A special meeting of the Board of Education of the Oak Park and River Forest High School was held on Tuesday, June 14, 2011, in the Board Room of the high school.

Call to Order

President Millard called the meeting to order at 9:23 a.m. A roll call indicated the following members were present: Terry Finnegan, Dr. Ralph H. Lee, Amy Leafe McCormack, Dr. Dietra D. Millard, Sharon Patchak-Layman, and John Phelan. Also present was Dr. Steven T. Isoye, Superintendent; Cheryl L. Witham, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; and Gail Kalmerton, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board of Education and FOIA Officer.

Visitors

Kay Foran, Communications and Community Relations Director; Gary Cuneen, executive director of Seven Generations Ahead; John Allen and Valerie Fisher, educational consultants; and Paul Keller of Ancel Glink; and Deb Kadin of patch.com.

PlanItGreen

Dr. Millard moved to approve the PlanItGreen Resolution, as presented (attached to and made a part of the minutes of this meeting); seconded by Ms. McCormack. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

Incorporated in 2001, the mission of Seven Generations Ahead (SGA) is to promote the development of ecologically sustainable and healthy communities. Seven Generations Ahead’s strength is in outlining how to build, proactively, green communities – not solely responding to environmental crises. SGA advocates for local community solutions to global environmental issues, and promotes clean, renewable energy; eco-effective materials and products; intelligent, sustainable building design; local, sustainable food; zero waste; and strategies designed to create ecologically effective communities.

PlanItGreen is part of the OPRF Community Foundation’s Communityworks initiative, which is designed to engage community residents and stakeholder organizations in realizing a vision for a sustainable Oak Park and River Forest. Community Works is initially focusing on three core areas: Environmental Sustainability; Success for All Youth; and Leadership Development.

PlanItGreen is the cornerstone of Communityworks Environmental Sustainability efforts. The Vision Plan will incorporate Phase One baseline metrics on community resource use, initially including data on KwH and Therm usage, water consumption, waste diversion, transportation-related emissions, air quality, and overall CO2 emissions equivalencies.

Community residents, youth, institutional stakeholders, and community leaders were engaged in designing a draft of the sustainability plan. Through surveys, community input forums, topic area working groups, school-based vision activities, and additional community institution engagement activities, both communities developed strategies across a broad range of sustainability areas, including energy, community development, transportation, waste, food, water,
procurement, economic development, open space/conservation, and education. The strategies will combine with goals and projected goal targets to result in a final draft plan during Phase Two.

All taxing bodies in the Oak Park and River Forest, including the park districts, libraries, school districts, universities and the township, have been asked to support the general goals and thrust and the impetus of the plan, not every strategy, but a general endorsement and support of the plan, meaning that they are interested in gaining greater efficiencies and go after additional resources to implement beneficial strategies that will not only be good for the environment, but the institute cost savings.

Mr. Cuneen stated that the biggest user of energy was residential. PlanItGreen focuses on the major individual users of energy in the community. With regard to waste reduction, the long-term goal is to divert 62% of the waste for landfill. PlanItGreen also acknowledges students as stakeholders and works with student environmental clubs, etc.

Closed Session
At 9:39 a.m., Dr. Millard moved to enter to closed session for the purpose of discussing 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); 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; and Collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2); seconded by Mr. Finnegan. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

At 12:14 p.m., the Board of Education resumed its open session.

Check Distribution
Dr. Millard moved to approval the Check Distribution List dated June 14, 2011, as presented (attached to and made a part of the minutes of this meeting); seconded by Dr. Lee. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

Abatement Project Agreement
Mr. Finnegan moved to approve the Abatement Project Agreement, as presented; seconded by Ms. McCormack. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

While Dr. Lee supported the motion, he objected strongly to mandated asbestos removal.

Personnel Recommendations
Dr. Millard moved to approve the Personnel Recommendations, as presented; Dr. Lee seconded by. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.
Ratification of CPA Contract

This agenda was removed from the agenda.

Modified Campus Update

Mr. Rouse provided the Board of Education with the areas in which staff is working on with regard to the modified lunch hour options that the Board of Education approved at its May 26 meeting and included Juniors and seniors in good standing as defined by the administration, who obtain parental permission, may be allowed to leave campus at lunch. They are currently considering conditions, resources, supervision, eligibility management/monitoring, logistical considerations, and a communication plan.

Mr. Rouse is hosting weekly meetings with individuals relative to the above, e.g., Robert Zummallen, Ms. Witham, deans, director of security, Ms. Piekarski, etc. to develop the framework. Next year, planning will occur with students, staff, and faculty to create a lunchtime environment that supports the educational goals of the high school and promotes social, emotional, and physical health of students. While many ideas are being considered with regarding to the areas noted above, no recommendations are yet being brought forth. Any changes to the Code of Conduct to accommodate these changes will be included an addendum and provided to families in August. Ms. Patchak-Layman suggested inviting members of other members of security and food service to the weekly discussions because of their on-hands experience. She also suggested adults be allowed/encouraged to eat in the student cafeterias as any adult is security in of itself.

Dr. Lee hoped that Dr. Isoye would find a way to keep of log of both the positive and negative aspects of this process so that it can be evaluated in two or three years.

Adjournment

At 12:45 p.m. on Tuesday, June 14, 2011, Dr. Millard moved to adjourn the Special Board Meeting; seconded by Mr. Finnegan. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

Dr. Dietra D. Millard                      Amy McCormack
President                                  Secretary