

February 16, 2010

A special meeting of the Board of Education of the Oak Park and River Forest High School was held on Tuesday, February 16, 2010, in the Board Room of the high school.

Call to Order

Dr. Lee called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. A roll call indicated the following members were present: Jacques A. Conway, Terry Finnegan, Dr. Ralph H. Lee, Amy Leaf McCormack, Dr. Dietra D. Millard, and Sharon Patchak-Layman. Also present was Dr. Attila J. Weninger, Superintendent; Nathaniel L. Rouse, Principal; and Gail Kalmerton, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board of Education.

Appointment of Secretary Protempore

In Board Secretary Allen's absence, Ms. McCormack was nominated as Secretary Protempore.

Visitors

Kay Foran, Communications and Community Relations Coordinator; James Paul Hunter, FSEC Chair; Paul Keller of Ancil Glink (arrived telephonically at 12:17 p.m. and departed at 12:30 p.m.)

Check Distribution List

Dr. Millard moved to approve the Check Distribution List dated February 16, 2010, (attached to and made a part of the minutes of this meeting); seconded by Mr. Finnegan. A roll call vote resulted in five ayes and one nay. Motion carried. Ms. Patchak-Layman voted nay.

Ms. Patchak-Layman asked for a status update on the students who left Joseph Academy in December. Acknowledging the fact that many staff members were retiring at the end of the year, she questioned why a retiring Division Head would be attending a conference May. She asked if those dollars would be better spent on transition activities and professional development for other staff. Dr. Weninger stated that some districts do have restrictions in their procedures. Dr. Millard felt there could be value in retiring people attending conferences as retiring person could introduce that topic to the new person and/or introduce him/her to that organization, etc. These requests are pre-approved. Mr. Finnegan preferred to continue as is and give all due consideration that the money is being spent appropriately; he would not want a policy that would prohibit someone from attending a conference. Whether or not the District should be put restrictions on these persons in this regard may be a future discussion.

Wight Contract Visitor Comments

Mr. Finnegan moved to approve the contract with Wight & Company, as presented, to add air conditioning to some unair-conditioned parts of the building; seconded by Mr. Conway. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

Closed Session

At 8:40 a.m. on February 16, 2010, Mr. Finnegan moved to go closed session for the purpose of discussing 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 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. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2); and student disciplinary cases 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10); seconded by Mr. Conway. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

The Board of Education recessed at 10:47 a.m. and reconvened at 11:46 a.m.

At 12:40 p.m., the Board of Education reconvened its open session.

Student Discipline Dr. Lee moved to expel Student EXP 02/16/10-10 through summer of 2010, held in abeyance, pending placement at an alternative setting and successful completion of specified core academic courses and successful substance abuse counseling; seconded by Mr. Conway. A roll call vote resulted in five ayes and one nay. Motion carried. Ms. Patchak-Layman voted nay.

Consideration of Grievance Dr. Lee moved to deny the grievance; seconded by Mr. Conway. A roll call vote resulted in four ayes and two nays. Motion carried. Ms. Patchak-Layman and Mr. Finnegan voted nay.

Adjournment At 12:49 p.m. on Tuesday, February 16, 2010, Mr. Conway moved to adjourn the Special Board Meeting; seconded by Mr. Finnegan. A roll call vote resulted in five ayes.

Dr. Ralph H. Lee
President Protempore & Vice President

Amy McCormack
Secretary Protempore