

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

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting held at 7:30 p.m.**

**March 14, 2011**

**Lincoln Middle School – Gym  
200 South Lincoln Avenue**

Board President John Heyde called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Other Board members present were Eric Uhlig, Sharon Lawson, Genie Taddeo, Scott Zimmerman and Pat Fioretto. Board member Ted Smart joined the meeting at 6:10 p.m. Also present were Superintendent Philip Bender, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Sandra Stringer and Business Manager Becky Allard.

At 6:05 p.m. it was moved by Board member Genie Taddeo and seconded by Board member Scott Zimmerman to adjourn to closed session for the purpose of discussing the appointment of a specific employee of the District (5 ILCS 120/2 (c)). The vote was unanimous.

Following the closed session, the Board resumed the regular meeting at 6:40 p.m. Also present were: Superintendent Philip Bender, Scott Mackall, Joel Martin, Tim Gleason, Bernadette Tramm and five members of the public.

The tour was led by Director of Facility Management Scott Mackall, Lincoln Middle School Principal Joel Martin and Assistant Principal Tim Gleason, who took frequent opportunities to offer information about the facility and about educational programs at the middle school.

Visiting the gym, they described the extensive work completed on the main building's exterior "envelope" including roofing, tuckpointing, etc. over the two previous summers and recent improvements to the gym's interior. Descending to the lower level, the route included a walk through the Fitness Center and cafeteria before returning to the first floor to inspect the entryway adjacent to the main playground. The group then visited the lower level boiler room before climbing to the third floor to see the various elective class spaces. Descending to the second floor, the group visited a grade 7 science classroom and an adjacent regular classroom equipped with a SmartBoard. The Learning Resource Center was the final stop before returning to the gym at 7:29 p.m.

Following a brief recess, the regular meeting resumed at 7:38 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Public Comments

Mr. Heyde opened the discussion about Child Care with Confidence (CCWC), saying there had been a lot of information in the media since the last Board meeting. The Board received many emails and phone calls from concerned parties about the termination of the lease with CCWC. He recognized that CCWC is well respected in the community, and said the Board shares that view, reminding people that the Board intervened with the Cook County Assessor on behalf of CCWC and paid their fall tax bill.

Since the February 28<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, there continues to be discussion about whether CCWC is required to pay property taxes. Illinois Action for Children is working with Ms. Lois Fisher at CCWC to try to resolve the issue, as is Ms. Fisher's attorney. Dr. Bender has also met with Ms. Fisher and provided her with documents and information. The Board was advised that Ms. Fisher intends to reimburse the District for taxes paid on her behalf, which shows good faith on her part. The District will continue to cooperate with CCWC in hopes of resolving the issues.

Lois Fisher, owner of Child Care with Confidence, addressed the Board. She also distributed information about CCWC to the Board. She has been operating CCWC as a 501 (c) (3) organization and educational facility. She stated she will reimburse District 64 \$3,958.48 on/by March 31, 2011 and \$7,197.27 on/by June 30, 2011. She will appeal the property taxes with Cook County.

She gave her background with CCWC over the past 27 years and described CCWC as a nurturing, full-service day care institution and viable, honest business. CCWC also provides educational opportunities for high school and college students to observe and work there.

Ms. Fisher said she has paid the utilities for many years and takes good care of the building. She assured the Board that CCWC is an educational facility, should be tax-exempt, and will fight the property taxes. She was pleased that Dr. Bender told her she can continue to use the space. She asked for a letter of confirmation on the changed status since the last Board meeting.

The Board told Ms. Fisher it will cooperate with her and work with the Assessor's office to resolve the property tax issues. Ms. Fisher is hopeful of positive results.

Several residents spoke in support of Child Care with Confidence.

Steve Senf, District 64 teacher, said he would recommend CCWC to others.

Ms. Dale Cucinella of 1431 S. Prospect, Park Ridge, said CCWC has served approximately 2700 children in its years of operation and is vital to our community. She urged the Board to renew the lease with CCWC until they can work things out with the Assessor.

Mr. Rex Parker of 612 S. Greenwood, Park Ridge, stated he believes the Assessor must have made a mistake. The Park Ridge-Niles community is lucky to have CCWC, which is a cornerstone of where a great education starts.

Ms. Nancy Gahbauer of 8153 W. Greendale, Niles, questioned where the District would get \$30,000 in revenue as it receives now annually from CCWC if the lease is terminated.

Ms. Bobbi Kotranz said she couldn't have gone back to teaching if not for CCWC. She urged the Board to keep CCWC where it is because it is very important to Park Ridge and Niles.

Mr. Heyde thanked residents for their comments and said the Board will work with CCWC on whether the tax bills will be reversed.

**APPOINTMENT OF FIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
PRINCIPAL**

Appointment of Field  
Elementary School Principal

Dr. Bender introduced Ms. Susan Cahail, appointee for principal at Field School effective July 1, 2011. Ms. Cahail comes from North Shore District 112 in Highland Park, where she has been principal of Red Oak Elementary School since 2007. She also has experience as principal and assistant principal in District 83 in Franklin Park, a mentor-teacher in Chicago Public Schools, and an elementary teacher in Wilmette, IL and Colorado.

Ms. Cahail established a Response to Intervention (RtI) team, facilitated staff development, and led several committees. She received her bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa and her master's degree from Loyola University. Ms. Cahail is pursuing her doctorate from Loyola University.

Ms. Cahail said she is excited to work in District 64, recognizing the legacy of Principal Kathy Creely and the wonderful reputation of Field School.

**ACTION ITEM 11-03-1**

Action Item 11-03-1

It was moved by Board member Zimmerman and seconded by Board member Taddeo that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge-Niles, Illinois approve the appointment of Susan Cahail as the Principal at Field Elementary School beginning July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Smart, Lawson, Fioretto, Heyde, Taddeo, Uhlig, Zimmerman

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

**APPOINTMENT OF EMERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL  
PRINCIPAL**

Appointment of  
Emerson Middle School

Dr. Bender recommended Mr. James Morrison to serve as principal at Emerson Middle School effective July 1, 2011. Mr. Morrison comes from Skokie School District 69 where he has been principal of Lincoln Jr. High for seven years. Previously, he was an assistant principal at Gemini Jr. High in District 63. He has experience as a math, science and physical education teacher, as well as a coach and athletic director in District 79 in Norridge.

Mr. Morrison implemented his school's Response to Intervention (RtI) program, developed a staff leadership team, and has guided curriculum committees and implemented a staff development program.

He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, his master's degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago and is working toward his doctorate at Northern Illinois University.

Mr. Morrison said he is excited to get started at Emerson Middle School. He has spoken with Dr. Mogil, and plans to continue the great tradition of District 64.

**ACTION ITEM 11-03-2**

Action Item 11-03-2

It was moved by Board member Taddeo and seconded by Board member Uhlig that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge-Niles, Illinois approve the appointment of James Morrison as the Principal at Emerson Middle School beginning July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Zimmerman, Uhlig, Taddeo, Heyde, Fioretto, Lawson, Smart

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

**PRESENTATION OF CHANNELS OF  
CHALLENGE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS  
CRITERIA**

Presentation of Channels  
of Challenge Identification  
Process Criteria

Diane Betts, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning, presented results and recommendations for the Channels of Challenge (C of C) student identification process. The Gifted Identification Process Review Committee focused on two broad areas:

- How to identify and address needs of high-achieving students who don't qualify for C of C
- The current identification process for students in grades 2 – 7 and how to improve the selection process

Dr. Lynne Farmer, Director of EIS/RtI, recognized members of the Committee who were present at the meeting. She and Kathy Ross, Curriculum Specialist for the Gifted Program, led the review process.

The last review of the C of C program was 11 years ago. Changes that Ms. Ross presented involve the identification process and Individual Problem Solving Teams (IPST) for high-achieving students.

The Committee recommended changing from a matrix to a Z score to evaluate all students who participate in the identification process, based on a recommendation from a teacher,

parent or both. A Z score numerically measures the distance between the student's score and a mean score for a test.

Three criteria used for the Z score include an Ability test (Cognitive Abilities Test or WISC which use a national norm), the MAP test (which uses a local norm), and a Teacher Rating Scale. All three measures are assigned points based on an individual student's scores. The three Z scores are weighted. At all grade levels, a total score of 10 points will qualify a student for C of C. Ms. Ross believes it is a clear, criteria-based process to evaluate students.

The MAP reading and math assessments will be used for achievement measures at all grades. The Cognitive Abilities Test and the WISC Test will be used for the ability test. The Gifted Rating Scale, developed by Pearson, is a research-based, standardized scale and will be used for the teacher rating scale.

The Review Committee also recommended continued use of the Cognitive Abilities Test as the first ability test and using the WISC for second grade students who meet the criteria on the Cognitive Abilities Test. The highest score from either the Cognitive Abilities Test or WISC will be used for a student's ability Z score. Spring MAP test scores can be used to reevaluate students who don't qualify based on their fall MAP test scores. The current appeals process and reconsideration processes will be maintained.

Individual Problem Solving Teams were piloted last year as part of the Response to Intervention program. Teams looked at high-achieving students and made sure staff had guidelines to identify and evaluate those students, along with possible service options for them. Last year, 15 students were placed into C of C and performed well overall by the end of the school year.

The IPST process for high-achieving students was expanded this year. The Teams looked at the top 10 percent of students and studied what services they were getting or needed. Service options can include instruction with support staff, online programming, instruction in a classroom at a higher grade level for part of the day, or instruction in the C of C program. This fall, 30 students from across the District were placed into the C of C program through that process. All are achieving at good rates and should be able to continue in C of C.

The Review Committee developed a calendar and specific guidelines for teachers, parents and administrators on what the scores mean and what reasonable options are available to meet high-achieving students' needs.

The Board asked questions of Ms. Ross about the percentage of students in the C of C program, the reconsideration process, and communicating with parents about the new identification process. The Board encouraged Ms. Ross to consider parameters for students with mixed scores. The Board will vote on the recommendations at the April 4, 2011 Board of Education meeting.

**FIRST READING OF PRESS POLICY ISSUE 74,  
OCTOBER 2010**

First Reading of PRESS  
Policy Issue 74, October 2010

Dr. Bender presented the first reading of Policy Issue 74 to the Board. The policies have been reviewed by the District-level Policy Committee as well as the Board of Education Policy Committee. There were no questions or comments. Board members were asked to contact Mr. Fioretto or Mr. Uhlig with any questions. The Board will be asked to approve Policy Issue 74 at the April 4, 2011 Board of Education meeting.

**APPROVAL OF 2011-12 STUDENT FEES**

Approval of 2011-  
12 Student Fees

Ms. Allard led the dialogue on student fees for 2011-12. Following discussion at the February 28 Board meeting, Ms. Allard recommended modifications to student fees for bus transportation and lunch supervision. Based on anticipated savings from the new bus transportation contract, Ms. Allard recommended holding bus fees at the current level; she also recommended increasing lunch supervision fees by \$25.00 from \$140.00 to \$165.00 for the early payment option (on or before July 15) and by \$50.00 from \$190.00 to \$240.00 for the regular payment option (after July 15). Lunch program fees have not increased in 10 years.

She provided a memo to the Board that included background on the lunch supervision program, which the District took over in 2007, and the financial status of the program. The program operated at a \$60,000 deficit at the end of 2009. It is currently running at a \$75,000 deficit this year, and a \$90,000 deficit is anticipated next year.

The Board discussed various options for lunch supervision fees, such as phasing in the increase, as well as concerns about it operating at a deficit. Ms. Allard suggested evaluating the program and its expenses for potential cost savings this spring or fall.

Overall, student fees have remained constant for the past three years. District 64 is the only district in the area with this type of parent-paid lunch supervision program. An audience member voiced her concern about lunch supervision program employees' salaries given the current economy. The final recommendation was an increase of \$25 for both the early payment and regular payment options.

**ACTION ITEM 11-03-3**

Action Item 11-03-3

It was moved by Board member Lawson and seconded by Board member Uhlig that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge-Niles, Illinois, approve the 2011-12 student fees as amended. The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Smart, Lawson, Heyde, Taddeo, Uhlig, Zimmerman

NAYS: Fioretto

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF FOOD SERVICE CONTRACT RENEWAL**

Approval of Food  
Service Contract

Ms. Allard recommended renewal of the food service contract with Arbor Management for one year, effective July 1, 2011. Mr. Heyde said he would prefer more fresh ingredients and fewer processed foods offered. Ms. Allard agreed to post lunch menu items and their costs online for parents to view.

**ACTION ITEM 11-03-4**

Action Item 11-03-4

It was moved by Board member Fioretto and seconded by Board member Uhlig that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge-Niles, Illinois renew the food service contract with Arbor Management for one year, commencing July 1, 2011.

The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Zimmerman, Uhlig, Taddeo, Heyde, Fioretto, Lawson, Smart

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

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-----	\$ 242,329.63
20 - Operation, Building and Maintenance Fund -----	<u>144,246.86</u>
30 - Debt Services -----	
40 - Transportation Fund -----	<u>50,578.71</u>
60 - Site and Construction Fund -----	<u>                    </u>

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80 - Tort Immunity Fund -----	_____
90 - Fire Prevention and Safety Fund -----	_____

Checks Numbered: 102832 - 103024

Total: \$ 437,155.20

Payroll for Month of February 2011

10 - Education Fund -----	\$ <u>3,014,198.48</u>
20 - Operation, Building and Maintenance Fund -----	<u>205,436.73</u>
40 - Transportation Fund -----	_____
50 - IMRF/FICA Fund -----	<u>152,682.25</u>
80 - Tort Immunity -----	_____

Checks Numbered: 1234546 - 123949

Direct Deposit: 155609 - 156727

Total \$3,372,317.46

C. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL UPDATE FOR THE PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2011

D. A RESOLUTION #1069 RECOMMENDING THE BOARD ADOPT A COPY FEE SCHEDULE FOR FOIA REQUESTS

E. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION OF STATUE

F. DESTRUCTION OF AUDIO CLOSED MINUTES (NONE)

**ACTION ITEM 11-03-5**

Action Item 11-03-5

It was moved by Board member Lawson and seconded by Board member Zimmerman that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge - Niles, Illinois, approve the Consent Agenda of March 14, 2011, which includes the Personnel Report, Payroll and Bills, Approval of Financial Update for the Period Ending February 28, 2011, A Resolution #1069 Recommending the Board Adopt a Copy Fee Schedule for FOIA Requests, Acceptance of Donation of Statue and Destruction of Audio Closed Minutes (none). The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Smart, Lawson, Fioretto, Heyde, Taddeo, Uhlig, Zimmerman

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.



**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of Minutes

**ACTION ITEM 11-03-6**

Action Item 11-03-6

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 Open Minutes of February 28, 2011 as amended, the Closed Minutes of February 28, 2011 and the Special Meeting Minutes of March 7, 2011. The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Zimmerman, Uhlig, Taddeo, Heyde, Fioretto, Lawson, Smart

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

**OTHER ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

Other Items of  
Information

Dr. Bender noted the facilities work update and minutes from the Community Finance and Traffic Safety Committee meetings. He also recognized District 64 for receiving the 2011 Bright Red Apple Award.

Ms. Lawson shared an article with fellow Board members. Mr. Uhlig relayed the positive experience he and Mr. Heyde had when they toured Lincoln Middle School this week. They visited FLES, math, orchestra, consumer sciences, physical education classes and the fitness center and cafeteria. They were impressed with the excellent instruction, enthusiastic teachers and how smoothly the school operates.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment

At 9:41 p.m., it was moved by Board Member Lawson and seconded by Board Member Taddeo to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by consensus.

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President

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Secretary