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Weekly Update - Board Packet
BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 98
September 30, 2021 - 6:30 PM.
Berwyn North District Office
6633 West 16th Street
Berwyn, IL 60402

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting began at 6:34 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mounce, Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown

Members Absent: Bruno, Kulis-Kearns Valeriano

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President Mounce.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Superintendent, Dr. Michelle Smith brought to light an issue that plagues communities like Berwyn. The issue of school ratings in major real estate portals being lower in lower income communities was analyzed in an article from School Sparrow. They challenged the direct correlation between the school ratings in lower income communities to that of higher income communities. School Sparrow explained in this article why they felt the ratings given to communities like Berwyn were incorrect and unfair. Dr. Smith thought that this article shed a positive light on this issue and wanted to share it with the Board and community.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Ms. Rhonda parent of a student at Havlicek School wanted to bring up the issue of the traffic in the drop off lane. She worries that this issue is becoming out of hand. She has noticed parents double parking and leaving their vehicles unattended while they drop off their children. This wouldn't be an issue except that they do not return right away but maybe 20 minutes later. This limits the flow of traffic and delays the drop offs at Havlicek making some students late. Ms. Rhonda wanted to know why staff are not out directing traffic as they have done in prior years and what can be done to facilitate the drop of the students.

Dr. Smith, replied that this year the start time is earlier and teacher & paraprofessional are in classrooms preparing to receive students. Superintendent Smith will speak to Administrators at the schools and figure out how to alleviate the issue.

VI. PUBLIC HEARING

Regina Johnson, Chief School Business Official, presented the FY22 Budget to the Board and community. Ms. Johnson informed the Board and community that Berwyn North is in great financial standing.

VII. BOARD COMMENT

A. Member Cuevas wanted to know if we could send the article from School Sparrow to the Berwyn Development Corporation to put it in their magazine. She feels that it truly is a discredit not to be recognized. Dr. Smith let her know that the representative from

School Sparrow has tagged the article on our Facebook, Twitter, and Stephanie our new PR Manager will post it on our district website.

- B. Member Swade wanted clarification on how they calculate the expected score and actual score to come up with their calculation for their rating. Dr. Smith will follow up.
- C. Member Brown likes the idea of sending the article to the Berwyn Development Corp. or sending it to real estate agencies in the community.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes

- 1. Regular Meeting Minutes: 8/26/2021
- 2. Executive Meeting Minutes: 8/26/2021
- 3. Special Meeting Minutes: 9/21/2021
- 4. Executive Meeting Minutes: 9/21/2021

B. Approval of Personnel

1. New Hires:

- a. Sophia Giurini, General Education Teacher at Prairie Oak Elementary School, for the 2021-2022 School Year.
- b. Susan Koclanis, Special Education Teacher at Havlicek Elementary School for the 2021-2022 School Year.
- c. Lori De Laurentis, Paraprofessional at Prairie Oak Elementary School for the 2021-2022 School Year.
- d. Jessica Perez, Lunchroom Supervisor at Jefferson Elementary for the 2021-2022 School Year.
- e. Stephanie Barba, PR Marketing Specialist at District Office for the 2021-2022 School Year.
- f. Paola Aguayo, Paraprofessional at Prairie Oak Elementary School for the 2021-2022 School Year.
- g. Carolina Castro-Lara, Lunchroom Supervisor at Jefferson Elementary for the 2021-2022 School Year.
- h. Lori Saliga, Paraprofessional at Prairie Oak Elementary School for the 2021-2022 School Year.
- i. Breyana Able, Lunchroom Supervisor at Jefferson Elementary for the 2021-2022 School Year.
- j. Patrick McAndrew, Social Studies Teacher at Lincoln Middle School for the 2021-2022 School Year.

2. Resignations:

- a. Elisa Castaneda, Lunchroom Supervisor at Havlicek Elementary School has submitted a Letter of Resignation effective September 1, 2021.
- b. Marisela Rodriguez, Paraprofessional at Prairie Oak Elementary School has submitted a Letter of Resignation effective September 1, 2021.
- c. VeLisa Tyson, PBI Specialist at Prairie Oak Elementary School has submitted a Letter of Resignation effective September 9, 2021.
- d. Douglas Wold, Paraprofessional at Prairie Oak Elementary School has submitted a Letter of Resignation effective October 1, 2021.
- e. Harrison Waite, Paraprofessional at Havlicek Elementary School has submitted a letter of Resignation effective September 24, 2021.

3. Leaves:

- a. Lia Villagomez, Special Education Teacher at Lincoln Middle School has requested an FMLA Leave to start on November 5, 2021 and ending on February 14, 2022.
- b. Therese Thomas, Physical Education Teacher at Lincoln Middle School has requested an FMLA Leave to start on December 20, 2021 and ending on February 25, 2022.

4. Reassignments:

C. Approval of Building Use Applications

1. Building Use - Lincoln Middle School - LMS PTSA - Krispy Kreme Fundraiser - 9/25/2021 - 6:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
2. Building Use - Lincoln Middle School - LMS PTSA - General Meetings - 9/7/2021 - 6/6/2022 - 4:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.
3. Building Use - Jefferson Elementary School - Caprice Williams & Lyte Collective - Filming Season 2 of short web series "Journey" - 10/23/2021 - 8: a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

D. Approval of Authorization of next month's payroll

1. Approval of Invoices - \$ 1,810,771.45
2. Approval of Monthly Payroll - 1,875,462.04
3. Approval of Authorization of next month's payroll – October

APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

Member Brown moved and was seconded by Member Cuevas that the Board approve the following items listed on the Consent Agenda. Approval of Minutes Item A 1-4, Personnel Item B 1-4, Building Use Item C 1-3, and Finance Item D 1-3 as submitted.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, and Mounce

IX. ACTION ITEMS

A. Resolution to Adopt the Budget for Fiscal Year 22

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 22

Member Paul-Emile moved and was seconded by Member Cuevas that the Board approve the Resolution to Adopt the Budget for the Fiscal Year 22.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, and Mounce

B. Approval to purchase Water Bottle Fillers

APPROVAL TO PURCHASE WATER BOTTLE FILLERS

Member Brown moved and was seconded by Member Cuevas that the Board approve the purchase 13 water bottle fillers from Greg Hannah Plumbing at a cost of \$32,825. The breakdown as follows: 4 units Lincoln Middle School, 2 units Havlicek Elementary, 4 units Prairie Oak Elementary and 3 units Jefferson Elementary.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, and Mounce

C. Approval to Replace Hot Water Tank and Water Pipes at Havlicek Elementary School

APPROVAL TO REPLACE HOT WATER TANK AND WATER PIPES AT HAVLICEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Member Brown moved and was seconded by Member Cuevas that the Board approve AJAK Mechanical to replace the hot water tank at Havlicek Elementary School at a cost of \$13,940. The Board decided that the work to replace the water pipes at Havlicek Elementary School merits further discussion. This item will be tabled to the October board meeting.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, and Mounce

D. Approval of FOBs

APPROVAL OF FOBs

Member Paul-Emile moved and was seconded by Member Brown that the Board approve the purchase of door FOBs from Seconds Matter Safety Solutions at a cost of \$37,935 for a total of \$42,000. (Havlicek Elementary School required another access point.)

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, and Mounce

E. Approval to Hire Security Guards for Lincoln Middle School

APPROVAL TO HIRE SECURITY GUARDS FOR LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL

This item requires further discussion of the District 98 Board of Education and will be tabled to the October board meeting.

X. INFORMATION AND REPORTS

A. Monthly Fund Report

Regina Johnson, Chief School Business Official, presented the monthly fund report to the Board and community.

B. Certified Staff Salaries and Benefits for 2021-2022

Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefits Report - School Year 2021

- a. Administrative Compensation Report - On or before October 1 (105 ILCS 5/10-20.47) Cities over 500,000 - (105 ILCS 5/34-18.38)
- b. Teacher Salary and Benefits Report (105 ILCS 5/10-20.47) Cities over 500,000 - (105 ILCS 5/34-18.38)

C. IMRF Employee Compensation Package - \$75,000.00 and Over

2022 IMRF Total Compensation Package: a.) IMRF employees making in excess of \$75,000 TCP and b.) IMRF employees earning a minimum of \$150,000 TCP

- a. IMRF employees making in excess of \$75,000 Total Compensation Package (TCP) posted on the website 6 days after approval of the budget (105 ILCS 120/7.3)
- b. IMRF employees earning a minimum \$150,000 Total Compensation Package (TCP) posted on the website 6 days prior to approving their TCP (105 ILCS 120/7.3)

D. FOIA Request:

1. A FOIA request was made on 8/27/2021 by Angel Tomis from SteepSteal, LLC requesting active leases/licenses for cell towers, rooftop antennas, or other wireless installations on property owned or managed by Berwyn North School District, along with 24 months of associated payment history.
A response to the request was sent on 8/27/2021 with the following statement: This FOIA request is N/A to Berwyn North School District.
2. A FOIA request was made on 9/15/2021 by Janie Jordan from Data Research Partners LLC, requesting a list of Berwyn North 98 employees' first and last names, e-mail address, title of position and primary location. This list was provided on 9/15/2021.
3. A FOIA request was made on 9/17/2021 by Vince Espi from LocalLabs requesting all materials in our district that fall under the 1619 project curriculum. An example provided for reference to the 1619 project contains works with the following titles and authors: "America Wasn't a Democracy Until Black Americans Made It One", essay by Nikole Hannah-Jones. Mr. Espi also requested a list of all books written by author Ibram X. Kendi (aka Henry Rogers) or Robin DiAngelo that are used in curriculum or libraries in our district.
A response to the request was sent on 9/17/2021 with the following statement: Berwyn North School District 98 does not have any curriculum related to the list of topics provided by LocalLabs. However, we have at least one copy of a book by the author, Ibram X. Kendi, at each school. One copy of the book "Antiracist Baby" at each of the elementary schools and "Stamped" at the middle school.

XI. Calendar of Events

A. Upcoming Events

October 6

International Walk to School Day

October 11

Indigenous People's Day

October 28

BOE Meeting - District Office - Virtual - 6:30 p.m.

October 29

Half-day School Improvement - Students are dismissed at 11:20 a.m.

November 16

BPAC Presents - Dr. Jose Medina: The Importance of Bilingualism and Biliteracy

November 18

BOE Meeting - District Office - Virtual - 6:30 p.m.

November 22

Parent/Teacher Conferences - 4:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Students attend classes

November 23

Parent/Teacher Conferences - 8:10 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Students have No classes

November 24

Conference Exchange – No School

November 25-26

Thanksgiving Break – No School

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. Donna Miller asked about the timeline for when the water bottle fillers will be installed at Havlicek Elementary. Dr. Smith let Donna know that the timeline is highly dependent on the plumbers.
Ms. Miller posed a second question in regards to conferences. Since, conferences are virtual, will teachers be able to conduct conferences from home? Ms. Smith did let Donna know that it may be possible that the evening conferences are from home, however the full day conferences will have to be a work day. Dr. Smith will confer with Administrators and teaching staff will be notified of the final decision.
- B. Ms. Burns would like to contest the school lunch issue. Students do not have enough time to eat. Her second grader is only able to eat half of her lunch before she is rushed outside for recess at Jefferson. As a result children arrive home hungry. Ms. Burns voiced that there are many other parents posting on social media in regards to this issue. Dr. Smith will be following up with Jefferson and all schools. Per the Superintendent what is currently happening is that this year the state mandated a 30 minutes recess for all students in K-5th. There are not enough minutes in the day to comply with the mandate and her intension was not to take instructional minutes away in order to comply. Dr. Smith is aware that we are struggling to find a happy medium where students have enough time to eat and we are complying with recess.
Ms. Burns had a follow up question in regards to students having recess outside when the temperature is 30 degrees; will students be given more time to bundle up before the go out to recess? Ms. Smith acknowledge that we do not have a plan this is the first year that the state mandates a 30 minute recess. Superintendent Smith will have to go back to the drawing board in order to figure this out.

XIII. BOARD COMMENT

- A. None stated.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT MOTION TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Member Paul-Emile moved and was seconded by Member Brown that the Regular Meeting of the District 98 Board of Education adjourn to Executive Session at 7:28 p.m., Thursday, September 30, 2021 for the purpose of discussing the following items:

1. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase, Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).
2. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).
3. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5)
4. Litigation, when an action against, affecting, or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding must be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).

MOTION TO RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION

Member Brown moved and was seconded by Member Cuevas that the Regular Meeting of the District 98 Board of Education reconvenes from Executive Session at 8:55 p.m., Thursday, September 30, 2021.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, and Mounce

XV. NEW BUSINESS

A. None stated.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Member Paul-Emile moved and was seconded by Member Cuevas that the Regular Meeting of the District 98 Board of Education adjourn at 8:58 p.m., Thursday, September 30, 2021.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Swade, Paul-Emile, Cuevas, Brown, and Mounce.

Dr. Michelle Smith, Secretary

Adam R. Mounce, President

Jessica Ibarra

Visitors:

R.Mejia, Loriann Volin, Arbnore Cara, Monica Deenihan, Kristen, Dalia Trujillo, Donna Miller, Nayeli Burns, Gaby Martinez