

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

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting held at 7:30 p.m.
April 4, 2011
Raymond Hendee Educational Service Center
164 S. Prospect Avenue**

Board President John Heyde called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Other Board Members present were Genie Taddeo, Eric Uhlig, Sharon Lawson, Ted Smart, Pat Fioretto and Scott Zimmerman. Also present were Dr. Bender, superintendent; Dr. Stringer, assistant superintendent for human resources; Kathleen Nelson, director of pupil services; and Becky Allard, business manager and Ares Dalianis, attorney at Franczek Radelet.

At 6:02 p.m. it was moved by Board member Sharon Lawson and seconded by Board member Scott Zimmerman to adjourn to closed session for the purpose of discussing matters related to personnel and property lease (5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1). The vote was unanimous.

The Board adjourned from closed session at 7:35 p.m. and resumed the regular Board meeting at 7:41 p.m. Present at the regular meeting were Superintendent Philip Bender, Assistant Superintendents Diane Betts and Sandra Stringer, Dr. Kathy Nelson, Dr. Lynne Farmer, Becky Allard, Scott Mackall, Terri Bresnahan and Bernadette Tramm.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

PRESENTATION ON COMMON CORE STANDARDS

Presentation on
Common Core
Standards

Diane Betts, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning, presented to the Board on the new Common Core Standards, why they were created, what they entail and what District 64 is doing to prepare for them.

The Illinois Learning Standards have guided Illinois schools since 1997, and provided broad K-12 statements for learning in core areas as well as physical education, art and social/emotional learning. Just as Illinois had its own learning standards, so did each state.

The Common Core Standards were driven by the National Governor's Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers, and although not mandated, they have been adopted by 41 states to date. They provide greater consistency across the nation and establish clear, more rigorous benchmarks for learning and skills so students can be better prepared for college and careers, as well as compete with students in other higher performing countries across the globe.

Common Core Standards now exist for grades K-12 in math and English/Language Arts; the latter includes reading, writing, speaking and listening. Standards also identify literacy skills that can be used in other areas such as science, social studies and technology.

Common Core Standards are being created in science. There is no timeline yet for developing Common Core Standards in social studies. Overall, the new more rigorous standards are heavy in content knowledge and cognitive thinking skills, which align well with District 64's K-8 learning standards.

New assessments tied to the Common Core Standards are being developed by two consortiums and targeted to be implemented in the 2014-15 school year. Until then, District 64 will continue to use the ISAT standardized tests. The new assessments will be administered more frequently, possibly online, and will likely require students to respond to questions using more writing and critical thinking skills vs. simpler, multiple choice answers.

Ms. Betts is working with a Township group on common staff developments and how to communicate with parents, teachers and Boards of Education around the new Common Core Standards.

District 64 is well prepared to adopt the Common Core Standards because of its work on the Strategic Plan, particularly Strategy Four to *define and clarify expectations for student learning*. This year, teachers involved in Strategy Four have analyzed the Common Core Standards for math, reading and language arts, developed a list of "Priority Standards" at each grade level, and begun discussions about how the new standards will impact instruction and curriculum materials.

Common Core Standards were also written to integrate technology into students' learning as the pace of technology changes rapidly. Again, District 64 is well positioned because of the Strategic Plan, Strategy One, *Accelerating the Advanced Use of Technology*. Members of the associated Action Team are planning more opportunities for students to use technology as a learning tool, with a heavy emphasis on critical thinking skills.

There will be a push next year for all District teachers to understand the new Common Core Standards, how they differ from current standards, and how they will drive changes in instruction.

The most significant change from the Common Core Standards will probably be in the math curriculum. There may be a need for a curriculum review and the purchase of new textbooks to match the new standards.

The Board inquired about current standardized tests vs. the new assessments expected in 2014-15 as well as the curriculum review cycle.

STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Bernadette Tramm introduced the report on progress of the Strategic Plan in the second trimester, covering activities since the first formal report in December 2010. Last fall, work began on nine Action Plans, and in the spring work on six additional plans was added. Almost 400 staff members are actively involved in activities related to the Strategic Plan. Much of the work was accomplished during one staff development day, the morning portion of the February Institute Day, and other limited times.

Ms. Tramm noted highlights from the second trimester:

Strategy 1: Work began on upgrading the District's network infrastructure following Board authorization of funds for that work.

Strategy 2: Goal-setting templates were created, encompassing academics and civil behavior; these templates will be piloted next year.

Strategy 3: Groundwork has been laid for greater service learning experiences for students.

Strategy 4: Staff is working on establishing hiring standards for recruiting teacher candidates with strong differentiated instruction backgrounds.

Strategy 5: The goal has been to build awareness about change protocol as a tool that can be used in a wide variety of scenarios by administrators in their work as leaders of Strategic Plan activities as well as in daily ongoing leadership roles in the District.

Groups will work on moving initial plans into piloting in classrooms, evaluating those pilots, and then moving into full implementation in future years.

Ms. Tramm noted that this is a five-year plan, so flexibility and pacing will be necessary, especially in light of transitions in leadership at the District and building levels. In addition, it is important to balance Strategic Plan work with other ongoing initiatives, such as RtI.

Recommendations for the next year of implementation of the Strategic Plan will be presented at the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting on April 25, 2011. Many activities are still planned for the remainder of the school year. One last Staff Development Day will be used to focus on the Strategic Plan, and committees continue to meet on separate schedules.

Ms. Tramm is working on a publication for the community to update them about the overall Strategic Plan and this year's accomplishments. A final progress report to the Board on the third trimester of work is scheduled for the June 13, 2011 Board of Education meeting.

Bernadette Tramm, Diane Betts, Tim Gleason and Terri Bresnahan addressed the Board's questions about progress of the Strategic Plan during the second trimester.

The Board asked each panel member about their greatest stumbling block this year in implementing the Strategic Plan. Most agreed that limited time was a

significant factor, and in many cases, also prioritizing and moving work forward with the large number of people involved.

There was additional discussion about the benefits of using change protocol, the need to review the Strategic Plan periodically, and the possibility of modifying or adding strategies.

The Technology Implementation Committee will likely be a long-term committee as new technology is constantly being introduced. The panel and Board discussed the best ways to keep staff apprised of technology changes.

Mr. Heyde closed by saying the Strategic Plan is indeed a grassroots effort involving many staff. It is reaffirming that the District is doing the right thing.

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 needed.

B. APPROVAL OF BILLS AND PAYROLL

Bills

10 - Education Fund-----	\$ 609,541.21
20 - Operation, Building and Maintenance Fund -----	103,729.49
30 - Debt Services -----	-
40 - Transportation Fund -----	110,638.15
60 - Site and Construction Fund -----	-
80 - Tort Immunity Fund -----	2,000.00
90 - Fire Prevention and Safety Fund -----	-

Checks Numbered: 103025 - 103179

Total: \$ 825,908.85

Payroll for Month of March, 2011

10 - Education Fund -----	\$ 4,583,690.20
20 - Operation, Building and Maintenance Fund -----	266,916.86
40 - Transportation Fund -----	-
50 - IMRF/FICA Fund -----	226,902.92
80 - Tort Immunity -----	-

Checks Numbered: 123950 - 124667

Direct Deposit: 156728 - 158449

Total \$5,077,509.98

**C. APPROVAL OF CHANNELS OF CHALLENGE IDENTIFICATION
PROCESS & CRITERIA**

D. APPROVAL OF PRESS POLICY ISSUE 74, OCTOBER 2010

E. DESTRUCTION OF AUDIO CLOSED MINUTES (NONE)

ACTION ITEM 11-04-1

Action Item 11-04-1

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 Consent Agenda of April 4, 2011, which includes the Personnel Report, Payroll and Bills, Approval of Channels of Challenge Identification Process & Criteria, Approval of PRESS Policy Issue 74, October 2010 and Destruction of Audio Closed Minutes (none). The votes were cast as follows:

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

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Minutes

ACTION ITEM 11-04-2

Action Item 11-04-2

It was moved by Board member Uhlig and seconded by Board member Zimmerman that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge-Niles, Illinois approve the Open Minutes of April 4, 2011 and the Closed Minutes of April 4, 2011. The votes were cast as follows:

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

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

OTHER ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Other Items of Information

Dr. Bender reported that carpeting was replaced at the ESC lower level and in four classrooms at Roosevelt School over spring break.

Mr. Heyde stated that Tuesday, April 5th is Election Day. Four Board of Education seats are on the ballot. April 25, 2011 will be the last regular meeting for the current Board. A separate, brief organizational meeting for the new Board will be held May 2nd at the ESC, and the first regular meeting for the new Board will be on May 9, 2011.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment

At 8:41p.m., it was moved by Board member Fioretto and seconded by Board member Lawson to adjourn the meeting to closed session for the purpose of discussing:

1. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). The motion passed by consensus.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 10:08 p.m.

President

Secretary