

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 64**

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting held at 7:30 p.m.
March 8, 2010
Raymond Hendee Educational Service Center
164 S. Prospect Avenue**

John Heyde called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Other Board members present were Genie Taddeo, Pat Fioretto, Russell Gentile, Sharon Lawson and Ted Smart. Eric Uhlig was not in attendance. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Sally Pryor, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Dr. Sandra Stringer and Rebecca Allard, Business Manager.

A motion was made by Sharon Lawson and seconded by Genie Taddeo to adjourn to closed session at 7:02 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the employment of specific individuals.

A motion was made by Genie Taddeo and seconded by Russell Gentile to adjourn from closed session at 7:26 p.m. The Board resumed its regular meeting at 7:32 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comment

Mr. Greg DiValerio of 1500 S. Brophy Avenue, Park Ridge, addressed the Board on behalf of the Washington School Playmakers. The Playmakers, made up of volunteer parents, produce and put on an annual play to raise funds for Washington School. The group objects to the custodial fees they are assessed for use of the auditorium, and requested those fees be either waived or reduced.

Board President Heyde said the District policy regarding facility usage has been in place for many years. He suggested the Facilities Committee review those policies and procedures and whether it should distinguish fees between the various groups who utilize District facilities. Mr. DiValerio volunteered to work with the Facilities Committee.

**RECOGNITION OF ILLINOIS 2009 HONOR ROLL
SCHOOLS**

Recognition of Illinois 2009 Honor
Roll Schools

Dr. Pryor recognized four schools that received the Academic Excellence Award – 2009 Illinois Honor Roll: Lincoln Middle School and Carpenter, Roosevelt and Washington Elementary Schools. To earn the Academic Excellence Award, schools must meet criteria including: 90 percent of students must meet or exceed state standards for three consecutive years in both math and reading, and have made Adequate Yearly Progress in 2008 and 2009. Dr. Pryor attributed these results to teachers, principals and parents working together to help students achieve at these high levels. She said standardized tests are only one measure of what happens in our schools.

The Board said District 64 is able to set its sights on broader goals because of our students' high scores on the ISAT, and recognized the important partnership between families and staff to help students grow academically and emotionally.

PRESENTATION ON MTSEP

Presentation on MTSEP

Ms. Lynette Williams, Director of the Maine Township Special Education Program (MTSEP), presented an overview and history of MTSEP and its programs and services.

MTSEP is a decentralized, special education cooperative that serves Districts 62, 63, 64 and 207. It shares special education resources with schools in Maine Township in the most efficient and cost-effective manner as possible. MTSEP began in 1966 and is governed at two levels: an administrative committee made up of District superintendents and a Board that consists of one School Board member from each of the districts.

Ms. Williams described MTSEP's programs and services that include monitoring private placements and orphanage programs, coordinating occupational and physical therapy services, a vision program, and special education transportation services, among others. She also provided a financial overview for the Board. She explained how MTSEP operates an "A" and "B" budget system. MTSEP employs 18 staff members. District 207 is the administrative agent for MTSEP.

Ms. Williams answered Board members' questions following her presentation.

APPROVAL OF LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL LIFE SAFETY BIDS

Approval of Lincoln Middle School Life Safety Bids

Rebecca Allard, District 64 Business Manager, presented the life safety bids for work at Lincoln Middle School scheduled for summer 2010 on masonry, general trades, roofing, electrical and fire alarm systems. The total bid amount is approximately \$600,000 under the projected budget for the work at Lincoln. Ms. Allard committed to keeping the Board apprised if that changes. Most of the expenses will be covered in the 2010-11 budget. The Board inquired about a few items on the bid sheets.

Rebecca Allard, District 64 Business Manager, presented the life safety bids for work at Lincoln Middle School scheduled for summer 2010 on masonry, general trades, roofing, electrical and fire alarm system. The total bid amount is approximately \$6000,000 under the projected budget for the work at Lincoln. Ms. Allard committed to keeping the Board apprised if that changes. Most of the expenses will be covered in the 2010-11 budget. The Board inquired about a few items on the bid sheets **including whether or not the lowest responsible bidder is currently signatory to the applicable building trades unions for the identified work to be performed.**

ACTION ITEM 10-03-1

Action Item 10-03-1

It was moved by Board member Taddeo and seconded by Board member Gentile that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District # 64, Park Ridge-Niles, Illinois, award the 2010 Summer Project for Lincoln School Life Safety as presented:

TRADE PACKAGE	CONTRACTOR	BASE BID
4.0 Masonry	Piazza Masonry, Inc.	\$337,700.00
6.0 General Trades & Demolition	Frontier Construction	\$178,000.00
7.0 Roofing	Riddiford Roofing	\$399,800.00
16.0 Electrical & Fire Alarm	Genesis Electric	\$129,383.00
	<i>Total Bid Award</i>	\$1,044,883.00

The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Lawson, Taddeo, Heyde, Fioretto, Gentile, Smart

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Uhlig

The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED SCOPE & PLANS FOR THE REVIEW OF THE CHANNELS OF CHALLENGE (C OF C) PROGRAM

Approval of the Proposed Scope & Plans For The Review of the Channels of Challenge (C of C) Program

Diane Betts, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning, outlined plans for the scope of a review of the Channels of Challenge (C of C) gifted program. She proposed limiting the scope of the review to a more narrow focus on the existing program, and to address the needs of higher achieving students who do not meet C of C criteria through the Strategic Plan.

Ms. Betts proposed the review focus on who should be served in the C of C program, if the current program meets the needs of students, and what changes, if any, should be made to the identification process.

She outlined a series of action steps and a broad estimate of costs for the review. Work could begin this year in order to have recommendations for the Board by next spring. A mid-term report to the Board in fall 2010 would drive any further questions that need to be addressed.

Several Board members voiced concerns about starting a C of C review now while in the middle of the Strategic Plan, as well as the proposed narrow scope of the review. The Board preferred a broader, more visionary review that would include a study of best practices and the best program for students with all possible models.

Dr. Pryor said administration will discuss the issue further based on the Board's input and bring its recommendations back to the Board at a future date. No motion was called or voted upon.

ACTION ITEM 10-03-2 was not voted on.

Action Item 10-03-2

**RECOMMENDATIONS ON FLES & FOREIGN
LANGUAGE MATERIALS INSTRUCTIONAL
MATERIALS**

Recommendations on FLES &
Foreign Language Materials
Instructional Materials

Ms. Betts provided a brief overview of the FLES curriculum review and outlined recommendations relating to adoption of new instructional materials. In spring 2009, the previous Board of Education approved recommendations stemming from the FLES review. It further recommended continuing the pilot of instructional materials for grades 2-5 for a second year, and incorporating recommendations for how to handle foreign language for sixth grade

into the Middle School program review. The latter issue was approved by the Board as part of the final Middle School program review.

The program *Viva el español!* was piloted for the past two years. It has worked well for students new to Spanish, i.e., former French students, as well as those who had previous exposure to Spanish.

Ms. Betts recommended adopting the *Viva el español!* textbook series as the core instructional materials for grades 2-5 and blending in supplemental materials developed locally by District 64 staff.

In addition, she recommended piloting the *Avancemos* textbook with both Emerson and Lincoln seventh grade students during the 2010-11 school year. A formal recommendation regarding adoption of a textbook series will be forthcoming after High School District 207 schools pilot their foreign language textbooks. District 207 and its feeder elementary districts, including District 64, use the same foreign language textbook series.

Ms. Betts provided projected budget expenses, and said the adoption of *Viva el español!* will not increase the total 2010-11 curriculum budget. The Board will be asked to approve the recommendations at the April 5, 2010 Board meeting.

**APPROVAL OF NEW FINANCIAL & HUMAN
RESOURCES SOFTWARE**

Approval of New Financial &
Human Resources Software

Business Manager Rebecca Allard presented recommendations regarding the purchase of financial and human resources management software to improve the efficiency of the business and human resources department operations. A proposal from Skyward Financial & Human Resource Management System was included in the Board packet.

District 64 has used Specialized Data Systems (SDS) for more than 15 years. It is limited in its ability to provide and retrieve data, and hinders the ability to streamline and integrate operations across multiple departments or to provide greater financial oversight by staff. Also, two issues identified by the most recent audit were a lack of security in the system and the integrity of financial data. Its backup procedures are cumbersome and it cannot track staff development processes.

Since July 2009, the Business Office and Human Resources Department have reviewed the current software with an alternate system from Skyward. Staff have had multiple demonstrations of the system and seen real-time demonstrations from users in other districts.

Ms. Allard explained the reasons why Skyward is successful in serving public school districts in Illinois. She recommended the purchase of Skyward with projected costs for software, training and annual license fees, and proposed a three-tiered implementation schedule beginning in July 2010 and ending July 2011.

In addition, Ms. Allard recommended contracting with ISCorp as a third-party application service provider to host the District's software and data.

One-third of the total costs would be paid from the 2009-10 budget, and the remaining two-thirds would be budgeted and paid in the 2010-11 budget.

The Board discussed the merits and disadvantages of utilizing an off-site data storage company and inquired further about the costs for the two recommendations.

ACTION ITEM 10-03-3

Action Item 10-03-3

It was moved by Board member Lawson and seconded by Board member Fioretto that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge-Niles, Illinois, approve the purchase of Skyward Financial and Human Resource Management System per the attached proposal. The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Lawson, Taddeo, Heyde, Fioretto, Gentile, Smart

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Uhlig

The motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda

A. PERSONNEL REPORT

The Personnel Report contains private information. Please contact Sandra Stringer, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, if more information is needed.

B. APPROVAL OF BILLS AND PAYROLL

Bills

10 - Education Fund-----	\$ 622,315.54
20 - Operation, Building and Maintenance Fund -----	<u>159,414.74</u>
30 - Bond and Interest Fund -----	-
40 - Transportation Fund -----	<u>56,905.77</u>
60 - Site and Construction Fund -----	-
80 - Tort Immunity Fund -----	<u>14,852.73</u>
90 - Fire Prevention and Safety Fund -----	-
Checks Numbered: 275510 - 275690	

Total: \$ 853,488.78

Payroll for Month of February, 2010

10 - Education Fund -----	\$2,927,527.92
20 - Operation, Building and Maintenance Fund -----	<u>163,209.95</u>
40 - Transportation Fund -----	<u>3,007.44</u>
50 - IMRF/FICA Fund -----	<u>137,858.06</u>
11 - Tort Immunity -----	-

Checks Numbered: 117263 – 117778

Direct Deposit: 1408515 - 141974

Total \$3,231,603.37

C. DESTRUCTION OF AUDIO CLOSED MINUTES (NONE)

ACTION ITEM 10-03-4

Action Item 10-03-4

It was moved by Board member Taddeo and seconded by Board member Lawson that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, approve the Consent Agenda of March 8, 2010, which includes the Personnel Report, Bills and Payroll and Destruction of Audio Closed Minutes (none). The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Lawson, Taddeo, Heyde, Fioretto, Gentile, Smart

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Uhlig

The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Minutes

ACTION ITEM 10-03-5

Action Item 10-03-5

It was moved by Board member Fioretto and seconded by Board member Gentile that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, approve the open minutes of February 22, 2010, the Committee of the Whole: Presentation of

Strategic Plan Team Report minutes of February 22, 2010, and closed minutes of February 25, February 26 and February 27, 2010. The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Smart, Gentile, Fioretto, Heyde, Taddeo, Lawson

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Uhlig

The motion carried.

OTHER ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Other Items of Information

Dr. Pryor announced District 64 was selected as one of only 83 districts in Illinois to receive the Bright Red Apple Award. The award is based on five criteria. Receipt of this award is a positive reflection on the District and the community.

Dr. Pryor also congratulated fifth grade student and safety patrol Jacob Vowell of Carpenter School who was recognized by the Park Ridge Police Department for saving a kindergarten child from being hit by a car.

Mr. Heyde said he, Mr. Gentile and Dr. Pryor attended a budget workshop for the Park Ridge City Council relating to Fire and Police Department budgets. Of note is the proposed two-thirds reduction in the budget for school crossing guards. Mr. Heyde spoke on behalf of District at the City Council meeting to oppose the reduction. Some adjustments in how crossing guards are paid may be needed in order to maintain their services.

The City of Park Ridge also asked Districts 64 and 207 to defer a TIF payment of approximately \$90,000 until next year, in order to help balance the City's budget. Mr. Heyde asked the Board to consider the deferred payment until it can be discussed further at the April 5, 2010 Board of Education meeting. Dr. Pryor said she will request legal counsel to review the issue.

Mr. Fioretto requested adding an item to a future agenda on establishing regular communication with teachers.

The Board will meet in closed session on Thursday, March 11, 2010.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment

At 9:50 p.m., it was moved by Board member Fioretto and seconded by Board member Taddeo to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by consensus.

President

Secretary