

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

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting held at 7:30 p.m.
April 25, 2011
Raymond Hendee Educational Service Center
164 S. Prospect Avenue**

Mr. John Heyde called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Other Board members present were Sharon Lawson, Genie Taddeo, Pat Fioretto, Ted Smart, Eric Uhlig and Scott Zimmerman. Also present were Superintendent Philip Bender, Assistant Superintendents Dr. Sandra Stringer and Diane Betts, Rebecca Allard, Dr. Kathy Nelson, Dr. Lynne Farmer, Scott Mackall, Terri Bresnahan and Bernadette Tramm.

The Board convened a Committee of the Whole: Strategic Plan at 6:03 p.m.

The Board adjourned from the Committee of the Whole: Strategic Plan at 8:10 p.m. and resumed as a Regular Board meeting at 8:19 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public
Comments

Ms. Katie Renali, a one year resident of Park Ridge, voiced her concern about student fees. She compared District 64's fees with similar districts and did not understand the discrepancy. In light of current economic conditions, she asked the Board to consider decreasing fees where possible.

Mr. Heyde explained his perspective on District 64's student fees. He cited work of the Community Finance Committee, history leading up to the 2007 referendum and community support for that referendum in order to avoid cutting programs and services for students. While he agreed that fees are high, he is comfortable that the fees are the "least bad" choice.

Mr. Heyde invited Ms. Renali to speak to him or other Board members in more detail about her concerns, and also suggested she join the Community Finance Committee in order to have more of a voice. Fees are reviewed each spring by the Board.

Ms. Susan Sweeney, a Park Ridge resident, addressed the Board about a letter to the editor in the local paper written by school board candidate Marshall Warren from the recent election. She thought many of Mr. Warren's suggestions for District 64 were valid, and asked the Board's position on those suggestions.

Mr. Heyde agreed that communication and accountability are always good. He said there are reporters from local papers at the Board of Education meeting(s) who report on Board actions. In addition, the District maintains a web site to keep the community and parents informed, as well as an email list of parents for communication. The Board is looking into revising its web site so it is more user-friendly. Although there is no plan to televise Board of Education meetings, like City Council meetings, Mr. Heyde did not object to doing so.

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR OF PUPIL SERVICES

Appointment
of Director of
Pupil Services

Dr. Bender introduced Mr. James Even as the appointee for Director of Pupil Services. Mr. Even would replace Dr. Kathy Nelson who is retiring June 30, 2011. Mr. Even comes to District 64 from Naperville School District 203, where he began as a special education teacher and eventually became Director of Student Services and Special Education. He has been involved in several leadership roles throughout his career, and also serves as an adjunct faculty member at Northern Illinois University.

Mr. Even has a deep background in special education. In addition, he spent his childhood in Park Ridge and graduated from Maine South High School. He received his bachelor's degree in accounting from DePaul University, obtained a certified public accountant certificate, and earned his master's degree in special education at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

After recognizing Dr. Nelson for her years of service, Mr. Heyde welcomed Mr. Even to District 64. Mr. Even said his former family home is still here in Park Ridge. He was impressed with the dedication of staff whom he met during the rigorous interview process. He looks forward to joining an exemplary district such as District 64.

ACTION ITEM 11-04-3

Action Item
11-04-3

It was moved by Board member Smart 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 Even as the Director of Pupil Services beginning July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. The votes were cast as follows:

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

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

UPDATE ON LEASE EXTENSION FOR CHILD CARE WITH CONFIDENCE

Update on Lease
Extension for Child
Care with Confidence

Dr. Bender and Mr. Heyde provided an update on the steps that have taken place regarding the property tax situation with Child Care with Confidence (CCwC) since the March 14, 2011 Board meeting.

District 64 offered to extend the CCwC lease through June 30, 2012, which will avoid disruption in services for their staff, District 64 and the care provided to nearly 70 children and their families. The lease extension will allow time for Mrs. Fisher, owner of CCwC, to resolve the property tax issues.

Since the March Board of Education meeting, District 64's counsel has determined that all property tax liability for classroom space leased by CCwC is their responsibility, not the District's. Mrs. Fisher's legal counsel is filing an exemption application with Cook County, based on its non-profit status. It may take up to one year for the application to be reviewed, and subsequently allowed or denied. The District will assist Mrs. Fisher with information she may need for the appeal.

The new lease will come back to the Board for approval after Mrs. Fisher's legal counsel has had time to review it. Mrs. Fisher is responsible for all taxes, past and future. In addition, she must repay District 64 the \$7,197.25 that the District paid for her by June 30, 2011 before the new lease takes effect.

PRESENT RECOMMENDATION ON STRATEGIC PLAN 2011-12

Present
Recommendation
on Strategic Plan
2011-12

There was a lengthy discussion on this topic at the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting that preceded the regular Board meeting. There was also information provided in the Board packet on recommendations for implementation activities and budget for the 2011-12 school year, which will be the second year of implementation of the Strategic Plan.

Dr. Bender asked the Board to carefully consider all information that was presented during the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting, and to ask Administration to clarify any items before a motion to adopt the implementation schedule and budget is presented at the May 9, 2011 Board meeting.

Two new Board members will be seated by the May 9th Board meeting. These new Board members have been provided the packet of information from the April 25th meeting on the Strategic Plan and will also participate in an orientation meeting on May 9th, prior to the vote at the regular meeting that evening. Mr. Heyde met with the two Board members last week as well, and the Strategic Plan was discussed then. They are well aware a motion on the Strategic Plan is coming and recognize its importance.

RECOMMENDATION OF ARCHITECT OF RECORD

Recommendation of
Architect of Record

Ms. Allard said Illinois School Code clearly outlines the process for school districts that wish to select an architect of record. For District 64, that process began with Requests for Proposals in November 2010, followed by an optional pre-bid meeting, which 19 architectural firms attended. Of those 19 firms, fourteen

submitted proposals in December. The 14 proposals were reviewed and narrowed down to six firms for interview by Mr. Mackall, Dr. Bender and Ms. Allard.

Ms. Allard acknowledged the work of committee members Dr. Bender, Mr. Mackall, Joel Martin, Kent Bergren, and Board members Taddeo, Zimmerman and Lawson.

Interviews were held in late January. Two firms, Fanning Howey and FGM, were selected to move forward to the second round of interviews. They also were taken on a district facility tour and given an assignment to present a remodel of Jefferson School. Third interviews were held on March 7th, and, using a ranking process, it was determined that Fanning Howey best met District 64's needs.

Mr. Zimmerman remarked that he had been through similar processes before and found the District's process rigorous, fair and effective. Ms. Allard pointed to a letter of recommendation for Fanning Howey from School District 56 in Gurnee.

Mr. Heyde stated District 64 has reviewed its professional services over the past few years, including legal counsel, audit services, and now architectural services. These represent important relationships with the District. State law requires a school district to enter into contract negotiations with an architectural firm prior to negotiating for fees for those services.

ACTION ITEM 11-04-4

Action Item
11-04-4

It was moved by Board member Zimmerman and seconded by Board member Taddeo to authorize the Superintendent, District Business Manager, and Paul Millichap, Franczek Radelet, District legal counsel, to enter into contract negotiations with Fanning Howey. Two contracts will be negotiated with Fanning Howey: one contract that covers conditions and fees associated with project work and another contract to complete the facility master plan. Once contract negotiations are complete, a contract will be presented to the Board of Education for approval. The votes were cast as follows:

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

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent
Agenda

Mr. Uhlig had a question about revenue to budget comparisons in the financial update. The Board requested that the Business Manager make the prior year comparison of revenue/expenditures as a percentage of the actual June 30 revenue/expenditures. In addition, at year-end both a comparison of current year

Board of Education Minutes
April 25, 2011

actual results versus the current year budget as well as a comparison of current year actual results versus the prior year actual results will be made.

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

Bills

10 - Education Fund-----	\$ 329,360.68
20 - Operation, Building and Maintenance Fund -----	707,247.71
30 - Debt Services -----	-
40 - Transportation Fund -----	193,251.45
60 - Site and Construction Fund -----	-
80 -Tort Immunity Fund -----	-
90 - Fire Prevention and Safety Fund -----	-
Checks Numbered: 103180 - 103417	

Total: \$ 1,229,859.84

C. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL UPDATE FOR THE PERIOD ENDING MARCH 31, 2011

D. DESTRUCTION OF AUDIO CLOSED MINUTES (NONE)

ACTION ITEM 11-04-5

Action Item
11-04-5

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 Consent Agenda of April 25, 2011, which includes the Personnel Report, Bills, Approval of Financial Update for the Period Ending March 31, 2011 and Destruction of Audio Closed Minutes (none).

The votes were cast as follows:

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

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval
of Minutes

ACTION ITEM 11-04-6

Action Item
11-04-6

Board of Education Minutes
April 25, 2011

It was moved by Board member Fioretto and seconded by Board member Lawson that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64 approve the Open Minutes of April 4, 2011, Closed Minutes of April 4, 2011 and the Closed Minutes of April 18, 2011. The votes were cast as follows:

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

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

OTHER ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Other Items of
Information

Dr. Bender highlighted the agenda for the May 9th Board of Education meeting, a FOIA request, the 2011-12 Board meeting and Committee-of-the-Whole meeting schedules, various meeting minutes, a research study on childhood obesity with students at Washington School, the 2011 Illinois State Board of Education financial profile for District 64, and the Maine Township Treasurer audit report.

Dr. Bender also announced there will be an Ed Red meeting on Thursday, April 27, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the District 207 Board Room. Senate Bill #7 on education reform will be discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment

At 9:15 p.m., it was moved by Board Member Lawson and seconded by Board member Taddeo to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by consensus.

President

Secretary