

April 15, 2024

The Board of Education, Community High School District 99, met in regular session at 6:31 p.m. on Monday, April 15, 2024 in the Auditorium at North High School.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, the following Board members answered present: Don Renner, President; Terry Pavesich, Vice President; and Members Kara Casten, Ken Dawson, Sherell Fuller and Jennie Hagstrom. Member Christopher Espinoza was absent.

Also present were Hank Thiele, Superintendent; Gina Ziccardi, Associate Superintendent for Student Learning; Rob Lang, Assistant Superintendent for Staff Services; Scott Wuggazer, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services; Travis McGuire, Assistant Superintendent for Learning Resources; Jeree Ethridge, Chief School Business Official; Jill Browning, Chief Communications Officer; Tammy Maksa, Director of Business Services; Ryan Doherty, Director of Student Experiences; Courtney DeMent, North High Principal; Arwen Lyp, South High Principal; Student Board Member Nahla Mokka; and Juli Gniadek, Secretary.

There were three visitors. A copy of the Visitor Roster is attached.

**1. STUDENT RECOGNITIONS – NORTH HIGH SCHOOL**

Dr. DeMent introduced Tim McDonald, Head Coach of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in State Girls Cross Country Team. Mr. McDonald thanked the Board for recognizing the students and shared, even though Cross Country is a short season, the students do a lot of work all year and stressed what a close relationship the team members have with each other. He then introduced all the members of the team and acknowledged the following and their finishes at the State Meet: 10<sup>th</sup> Place-Lily Eddington; 13<sup>th</sup> Place-Sarah Paul; 14<sup>th</sup> Place-Alayna Todnem; and 24<sup>th</sup> Place-Ava Gilley.

Dr. Thiele read excerpts from a Proclamation from the Village of Downers Grove declaring Wednesday, April 17, 2024, 2023 DGN Trojan's Girls Cross Country Team Day. He then read excerpts from a Proclamation from the Village of Woodridge declaring Monday, April 15, 2024, Downers Grove North High School Girls Cross Country Team Day.

Dr. DeMent introduced Joe Horeni, Head Coach of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in State Boys Football Team. Mr. Horeni thanked the Board, expressed his pride in the students and commended them on their hard work. He recognized Cael Brezina, who received IHSA All-State Honors, and noted Mr. Brezina has already started his football career at Iowa State. Mr. Horeni invited members of the team to come forward and be recognized.

Dr. Thiele read excerpts from a Proclamation from the Village of Downers Grove declaring Tuesday, April 16, 2024, 2023 DGN Trojan Football Team Day. He then read excerpts from a Proclamation from the Village of Woodridge declaring Monday, April 15, 2024, Downers Grove North High School Football Team Day.

Dr. DeMent read a statement from Jim Thomas, Boys Basketball Head Coach, commending Jack Stanton, who was unable to attend the recognition, on being chosen for the IHSA All-State Team. In

his statement, Mr. Thomas shared Mr. Stanton was chosen for All-State honors as both a Junior and a Senior and will be attending Princeton.

Dr. DeMent introduced the Girls Swim and Dive Head Coach Kelli Logterman, who in turn introduced Gianna Cappello, 5<sup>th</sup> Place finisher at State in the 200-yard freestyle, and Emily Weingust, 14<sup>th</sup> Place finisher in the 100-yard butterfly. Ms. Logterman expressed her pride in both students and commended their dedication. She shared Ms. Cappello is a sophomore and Ms. Weingust, a senior, will be swimming for University of Illinois at Champaign next year.

President Renner thanked the students for attending the recognition and acknowledged the coaches for the positive influence they have on students. He commended each team and student recognized and credited the student athletes for their impact on the next generation and how they inspire young people in the community.

The Board and those in attendance applauded each of the coaches and students who were recognized.

## 2. STUDENT PERSPECTIVES – NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

Norah Rajesh and Teia DeMesa, members of the North High Orchestis Dance Company, shared this year's company has 31 members, performs many dance genres and performs at school assemblies. Ms. Rajesh showed a clip from a bollywood dance she choreographed. Ms. DeMesa reported *Broken Trust*, a dance she choreographed, was chosen for the Student Choreography State Showcase.

Anne Driscoll, Orchestis Sponsor, shared the students devote a lot of time and are very dedicated.

## 3. RECESS AND RECONVENE

At 7:07 p.m., President Renner stated the Board would take a brief recess and then reconvene in the Community Room at North High, where the Board meeting will continue.

At 7:15 p.m., the Board reconvened in the Community Room at North High School with the following members of the Board of Education in attendance: Don Renner, President; Terry Pavesich, Vice President; and Members Kara Casten, Ken Dawson, Sherell Fuller and Jennie Hagstrom. Member Christopher Espinoza was absent.

Also present were Hank Thiele, Superintendent; Gina Ziccardi, Associate Superintendent for Student Learning; Scott Wuggazer, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services; Jeree Ethridge, Chief School Business Official; Tammy Maksa, Director of Business Services; Ryan Doherty, Director of Student Experiences; Jill Browning, Chief Communications Officer; Courtney DeMent, North High Principal; Arwen Lyp, South High Principal; Student Board Member Nahla Mokka; and Juli Gniadek, Secretary.

## 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Pavesich moved and Member Dawson seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the March 18, 2024 Business Meeting and the April 1, 2024 Workshop Meeting.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Pavesich, Dawson, Fuller, Hagstrom, Casten and Renner voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

**5. RECEPTION OF VISITORS – PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

**6. SURVEY RESULTS**

Ryan Doherty presented a summary of the data from the survey administered to students, families and staff. He stated the raw data is in BoardDocs. Mr. Doherty shared some of the changes that were implemented based on feedback from last year's survey, include: shifting 4<sup>th</sup> period block to the start of the day; adding optional courses (SAT prep and drone certification); ACCESS schedule consistency and expanded choices; and a modified electronic device policy. He reviewed survey participation rates and areas of concern by group. Mr. Doherty presented grade distribution data which showed there was no shift in grades since the implementation of the new schedule. Lastly, Mr. Doherty shared next steps, including: continuing work on grading procedures; monitoring and evaluating absence and discipline procedures; improving structures for struggling students during Resource/Access; and increasing Course Team collaboration time.

**7. THIRD QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT**

Jeree Ethridge stated the overall financial situation is on trend. She shared almost all revenues have been received, and interest is up, which is helping to offset expenses. Higher than anticipated transportation costs for special education students and electric delivery costs are areas of concern on the expenditure side, according to Ms. Ethridge. In summary, Ms. Ethridge stated expenditures are likely to exceed revenues by approximately \$350,000.

**8. 2023 TAX RATE RE-ALLOCATION**

Ms. Ethridge stated the District received its final tax allocation last week and displayed the initial tax rates submitted by the District to the County in December and those submitted last week. She noted the District is receiving approximately \$5M less than the amount requested in December; the higher amount was submitted to ensure the District did not lose any tax revenue.

**9. TRANSPORTATION CONTRACTS**

Jeree Ethridge stated the District has been with First Student for ten years and has been pleased with their service. First Student is requesting a 6.8% increase for next year, according to Ms. Ethridge, which will help cover the cost of replacing 25 buses. She stated both District 58 and 68 have agreed to approve the 6.8% increase.

Sunrise Transportation, which provides services for special education students, is requesting a 5% increase and a one-year extension of their contract, according to Ms. Ethridge. She stated Sunrise has experienced a shortage of drivers this year.

Dr. Thiele explained District 99 is aligned with SASSED, and some of its member districts, for the Sunrise contract; and that District 99 contracts with Districts 58 and 68 for First Student's services.

**10. PARENT TEACHER ADVISORY COMMITTEE - REVISED DATE - MAY 13, 2024**

Dr. Thiele announced, due to a scheduling conflict, the Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee meeting date was changed from April 29, 2024 to May 13, 2024. He noted the Board members serving on the Committee are able to attend the new date.

**11. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS**

Dr. Thiele reported the District received and responded to Freedom of Information Act requests and they are posted on the District's website.

**12. CONSENT AGENDA**

Member Pavesich moved and Member Dawson seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the Consent Agenda as presented which includes: A. Personnel Report - Appointment-Certified; Leave of Absence-Certified; Appointment-Classified; Transfer of Position-Classified; Leave of Absence-Classified; B. Personnel Report - Resignation-Certified; Resignation-Classified; C. Resignation Agreement - Tenured Teacher; D. March Treasurer's Report and March Financial Pages; E. Treasurer's Services through June 30, 2027; F. Student Trips; G. Resolution of Appointment to DuPage Area Occupational Education System Board of Directors; and H. Acceptance of Donation - District 99 Education Foundation.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Pavesich, Dawson, Fuller, Hagstrom, Casten and Renner voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

Dr. Thiele thanked the Education Foundation for their generous donation of \$1,260.

**13. FINAL 2023 TAX RATES**

Member Pavesich moved and Member Dawson seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the final 2023 tax rates as presented.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Pavesich, Dawson, Fuller, Hagstrom, Casten and Renner voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

**14. SUNRISE SOUTHWEST LLC TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT**

Member Casten moved and Member Hagstrom seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the Sunrise Southwest LLC one-year contract extension as presented.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Casten, Hagstrom, Pavesich, Dawson, Fuller and Renner voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

**15. FIRST STUDENT TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT**

Member Dawson moved and Member Hagstrom seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the First Student one-year contract extension as presented.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Dawson, Hagstrom, Pavesich, Casten, Fuller and Renner voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

**16. OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**17. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**18. RECEPTION OF VISITORS – PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

**19. REPORT ON LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION NETWORK OF DUPAGE (LEND)**

Dr. Thiele reported not a lot of the proposed legislation is moving forward; the hope is that the dual credit legislation will move forward.

**20. REPORT ON SCHOOL ASSOCIATION FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION IN DUPAGE COUNTY (SASED)**

Dr. Thiele reported SASED is transitioning to the new Executive Director, Dr. Kim Dryier

**21. REPORT ON DISTRICT 99 EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

Member Pavesich reported the Dr. McDonald Scholarship has been delayed a year; Foundation Board members will be attending the AVID banquets at both schools; and the Foundation will be joining the National Association of Educational Foundations.

**22. REPORT ON ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS (IASB)**

No report.

**23. UPCOMING BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS**

President Renner announced the following meeting dates:

May 6, 2024      Workshop Meeting – 6:30 p.m. – ASC

May 20, 2024      Regular Business Meeting – 6:30 p.m. – ASC


**24. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Member Fuller announced the Community meeting being held on Tuesday at South High at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room.

Dr. Thiele recognized and thanked the Villages of Downers Grove and Woodridge, specifically Dave Fieldman and Al Stonitsch, for providing student recognitions for the District's first and second place finishers.

**25. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business or discussion, Member Pavesich moved and Member Casten seconded the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Upon the unanimous voice vote of the six members in attendance, the President declared the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.



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Don Renner, President



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Juli Gniadek, Secretary

