

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BUTLER SCHOOL DISTRICT 53  
OAK BROOK, ILLINOIS  
Administrative Center  
Butler Junior High School  
Monday, February 13, 2017  
6:30 p.m. Regular Meeting

MINUTES

Members Present: Alan Hanzlik, President Alan Kumar, Secretary (6:45 p.m.); Liz Chun; Lou Paskalides; Ahmad Sulaiman  
Members Absent: Hitesh Patel, Vice President; Todd Rusteberg  
In Attendance: Heidi Wennstrom, Superintendent; Amy Read, Principal Butler Junior High; Jason Bednar, Principal Brook Forest Elementary

Mr. Hanzlik, Board President, called the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Butler School District 53 to order in the boardroom at 6:31 p.m. Mr. Hanzlik modified the agenda to begin with the presentations.

**Presentations**

**STEM Presentation** – Mrs. Wills, Curriculum & Professional Development Specialist, and Mrs. Beg, Technology Director, provided an overview of the current STEM lab. With the end-of-life of many of the technology components, students Aanika Atluri and Kara Xu presented their proposal with explanations for updates to the current STEM lab space and furnishings. Dr. Wennstrom thanked the students for their proposal and said they would be considered moving forward.

**Mid-West Region – Scholastic Art and Writing Competition** – Mrs. Lago, Language Art teacher at Butler Junior High School, stated, “what started as a student lead lunch group turned into award recognition for four of our students.” The competition is for students through 12<sup>th</sup> grade and had over 10,000 entries across the Midwest. Four students from BJH were recognized for their outstanding work: Adi Badlani, Silver Key Award in the Journalism category for his piece titled: Fidel Castro: An Idol or Dictator, Ajay Jejurikar, Honorable Mention in Poetry and Personal Essay categories for his pieces titled: My Hidden Palace and My Forest of Grim, Carolina Rico, Silver Key Award in Personal Essay category titled: The Loss, and Jasmine Tan, Gold Key Award in the Flash Fiction category for her piece titled: Thoughts. Dr. Wennstrom thanked Mrs. Lago and congratulated the students on their awards.

**Student Head Injuries/Concussion Committee** – Ms. Read, BJH Principal, updated the Board on the committee work for implementation. The committee consisted of the school nurse, athletic director, the Superintendent, and both building Principals. Ms. Read reviewed recommended documents and forms from PRESS (Policy Reference Education Subscription Service). An emergency action plan is being developed to work in correlation with the new policies and procedures. Parent resources will be provided in student/parent handbooks.

**Student Wellness and Allergy Committee** – Mr. Bednar, Brook Forest Principal, reviewed with the Board the committee work of 11 parents, 2 teachers, and 3

administrators regarding student wellness and allergy maintenance. There has been an increase in student allergies over time with the need to protect students. The goal is to prevent accidental risks so students are in a safe learning environment. There was a discussion over student wellness as it relates to the celebration of birthdays. Suggestions included stickers, pencils, or singing to all birthday students once a week at lunch as opposed to sugar based treats. There will be a required 3 day advance notice to the school nurse or principal for any incoming treats.

Mr. Hanzlik read a prepared letter going out to all Butler 53 families tomorrow regarding a series of legal procedures. "Last year the District conducted an internal investigation into allegations of possible academic irregularities involving outside academic contests. Most recently, the District was made aware of a Federal lawsuit filed against the District, District administrators, Board members and legal counsel. All parties named as defendants in the lawsuit deny the allegations made against them, and we are working closely with our attorneys to vigorously dispute those claims. While litigation is pending, we cannot comment further on this matter. Butler 53 prides itself on being open and transparent with our school community and will continue that practice to the extent possible in light of the restrictions the lawsuit impose on us." Mr. Hanzlik asked that the community "bears with us and be patient."

### **Reception of Visitors**

Christopher Edmonds inquired about the pending litigation facing Butler School District 53. Mr. Edmonds thanked Mr. Hanzlik for the previous read statement and asked if the amount of the litigation was \$10 million, as he had read in his research. Mr. Hanzlik affirmed the amount.

Maureen Levin expressed her concerns regarding the current Language Arts curriculum using the Reading and Writing Workshop model. Ms. Levin stated that as a teacher she knows the time needed to prepare for just one lesson. As a parent she knows that her 7<sup>th</sup> grader struggles with spelling, punctuation, and vocabulary. Mrs. Levin suggests professional development for teachers in vocabulary and writing skills.

Rosie Conway spoke on the Language Arts programs at Brook Forest and Butler Junior High. Mrs. Conway asked that the School Board, Administration, and Staff take their time to roll out a curriculum that is cohesive with much fore thought.

Janie Huber, a previous Butler student and current senior at Hinsdale High School, spoke on behalf of her sisters currently attending Butler Junior High. Ms. Huber expressed her concern regarding the lack of vocabulary, spelling and grammar currently being taught at BJH. The foundations of the English language are necessary for student success moving into high school and secondary education.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Dr. Kumar, seconded by Mrs. Chun to approve the agenda as modified.  
VOICE VOTE: ***Motion carried.***

### **Board Member Comments**

Mrs. Chun thanked everyone for coming and voicing their concerns and welcomed continued conversation. She stated, "It truly takes all of us, to do what we all have as the same goal, to provide the best education for each of our children. We rely on the

expertise of our staff and administration but you, as parents, are the experts of your children.”

### **Consent Agenda**

1. Minutes of the January 23, 2017 Regular Meeting
2. Minutes of the January 23, 2017 Closed Meeting
3. Approve 2017-2018 School Calendar
4. Approve 2018-2019 School Calendar
5. Approve FMLA request from Aubrey Ignace, Teacher, Brook Forest Elementary, beginning tentatively February 16, 2017 for up to twelve weeks.
6. Facility Use
  - Girl Scouts – 2/10, 3/16, 4/7, 5/11
  - PTO/Tinkerworks – 2/3, 2/10, 2/24, 3/3, 3/10
  - PTO/Sticky Fingers – 3/14, 3/21, 4/4, 4/11, 4/18, 4/25
7. Financial Reports

Motion by Dr. Kumar seconded by Mrs. Chun to approve the consent agenda as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Mr. Sulaiman, Mrs. Chun, Dr. Kumar, Mr. Paskalides, Mr. Hanzlik

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Patel, Mr. Rusteberg

***Motion carried.***

### **School Organization Reports**

Rahma Hasan, PTO President, updated the Board on the current events that include: The Bake/Sweets & Treats Sale at Brook Forest taking place on February 14<sup>th</sup> and the Carnival and silent auction at BJH on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Our Tinkerworks sessions has been very successful with 18 students enrolled and 13 on a waiting list.

**Brook Forest Roof Bid** – Mike Eichhorn, from Wold Architects and Engineers, discussed with the Board bids received for the upcoming roof replacement at Brook Forest. They recommend the contract be awarded to J.L. Adler Roofing & Sheet Metal, Inc., with an alternate No. 1 Replace Skylights in the amount of \$1,150,395.00. Mr. Eichhorn updated the Board on the proposed BJH courtyard renovation. The courtyard is sinking and causing foundation leaks. Draft drawings were shared with the Board.

***Motion by Dr. Kumar, seconded by Mrs. Chun to move to closed session according to 5 ILCS120/2(c) 1 for “The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity,” 8 for “Security procedures,” 10 for “The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students,” and 11 “Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting.”***

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Mr. Sulaiman, Mrs. Chun, Dr. Kumar, Mr. Paskalides, Mr. Hanzlik

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Patel, Mr. Rusteberg

***Motion carried.***

Adjourn to Closed Session: 7:38 p.m.

Return to Open Session at 9:55 p.m.

### **Continued Discussion/Presentations/Committee Reports**

**School Board Member Handbook** – Mr. Hanzlik referred the Board to the attachment and asked that Board members email him with any questions or edits. The document will have an action item for 1<sup>st</sup> reading today with 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and final adoption at the March board meeting.

**DLT Committee Report** – Mrs. Chun referred the Board to the minutes of the last DLT committee for detail. Mrs. Chun informed the Board that Brook Forest BLT would like to discontinue the Good Morning BF portion of the visitation day. They would like to focus the parent visitation on Language Arts, Math and one special class.

**B&G Committee Report** – Mr. Paskalides referred the Board to the minutes for details. Mr. Paskalides also recommends that Mr. Jakupi be directed to request bids on the BJH courtyard.

**Technology Committee Report** – Dr. Kumar referred the Board to the minutes. Mrs. Beg discussed computer use for next school year and the rotation of devices. There has been great success with 0% breakage this year compared to 40% last year. Dr. Wennstrom noted that the reason for the student presentation on the STEM lab was to prepare for the replacement of expiring hardware allowing for student input.

**Policy Committee Report** – Dr. Wennstrom referred the Board to the minutes for details. There are 12 policies on the agenda tonight for 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

### **Superintendent's Report**

**FOIA** – Mr. James Lee, former parent in the district, is requesting student records, policies, maps, and registration documents. This FOIA is due February 15th.

Mr. Chuck Fieldman, Doings reporter, is requesting residency, boundary, registration, and tuition documents. This FOIA is due February 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Kindergarten Registration** – Kindergarten registration is complete and we have two full classes at this time. Registration will continue with signage up in the community.

**Federal Lawsuit** – Dr. Wennstrom noted the statement read by Mr. Hanzlik at the beginning of the meeting.

**ELA Program Concerns** – District and building administration are working hard with teachers to come up with a solution that implement the needed resources. Dr. Wennstrom noted that “this is not a top down decision, so it does need time, as teachers are very vested in the decisions that are made in curriculum and instruction.”

**Institute Day** – Dr. Wennstrom referred the Board to the documents provided for the upcoming March 3<sup>rd</sup> institute day.

**Butler Junior High Building Report**– Ms. Read, Principal, updated the Board on student participation in a Math competition, Science Olympiad, Wrestling, and a fund raiser for Leukemia and Lymphoma.

**Brook Forest Building Report** – Mr. Bednar, Principal, informed the Board that Brook Forest held a very successful Thursday night of parent/teacher conferences. There will be additional parent/teacher conferences on Friday afternoon. The 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> musical is currently rehearsing and we are looking forward to the final performances.

### **Action Items**

Approve Resolution Authorizing the Treasurer to Place School Funds for the Purpose of Investments in: Northern Trust, MB Financial, Illinois Funds, Signature Bank, PMA Financial/Illinois School District Liquid Asset Fund Plus, Associated Bank, Illinois Metropolitan Investment Fund, Evergreen Bank, Citibank.

***Motion by Dr. Kumar, seconded by Mrs. Chun to approve the resolution to authorize the Treasurer to place school funds for the purpose of investment as provided.***

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Mr. Sulaiman, Mrs. Chun, Dr. Kumar Mr. Paskalides, Mr. Hanzlik

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Patel, Mr. Rusteberg

***Motion carried.***

Policy Revisions and Changes - First Reading

Policy 1020 - Vacancies on the School Board - Filling Vacancies

Policy 1105 - Board Policy Development (RENAMED)

Policy 4990 - General Personnel - Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease

Policy 6312 - Food Allergy Management Program

Policy 6323 - Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries

Policy 6360 - Administering Medicines to Students

Policy 6510 - Student Records

Policy 6935 - Equal Educational Opportunities

Policy 7250 - Access to Electronic Networks

Policy 7255 - Using Animals in the Educational Program

Policy 9012 - Public Suggestions and Comments

Policy 9020 - Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs

***Motion by Dr. Kumar, seconded by Mrs. Chun to accept policies 1020, 1105, 4990, 6312, 6323, 6360, 6510, 6935, 7250, 7255, 9012, 9020 as presented for a first reading, and place on the March meeting agenda for second reading and adoption, as recommended by the Policy Committee and the Superintendent. Motion Carried.***

Board of Education Handbook - First Reading

***Motion by Dr. Kumar, seconded by Mrs. Chun to approve first reading of the Board of Education Handbook, and place on the March meeting agenda for second reading and adoption.***

***Motion Carried.***

Approve Brook Forest ES Roof Replacement Project with Alternate No. 1 (Replace Skylights) to be awarded to J. L. Adler Roofing & Sheet Metal, Inc. with a total contract amount of \$1,150,395.00.

***Motion by Dr. Kumar, seconded by Mrs. Chun to approve the Brook Forest ES Roof Replacement Project with Alternate No. 1 (Replace Skylights) to be awarded to J. L. Adler Roofing & Sheet Metal, Inc. with a total contract amount of \$1,150,395.00.***

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Mr. Sulaiman, Mrs. Chun, Dr. Kumar Mr. Paskalides, Mr. Hanzlik

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Patel, Mr. Rusteberg

***Motion carried.***

Approve contract for Farheen Beg, Director of Technology, effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019.

***Motion by Dr. Kumar, seconded by Mrs. Chun to approve the contract for Farheen Beg, Director of Technology, effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019.***

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Mr. Sulaiman, Mrs. Chun, Dr. Kumar Mr. Paskalides, Mr. Hanzlik

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Patel, Mr. Rusteberg

***Motion carried.***

Approve contract for Bob Jakupi, Director of Building & Grounds, July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019.

***Motion by Dr. Kumar, seconded by Mrs. Chun to approve the contract for Bob Jakupi, Director of Buildings and Grounds, effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019.***

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Mr. Sulaiman, Mrs. Chun, Dr. Kumar Mr. Paskalides, Mr. Hanzlik

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Patel, Mr. Rusteberg

***Motion carried.***

Approve contract with Sandra Martin, Part-Time Business Manager, July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

***Motion by Dr. Kumar, seconded by Mrs. Chun to approve the contract for Sandra Martin, Part Time Business Manager, effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.***

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Mr. Sulaiman, Mrs. Chun, Dr. Kumar Mr. Paskalides, Mr. Hanzlik

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Patel, Mr. Rusteberg

***Motion carried.***

**Announcements**

Future Board of Education Meeting Dates:

Policy Committee Meeting

Monday, February 27, 2017, 4:30 p.m.

B&G Committee Meeting

Thursday, March 2, 2017, 7:00 a.m.

DLT Committee Meeting  
Regular Meeting

Tuesday, March 7, 2017, 4:00 p.m.  
Monday, March 13, 2017, 6:30 p.m.

**Other Important Dates:**

District Food Allergy Committee Meeting  
PTO Valentine's Day Sweet Sale  
BF - Mousetrap Machine Assembly  
BF&BJH Parent/Teacher Conferences  
Student Dismissal 11:50 a.m.

Tuesday, February 14, 2017, 7:15 a.m.  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017, 11:50 a.m.  
Thursday, February 16, 2017, 9:00 a.m.  
Friday, February 17, 2017, 12:30-4:30 p.m.

President's Day - NO SCHOOL  
Attendance Day - NO SCHOOL  
BJH Winter Sock Hop  
BJH - 8th Grade Washington DC Trip  
Institute Day  
NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

Monday, February 20, 2017 Non-  
Tuesday, February 21, 2017  
Friday, February 24, 2017, 6:30 p.m.  
March 1st - March 5th  
Friday, March 3, 2017

Math Counts State Competition  
Pulaski Day - NO SCHOOL  
BJH - PTO Carnival

Saturday, March 4, 2017  
Monday, March 6, 2017  
Friday, March 10, 2017

**Adjournment**

**Motion by Dr. Kumar, seconded by Mrs. Chun to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:06 p.m.**

VOICE VOTE: ***Motion carried.***

Alan Hanzlik, Board President

Alan Kumar, Board Secretary

BOE approved at the regular meeting of 3/13/17.