

November 7, 2016

The Board of Education, Community High School District 99, met in special session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 7, 2016 at South High School.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, the following members answered present: Nancy Kupka, President; Terry Pavesich, Vice President; and Members Julia Beckman, Mike Davenport and Don Renner. Members Deb Boyle and Rick Pavinato were absent.

Also present were Henry Thiele, Superintendent; Gina Ziccardi, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning; Pete Theis, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Scott Wuggazer, Assistant Superintendent for Special Services; Jill Browning, Communication Director; Ed Schwartz, South High Principal; Janice Schwarze, North High Principal; and Juli Gniadek, Secretary.

There were no visitors.

1. RECOGNITION

Edward Schwartz and Janice Schwarz announced the names of the National Merit Commended and Semi-Finalist students and a National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholar. The students received certificates and were congratulated by Board Members. A brief reception followed.

2. STUDENT PERSPECTIVES

North High senior AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) students Angelique Garro, Khadeejah Kurdi and Amaris Morales shared how being a part of the AVID program for four years has helped them prepare for college and their future.

The Board thanked the students for sharing their experiences in the AVID program.

3. POSITIVELY NORTH AND MUSTANG WAY UPDATE

Scott Wuggazer reviewed what referral data is collected and how it is used to teach students about positive behavior and reinforce the positive culture at the schools. He also shared how students that display a high standard of being respectful, responsible and engaged are recognized.

4. DISCUSSION OF ILLINOIS ESSA ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIREMENTS

Dr. Thiele shared a draft of a model that could be used by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), to fulfill the accountability requirement of ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act), to demonstrate college and career readiness of students. He stated there are several models at this time and all models contain a combination of both academic and career indicators; eventually a single model will be adopted for the State. All models have, to varying degrees, the ability for local School Boards to determine what is acceptable in some areas, according to Dr. Thiele.

5. PROPOSED ELIMINATION OF CLASS RANK ON TRANSCRIPTS

Gina Ziccardi shared some of the reasons the administration is recommending the elimination of Class Rank on transcripts in 2017-2018. Reasons included: colleges look at students more holistically and

Class Rank is not important; students may choose courses based on what will have a more positive impact on their Class Rank as opposed to their interests or taking more challenging courses; and many high schools in our area have eliminated Class Rank on transcripts. Dr. Thiele stated internally Class Rank could still be calculated and administration is looking at other ways to appropriately recognize high achieving students if Class Rank is no longer used.

6. PROPOSED WEIGHTING OF “D” GRADES IN HONORS AND AP CLASSES

Ms. Ziccardi stated that A through C grades are weighted in Honors and Advance Placement (AP) courses; D grades are not. She said the administration is recommending weighting D grades in Honors and AP classes because of the amount of rigor in the classes and weighting of D grades would remove the barrier of a student being hesitant to challenge themselves and taking a more rigorous course for fear of getting a lower grade and having that adversely affect their GPA.

7. PROPOSED SUMMER 2017 SCHEDULE

Dr. Thiele reviewed the proposed summer 2017 schedule. He stated the purpose of the proposal was to create more days off for students enrolled in Summer School and teachers, and provide building IT and CMG staff more flexibility for completing projects. Hank Thiele said that if the Board approved the proposed 2017 Summer School calendar, administration was planning on changing the work hours of 52-week employees so the Fridays there was no Summer School in session, 52-week staff would also not be in the buildings. This would allow CMG staff and IT staff full access to the buildings for completing projects without having to work around others in the building. Dr. Thiele stated the Board would vote on the proposed 2017 Summer School calendar at the November 21, 2016 Board meeting.

8. RECEPTION OF VISITORS – PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no visitors.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Member Davenport moved and Member Pavesich seconded a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Upon the unanimous voice vote of the five members in attendance, the President declared the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Nancy Kupka, President

Juli Gniadek, Secretary