice in facilities management. The District just completed an Illinois State Board of Education Facilities Inspection as well as a State Fire Marshall inspection with no violations. Both inspectors gave high praise to District 27 for its exceptional schools. The Board thanked our Facilities staff and Mr. Heurich for their consistent work to provide a safe, caring and supportive learning environment for our students, staff, and parents.

The Board of Education recognized Board Member Melissa Copeland upon receiving Master Board Member status presented by the Illinois Association of School Boards. This award is presented because of the time and effort she has devoted to self-improvement and leadership activities, and to achieving the Association's mission of excellence in local school governance.

Mr. Feld reported on the NSSED Leadership Council Meeting of November 13, 2019. NSSED will be starting contract negotiations for certified and non-certified staff. The NSSED Finance Committee met on November 6, 2019. Dr. Arakelian is a member of the Committee and reported to the Board that the Committee has extended the timeline for presenting a Financial Model to member Districts. They are looking at the data of other agencies and cooperatives, the services they provide, and their financial models.

Mr. Frum reported on the Finance Committee Meeting of November 5, 2019. He reported that the Committee discussed the Tentative Tax Levy, and recommended a 3.95% Tax Levy which is 2.05% over the CPI of 2018. The Finance Committee is looking to set a date in January for its next meeting. At that meeting, the Committee will review financial projections for the next five years. It will also consider its capital improvements particularly roof and HVAC replacement at Wood Oaks, Shabonee, and Hickory Point. At that time, the Committee will start reviewing the Fund Balance Reserve balance as it looks at the scope of the upcoming building projects.

Mrs. Copeland reported on the Policy Committee meeting held on November 13, 2019. She reported that there were 60 policies that were reviewed. The policy language is similar or identical to the previous version of the policy. The policies have been legally reviewed by the attorneys at the Illinois Association of School Boards. Under New Business, there are 18 policies that warrant Board review for approval at the December 5, 2019 Board meeting. The updates/edits for these policies include:

- Sexual harassment training
- Child abuse and neglect reporting
- Administration of medication
- Medical cannabis administration at the school
- Recreational cannabis (forbidden on school property)
- Due process and parental notice regarding agency and police interviews of students.

Dr. Kroeze reported to the Board on an Emergency Action issued by the Illinois State Board of Education regarding Seclusion in Schools. ProPublica and the Chicago Tribune conducted an investigation into the use of isolated seclusion in Illinois schools. It primarily includes special education coops who work with students who have regulation problems and have behavioral and emotional issues, as well as larger school districts that might be servicing the children on their own. As a result of the report, the Governor was quite concerned and directed the ISBE to file emergency actions. There are three broad areas 1) there would be an end to isolated seclusion, 2) more data collection by the State, and 3) the State is going to investigate reports of misuse.

Dr. Kroeze updated the Board on the Special Education Action Plan. He stated that there were two key initiatives this year 1) to explore other childhood centers to see if we could develop a partnership to serve our preschool children 2) create a shared service agreement within the Township for implementation of programs. Dr. Olson added that progress was made developing a partnership with the Northbrook Park District Sunshine Preschool Program. Numerous discussions have occurred

with the Director of the Sunshine Program, an NSSED representative, Dr. Olson and Mrs. Revello. Their plan is to have in place for the 2020-2021 school year one 3-year old co-taught program and one 4-year old co-taught program. The Park District would retain its teacher and we would jointly work with NSSED to hire a triple certified teacher, who would be certified in Early Childhood, Early Childhood Special Education and EL. That teacher would co-teach with the Park District's existing teachers. In the upcoming year we are looking for NSSED to oversee the Program, and we would be working with them to build our capacity to oversee a pre-school program. In the 2021-2022 school year District 27 will assume full responsibility of the oversight of the students and the programming that they receive. We would also be responsible for the co-teacher who would be hired by District 27 will be delivering the key instruction with the support of NSSED. During this process, we will continue to use NSSED for additional services. By the end of December, we should know how many slots will be available for our school district. Dr. Kroeze added that we are in the process of drafting an Intergovernmental Agreement for Shared Services with all Township School districts. The draft Agreement will be reviewed at our December 19, 2019 Board meeting. Our expectation is to have all districts approve the Agreement by February 2020.

Dr. Fournier reported on the Veteran's Day Celebrations. It was the first year District 27 had students in attendance on that day. Hickory Point students welcomed Veterans at an assembly and honored them with patriotic songs, speeches, and breakfast. Some second graders also read letters they wrote thanking veterans for their service. Shabonee students took turns introducing family members who had served in the military. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade band and 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grade choir entertained the audience. Some 5<sup>th</sup> graders shared their essays about heroism, bravery, and gratitude for those who have fought for our freedoms. Wood Oaks students received an inspiring message from former Navy SEAL, Shane Anderson. He told students to become the "best version" of themselves and to work on the little things in life so that they will be ready for the big things later. Principal Rob McElligott, also a military veteran, spoke briefly about his experience. The students presented Anderson with a school flag as well as \$300 they raised as a donation to the Navy Seals Foundation. Board member Alex Frum, a military veteran, attended the Hickory Point and Shabonee celebrations.

Dr. Fournier and Dr. Olson updated the Board on the November 8<sup>th</sup> Professional Development Day. There were two parts to the day, the first part of the day focused on our social emotional strands and the second part of the day was academic learning and instruction. The six strands of learning include Executive Functions, Mindfulness I and II, Learning Differences of Boys and Girls, Restorative Practices, and Mental Health and Strategies for In-Class Behavior Management. Dr. Olson stated that as part of the Strategic Plan, Science curriculum revision is a major area of focus, and teachers across all grade levels were working on Science curriculum revision. Nurses and PE teachers were engaged in CPR recertification.

Dr. Fournier reported to the Board on the November 14<sup>th</sup> Parent Education Workshop presentation by Dr. Doug Bolton. He delivered a compelling message that attachment is the foundation for resilience and regulation. About 100 parents were in attendance. Dr. Bolton will be with the parents again on January 15, 2020. He will unfold some of the "myths" of parenting, and he will share strategies for effective parenting.

Dr. Fournier presented an enrollment update to the Board. Hickory Point is maintaining 17-20 students per classroom, Shabonee has 22 students per class or under, one class moved to 23. We are in a good position with our student/teacher ratio.

Dr. Fournier reported that the District received a FOIA from WLS-TV regarding the incidences and consequences of vaping, and was responded to in an appropriate amount of time.

#### Consent Agenda

Mrs. Melnick called for Review of the Consent Agenda items.

#### Financial Report

Mr. Paich presented the Financial Report. He reported that the District remains in a stable financial position. As of month end October, the cumulative fund balance was at an 89% reserve level. As a reminder, the District utilizes fund balance reserve for the months of September through January and April through June to cover regular operating expenses. On the revenue side of the budget, the majority of the receipts recorded are for property tax collections. We continue to receive distributions for the 2<sup>nd</sup> installment 2018 taxes. We will update the Board on the property tax collection rate when we close December month end statements. On the expenditure side of the budget, there are no unfavorable budget to actual line items to report. We have accounted for property tax refunds in October. As of month end, property tax refunds total \$234,976. On the Statement of Investments, the average rate of return for month end October was 1.96%.

#### No. 18687      Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 24, 2019

Mrs. Garber-Amram moved and Mr. Paich seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 24, 2019.

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Copeland (electronic), Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Andreou

#### No. 18688      Approval of Minutes of the Closed Session of October 24, 2019

Mrs. Garber-Amram moved and Mr. Paich seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Closed Session of October 24, 2019.

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Copeland (electronic), Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Andreou

**No. 18689**      Acceptance of Retirement Letter

Mrs. Garber-Amram moved and Mr. Paich seconded the motion that the Board of Education accept the Retirement letter from Mrs. Betty Greenholt, Nurse at Wood Oaks:

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Copeland (electronic), Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Andreou

**No. 18690**      Statement of Claims for November 2019, Approved

Mrs. Garber-Amram moved and Mr. Paich seconded the motion that the Statement of Claims for November, 2019, in the amount of \$1,522,717.31, be approved, and that this report be made part of the official minutes.

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Copeland (electronic), Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Andreou

**No. 18691**      Statement of Position for October 2019, Approved

Mrs. Garber-Amram moved and Mr. Paich seconded the motion that the Statement of Position for October 2019, in the amount of \$25,346,739.97, be approved, and that this report be made part of the official minutes.

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Copeland (electronic), Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Andreou

Copies of the Statement of Investments for the period ending October 2019 were distributed to Board members for their review. This report shows that as of this date, the district has \$24,963,858.57 invested in funds that are earning interest at rates that range from 0.01 to 2.65 percent. This report is to be made part of the official minutes.

**No. 18692**      Statement of Receipts for October 2019, Approved

Mrs. Garber-Amram moved and Mr. Paich seconded the motion that the Statement of Receipts for October 2019, in the amount of \$582,799.25, be approved, and that this report be made part of the official minutes.

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Copeland (electronic), Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Andreou

**No. 18693**      Status of Appropriations for October 2019, Approved

Mrs. Garber-Amram moved and Mr. Paich seconded the motion that Status of Appropriations for October 2019, in the amount of \$2,264,701.30, be approved, and that this report be made part of the official minutes.

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Copeland (electronic), Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Andreou

**No. 18694**      Wood Oaks Activity Account for October 2019

Mrs. Garber-Amram moved and Mr. Paich seconded the motion that the Wood Oaks Activity Account for October 2019, in the amount of \$19,740.87, be approved, and that this report be made part of the official minutes.



On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Copeland (electronic), Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Andreou

**No. 18695**      Revolving Fund for November 2019, Approved

Mrs. Garber-Amram moved and Mr. Paich seconded the motion that the Revolving Fund for November, 2019, in the amount of \$6,823.12, be approved, and that this report be made part of the official minutes.

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Copeland (electronic), Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Andreou

**No. 18696**      Payroll Dated October 30, 2019, Ratified

Mrs. Garber-Amram moved and Mr. Paich seconded the motion that the payroll dated October 30, 2019, in the amount of \$815,716.18, be ratified, and that this report be made part of the official minutes.

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Copeland (electronic), Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Andreou

**No. 18697**      Payroll Dated November 15, 2019, Ratified

Mrs. Garber-Amram moved and Mr. Paich seconded the motion that the payroll dated November 15, 2019, in the amount of \$807,148.42, be ratified, and that this report be made part of the official minutes.

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Copeland (electronic), Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Andreou

**No. 18698**      Approval of Bid for New District Truck

As recommended by the superintendent, Mrs. Garber-Amram moved and Paich seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the bid submitted by Bredemann Ford in Glenview, in the amount of \$35,234, for the purchase of a 2020 F250 truck.

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Copeland (electronic), Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Andreou

**No. 18699**      Approval of Updates to Policies:

- Section 2 School Board: 2:40, 2:50, 2:60, 2:70, 2:150, 2:230, 2:240, 2:250, 2:260
- Section 3 General School Administration: 3:10, 3:40
- Section 4 Operational Services: 4:15, 4:20, 4:40, 4:60, 4:90, 4:100, 4:130, 4:140, 4:150, 4:160, 4:170, 4:175
- Section 5 Personnel: 5:30, 5:35, 5:40, 5:60, 5:100, 5:130, 5:150, 5:180, 5:190, 5:200, 5:220, 5:230, 5:250, 5:260, 5:300, 5:330
- Section 6 Instruction: 6:15, 6:20, 6:40, 6:50, 6:60, 6:110, 6:150, 6:210, 6:340
- Section 7 Students: 7:70, 7:100, 7:170, 7:180, 7:185, 7:200, 7:250, 7:260, 7:290, 7:305, 7:340
- Section 8 Community Relations: 8:95

As recommended by the superintendent, Mrs. Garber-Amram moved and Mr. Paich seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the updates to the policies.



On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Copeland (electronic), Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Andreou

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

**No. 18700**

Approval of the 2019 Tentative Tax Levy

Upon recommendation by the superintendent, Mrs. Garber-Amram moved and Mr. Paich seconded the Board of Education adopts the following tentative 2019 tax levy and that a final tax levy be recommended for approval on December 19, 2019.

|                               | <u>2019 Tentative Tax Levy</u> |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Education                     | \$25,409,330                   |
| Operations and Maintenance    | \$ 1,113,521                   |
| Transportation                | \$ 878,412                     |
| Illinois Municipal Retirement | \$ 175,000                     |
| Social Security               | \$ 661,323                     |
| Working Cash                  | \$ 110                         |
| TOTAL                         | \$28,237,696                   |

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Copeland (electronic), Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: Mr. Andreou

First Read of Policies:

- a. 7:20 Harassment of Student Prohibited
- b. 7:190 Student Behavior
- c. 7:270 Administering Medication to Students
- d. 2:105 Ethics and Gift Ban
- e. 2:110 Qualifications, Term, and Duties of Board Officers
- f. 2:20 Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification

- g. 2:100 Board Member Conflict of Interest
- h. 2:120 Board Member Development
- i. 2:200 Types of School Board Meetings
- j. 2:220 School Board Meeting Procedure
- k. 4:45 Debt Recovery
- l. 5:10 Equal Employment
- m. 5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited
- n. 5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting
- o. 5:120 Employee Ethics; Conduct; and Conflict of Interest
- p. 5:290 Employment Termination and Suspension
- q. 7:150 Agency and Police Interviews
- r. 8:30 Visitors to and Conduct on School Property

Good and Welfare

Mr. Frum thanked the District on behalf of all of the Veterans that attended the Veteran's Day activities. The District currently has three parents on active duty. Many parents and grandparents were very pleased to have the opportunity to interact with their children.


Closed Session

None

**Adjournment** There being no further business to come before the Board at this time Mr. Paich moved and Mrs. Garber-Amram seconded the motion that the meeting is adjourned.

The motion was unanimously approved, and President Melnick called the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

CERTIFIED TO BE CORRECT:

  
PRESIDENT

  
SECRETARY