

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 28
HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2022

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, District 28, Cook County, Illinois, was held in the library of Northbrook Junior High School and streamed on the district's YouTube Channel for said district Tuesday evening January 25, 2022.

President Katz Muhl called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. with the following members present at roll call:

DeShawn Arms
Matt Cassidy
Jennifer Gallinson
Michelle Kohler
Mara Silver-Schack
Tracy Katz Muhl

Absent: none.

Also present were Dr. Larry Hewitt, Superintendent; Dr. Kris Raitzer, Assistant Superintendent; Jessica Donato, Chief School Business Official; Dr. Kelly Sculles, Director of Student Services; Michelle Jackson, Director of Learning; Terry Ryan, Communications Director; Ramsin Israel, Technology Specialist; Joshua Irvine, Pioneer Press; Dr. Jason Pearson, Jackie Wahlstrom, Noha Ekdawi, Amy Thomas, Marie Junkmann, Beth Bazer, David Kim, Jocelyn Garner, and Adam Weinstock.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

A parent shared opinions and concerns about the teachers' decision to form a union and raised questions about on how this change will impact education in the district.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

(Board Calendar, District/Community Health Metrics and Enrollment)

Dr. Hewitt shared the board calendar, enrollment report and the latest township and internal health data. There were historically high numbers of cases for the weeks of January 2nd and January 9th. Cases started to decline January 18-21, and continue to recede this week. He also noted that 350 booster shots were given at a township clinic for children under 18 on January 17.

(Superintendent Entry Plan)

Incoming Superintendent Dr. Jason Pearson presented his entry plan for final review, having introduced it at the Board's special meeting on January 6. Members asked questions relating to specifics of the plan and thanked him for a thorough report including the timeline with goals and action steps. It was requested that he look at implementing a district dashboard on the website as part of phase 2 or 3 of the plan.

(Meadowbrook Principal Interview Process)

Dr. Hewitt reported that parents and staff were surveyed and the feedback was compiled in a candidate profile that will be utilized during the Meadowbrook Principal interview process. Members of the district administrative team along with school principals will conduct the preliminary interviews of nine candidates. The field will be narrowed to three or four who will then be interviewed by incoming Superintendent Dr. Jason Pearson. Finalists will be referred to group interviews by parents and staff with the goal of presenting a candidate to the board at the February meeting.

(Strategic Plan Review 2021-22)

Dr. Hewitt reviewed the Strategic Plan mid-year report, which provides updates on items under each goal. The goals and action steps have been heavily influenced by the pandemic. Members noted they are interested in continuing the work with Glenbrook North High School on curriculum and academic development.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Member Kohler and seconded by Member Arms that the Board of Education approve the Regular Meeting minutes of December 14, 2021; Closed Session minutes of December 14, 2021; and Special Meeting of January 6, 2022; since members had each previously been sent copies.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Kohler, Arms, Gallinson, Silver-Schack, Cassidy, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

It was moved by Member Silver-Schack and seconded by Member Cassidy that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

(Payroll – last half December 2021 and first half of January 2022)

the payment of employee salaries for the last half of December 2021, in the amount of \$1,175,959.23 and covered by check numbers 65908 through 65929, and deduction check numbers 65930 through 65948, inclusive, with the following voids listed as 65112, 65180, 65212, 65252, 65283, 65364, 65949, and 65954 as outlined in detail on the Payroll Summary, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District Board of Education, and dated January 25, 2022;

the payment of employee salaries for the first half of January 2022, in the amount of \$1,249,997.40 and covered by check numbers 65955 through 65981, and deduction check numbers 65982 through 65990, as outlined in detail on the Payroll Summary, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District Board of Education, and dated January 25, 2022;

(Bills)

vendor invoices totaling \$369,499.07 and Warrants listed as Numbers 57897 through 58067, with the following void listed as 58015, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District 28 Board of Education, and dated January 25, 2022;

(Personnel Report: Employment of Staff, Leave Requests, Remediation Plan, Resignations, and Dismissals)

(New Hires)

Rebecca Ball	GB	Aide	\$14.00/hr.
Amy Miller	WM	Sp. Ed. Aide	\$18.00/hr.
Julie Rossetti	NBJH	1-on-1 Aide	\$17.00/hr.
Jonathan Yenkin	WM	Aide	\$17.00/hr.

(Resignations)

Maura Crisham	WM	5 th Grade Aide
Abby Jordan	GB	3 rd Grade Aide
Taylor Loew	NBJH	1-on-1 Aide
Samantha Neave	MB	Foundational Aide

(Closed Session Recordings)

the destruction of Closed Session recordings 18 months or older (11/26/19, 2/25/20, 4/28/20, and 7/21/20).

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Silver-Schack, Cassidy, Arms, Gallinson, Kohler, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

FINANCE
(Financial Report)

Chief School Business Official Jessica Donato provided the monthly financial report, including updates on food service sales, the consumer price index, TRS supplemental savings plan, cyber liability insurance, and local, state and federal requirements.

It was moved by Member Kohler and seconded by Member Gallinson that the Board accept the District 28 Financial Report for the period ending December 31, 2021.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Kohler, Gallinson, Silver-Schack, Cassidy, Arms, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

(Tentative Budget Calendar)

Mrs. Donato presented a tentative budget calendar indicating dates for developing the fiscal year 2023 budget.

It was moved by Member Kohler and seconded by Member Silver-Schack that the Board adopt the Tentative Budget Calendar for the 2022-23 school year.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Kohler, Silver-Schack, Cassidy, Arms, Gallinson, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

(Resolution Authorizing Preparation of Tentative Budget)

Mrs. Donato presented an overview of the fee changes for the 2022-23 school year.

It was moved by Member Arms and seconded by Member Cassidy that the Board adopt the resolution authorizing the Chief School Business Official to prepare a tentative budget for the 2022-23 fiscal year.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Arms, Cassidy, Gallinson, Kohler, Silver-Schack, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

(2022-23 Student Fees)

It was moved by Member Silver-Schack and seconded by Member Kohler that the Board approve the 2022-23 Student Fees, as presented.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Silver-Schack, Kohler, Cassidy, Arms, Gallinson, Kohler, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

BUILDINGS and GROUNDS

Dr. Hewitt reported that once a new member is appointed to the committee, he will schedule a meeting.

LEGISLATION

Member Cassidy reported on the governor's veto of a bill that provided sick days to teachers and staff due to COVID infection, close-contact or the care of a dependent. It appears that the governor is working to create a new bill that would provide that coverage for vaccinated staff only.

Member Cassidy also reported that the Illinois Association of School Boards is ending its association with the National School Boards Association. The Illinois chapter is joining 28 states that are planning to create a replacement organization.

COMMUNICATION

Communications Director Terry Ryan reviewed the Illinois 5Essentials survey now underway for staff, parents and students in the 4th grade and above. The window closes March 11. She also shared a new COVID protocol flowchart modeled after one created by the group IMPACT to help parents understand what to do if their child has a positive case or is a close contact.

(FOIA)

There was one FOIA request filed and fulfilled last month.

TrueNorth Educational Cooperative 804

Member Silver-Schack reported that TrueNorth is still striving to get as accurate as possible the counts of students that will be enrolled in the cooperative next year to determine staffing levels. She also noted that instructional aides are very difficult to find and there is a very high need.

NEW BUSINESS

It was noted that with ELA and World Language up next in the curriculum cycle, it would be helpful to communicate out the steps that are involved in the review cycle.

The staff was thanked for all of the extra effort required to cover for a shortage in substitutes due to the recent surge in COVID cases, as well as continuing with contact tracing, safety checks, and all of the other challenges due to the pandemic.

CLOSED SESSION

(In)

At 8:06 p.m., it was moved by Member Arms and seconded by Member Silver-Schack that the Board of Education go into Closed Session to discuss the following:

- (1) The selection of a person to fill a public office, as defined in the Open Meetings Act, including a vacancy in a public office when the public body is given power to appoint under law or ordinance as authorized by 5ILCS 120/2(c)(3).

On a roll call vote, the following members voted Aye: Members Arms, Silver-Schack, Cassidy, Gallinson, Kohler, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

(Out)

At 10:58 p.m., it was moved by Member Kohler and seconded by Member Cassidy that the Board return to open session.

On a roll call vote, the following members voted Aye: Members Silver-Schack, Gallinson, Kohler, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:59 p.m., it was moved by Member Silver-Schack and seconded by Member Kohler that the meeting adjourn.

On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously

Jennifer Gallinson, Secretary

Tracy Katz Muhl, President