

BUTLER SCHOOL DISTRICT 53  
OAK BROOK, ILLINOIS  
Administrative Center  
Butler Junior High School  
Monday, January 14, 2019  
6:30 p.m. Regular Meeting

MINUTES

Mr. Edmonds, Board President, called the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Butler School District 53 to order in the boardroom at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Christopher Edmonds, President; Ahmad Sulaiman, Secretary; James Chow; Laura Bieselin; Keith Carlson; Sanjay Rao

Members Absent: Sally Beatty, Vice President

In Attendance: Heidi Wennstrom, Superintendent; Amy Read, Butler Junior High Principal; Chad Prosen, Brook Forest Elementary Principal; Farheen Beg, Director of Technology; Andrea Prola, Director of Student Services

**Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Mr. Carlson, seconded by Ms. Bieselin to approve the agenda as presented.

VOICE VOTE: **Motion carried.**

**Community Engagement**

Mr. Edmonds welcomed visitors. John Barr, Oak Brook Village Trustee, provided a diagram of the Oak Brook Commons development planned for the future McDonald's property on 22<sup>nd</sup> Street and Spring Road. The current proposed development would provide additional resources to the district with a limited impact on student enrollment. Mr. Barr described the relationship with the McDonald's Corporation as a "good corporate neighbor" given their consideration of the Oak Brook Park District and needed soccer fields. Colleen Kowalkowski, parent and resident, spoke on the District 86 (Hinsdale High School) April 2<sup>nd</sup> referendum for \$139 million. The referendum will address the dire health and safety issues at Hinsdale Central and Hinsdale South. Mrs. Kowalkowski urged parents and students to go to the [d86voteyes.org](http://d86voteyes.org) website for additional information and upcoming meetings.

**Board Member Comments**

Ms. Bieselin announced that we are currently in the midst of our superintendent search and pleased with the high caliber of the candidates. Additional information will be provided in February. Mr. Edmonds wished everyone a Happy New Year.

**PTO Update**

Dr. Wennstrom provided the PTO update that included information on the Family Carnival, Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup> from 6-9 p.m. at Butler Junior High. Rahma Hasan and Kristen Banderas were thanked for organizing and planning this fun event. The carnival will have games, prizes, inflatables, a D.J., a photo booth, a selfie room, a piñata room, a video game truck, a mobile escape truck, a magic show, food, raffles and much more! Ticket and parking packages are available for advance purchase at a discounted price. RSVPs are due by January 18<sup>th</sup>. Individual tickets are also available at the door the day of the carnival. The PTO is still looking for volunteers (high schools & parents) for the day of the carnival. You can sign up online on their website. Thank you to our fabulous room parents for creating the classroom donation baskets for the carnival. Thank you to our amazing teachers who are volunteering their time at the carnival. Mrs. Greco has invited Dr. Bruce Law, Superintendent of High School District 86, to come to the March 8<sup>th</sup> PTO meeting at 9:00 a.m. and speak on the referendum. The majority of the time will be used as a question and answer period where families will be able to ask questions that are most important to them. Parents are encouraged to come and invite neighbors that may not have children in the school district to attend the meeting.

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

### **2019-2020 School Fees**

Mr. Edmonds informed the Board that Dr. Martin, Business Manager, has recommended that the Board review and approve the recommendation for a small increase in grade level school fees for the 2019-2020 school year. Mr. Edmonds noted that there has not been an increase in grade level school fees in the last five years.

### **Community Outreach Committee Report**

Dr. Rao updated the Board on the first meeting of the new Community Outreach Committee that was held on Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>. There was excellent participation from the Superintendent, both school principals, several teachers, and representatives from the PTO and the village board. It was discussed in detail how the district currently communicates through written publications, the website, as well as social media. The committee also discussed the various stakeholder groups that they would like to reach out to. Finally, the committee furthered its action plan to include a one page highlighted newsletter to stakeholders. The next meeting will be held March 13<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m.

### **Education Committee Report**

Ms. Biesel informed the Board that the Education Committee met and are considering some notable shifts that include expansion of math time and dedicated art and music classes at Butler Junior High. Addition of world language is being considered at Brook Forest. Ms. Read was asked to look into schedule options for expanding the school day. Ms. Biesel stated that any expansion of the day would be compensated to teachers. Mr. Philipps provided a presentation on innovative classroom spaces. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade Philadelphia trip was discussed along with if it makes sense for our students or if there are other opportunities that should be considered.

### **Finance Committee Report**

Mr. Carlson announced that there was nothing new to report and that the next meeting of the Finance Committee will be held on Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

### **Infrastructure Committee Report**

Mr. Chow shared that the first meeting was held on January 8<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Chow reminded everyone that the Building & Grounds Committee and Technology Committee have been combined into the new Infrastructure Committee. The realignment of the committees will work in collaboration with the Education and Finance committees. The project list for the summer of 2019 was reviewed by the committee with logistics important in the decision making. The HVAC work was swapped out for the health & safety issues for this summer. The committee got a first look at flexible classroom learning spaces.

### **Policy Committee Report**

Mr. Sulaiman welcomed Dr. Rao onto the policy committee. Mr. Sulaiman thanked everyone that came to the December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. It was a productive meeting where 45 policies, administrative procedures, and exhibits were reviewed. A second meeting was held on December 19<sup>th</sup> for the policy customization. The Illinois Association of School Board (IASB) policy consultant led the group through a questionnaire that will help in the development of the new policy manual. Dr. Wennstrom added that recommendations from the policy committee will be shared with the consultant and included in the first draft of the new policy manual. The draft will be provided to the committee for review, input, and edits before the final recommendation to the Board for adoption.

### **Superintendent Search**

Mr. Edmonds shared that there were 38 applicants for the superintendent's position. 31 applications were deemed complete by our recruiting consultants. Members of the community, staff, and board took part in feedback sessions and online surveys. Based upon the information obtained from all stakeholders, the consultants recommended 6 candidates. The Board reviewed the online videos of these 6 candidates on December 15<sup>th</sup>. On January 12<sup>th</sup> the full Board held personal interviews with 3 finalists. At this time, additional clarification has been requested from the candidates for further evaluation. Everyone's input has driven the process. The Board is not at a point of decision yet. We are on a good trajectory. Mr. Sulaiman expressed confidence in the process and feels things have gone well.

### **Superintendent's Report - School Calendar 2019-2020**

Dr. Wennstrom reviewed with the Board the proposed 2019-2020 school calendar. The calendar has been shared with the committee, PTO, and staff for input. All state and regional guidelines have been accommodated in the creation of the calendar. One thing that has changed is that evening parent/teacher conferences can no longer be counted as a student day. Total student days for the district and state are 176. We are committed to professional development for teachers which are included on the calendar as half day SIP (school improvement process) days. Our calendar is aligned to Hinsdale High School District 86 and the recommended DuPage calendar at this time to the greatest extent possible. The Board is being asked to

approve it tonight, but if more time is needed for review we can wait until February. Dr. Wennstrom shared that calendar input was requested from the PTO and Staff Calendar Committee. She discussed the changes in school code related to the flexibility afforded to school districts to now create the calendar and instructional day that is beneficial for student and staff learning.

### **5Essentials**

Dr. Wennstrom reminded everyone that we are currently in the window for the 5Essentials survey on school climate and culture. Junior high students will be taking the survey during school. Parents are strongly encouraged to take the survey online as there is a minimum of 20% participation of parents for the district to receive results. Various forms of communication will be used to remind parents to participate. This data is used to shape school improvement planning.

### **FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) Requests (0)**

No FOIA requests were received in the Superintendent's office since the last board meeting.

### **Brook Forest Building Report**

Dr. Chad Prosen, Principal of Brook Forest, clarified that the 5Essential survey is by building so if parents have students in both Brook Forest and Butler Junior high they need to take the survey twice. The Erin's Law compliance will begin next month and it was shared with the PTO at their last meeting. The Dare program for the 5<sup>th</sup> graders has begun and the Oak Brook Police department continues to do a nice job in terms of partnering with us. The police will also be in the building on January 22<sup>nd</sup> for the Child Lure Program. There have been new roles assigned within the Oak Brook police and they have been visiting the building to build relationships. There have been many new club offerings to start the new year, acting and drama is just one of them sponsored by the PTO. On February 5<sup>th</sup> there will be a big family STEM night and we have partnered with Northern Illinois University from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. We welcome all family members to attend. Dr. Prosen recognized and thanked faculty and staff for their book study on *17,000 Classroom Visits Can't Be Wrong*.

### **Butler Junior High Building Report**

Ms. Read, Principal of Butler Jr. High, shared data and feedback from the high schools on curriculum and student achievement. All the feedback from the high schools was extremely positive in English, Math, and Spanish specifically. We have been contacted by District 181 (Hinsdale Elementary) and Avery Coonley on what we are doing to achieve such successes. Ms. Read thanked the teachers for their efforts for student success. Volunteers are needed for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Life Ride retreat on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. International Day will be on February 1<sup>st</sup> and still looking for parent volunteers.

### **Consent Agenda**

1. Minutes of the December 10, 2018 Regular Meeting
2. Minutes of the December 10, 2018 Closed Session
3. Minutes of the December 15, 2018 Special Meeting
4. Minutes of the December 15, 2018 Closed Session

5. Accept resignation of Lisa Brennan, Permanent Substitute, effective January 8, 2019
6. Facility Use Requests
  - Oak Brook Little League 1/26 through 3/22
  - PTO Family Carnival 1/25/2019
7. Financial Reports

Moved by Ms. Bieselin, seconded by Mr. Carlson to approve the consent agenda as presented.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Ayes: Ms. Bieselin, Mr. Carlson, Mr. Chow, Mr. Sulaiman, Dr. Rao, Mr. Edmonds

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Beatty

**Motion carried.**

**Action Items**

**Resolution Authorizing the Business Manager to Prepare a Tentative Budget for FY20**

Moved by Mr. Sulaiman, seconded by Dr. Rao to approve the solution authorizing the Business Manager to prepare a tentative budget for FY20.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Ayes: Mr. Carlson, Mr. Chow, Mr. Sulaiman, Dr. Rao, Ms. Bieselin, Mr. Edmonds

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Beatty

**Motion carried.**

**Tolling Agreement with the Illinois Metropolitan Investment Fund**

Moved by Mr. Sulaiman, seconded by Mr. Carlson to approve the tolling agreement with the Illinois Metropolitan Investment Fund to be signed by district legal counsel on behalf of the Butler 53 Board of Education.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Ayes: Mr. Chow, Mr. Sulaiman, Dr. Rao, Ms. Bieselin, Mr. Carlson, Mr. Edmonds

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Beatty

**Motion carried.**

**2019-2020 School Calendar**

Moved by Mr. Sulaiman, seconded by Mr. Carlson to approve the 2019-2020 school calendar as recommended by the Superintendent.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Ayes: Mr. Sulaiman, Dr. Rao, Ms. Bieselin, Mr. Carlson, Mr. Chow, Mr. Edmonds

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Beatty

**Motion carried.**

**2019-2020 School Fees**

Moved by Ms. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Chow to approve 2019-2020 school fees as recommended by the Business Manager.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Ayes: Dr. Rao, Ms. Biesel, Mr. Carlson, Mr. Chow, Mr. Sulaiman, Mr. Edmonds

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Beatty

**Motion carried.**

**Intergovernmental Agreement with the Trustees of Schools Township 39N**

Moved by Mr. Sulaiman, seconded by Mr. Carlson to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Trustees of Schools Township 39N beginning January 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Ayes: Ms. Biesel, Mr. Carlson, Mr. Chow, Mr. Sulaiman, Dr. Rao, Mr. Edmonds

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Beatty

**Motion carried.**

**January Bills**

Moved by Ms. Biesel, seconded by Mr. Chow to approve Mr. Carlson or Dr. Martin to review January bills and authorize payments prior to the next regular Board of Education meeting.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Ayes: Mr. Carlson, Mr. Chow, Mr. Sulaiman, Dr. Rao, Ms. Biesel, Mr. Edmonds

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Beatty

**Motion carried.**

**Community/Board Member Comments**

Ellen Wozny, OBEA President/Teacher, thanked the Board for the long hours involved in the superintendent search process and for the opportunity that teachers and staff had to provide input at the focus meetings. In the past stakeholders were part of the interview process of the superintendent candidates. Mrs. Wozny asked if stakeholders will be part of the interview process for the finalists for this superintendent search. Mr. Edmonds commented that at the advice of the recruiting consultant the names must be kept confidential so as not to put the candidates at risk. At this point there are 3 candidates and 2 of them are from out of state. Mr. Edmonds added that does not mean that there might not be opportunities for engagement.

Lindsay Bilshausen, Parent/Resident, voiced her concern regarding this decision being made by a small group that impacts a huge community of Teachers, Administrators, Parents, and future residents. It is not best practice to proceed without representation other than school board members. I was shocked to hear there were no teachers or administrators included in the interview process, Mrs. Bilshausen added.

Mr. Edmonds expressed that the criteria identified initially by stakeholders should not be underestimated.

Ellen Wozny, OBEA President/Teacher, expressed OBEA concerns regarding a discussion at the Education Committee meeting to increase the school day. Changing the hours of the school day is a change in working conditions and would have to be bargained. There is a serious concern held by faculty. "I'm hoping that with more discussion, more options can be explored," Mrs. Wozny stated.

Ms. Bieselin shared that "our focus is on the whole child." That a major constraint is posed by the master schedule. We want to build on great experiences currently in place.

### **Announcements**

Future Board of Education Meeting and Committee Dates:

Infrastructure Committee Meeting	Monday, February 4, 2019, 7:00 a.m.
Education Committee Meeting	Tuesday, February 5, 2019, 4:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting	Monday, February 11, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
Community Outreach Committee Meeting	Wednesday, March 13, 2019, 4:00 p.m.

Other Important Dates:

School Improvement Day	Friday, January 18, 2019
Early Student Dismissal	
M.L. King's Birthday – NO SCHOOL	Monday, January 21, 2019
PTO Meeting	Friday, March 8, 2019, 9:00 a.m.

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," 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."

Moved by Mr. Carlson, seconded by Ms. Bieselin to move into closed session at 7:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Mr. Chow, Mr. Sulaiman, Dr. Rao, Ms. Bieselin, Mr. Carlson, Mr. Edmonds

Nays: None

Absent: Dr. Beatty

**Motion carried.**

**Return to open session at 9:00 p.m.**

### **Adjournment**

Motion by Dr. Rao, seconded by Mr. Sulaiman to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:01 p.m.

VOICE VOTE: **Motion carried.**

Christopher Edmonds, Board President      Ahmad Sulaiman, Board Secretary

BOE approved at the 2/11/2019 board meeting.