

**Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting of Hawthorn Community Consolidated District #73, Lake County, Illinois conducted In-Person in accordance with Tier 3 Mitigation Requirements imposed through Executive Order 2020-73—reissued by Executive Order 2020-74
Meeting Location: Hawthorn District Office: 841 West End Court, Vernon Hills, IL 60061**

7:00 p.m. on the 7th day of October 2021

CALL TO ORDER

President Robin Cleek called the Board of Education meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The Board Secretary called attendance, and the following members attended in person: Joel Finfer, George Fievet, Michael Engle, Sonali Patil, Wes Polen, Karl Borchers and Robin Cleek. Also in attendance were the Asst. Supt. of Business & Finance Ms. LeeAnn Taylor; Asst. Supt. of Teaching, Learning & Innovation Ms. Allison Stein; Asst. Supt. for Human Resources Mr. Adam Palmer, Asst. Supt. of Student Services, Ms. Alicia Corrigan, Coordinator of District Communications, Mr. Michael McFarlin and Superintendent Dr. Pete Hannigan.

RECOGNITION

Vice President Wes Polen spoke on behalf of the recognition committee and recognized Board President, Ms. Robin Cleek, for achieving Master Board Member Level Two status by the Illinois Association of School Boards. The IASB Master Board Member Program recognizes board members for their leadership and service to the public education community and their time and efforts to ongoing professional development.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was made or received via email.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements were made.

PRESENTATIONS

The Coordinator of District Communications, Mr. Michael McFarlin, presented Hawthorn District 73's communication plan at tonight's meeting. The communication plan was created to support the district's mission statement. The district's last communication strategy was developed in 2017, but the district since then has seen a different landscape, especially in terms of technology and demographics. The district contracted an outside consulting firm, CESO Communications, to perform a strategic communication audit to create a baseline communication assessment for the district. From the data that CESO provided, Hawthorn District 73 implemented a communication plan based on their recommendations for improving internal and external communications. Some presented objectives were supporting and communicating the progress made in achieving the district's strategic goals, fostering strong relationships with all stakeholders, raising awareness of the contributions from the local community, and undertaking a brand-building process to strengthen and communicate the Hawthorn brand.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

CSBO, Ms. LeeAnn Taylor, presented the Facility Planning and Bond Issuance at tonight's meeting. She started the presentation by reminding the board of the timeline that had been presented in previous meetings. On September 9, an overview of enrollment projections and bond issuances was reviewed. On September 23rd, the Five-Year Facility Plan and the Design Development Approval of Hawthorn Middle School South and Hawthorn Aspen School were reviewed. On October 21, the board will have the opportunity to approve the bonds for Phase 4 and Phase 5 of construction. On November 16, the discussion can begin regarding operating fund balance transfer to capital projects.

The facilities and district leadership team have prioritized \$25.4 million in projects to be completed over the next five years. It is important to note that all costs are estimated and could be greatly impacted by supply chain challenges, labor shortages, and uncertain material costs. CSBO, Ms. LeeAnn Taylor discussed three possible funding sources for the projects. The first funding source is the recommendation of the administrative team and finance committee. This source entails using the referendum funds and taking advantage of the historically low rates and issuing all remaining bonds to complete the \$24.5 million in projects over five years. The second funding source is to complete the \$24.5 million in projects over five years using district sources, causing a decrease in the current fund balance. This option should be considered cautiously due to the uncertainty of material costs, labor market and supply chain. The third funding source would be to elongate the current projects and spread them out over eight years instead of five years and utilizing \$1 million per year from operating

October 7, 2021

funds. CSBO, Ms. LeeAnn Taylor, asked the Board of Education to confirm the next steps for the resolution. The Board of Education reached a consensus for Ms. LeeAnn Taylor to present the resolution for \$15.5 million at the October 21 board meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hannigan reported the updates on the COVID-19 Dashboard. As of last week, October 11, 2021, the district reported eight students tested positive for COVID-19. The year-to-date number of students who have tested positive is 55. As of last week, October 11, 2021, the district reported zero staff members who have tested positive for COVID-19. The year-to-date number of staff members who have tested positive for COVID-19 is six. The number of students who have been placed under quarantine as of last Friday is 16. The year-to-date number of students placed under quarantine is 81. There were no staff members placed under quarantine as of last Friday. The year-to-date number of staff members who have been placed under quarantine is four.

Since August 23, 2021, the district has had 67 students across the district participate in "Test-to-Stay" rather than quarantine. All students to date have tested negative. The district will be revising the COVID-19 dashboard and may be launched by Friday, October 8 or the following week.

The district will be sending out communication in the near future regarding COVID-19 vaccination cards for students 12 years and older. The district will be asking families to upload COVID-19 vaccination cards into their PowerSchool Portal account. The upload of vaccination cards will be voluntary. The collection of COVID-19 vaccination cards will help the district with contact tracing.

The district has participated in three rounds of SHIELD testing. There were two rounds on the South campus and one round on the North campus. The district has received the results on all testing sessions, and there are no positive cases to report. Dr. Hannigan is working with Jewel-Osco to host two student vaccination clinics once a vaccination is available for students five years of age and older.

Dr. King visited the district and had 1:1 sessions with building principals to focus on school improvement planning, analyzing common assessments and data, MTSS, etc. He will be back out in December.

The district will be participating in a teacher institute day on Friday, October 8, 2021. This day will provide teachers and staff support with professional development, PLC times, interventions, common assessments, team planning, Bridges Training, SEL sessions, grading practices for middle schools, etc.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Robin Cleek thanked everyone who helped remodel the district boardroom. It is a big upgrade for a reasonable cost. President Robin Cleek emailed the updated board agreements to all board members and asked for suggestions or revisions. There were no revisions or suggestions at this time. President Robin Cleek received consensus to move forward with the current board agreements until the next board review. President Robin Cleek will discuss the IASB Delegate Assembly for the next meeting. She continues to look for safety mitigations but has not found anything on their website.

ED-RED REPORT

Mr. Joel Finfer reported that he and Dr. Hannigan attended the ED-RED kick-off luncheon on September 24. During the luncheon, ED-RED announced legislative priorities for the upcoming year. Some priorities included TIF and detail reform, professional development and mandates, and adding school districts as qualified petitioners under the firearms restraining order act. They will also be focusing on Special Education funding.

SEDOL REPORT

Mr. Michael Engle reported that SEDOL met on September 23, 2021, for their executive board meeting. A brief overview was given of their current school improvement plan, which focuses on their strategic plan. Each building will be forming leadership teams. Those teams will be comparing data and help with decision-making to create an action plan for student learning opportunities. The next executive board meeting is on October 28, 2021, and the next governing meeting will be on November 1, 2021.

KEY to 73 REPORT

No report at this time.

SITE & FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

No report at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 7.1 Board Meeting Minutes September 23, 2021
- 7.2 Personnel Report

5 New Hires: Shannon Lee, .5 Art Teacher, DL; Natalie Sanchez, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, ES; Aruna Jain, 1:1 Instructional Assistant, EN; Sydney McHenry, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, EN; Sandra Sermeno, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, DL

2 Resignations: Cielo Moioffer, Lunch/Recess Supervisor, HSYL, 9/22/2021; Lori Myers-Optiz, Nurse, HSYL, 10/8/2021

1 Leave of Absence: Heather Swiecicki, 3rd-grade teacher, TL

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve the **Consent Agenda** items as presented; seconded by Karl Borchers.

Roll Call Vote: Wes Polen, Sonali Patil, Robin Cleek, Joel Finfer, George Fievet, Michael Engle and Karl Borchers.

Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays

CSBO Ms. LeeAnn Taylor explained the action item on tonight's agenda. The district requested approval from the Board of Education to apply for the School Maintenance Project Grant. Once the application has been submitted, CSBO Ms. LeeAnn Taylor will communicate to the board with any updates.

ACTION ITEMS -

Approval to Apply for the School Maintenance Project Grant

MOTION: Joel Finfer moved that the Board of Education approve to apply for the School Maintenance Project Grant; Wes Polen seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Wes Polen, Sonali Patil, Robin Cleek, Joel Finfer, George Fievet, Michael Engle and Karl Borchers.

Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays

October 7, 2021

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Enrollment- Uploaded
2. FOIA Log, Dr. Hannigan reported that there were three FOIA requests received since the last board meeting that have been responded to as identified in Section 9.2 of the Board Agenda.
3. Board Email Log
4. Media Clips

TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

No topics for future discussion

ADJOURN SESSION – With no further business to discuss, Sonali Patil made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Michael Engle. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m. **All in favor? Yes.**

Motion carried: 7 ayes; 0 nays

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Flores

Robin Cleek, President

George Fievet, Secretary

Date Minutes Approved: _____