

November 18, 2010

The regular Board meeting of the Board of Education of the Oak Park and River Forest High School was held on Thursday evening, November 18, 2010, in the Third Floor Library and Board Room.

Call to Order

President Millard called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The following Board of Education members were present: John C. Allen, IV, Jacques A. Conway (arrived at 8:47 p.m.), Terry Finnegan, Dr. Dietra D. Millard, Amy McCormack, and Sharon Patchak-Layman. Also present were: Dr. Steven T. Isoye, Superintendent; Michael Carioscio, Chief Technology Officer; Amy Hill, Director of Assessment and Research; Philip M. Prale, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction; Nathaniel L. Rouse, Principal; Lauren M. Smith, Director of Human Resources; Cheryl L. Witham, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; James Hunter, FSEC Chair; Katrina Vogel, Student Council Liaison; and Gail Kalmerton, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board.

Visitors

The Board of Education welcomed the following visitors: Kay Foran, Communications and Community Relations Coordinator; Jason Dennis, OPRFHS faculty members; Nancy Leavy of the League of Women Voters; John Massena of Concert Tour Association; Ron Orzel, Co-Chair of Citizens' Council; David Zimmerman and Lauren Brennan of the *Trapeze*; Elizabeth Baca, Kevona Belcher, Caitlin Bell, Louise Blau, Cameron Brandt, Clare Brennan, Serena Brewer, Emma Connell, Hannah Connell, Alison Coogan, Julia Corsini, Alanna Dassoff, Hannah Garrigan, Alison Gerber, Hannah Goldman, Samantha Halpern, Katelyn Hunt, Veronica Lupo, Deja Morataya, Maureen Quinn, Rebecca Robinson, Kathryn Shaughnessy, Hannah Smith, Maryclare Stannard, Kimberly Stefanik, Emily Szaflarski, Helen Thomason, Miranda Tranmer, Kaitlyn Walsh, Robin Wang, and Caitlin Wheeler Girls' Swim Team members and their parents; Jerry Williams, Cynthia Rossi, Todd Fitzgerald, Paul Underlie, Michael Storlies, Dr. Susan Bridge, Jeremiah Johnson, and Fulton Nolan of Concordia University.

Recognition of Girls' Swimming

Dr. Millard read the following statement:

“Good evening. My name is Dietra Millard, and for this year, I am serving as President of the Board of Education, District 200.

“It is my honor, on behalf of the Board of Education, to welcome and recognize the OPRF Huskies' girls' swim and dive team, their families and their coaches. Typically, our Board confers formal recognition for very specific honors and awards. But unique accomplishments and circumstances deserve special acknowledgement. So tonight, we are not only celebrating the team's wins but, even more importantly, we are celebrating the winning attitude and perseverance all have displayed throughout a most difficult season.

“Some of you in the audience may not be aware of the daily reality these 49 scholar-athletes and their families and coaches faced as they have worked together for the last three months to remain a competitive, cohesive, dedicated team despite the loss of a home pool.

“As briefly as possible, I will attempt to recap the events of our pools. Our 2010 summer construction work included a project to replace our pool drains, including the sump pumps, to comply with the state’s new Virginia Graham Baker law. Unbeknownst to us—the school administration and Board---our construction management firm, Wight & Co., mistakenly allowed contractors to proceed with that work without first obtaining necessary state approval. Near the end of the summer, *we* thought our pool work had been completed satisfactorily and on time. Believing we were in line for a routine state inspection and approval process, we assumed our pools would be ready for the start of our girls’ competitive swim and dive season and for the start of the school year. And we communicated this information to our parents. Even as these critical dates passed – to our growing alarm --- without necessary inspections and approvals, we still assumed --- based on information we had at the time --- that the problem was a backlog at the Illinois Department of Public Health. Only after continuing unsatisfactory explanations about the delays did OPRF learn from Wight, that Wight personnel had erroneously authorized the completion of the summer pool work, prior to mandated state review, plan approval, and a building permit. It was not until mid-September that we were able to sort out these details.

“Concurrently, the Illinois Department of Public Health served us with a complaint and fined us for this error. At the time, we were not able to disclose this information publicly until attorneys for the District and the State worked out the details of the complaint and measures for our compliance. Our intended goal was to act with an abundance of care and caution to make sure we did nothing to jeopardize resolving this issue as expeditiously as possible.

“Subsequently, Wight accepted full responsibility for the error. During this time, the school’s communication with our swimmers, coaches and parents was at best confusing and contradictory --- adding to the understandable mounting frustrations. Parents were finally provided accurate information at an October 27 meeting they requested, during which Mark Wight explained and accepted responsibility for his firm’s error and our Superintendent, Steven Isoye, apologized for the frustrating lack of communication.

“In the meantime, state scrutiny of this project also had raised questions about grounding of the newly-installed equipment to the pool. On November 3, representatives from IDPH, Wight, and the school visually inspected and approved the work, after breaking open a small area on the bottom of one of the pools to ensure it had been completed properly. During this inspection, the Department of Public Health requested --- and Wight has since provided --- additional documentation about the products installed.

“To date, Wight & Co. -- in addition to accepting responsibility for the error --- has paid state fines of \$22,500 assessed to the District *and* \$22,500 assessed to the plumbing contractor, as well as \$7,000 for costs associated with off-site swim practice all season. We have also billed Wight \$3,000 for legal fees and will seek payment for costs associated with opening up the pool floor for the Illinois Department of Public Health’s November 3 dry inspection and for hiring a pool expert to prepare necessary documents for state review.

“Here’s where we are now. We are still waiting for the state IDPH to retroactively issue a building permit for the work that was done this summer. This is the permit that Wight should have obtained prior to undertaking the project. Just yesterday, the state

recommended that while we await this permit, we proceed with filling the pools, which we will start doing this weekend. With the pools full as early as next Wednesday, we will be able to start testing the newly installed heat exchangers and hot water boilers, as well as start adjusting chemicals and temperature.

“Once we receive the building permit, we will then be in a position to request a wet inspection. Typically, either the regional or Cook County office of the Department of Public Health will do this wet inspection. After we have passed the wet inspection, this information will be sent to the Springfield office, which is responsible for issuing the final “swimming facility license” that we must receive and post publicly before we can legally use our pools.

“We are still estimating that this whole process is unlikely to wrap up prior to Winter Break. We have, therefore, discussed alternate practice venues and schedules with our Boys’ Swim and Dive team for at least the start of its winter season.

“Thank you for your patience as I have taken the time to review this complicated history. The Board believes it is important to clarify what has happened and to share all the details that we know to date. We appreciate how much disappointment and frustration this situation has caused our swimmers and their families. Some of this, sadly, was unavoidable due to our own inability to get accurate and timely information, as well as our inability to disclose some details as they emerged related to potential legal issues. We recognize that we did not get information to parents and students as early and thoroughly as we could have.

“Thanks to all of you, we have learned much through this challenging process. You’ve helped us improve our efforts to communicate, not only about pool-related issues but also to anticipate other areas of challenge and need.

“As we acknowledge our Girls’ Varsity and Junior Varsity Team members -- including 42 swimmers and 7 divers, their families, and their Head Coach Clyde Lundgren, Assistant Coaches Joyce Gajda and Christina Smith, and Diving coach Mark Pappallardo (who could not be with us tonight), and Coaches Eric Meyer and Peter Quinn, we applaud you all --- individually and collectively --- for your effort and attitude.

“Coaches, you had extra demands placed on you as you had to adapt to different practice venues and at times find alternate sites when last minute problems occurred. You are to be commended for your professionalism, patience and positive attitude throughout the season.

“Parents, we know that without your tireless behind-the-scenes support of your students, they could not have made it through such a grueling season. You have been their stalwart advocates every step of the way — appropriately dogged in your efforts to determine the cause of so much inconvenience, disruption and disappointment, while remaining your daughters’ biggest cheerleaders, showing them what it takes to rise to a challenge rather than giving up.

“Most important, you student-athletes have served as models of dedication and commitment. You not only kept up with demanding course loads (and for our 10

seniors, college applications, as well), but you did that while enduring a myriad of challenges, frustrations, and inconveniences:

- 13-14 hour days as you shuttled back and forth to and from late and changing practice times in different communities in as many as eight other pools;
- returning for early morning dry practice sessions;
- enduring countless disruptions and last minute changes in plans...even during preparations for the conference meet when you were locked out of practicing at the 11th hour.

“We are so proud of you, as we know that everyone’s dedication and hard work paid off. As a team, you placed 2nd at Sectional competition this past weekend at Fenwick, and two of you will compete at the State Swim Meet this coming weekend at Evanston High School -- freshman Alanna Dossoff in the 100 and 200-meter freestyle events and junior Claire Kissinger in Diving. In addition, Coach Lundgren was named Sectional Coach of the Year at Saturday’s competition – all most deserving honors for a team and coach without a swimming pool of their own to call home this year.

“In the very fitting words that one parent shared with us this week, “no pool? NO PROBLEM” for these dedicated girls and their coaches and their indefatigable attitude that truly exemplifies all things that are best! Please join the Board in congratulating the Oak Park and River Forest High School girls’ swim and dive team.

Katherine Appell	Hannah Garrigan	Madeleine Rees
Elizabeth Baca	Alison Gerber	Rebecca Robinson
Kevona Belcher	Annabelle Goldin-Mertdogan	Kathryn Shaughnessy
Caitlin Bell	Hannah Goldman	Hannah Smith
Louise Blaue	Claire Goode	Maryclare Stannard
Cameron Brandt	Samantha Halpern	Kimberly Stefanik
Clare Brennan	Anna Hullinger	Paula Stocco
Serena Brewer	Katelyn Hunt	Emily Szaflarski
Louise Carbery	Claire Kissinger	Helen Thomason
John Casey	Anne Leipold	Miranda Tranmer
Emma Connell	Faith Lewis	John Verticchio
Hannah Connell	Margaret Lomasney	Kaitlyn Walsh
Alison Coogan	Veronica Lupo	Robin Wang
Julia Corsini	Hannah Martin	Caitlin Wheeler
Alanna Dassoff	Deja Morataya	Hannah White
Noelle Fajardo	Katherine Munoz	Jonas White
	Madeline O'Rourke	Morgan Wilkes
	Maureen Quinn	Elizabeth Williams

Mr. Allen shared a story about how swimming for girls’ at OPRFHS had progressed. He had a conversation with a graduate of many years ago, a swimmer at that time, who works in OPRFHS’s Food Service Department. At the time, she was asked if she wanted to be timed. She agreed. Afterwards, her time was sent to the state, and the state then ranked her. Now, fifty-one girls can meet and excel in that sport. OPRFHS has a history of overcoming diversity and this change was a testament to the determination and character of these athletes. He suggested that they take their intelligence, both physically and mentally, and excel in all areas of their lives. He challenged them to help them build paths just as the first OPRFHS girl swimmer had.

The Board of Education then recessed at 7:26 p.m. to move to the Board Room. At 7:42 p.m., the meeting resumed.

Changes to the Agenda Agenda Item E. Personnel Recommendations under Human Relations was moved to closed session.

Status of FOIA Requests Dr. Millard reported that the two FOIA requests received were resolved.

Board of Education Comments Ms. Patchak-Layman recognized the good and talented work of both Orchesis and Spoken Word. She was pleased to see so many teachers attend the performances and that both the division and Mr. Kahn received support. She was also pleased that the two new Division Heads at the Orchesis presentation on Sunday afternoon were able to see the spectrum of students at the high school.

Ms. Patchak-Layman attended the Tradition of Excellence Award ceremony. In a conversation with a recipient's father, she learned that it was because of the high school's support in the EX Program of years ago that his son had graduated. It had allowed him to take many art classes and still fulfill his graduation requirements.

Ms. Patchak-Layman offered a concern that the Board of Education approved a payment to Blueprint Educational Group for fifty percent of the contracted work, yet she was not sure what had been completed. The community relies on the Board of Education to do its due diligence and to make payments only when contracts are followed. The original contract calls for all travel to be included, yet the District received an extra charge. While she hoped a new contract would be forthcoming, it would just reiterate a change that was pre-approved by the Board of Education that approved the initial contract. The contract called for nine trips to the school to work with committees to produce an organizational assessment plan and implementation for it. There is no documentation that fifty percent of this work was completed. If a new contract exists, the Board of Education should see it. Dr. Millard added that the issue regarding Baldrige had been discussed at a previous meeting and would be again at an upcoming meeting.

Ms. Patchak-Layman reported on the program on American Life Radio that aired November 2 called "Petty Tyrant," a story of a school district and its buildings and grounds supervisor who was a tyrant. Because it was not a big city, just a small school district, it did not make big news. It did, however, offer ideas. Just because one thinks they know someone does not mean that checks and balances should not occur. When employees are upset sometimes follow through should occur.

Dr. Millard announced that Steven T. Isoye had defended his doctoral that day and had earned the title of Doctor. She presented him with a new nameplate reflecting his title.

Visitor Comments No comments.

Student Council

Ms. Vogel reported that Student Council was working on the following:

- 1) Thanksgiving cards for all teachers and staff in the building;
- 2) A Blood Drive;
- 3) The Tradition of Excellence, offering a brief summary of their recipients' accomplishments. Kevin Mr. Sorenson, a stunt man, had an eccentric opening involving helicopter noises and repelling from the ceiling and Warren Trezevant shared the different movies he had worked on and his main zoetrope Toy Story 3;
- 4) Discussions have occurred as to what was learned regarding school spirit and engagement at a Student Council Leadership Conference and how that could be incorporated at OPRFHS;
- 5) Making students aware of the possibility of a closed campus; and
- 6) Creating a club council where the president or officer of each club would talk with Student Council about ways they could help each other in order to make the school more unified.

Ms. Patchak-Layman complimented Student Council on the excellent job it did of introducing the Tradition of Excellent winners and escorting them around the school.

Principal's Report

Mr. Rouse reported on the 28th Annual Tradition of Excellence Awards honoring Warren Trezevant, Class of 1987, and Kevin Sorenson, Class of 1985.

Mr. Rouse also reported on the success of the 8th grade Huskie Transition Tours giving special thanks to Districts 90 & 97. This program replaces the former shadowing program and includes assemblies and tours.

Mr. Rouse reported that eighth-grade parents' night had provided answers to their questions and a tour given by student mentors.

District Reports

Citizens' Council—Mr. Orzel, co-chair of Citizens' Council, reported that Mr. Rouse presented both the District Improvement Plan and the School Improvement Plan to its membership. The members were impressed with Mr. Rouse's enthusiasm for embracing this project and moving it forward. Citizen's Council liked 1) the transparency of this process, 2) the fact that it could be modified quickly, 3) the accountability, and 4) the movement from teaching to the test to teaching learning skills and aligning the standards within the curriculum. Concerns were expressed about 1) the involvement of middle schools, 2) their integration to the high school, and 3) testing. Mr. Finnegan also talked about changing the culture of the school. December 8 is the next Parent Café meeting to be held at the River Forest Community Center at 7:00 p.m. to talk about the laws in Oak Park and River Forest relative to drug and alcohol use in these communities.

BOOSTERS—Ms. McCormack reported that about thirty-five people attended the November 2 Booster meeting where an informative report about the swimming pools occurred.

Alumni Association—Ms. McCormack stated that the Alumni Association celebrated the students who were the recipients of summer enrichment opportunities, noting that almost everyone who was awarded a scholarship attended. The bulk of its work is

geared toward fundraising efforts. They discussed homecoming and noted that 80 people from the class of 1955 attended. The Alumni Association was also hosting a Huskie Crawl, another fundraising event, that evening.

Concert Tour Association (CTA)—Ms. Patchak-Layman reported that

- 1) CTA met November 8 and PING, an organization that provides instruments to students, reported. PING has 159 students involved and 35 high school students are mentoring middle school students. PING is looking for storage space because of the growing need for more and more students to house their musical instruments.
- 2) 20 OPRFHS students were able to compete at the JAZZ competition held at Roosevelt University.
- 3) CTA has additional funds in its budget and it is working on a strategic plan.
- 4) Occasionally guest artists are invited to perform.
- 5) CTA is working on a new webpage.

APPLE—Ms. Patchak-Layman reported that new officers were in place and the membership brainstormed on how to help students with tutoring, getting more parents involved, etc.

Faculty Senate—Mr. Hunter concurred with the comments earlier about the Tradition of Excellence. Kevin Sorenson did a great job on his speech. Mr. Hunter thanked all of the Board of Education members for what they had done as they went into the holiday season. He congratulated Dr. Isoye on earning the title of doctor.

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Isoye attended the ASCD Conference and the Midwest Regional Conference on the Achievement in order to learn what people were saying in regards to the achievement gap and their philosophy as to how to work with children to meet their needs and have them achieve.

Dr. Isoye and Mr. Finnegan attend the Policy Luncheon as guest of James Zuehl of Franzcek Radelet. The topic of the luncheon meeting was teacher evaluation and student achievement. With legislation looking into the near future with changes to principal and teacher evaluations, a panel presented their thoughts on the issue. A researcher from Harvard spoke on student achievement measures and representatives from both the teachers' union and the principals' organization spoke about their thoughts on the topic.

Dr. Isoye also met with Gary Cuneen of Seven Generations who shared with him sustainability efforts in this area. He also met with Casey Poulos of the Village of Oak Park who shared with him the sustainability efforts specific to the Village. There is no doubt of a green attitude in this community. The care for the community goes beyond the boundaries of Oak Park and River Forest and really looks at how the communities are stewards of the planet.

In addition, Concordia plans to do a story about him because of his Principal of the Year Award and because he is an alum. While he did not know when they would publish the story, he had a great conversation with its reporter.

Dr. Isoye also met with Dee Brennan to learn about the library and its efforts. She discussed many items, but definitely, how the tutoring during finals last year was well received and the potential to continue this in the future.

Dr. Isoye met with the superintendents of West 40 at Lyons Township where there was discussion about the efforts of ED-RED. Dr. Lee is heavily involved with the efforts of ED. This was his first chance to learn more about this organization.

Dr. Isoye spoke with Todd Bloom about Baldrige and the questions about the next steps. Nathan Eklund will be here in December for two days and will attend the PEG Committee meeting. All Board of Education members will have an opportunity to meet with him individually. Todd Bloom will attend the meeting telephonically to give updates and address concerns.

Dr. Isoye, other administrators, and representatives of the police met with about forty neighbors on Tuesday, November 16. Several students and a reporter from the Trapeze also attended. The administration will debrief about this meeting and the concerns that were expressed.

Dr. Isoye attended Thrive Counseling's annual meeting, which awarded various people for their volunteer efforts. Mr. Finnegan also attended.

The Tradition of Excellence recognition was held last week. Dr. Isoye too congratulated both Kevin Sorensen and Warren Trezevant, the two awardees this year. Mr. Sorensen showcased his work as a stuntman and even repelled down from the rafters and brought some clips of his work. Mr. Trezevant showed how Pixar Studios does animation and brought clips of his animated work. Ms. Patchak-Layman attended the convocation and brunch.

Mr. Isoye participated in the YMCA strategic planning session. He thanked Jan Pate for the invitation and hoped that she was able to get meaningful input from various community stakeholders.

Dr. Isoye met with David Boulanger to get further updates and information in regards to the work of the OPRF Township. He appreciated the time spent with him to educate him about the services of the township and not just how our students can benefit, but how the whole community is served. He will attend a December committee meeting to discuss the interventionist costs proposal.

Dr. Isoye met with Father De Porres, the president of Fenwick, shared information about each other's organizations, and talked about how they both serve the communities of Oak Park and River Forest.

Lastly, Dr. Isoye planned to attend the IASB/IASBO/ISBE Joint Conference that weekend. This is a conference for various levels of administration. He looked forward to networking with other administrators and to learning new things. He wished all a Happy Thanksgiving.

Consent Items

Dr. Millard moved to approve the consent items as follows:

- the Check Disbursements and Financial Resolutions dated November 18, 2010;
- the Treasurer's Reports for October 2010;
- the Monthly Financial Reports for October 2010; and
- renewal of the Medical, Dental, and Life Insurances.

seconded by Mr. Allen. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

Ms. Patchak-Layman noted that new state law requires that the Board of Education adopt the following two policies.

Policy 3910

Dr. Millard moved to approve Policy 3910, Identity Protection, for First Reading; seconded by Mr. Allen. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Allen explained that the reasons for the changes made in the policy after the PEG Committee were for clarity.

Policy 5144

Mr. Finnegan moved to approve 5144, Food Management Program, for First Reading; seconded by Mr. Allen. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

Gifts & Donations

No gifts or donations were received.

Preliminary Levy

The Preliminary Levy must be placed on display no less than 20 days in advance of adoption. The Board of Education will adopt the 2010 Levy at its regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting on December 16, 2010. A truth in Taxation Hearing will also be held at that meeting.

The CPI increase for the 2010 Levy is based upon the December 31, 2009, CPI of 2.7%. Because Cook County has not completed the final calculations of the 2009 Levy, the District will need to make several assumptions for the Preliminary 2010 Levy, which are listed below.

River Forest TIF	\$ 70,000,000
River Forest New EAV	\$ 5,000,000
Oak Park New EAV	\$ 5,000,000
Oak Park TIF	<u>\$ 20,000,000</u>
Total New EAV	\$100,000,000

This is the same information that was presented at the Finance Committee.

Cook County had not provided the final numbers. Should all of the above occur, the levy would go up 6.2%; however, Ms. Witham she felt that in the end, it would be under 5%. Ms. Witham stated that the average homeowner would not get a decrease because the River Forest TIF ended. The money that was collected in the TIF and received by the Village will now go to the school districts. The District's portion of the tax bill increase will be CPI or 2.7%. She continued that when new property comes on to the tax rolls, it is the specific pins and the tax that those specific pins pay that is divided among the other homeowners.

Using the example of a carveout or a TIF ending, Ms. Witham explained that in the first year that the TIF comes off, all the properties are taxed at the school district's rate, which is calculated before the new property, and they are taxed at their rate. The second year, the total levy is increased by CPI. Since

there is a significant increase in the EAV and OPRFHS would only get a 1.1 per increase in the CPI next year, i.e., the rate will go down. So all the property taxed within the new footprint will be taxed at a lower rate. Everyone will get a CPI increase based on what the District does. The District's levy does not affect how County Cook or state law values the property. In the second year, a CPI increase would occur. Ms. Witham stated if the District chose not to capture the full amount, then all taxing persons/entities would experience a lower tax. However, the Board of Education could choose not to levy the full amount at any time. Mr. Finnegan stated that the TIF dollars would have flowed to the taxing bodies had they not been diverted into the TIF. In River Forest, with the \$70 million in new EAV, the citizens could have lower taxes. If the value only goes up 1.1% then spreading it over the EAV. Yes, Per the EAV, they will see a lower tax rate. However, the average homeowner, if the relationship to the whole tax remains the same, will only see a CPI increase.

Ms. Patchak-Layman added that TIFs were to have reduced the contribution of residential tax property because of the increase of commercial property; \$70 million could be folded into the EAV and the dollar amount now and then residents would be able to see a reduction or stabilization of the tax rate they have. Ms. Witham stated that this has been part of the District's long-range plan in order to extend the time before the District has to go back and ask for a referendum. Going forward, the commercial properties will share a larger portion than previously. Mr. Allen concluded that the Board of Education has a fiduciary responsibility to the District and it would be breaching its duty if it did not get the monies to which it was entitled. To have an enhanced EAV where diverted tax fund for development and not to get the benefits of the diverted dollars, it was be a breach of the Board of Education's duty.

Dr. Millard moved to approve the Preliminary Levy as presented and to approve for Display as required; seconded by Mr. Finnegan. A roll call vote resulted in four ayes and one nay. Ms. Patchak-Layman voted nay. Motion carried.

**Finance Advisory
Committee Budget
Model**

Ms. McCormack moved to approve the Finance Advisory Committee Budgeting Model, as presented; seconded by Mr. Finnegan. Discussion ensued.

The membership of the Advisory Leadership Team (ALT) and its charge would be discussed at another time and was not part of the approval that evening.

Only the conceptual framework of the FAC model was being approved so that it could move forward. The model is a fluid document and offers flexibility. The FAC had not yet had time to meet and discuss the Board of Education's intentions stated at the Finance Committee, e.g., increasing parent working groups, quality review committee membership, etc.

It is the District's intention to be as transparent as possible in terms of the ALT and the Quality Review Committee meetings. Ms. Patchak-Layman felt that these meetings would be subject to all of the requirements of the Open Meetings Act and Dr. Isoye assured her that the District would vet the Open Meetings Act and would follow the law, as appropriate.

A roll call vote resulted in all five ayes and one abstention. Mr. Conway abstained. Motion carried.

**Local Ethics
Commission
Members**

Mr. Finnegan moved to approve Sherlynn Reid as a member of the OPRFHS Local Ethics Commission for calendar year 2011; seconded by Dr. Millard. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

**Adoption of FY' 11
Application for
Illinois School Library
Grant**

Mr. Allen moved to certify and attest to the statements set forth on the signature page to satisfy the requirements for application for the grant and to authorize submission of the application on or before the deadline of November 19, 2010; seconded by Dr. Millard. A roll call vote resulted in five ayes. Ms. McCormack was absent from this vote. Motion carried.

**Approval of
Proposals for
2010-11 Academic
Catalog**

Mr. Conway moved to approve the proposals as presented for the 2011-12 Academic Catalog; seconded by Dr. Millard. A roll call vote resulted in five ayes. Ms. McCormack was absent from this vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Allen did not believe the additional information he received about the Business Education course had been persuasive.

Ms. Patchak-Layman was delighted that the course Women's Visions Women's Voices would offer an honors option with differentiated instruction; this is an opportunity for more students to share in the conversation and learn from each other. She hoped differentiation would occur in more courses in order for more students to have opportunities to work to their fullest potential.

Relative to Project Lead the Way (PLTW), the District expected 75 to 100 students to enroll next year and 125 to 150 students the following year. Both freshman and sophomore students can enroll in these classes. Students who will enroll in PLTW are currently taking Exploring Tech, the Electricity Program, and/or the Technical Drawing Program. Differentiation will not occur at this time, as these are regular courses. The District has the technology to run these courses.

GPA credit will be given to sophomores, juniors, and seniors enrolled in Performance Arts, Trapeze, and Yearbook. This will start with the class of 2015; it will not affect current students.

Ms. Hill stated that the administration continuously reviews and revises the *Academic Catalog* based on administrative procedures.

**District Improvement
Plan & Assurance
Document**

Mr. Allen moved to approve the District Improvement Plan and the Statement of Assurances, as presented; seconded by Dr. Millard.

Dr. Isoye reported that the DIP had been shared with the School Improvement (SIP) Team and Citizens' Council. The SIP Team will help in its detail, acting as a DIP Team.

Ms. Patchak-Layman asked how governance could improve the quality of the school, outside of implementing a separate school. Mr. Rouse responded that besides hiring a new Director of Human Resources, a Chief Information Officer,

and five new Division Heads, the level of governance has changed from a District Leadership Team (DLT) to a Building Leadership Team (BLT). Diligent work is being done on the DIP and SIP to change the culture of this school. He was confident that change was occurring and that Rising Start for the DIP and SIP will help with that fact. Under IA07, it states that the District desires to list targets and percentages to increase student achievement, e.g., Reading for all students is 69.3% and the subgroup will make AYP of 85% or Safe Harbor, etc. The District is pushing itself to attain targets. Dr. Isoye stated while the writing of some of the descriptors touch on the past, the ISBE looks toward the future; it wants to know that the District will accomplish whatever it has to do.

A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

School Improvement Plan (SIP)

Mr. Rouse presented a draft of the SIP to the Board of Education. He will present this to Citizens' Council, Instructional Council, DLT, and again to the Board of Education at the December Instruction Committee meeting for their comments.

Ms. Patchak-Layman asked if a policy was needed that incorporated the school team structure, because the District does not have a smart team structure.

Two parents are on the team. Mr. Rouse will also offer to present this to APPLE's membership for its input.

Minutes

Mr. Finnegan moved to Approval of Open Minutes and Closed Session Minutes of Action October 28, November 9 and 11, 2010, and a Declaration that the Audiotapes of the closed sessions of February 2009 be destroyed and a Declaration that the closed session minutes from January 1, 1989 through November 1, 2010 remain closed; seconded by Mr. Allen. A roll call vote resulted in five ayes and one nay. Ms. Patchak-Layman voted nay. Motion carried.

Ms. Patchak-Layman stated that the law requires a periodic review of closed session minutes to determine if they can be released to the public.

Board of Education Meeting Dates

Dr. Millard moved to approve the 2011 regular Board of Education meeting dates, as follows; seconded by Ms. McCormack. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

- Thursday, January 27, 2011
- Thursday, February 24, 2011
- Thursday, March 24, 2011
- Thursday, April 28, 2011
- Thursday, May 26, 2011
- Thursday, June 23, 2011
- Thursday, August 25, 2011
- Thursday, September 22, 2011
- Thursday, October 27, 2011

Thursday, November 17, 2011 (third Thursday because of Thanksgiving)
Thursday, December 15, 2011 (third Thursday because of Winter Break)

Both Ms. Patchak-Layman and Ms. McCormack hoped to discuss the above at a future time, possibly at the upcoming retreat.

Non-Agenda Items

Mr. Conway witnessed the Jazz Concert held at Roosevelt University and was very impressed with the performance of the four participating high schools, including OPRFHS.

Mr. Conway continued that when Geoffrey Canada of the Harlem Zone was interviewed on Fox News he said the American educational system was in a crisis and that it has about five years to make significant changes. This issue is bigger than the war in Iraq. Mr. Canada suggested 1) longer school days, 2) more community involvement, 3) classes for some students in August, 4) union agreements to go beyond their contracts in order to change the education of the students, and 5) make education a priority in this country. If immediate changes are not made, the ramifications will be high crime, less productivity, and more black males going to jail than to college. Mr. Conway added that the high school children of his practitioners are reading at only the fourth- or fifth-grade levels.

Ms. Patchak-Layman asked about the Board of Education's involvement in the closed campus conversations. Dr. Isoye stated that the school is helping students to become aware of the situation and a determination will be made as to when and if the Board of Education would be involved. The school is taking the small steps of informing students that they can be part of the solution. If it becomes something bigger, the Board of Education would be involved. Dr. Isoye added that the pilot PlascoTrac was an educational piece to working with the students.

Closed Session

At 9:20 p.m., on Thursday, November 18, 2010, Dr. Millard moved to go into closed session to discuss The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), as amended by PA.93—57; Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular District has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the District finds that an action is probably or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11); Collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2); Student disciplinary cases 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10); seconded by Mr. Allen. A roll call vote resulted in all yes. Motion carried.

At 10:50 p.m. on Thursday, November 18, 2010, the Board of Education resumed its open session.

- Student Discipline** Mr. Allen moved to expel student EXP 11-18-10-5 for the through January 2012 but to hold the expulsion in abeyance with a review in August 2011 contingent upon whether the following conditions are met: 1) successful completion of alternative educational program, 2) successful completion of appropriate counseling program for substance abuse, and 3) any other issues deemed necessary by the PSS Team; seconded by Mr. Finnegan. A roll call vote resulted in five ayes and one nay. Ms. Patchak-Layman voted nay. Motion carried.
- Settlement Agreement** Mr. Allen moved to approve the settlement agreement, as presented; seconded by Mr. Finnegan. A roll call vote resulted in all five ayes and one nay. Ms. Patchak-Layman voted nay. Motion carried.
- Personnel Recommendations** Dr. Millard moved to approve the personnel recommendations, as presented seconded by Mr. Allen. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.
- Adjournment** At 11:02 p.m. on Thursday, November 18, 2010, Mr. Allen moved to adjourn the Board of Education meeting; seconded by Ms. McCormack. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

Terry Finnegan
Secretary

By Gail Kalmerton
Clerk of the Board