

**Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
of Community Consolidated School District 15
Palatine, Cook County, Illinois
Held on Wednesday, April 10, 2024
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 April 10, 2024, at Walter R. Sundling Junior High School, 1100 N. Smith Street, Palatine, Illinois. Board Members were notified by bulletin sent electronically on Friday, April 5, 2024.

Roll Call

Board President Szczupaj called the regular meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Board Members physically present: Wenda Hunt, James Taylor, Lisa Beth Szczupaj, Frank Annerino, and Anthony Wang

Board Members absent: Samantha Ader, and Zubair Khan

Also present were Laurie Heinz, EdD, Superintendent of Schools; Deputy Superintendent Claire Kowalczyk, EdD; CSBO Diana McCluskey, and Director of Human Resources Shari Lazor, EdD.

Closed Session

Board President Szczupaj called the closed session to order at 6:13 p.m. Board Member Hunt made a motion, seconded by Board Member Taylor, for the Board to convene in closed session to discuss the collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees following 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2); and the appointment, employment, discipline, performance, dismissal, and compensation of specific individuals of the public body, following 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

Roll Call vote:

Ayes: Annerino, Hunt, Szczupaj, and Taylor.

Nays: None

Late arrival: Wang

Absent: Khan, and Ader

Motion Carried: (4-0)

Reconvene in Open Session

The Board returned to open session at approximately 7:05 p.m.

Motion to reconvene in Open Session made by Board Member Taylor, seconded by Board Member Annerino

Roll Call vote:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Khan, and Ader

Motion Carried: (5-0)

Mission Statement

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

President's Welcome

Board President Szczupaj welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

Robert Harris, Principal of Willow Bend Elementary School explained that The Respectables are a group of students who applied for the leadership position at WB. Each teacher then chose a student to help out in the classroom and around the building at lunch/recess, during morning arrival, and at assemblies. They also promote positive behavior by looking for other students who are showing "The Three B's" of Being Respectful, Being Responsible, and Being Safe. Respectables hand out special Eagle Eyes to those students that can then be used throughout the year in raffles, classroom incentives, and our Willow Bend Eagle Eye cart that is supplied by our PTA. Principal Harris shared that these students are looked at as positive leaders in and around the school and that he and Mrs. Thurber are proud to have them at Willow Bend. The following students were recognized: Kohitha D., Jessica K., Nora M., Eva L., Celine M., Olivia R., Ayesha P., Vithika M. Kira A. Praise D., and Nikitha S.

Staff Recognition: Above and Beyond - Leah Paraskevas

Leah Paraskevas, a 3rd Grade Teacher at Lake Louise, was recognized as part of the Board Above and Beyond recognition for the month of April following a nomination by Lake Louise's administrators: School Principal Jennifer Riehman, Associate Principal Angela Gallegos, and Assistant Principal Lauren Green shared the many ways Ms. Paraskevas adds to the culture and climate of Lake Louise.

Staff Recognition: Nationally Board Certified Staff

Director of Human Resources Shari Lazor recognized District 15's staff with National Board Certification. District 15 congratulated the following staff members: Patricia Raleigh, Occupational Therapist at Conyers Learning Academy; Lynn Napora, Occupational Therapist at Virginia Lake; Carissa Holt, Occupational Therapist at Conyers Learning Academy; Claudia Maloberti, Occupational Therapist at Lake Louise; Ellen Fuglestad, Psychologist at both Central Road/Pleasant Hill; Colleen Rogers, Psychologist at Gray M. Sanborn; Alexis Sanchez, Psychologist at Marion Jordan; Justyna Bartolik, Psychologist at Conyers Learning Academy; Elisa Franti, SIP Teacher at Marion Jordan; Marcy Meyer, LEAP Teacher at Thomas Jefferson; Julie Dewel-Unger, SIP Teacher at Walter R. Sundling; and Allison Willis, Elementary Teacher at Pleasant Hill.

Public Comments

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

- Amanda Moller from Greener Good shared with the Board services Greener Good provides for the community and hopes to expand their work in District 15 schools.

Superintendent's Reports

Dr. Laurie Heinz, Superintendent of Schools, presented to the Board the April Report that provides a brief update on the following topics:

Superintendent's Office

- State Superintendent Dr. Tony Sanders Visits Jane Addams and Walter R. Sundling
- Village of Arlington Heights meeting
- Administrative Assignments, Building Tours, and Meet & Greet Planning for staff and families
- Nutrition Service School Visits, Planning for Next Year, and Quest Partnership

Administrative Services

- WRS SRO interviews for 2024-25
- Supporting 21 new McKinney-Vento families

Business and Auxiliary Services

- Department FY25 budget meetings in process
- Construction continues on time and on budget!

Communications

- High Five Fridays returned on April 5 and continued through the end of the school year
- Supported planning for New Family Welcome Nights on April 15 and 17
- Wellness Committee hosted a successful first staff wellness fair, surveyed staff for feedback, and is discussing future opportunities for this committee
- Working with mobile food clinics and schools to sponsor food drives to support food insecurity in our communities

Educational Services

- Planning district summer school program for approximately 1,000 students.
- Updating summer program curriculum in both English language, arts, and math
- Updated SEL programming for gifted and began updating math curriculum for GAT

Human Resources

- Tentative placements for all staff members were shared on March 22, 2024
- Reviewing transfer requests and staffing adjustments
- Ongoing recruitment efforts for the 2024-25 school year

Multilingual Programs

- Received the 2024 Bilingual Education Award
- Working on recruiting and hiring staff for summer programs and for the 2024-25 school year
- Hosting MPAC meeting on 4/25 at Whiteley at 6:30 pm with the theme of Social Emotional Learning

Student Services

- Preparing for Extended School Year
- Planning and preparing for student and program transitions for Fall
- Recruiting and hiring staff for the Fall

Teaching, Learning & Assessment

- Middle School Science Steering Committee: Defining “guaranteed and viable curriculum” and drafting pacing guides
- Planning for professional learning for new middle school staff
- Providing guidance and direction for packing and moving to ensure all teachers have access to curricular materials for 2024-25

Technology

- Full Day Kindergarten Subcommittee on Technology: Exploring how instructional technology will integrate into delivering a full-day kindergarten program
- Planning for summer professional learning
- Guidance on packing/moving technology as well as packing procedures for libraries being remodeled
- Rolling out 5th/6th-grade student Chromebook refresh of approximately 2500 devices
- Preparing staff for laptop refresh of approximately 1100 devices
- Met with State of Illinois Cyberteam to further discuss the high-priority need for a state-wide cybersecurity program in the K-12 community

Discussion/Informational Reports

1. Legal and Legislative Update on Arlington Park Redevelopment

Ares Dalianis of Franczek P.C. and John Dunn of Cozen O’Connor Public Strategies provided the Board with a legal and legislative update regarding the Arlington Park redevelopment. During the update, they shared information regarding the status of the 2023 and 2024 property tax assessment, the draft Memorandum of Understanding, legislative proposals, and the political landscape in Springfield.

He shared that following many discussions regarding the assessment, the Chicago Bears Football Club has filed an appeal to the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board (PTAB) seeking a refund of the 2023 taxes of \$7.2M. The MOU is an agreement negotiated between the Village of Arlington Heights and the School Districts that addresses concerns such as anticipated student generation which could lead to the need for additions and/or new schools; the impacts

of the PILOT program and multiple TIF districts; and the long term property assessment until construction begins in 2028.

2. Strategic Plan Priority 3: Community and Family Engagement

District 15 recently updated its strategic plan and identified four priority areas that include:

1. Student Success and Belonging;
2. Staff Retention and Engagement;
3. Facility Improvements and Moving 15 Forward Transitions; and
4. Community and Family Involvement.

Renee Urbanski, Assistant Superintendent of Multilingual Programs; Dr. Laura Swanlund, Director of Comprehensive Mental Health and Related Services; Keli Swierczek, Social Work Coordinator; Tiffany Costa, Assistant Director of Curriculum; and Rebecca Latham, Chief Communication Officer provided the Board an update on the strategic objective that focuses on *Community and Family Engagement*.

It was shared that research is clear that strong family-school-community partnerships positively affect student achievement, attendance, behavior, and schools' reputations. For these reasons, one of the high-priority areas within the newly developed strategic plan is Family & Community Engagement.

After thoughtfully soliciting and carefully considering the feedback of numerous stakeholders, the leadership team arrived at four high-leverage goals for this priority area:

1. Ensure our community is well-informed;
2. Create opportunities for two-way communication;
3. Develop and promote a full-year literacy campaign; and
4. Increase the number of community partnerships

Additionally, the presentation highlighted existing key community partners that help the District to address needs such as physical health, mental health and wellness, academic, enrichment, and social connection needs within our community.

3. Student and Parent Recognition

Renee Urbanski, Assistant Superintendent of Multilingual Programs, shared that the Multilingual Department coordinated the participation in a conference titled "Who Said You Can't" and transported over 60 students and their families to the conference for a day of learning and connecting together. Students and their parents shared how this event made them feel closer to their children, and helped them to understand the importance of goal setting as well as the importance of open, strong, and positive communication at home.

4. Recommended Resolution Concerning Impact of TIF Districts

Ares Dalianis of Franczek P.C shared with the Board that Ed-Red is seeking to raise awareness of the impact of TIF districts in support of legislative reform that will give school districts a greater voice in how and when TIF districts are created, how long they are established, and provide taxpayers with more information on how TIF districts affect their tax bills. Furthermore, the resolution provides a summary of the widespread use of over 1,400 TIF districts in Illinois, the significant revenue raised by municipalities using TIF districts (over \$2 billion in 2023), and the impact they have in raising tax rates on all taxpayers. In Cook County, TIF districts account for more than 9% of all property taxes paid. Ed-Red has requested that all member school districts discuss and consider this resolution as a show of support for sensible reform of the TIF Act.

5. Overview and Discussion: Insurance Renewal for 2024-25

Diana McCluskey, Chief School Business Official, presented to the Board that the District's Insurance Committee met with members of CTC union leadership, District 15 leadership as well as representatives from Alera Group, the District's Insurance consultant, to discuss 2024-25 medical, dental, and vision renewal options and rates.

She reported that premium rates for the five (5) health plans offered by the District will increase by 10.47% from the current year's rates. The premium rates for dental insurance (Delta Dental) offered by the District will increase by 1.67% from the current year's rates and there were no changes to the current vision plan. The Insurance Committee did not reach consensus on any plan design changes for FY25. This increase is due to several large insurance claims that exceeded the stop loss value, increased prescription drug costs, and an ongoing low deductible rate for D15 staff members.

Acceptance of Minutes

Board Member Hunt made a motion, seconded by Board Member Annerino, to approve the Regular Board of Education, and the Closed Session Meeting Minutes from March 13, 2024, placed on file:
Roll Call Vote

A voice vote was taken and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried (5-0).

Board Committee Reports

ED-RED Committee

Board Member Annerino shared that ED-RED has been discussing newcomer funding, school polling places, reimbursement for high-cost special education, fentanyl education, and guidelines for background checks of substitute teachers.

one-five Foundation

Board Member Taylor shared that the 50/50 raffle was a huge success with \$16,450 going to a lucky winner and \$16,450 going back to the one-five Foundation! He thanked everyone who bought a ticket in support of the one-five as proceeds go directly to help staff and students in D15.

Mr. Taylor added that the one-five Foundation is now selling its annual Staff Tributes.

Finance Committee

Board Members Wang and Hunt shared there are no new updates at this time.

Equity Committee

Board Members Khan and Ader were not present at the meeting. Dr. Heinz, Superintendent of Schools, shared that Board Member Ader represented the Board at the recent State Superintendent visit to Jane Addams and Walter R. Sundling schools.

Action Items

Approval of Personnel Report: Administration, Certified, and Non-Certified

Board Member Taylor made a motion, seconded by Board Member Wang, motion to approve the Personnel Report: Administration, Certified, and Non-Certified, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Ader and Khan

Motion carries (5-0)

Approval of Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes

Board Member Wang made a motion, seconded by Board Member Hunt motion to approve the Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes from the most recent six months, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Ader and Khan

Motion carries (5-0)

Approval of Board Resolution for TIF Reform

Board Member Hunt made a motion, seconded by Board Member Annerino motion to approve the Resolution for TIF reform, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Ader and Khan

Motion carries (5-0)

Approval of Additional School Resource Officer for Hoffman Estates Schools

Board Member Annerino made a motion, seconded by Board Member Wang motion to approve the additional School Resource Officer for Hoffman Estates schools, as presented. Board Member Hunt stated her concern that CPS has removed all SROs from their schools, and shared the need for the District to ask our community Members if they want SROs in our schools. Dr. Kowalczyk, Deputy Superintendent clarified that all SROs attend a 40 hour-course regulated by the Illinois Law Enforcement and Standards Board, including topics such as human rights, civil rights, de-escalation, crisis intervention, and bias training among many more topics.

Roll Call Vote

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Ader and Khan

Motion carries (5-0)

Approval of Bid Award #24-010 Winston Campus Junior High Sidewalk Improvements

Board Member Annerino made a motion, seconded by Board Member Hunt motion to award the Winston Campus Junior High Sidewalk Improvements Project to Troch-McNeil Paving Company, Inc. (Elk Grove Village, IL) in the amount of \$250,375.00, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Ader and Khan

Motion carries (5-0)

Approval of Bid Award #24-011 Gray Sanborn Sidewalk & Parking Improvements

Board Member Hunt made a motion, seconded by Board Member Taylor motion to award the Gray Sanborn Sidewalk & Parking Improvements Project to Chicagoland Paving Contractors, Inc. (Lake Zurich, IL) in the amount of 230,000.00, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Ader and Khan

Motion carries (5-0)

Approval of Bid Award #24-012 Central Road School Parking Improvements

Board Member Taylor made a motion, seconded by Board Member Hunt motion to award the Central Road School Parking Improvements Project to Troch-McNeil Paving Company Inc. (Elk Grove Village, IL) in the amount of \$249,650.00, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Ader and Khan

Motion carries (5-0)

Health Care Renewal: Approval of 2024-25 Medical/Dental/Vision Rates

Board Member Hunt made a motion, seconded by Board Member Annerino motion approve the Health Care Renewal, for 2024-25 Medical, Dental, and Vision Rates, as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Hunt, Szczupaj, Taylor, and Wang

Nays: None

Abstain: Annerino

Absent: Ader and Khan

Motion carried (5-0)

Consent Calendar

Board Member Taylor made a motion, seconded by Board Member Hunt, 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 Approval of Agreement For Professional Medical Services - Assured HealthCare Staffing

10.8 Approval of Agreement for Professional Therapy Services - Natsuki Piazza

10.9 Approval of Agreement for Professional Medical Services - Ro Health

10.10 Approval of Agreement for Professional Therapy Services - Krengauz

10.11 Approval of the ISBE Consolidated District Plan

10.12 Approval of Second Reading BOE Policy 2:150 Committees

10.13 Approval of Final Official 2023-2024 School Calendar

Roll Call Vote

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Ader, and Kahn
Motion carries (5-0)

Correspondence

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

Adjourn Closed Session

At 9:41 p.m. Board Member Annerino made a motion, seconded by Board Member Hunt to approve the adjournment of the meeting.

Roll Call Vote

A voice vote was taken and the vote was unanimous.

Motion carries (5-0)

Lisa Szczupaj, Board President
Board of Education

Anthony Wang, Secretary
Board of Education