

**Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
of Community Consolidated School District 15
Palatine, Cook County, Illinois
Held on Wednesday, November 15, 2023
at Walter R. Sundling Junior High School
1100 N. Smith Street, Palatine, Illinois 60067
Regular Meeting of the Board: 7:00 p.m.**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 15, Palatine, Cook County, Illinois, was held on November 15, 2023, at Walter R. Sundling Junior High School, 1100 N. Smith Street, Palatine, Illinois. Board members were notified by bulletin sent electronically on November 10, 2023.

Roll Call

President Szczupaj called the regular meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Board members physically present: Samantha Ader, Zubair Khan, Wenda Hunt, Lisa Beth Szczupaj, James Taylor, Frank Annerino and Anthony Wang

Board members physically absent: none

Also present were Laurie Heinz, EdD, Superintendent of Schools

Closed Session

President Szczupaj called the closed session to order at 6:33 p.m. Board member Wang made a motion, seconded by Ader, for the Board to convene in closed session to discuss:

- Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).

Roll Call Vote

A voice vote was taken:

Ayes: Ader, Hunt, Khan, Szczupaj, Taylor, and Wang

Nays: none

Absent to vote: Annerino *

Motion carries: (6-0)

*Board member Frank Annerino arrived to closed session at 6:45 p.m.

Reconvene in Open Session

The Board returned to open session at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Motion to reconvene in Open Session made by Board Member Wang, seconded by Member Ader

Roll Call Vote

A voice vote was taken:

Ayes: Ader, Annerino, Hunt, Khan, Szczupaj, Hunt, Khan, Szczupaj, and Taylor

Nays: none

Absent to vote: none

Motion carries: (6-0)

Mission Statement

President Szczupaj recited the District's Mission Statement to open the meeting.

President's Welcome

President Szczupaj welcomed everyone, and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. She thanked District 15 staff for always working to provide the quality of education that District 15 prides itself on doing. She extended the thank you to the parents, family and the community.

Pledge of Allegiance

Thomas Jefferson Elementary School Ambassadors led the Pledge of Allegiance. As a way of celebrating their last year of Thomas Jefferson being an elementary school, they have looked for ways to create leadership opportunities for their students who will be at Thomas Jefferson Middle School next year. The 6th grade Ambassadors have great leadership skills, consistently demonstrate being kind and caring individuals, and are great role models for others.

Present for the Pledge of Allegiance, Larry Sasso, School Principal; Jack Olson, Assistant Principal; Laura Magrowski, teacher; and Mary Beth Landerman, teacher. Also were present the following students, Kayla D., Addison S., Miles T., Neil S., Sahil P., Elin K., Isabella P., and Cole R.

Student Recognition:

- Abby (Marion Jordan), IAEA Art Show. District 15 recognized, Abby, a student at Marion Jordan, who had her artwork selected as part of the annual IAEA Statewide Student Art Show. Each year, members of the Illinois Art Education Association (IAEA) members submit student artwork from grades K-12 for selection into the annual IAEA Statewide Student Art Show.
- 6th grade Cross Country Students. On Monday, October 23, 2023, Intramural Sports participants from D15 elementary schools ran a mile during the 6th Grade Cross Country Invitational Meet at Rolling Meadows' North Salk Park. 318 runners competed.

Staff Recognition

- Jenae Taylor was selected for the Above and Beyond recognition for the month of November following a nomination by Jason Dietz, Principal of Walter R. Sundling Junior High School. Jenae is the School Resource officer for Walter R. Sundling, Gray M. Sanborn, Hunting Ridge, Jane Addams, Lake Louise, Marion Jordan, Pleasant Hill, and Stuart R. Paddock. D.
- ISBE Those Who Excel & Teacher of the Year Staff Recognition. Since 1970, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has sponsored Those Who Excel and Teacher of the Year to honor individuals who have made significant contributions to our state's public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools. The nominees for this year are, Gaby Kaszuba (Stuart R.

Paddock) for her nomination as Teacher of the Year; Cristina Santana (Stuart R. Paddock) for her nomination as Early Career Educator; Matt Warren (Conyers Learning Academy) for his nomination as School Administrator; AIME Team (Gray M. Sanborn) members Elizabeth Skylakos, Brooke Marshall, Melissa Souden, Kelly Harmantas, Dawna Schuster, Makala Musgrove, Laura Taylor, and John Nesse for their team nomination; and Rebecca Lawson (Winston Campus Elementary) for her nomination as Educational Service Personnel.

Community Recognition

- IASB School Board Members Appreciation. Sponsored by the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB), School Board Member Day was celebrated across Illinois on November 15. Dr. Laurie Heinz, along with District 15 joined the other Illinois districts to thank their wonderful elected Board of Education members for championing the work of educators, for fully supporting their continuous improvement efforts, and for helping shepherd the Moving 15 Forward plan through to a YES vote. Their work as a Board fully embodies this year's theme of Learn Together – Lead Together. Dr. Heinz stated that it is a pleasure to work with this board as closely as they do, not only to move forward the referendum, but in every initiative that they've brought onward to improve the district. She thanked them for their work. A short video of students thanking the board was presented.
- Honoring Veterans. Dr. Heinz shared an annual tradition in District 15 to honor our veterans. All the schools joined in the celebration. She added that the schools do a phenomenal job honoring our veterans, a 30 year-plus tradition in district 15.

Public Comments

President Mrs. Szczupaj opened Public Comment by stating our procedures to address the Board. Comment forms were shared with President Szczupaj and the following citizens addressed the Board:

- Jacek Kawczyński from Palatine, and Nina Hannon from Palatine, addressed the Board regarding in-class choir in middle school.
- Joe Doninger from Naperville, representing Safeway Transportation, addressed the Board regarding the transportation request for proposal, and their current bid proposal.
- Lee Bennet from Palatine, addressed the board regarding middle school sports offerings.

Informational Reports

Social Media Litigation

Dr. Heinz, Superintendent of Schools, and Attorney Mike Hernandez, Partner at Franczek Law Group, presented an overview of the Social Media Litigation to the Board of Education.

Mr. Hernandez shared that on behalf of more than five hundred school districts nationally, Frantz Law Group, in coordination with multiple law firms representing school districts across the country, has filed lawsuits in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. Filed lawsuits

are against Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat, YouTube, and other social media companies for allegedly causing harm to students who use these platforms. Frantz's legal team contends that the various defendants' manipulative algorithms cause significant addiction and severe emotional distress to students which have led to significant interference with the educational process and the learning environments in schools.

Tentative 2023 Tax Levy

Diana R. McCluskey, Chief of School Business Official, and Anthony Fashoda, Director of Fiscal Services presented the Tentative 2023 Tax Levy to the Board of Education. Per state statute, the tentative levy is presented to the Board of Education at least 20 days prior to adoption. The final levy is scheduled for adoption at the Board of Education meeting on December 13, 2023. Overall, approximately 73% of the District's revenues are from property taxes. The levy is the ask by the school district to the Cook County Clerk's Office to extend property taxes for 2023. The District is subject to the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) which limits the increase in the tax to the December 2022 CPI-U of 6.5% or statutorily 5%, whichever is less. The applicable increase is 5%. The final extension will include new properties that come on the tax roll for the first time. New Property includes finished construction and tax increment financing districts that have expired and both are taxed at the full rate. The LY23 proposed levy is \$153,580,221. The Board of Education will vote to adopt the final levy at its next meeting on December 13, 2023.

Illinois State Report Card

Lori Lopez, PhD, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching, Learning & Assessment presented the Illinois State Report Card results. She stated that the Illinois Report Card is published annually by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). Report cards share a wide range of information about student achievement, school/district environment, finances, students, teachers, and administrators. Dr. Lopez explained the information about our schools' ISBE Summative Designations as well as an overview of performance on the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR), the Illinois Science Assessment (ISA), the ISBE Equity Journey Continuum, and the Illinois 5Essentials Survey. She added that the District continues to accelerate growth for all students through high expectations, alignment of curriculum, instruction, and assessment, and using data to inform our instruction. Going forward, the District will provide an annual update on student achievement in October, and an annual update of the Illinois State Report Card in November. She is planing on presenting the Strategic Plan Dashboard in the next board meeting.

Emergency Expenditure of Funds for Emergency Transportation Agreement for Unassigned School Bus Routes with Determination of Approval

Claire Kowalczyk, EdD., Deputy Superintendent, and Thomas Bramley, Director of Transportation presented information regarding the emergency expenditure of funds for emergency transportation agreement for unassigned school bus routes for approval by the Board. They also explained the memo presented to the board. Last year, to help address the shortage and improve pick up and drop-off times, under an Emergency Provision within the DTU collective bargaining agreement the district

went out to bid in order to hire 7 supplemental drivers to cover unassigned routes for the 2022-23 school year. The provision allowed the district to use supplemental drivers for 90 days. Safeway was awarded the temporary contract for supplemental drivers and the District paid \$338,807 for 7 drivers for 5 months (January-May). The district paid an additional \$33,634 to cover our summer school routes. She added that shortages continue in the 2023-24 School Year Again, despite rigorous recruitment efforts, so in October 2023, they solicited bids. One company, Safeway Transportation, submitted a bid for 5 drivers, \$576/driver/day, \$2,880 per week, totalling: \$259,200 for the 90 day supplemental driver contract. Dr. Kowalczyk added that compared to last years there is an increase of \$ 83,522 for only 5 drivers. Mr. Bramley provided an update on recruitment efforts, stating that progress is being made.

Superintendent Report

Dr. Heinz, provided the Board with a brief update on the following topics:

Superintendent's Office

- Board 1:1 Check-ins and Special Education Q & A Meetings
- Structured School Visits
- Attended AMLE Conference to honor WCJH School of Distinction Award and presentation
- Parents as Partners, DACEE, Superintendent Communication Council, and Safety Committee meetings

Administrative Services

- Bid for Supplemental Bus Drivers
- HR, Business, and AS – Negotiations with DTU
- Principal Observations

Business and Auxiliary Services

- Out to bid for Phase 3 construction projects at GMS, WB, KH & HR
- Finalizing FY23 independent audit

Communication

- The website transition has begun. The communications team met with departments to review their content and had their first design meeting with Finals site
- The Wellness Committee gathered to discuss initiatives for the year

Educational Services

- Provided PREPaRE training to clinical staff (social workers, psychologists, etc.).
- Provided mental health-oriented training in student threat assessment training and life Space Crisis Intervention to clinical staff
- Updating middle school advanced ELA program's Book Club selection for the 2024-2025 school year

Human Resources

- New Human Resources Assistant Director began and has hit the ground running with recruitment efforts; including social networking and new recruitment materials
- Reached a tentative agreement with DTU regarding recruitment and retention initiatives
- Continued building visits and gathering input regarding staff placement for the next school

year

- Initial stages of staffing needs for the 2024-25 school year based on new boundary information

Multilingual Programs

- 2024 ACCESS Training for Administrators & Teachers
- Review of School Assignments for Multilingual Students for 24-25
- Dual Language Transition to Middle School - Parent Meeting 11/14

Student Services

- LEAP Program review to begin November 14, 2023
- Continuing to provide onsite support for crises at buildings
- Roster verification for students and program placement for 24-25 school year
- DHH/Vision Program Fall Celebration student event on November 3, 2023

Teaching, Learning & Assessment

- Math Steering Committees are meeting to create pacing guides for each grade level
- Continued work with the Full-Day Kindergarten Committee and Middle School Subcommittees
- November 7 PM Staff Learning Day focused on eLearning in the event of inclement weather or other emergency, continued support for CHAMPS implementation, and a specialized learning session based on teaching assignment

Technology

- Organizing systems and procedures for a potential eLearning Day and providing guidance and PD for staff
- Continued configuration and scheduling of initial training for PowerSchool Unified Insights
- Preparing online registration system for the 2024-25 school year
- Investigating device models and pricing for technology equipment for new and remodeled classrooms

Acceptance of Minutes

Board member Hunt made motion, seconded by Board member Wang, to approve the Regular Board of Education and Closed Session Minutes from the October 11, 2023 placed on file:

Roll Call Vote

A voice vote was taken and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried (7-0).

Board Committee Reports

Education Research Development (ED-RED) Organization

Board Member Annerino shared that the Illinois State Legislature concluded its veto sessions and there was not much discussion related to school districts. The Invest In Kids Program will no longer continue. The Kosher Meals Program was vetoed.

one-five Foundation

Board Member Taylor shared that the one-five Foundation recently wrapped up its mini-grant program and will be announcing winners after thanksgiving. Taylor added that the Foundation is still looking for trustees.

Finance Committee

Board Members Hunt and Wang shared that the finance committee met on November 14 to discuss the tax levy presented at this meeting.

Equity Committee

Board Members Khan and Ader shared that there is nothing to report at this time.

2023 IASB Resolutions Committee Report

Through the Resolutions Process and Delegate Assembly, Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) member districts provide critical direction as IASB represents members' interests before state and national policymakers. Every member district is entitled to one voting delegate. This year delegates will vote for the election of IASB Officers and the adoption of their Position Statements on issues that reflect the interests of Boards of Education across the state. The Board held a discussion and voiced their opinions for or against each of the following resolutions:

- **Industrial Construction:** IASB recommends *not to adopt* and District 15's BOE recommended *not to adopt*
- **School Resource Officer Funding:** IASB recommends *to adopt* and District 15's BOE recommended *not to adopt*
- **Bus Driver Regulations:** IASB recommended *to adopt* and District 15's BOE recommended *to adopt*
- **Employment History Review:** IASB recommends *not to adopt* and District 15's BOE recommends *not to adopt*
- **Alternative Safe School Funding:** IASB recommends *not to adopt* and District 15's BOE recommends *not to adopt*

Board member Zubair Khan will represent the District 15 Board Resolution meeting at the upcoming Joint Committee.

Action Items

1. Approval of Personnel Report: Recommendations for Administration, Certified and Non-Certified staff members

Board member Ader made a motion, seconded by Hunt, motion to approve the Personnel Report: Recommendations for Administration, Certified and Non-Certified staff members, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Hunt, Khan, Szczupaj, Taylor, Wang, Ader, and Annerino

Nays: none

The motion carried (7-0).

2. Approval of Safeway Transportation bid and the Agreement for Unassigned School Bus Routes

Board member Kahn made a motion, seconded by Taylor motion to reject the bids for Safeway Transportation on the basis that the bid is too high, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Khan, Szczupaj, Taylor, Wang, Ader, Annerino, and Hunt

Nays: none

The motion carried (7-0).

3. Approval of Bid Award #24-001 Treated/Untreated Rock Salt & Bagged Salt

Board member Ader made a motion, seconded by Wang motion to approve the split of the Treated/Untreated Rock Salt and Bagged Salt bid award and award contracts to Russo Power Equipment (Schiller Park, IL) in the amount of \$24,612.50 and Morton Salt, Inc. (Chicago, IL) in the amount of \$36,234.00 for a total bid award of \$60,846.50, a presented.

Ayes: Szczupaj, Taylor, Wang, Ader, Annerino, Hunt, Khan.

Nays: none

The motion carried (7-0).

4. Approval of the Resolution Estimating the Aggregate Levy for the Year 2023

Board member Taylor made a motion, seconded by Hunt motion to approve the Resolution Estimating the Aggregate Levy for the Tax Year 2023, as presented.

Ayes: Taylor, Wang, Ader, Annerino, Hunt, Khan, and Szczupaj.

Nays: none

The motion carried (7-0).

5. Approval Authorizing Social Media Litigation and Fee Agreement.

Board member Annerino made a motion, seconded by Wang motion to approve the authorization of the Social Media Litigation and Fee Agreement, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Wang, Ader, Annerino, Hunt, Khan, Szczupaj and Taylor

Nays: None

The motion carried (7-0).

6. Approval of Standard Long Term Substitute Daily Rate for Related Services Positions

Board member Wang made a motion, seconded by Ader approve that the long-term related services substitute pay rate be adjusted to \$300 per day, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Ader, Annerino, Hunt, Khan, Szczupaj, Taylor, and Wang

Nays: None

The motion carried (7-0).

7. Approval of Resolution Awarding and Assigning Trade Contracts for Renovations related to Wold Phase 3 Projects

Board member Taylor made a motion, seconded by Ader motion to approve the Resolution Awarding and Assigning Trade Contracts for Renovations related to Wold Phase 3 Projects, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Annerino, Hunt, Khan, Szczupaj, Taylor, Wang, and Ader.

Nays: None

The motion carried (7-0).

8. Approval of School Maintenance Project Grant Application

Board member Annerino made a motion, seconded by Wang motion to approve the School Maintenance Project Grant Application, as presented. Board member Hunt brought up a question regarding not knowing what this was about. Diana McCluskey, Chief Schools Business Official came up and responded her question.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Hunt, Khan, Szczupaj, Taylor, Wang, Ader, and Annerino.

Nays: None

The motion carried (7-0).

9. Approval to Ratify DTU Tentative Agreement

Board President Lisa Szczupaj stated that she will not ask for a motion because the DTU contract was not ratified by the DTU, so no action can't be taken.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: None

Nays: None

The motion carried (0-0).

Consent Calendar

Board member Ader made a motion, seconded by Wang, to approve the Consent Calendar items, as presented.

10.1 Approval of Consent Calendar

10.2 Budget Report

10.3 Investment Report

10.4 Report of Payroll Vouchers and Invoices

10.5 Student Activities Fund Report

10.6 Treasurer's Report

10.7 Agreement for Bilingual Evaluation Services - Binaifer Kavina

10.8 Agreement for Non Public Facility Contract Updated Private Facility - Cove School

10.9 Agreement for Non Public Facility Contract - Joseph Academy

10.10 Agreement for Non Public Facility Contract - Core Academy

10.11 Agreement for Non Public Facility Contract-High Road of Hoffmann (1 Student)

Roll Call Vote

Yes: Szczupaj, Taylor, Wang, Ader, Annerino, Hunt, and Khan.

Nays: None

The motion carried (7-0).

Correspondence

Dr. Heinz included a summary of Freedom of Information Act requests and/or Impact Fees.

Adjournment

At 9:45 p.m Board member Taylor made a motion, seconded by Annerino motion to approve to adjourn.

Roll Call Vote

A voice vote was taken and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried (7-0).

Lisa Beth Szczupaj, President
Board of Education

Anthony Wang, Secretary
Board of Education