

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 64
Minutes of the Regular Meeting held at 7:30 p.m.
May 23, 2011
Emerson Middle School – Multipurpose Room
8101 N. Cumberland Niles**

Board President John Heyde called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Other Board Members present were Dan Collins, Eric Uhlig, Sharon Lawson, Anthony Borrelli and Scott Zimmerman. Also present was Superintendent Dr. Bender.

At 6:02 p.m. it was moved by Anthony Borrelli and seconded by Scott Zimmerman to enter closed session to discuss matters related to Property Lease (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5) and Employment of Specific Individual (5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1). The vote was unanimous. Board member Pat Fioretto joined the closed session in progress.

The Board adjourned from closed session at 7:31 p.m. and resumed a regular Board meeting at 7:37 p.m.

In attendance were Superintendent Dr. Philip Bender, Assistant Superintendents Dr. Sandra Stringer and Diane Betts, Rebecca Allard, Dr. Kathy Nelson, Dr. Lynne Farmer, Scott Mackall and Bernadette Tramm.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comments

Ms. Katie Renali, a Roosevelt School parent, addressed the Board about student fees. The total fees paid for her three children to attend school in District 64, including tuition and lunch supervision fees, are almost \$1400.00, which she believes is unreasonable. She asked about training of lunch supervisors in bullying and life safety issues such as CPR. Ms. Renali has an appointment with Dr. Bender to discuss her concerns on Tuesday, May 24, 2011.

Mr. Heyde said her comments were well taken. It is the Board's responsibility to weigh the parent vs. taxpayer burden of supporting our schools. Although the topic of student fees is not a scheduled agenda item in the near term, the Board will review fees again next year.

RECOGNITION OF STUDENT AWARDS

Recognition of
Student Awards

Diane Betts, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning, led the student recognition portion of the meeting. She introduced Ms. Kathy Ross, Curriculum Specialist for Gifted Education, who presented an award to Anna Campbell, 7th grade student at Emerson Middle School, for her performance in the Midwest Talent Search sponsored by the Center for Talent Development at Northwestern University.

A total of 811 District 64 students qualified for the Midwest Talent Search; of those, 156 did participate by taking either the EXPLORE, ACT or SAT assessments. More than 25,000 students across seven states participated this year. Anna scored above the 99th percentile in Reading out of all 7th grade students who took the college-level SAT entrance exam. She will be recognized in June at an awards ceremony at Northwestern University.

Brian Jacobi, Curriculum Specialist for Instrumental Music, recognized several students for their participation in the Illinois Music Educators Association (IMEA) instrumental music groups this year. These students distinguished themselves with an audition. Mr. Jacobi also acknowledged teachers Mr. Dallas Klytta and Ms. Mary Skomasa. Students received a certificate of achievement and shook hands with Board of Education members and Superintendent Bender.

Meghan Keefer, Curriculum Specialist for Language Arts, announced the winners of District 64's Young Authors writing competition, representing all grade levels from kindergarten through 8th grade. These students wrote and illustrated an original story independently at home. They received a certificate of achievement and shook hands with Board members and Dr. Bender.

Ms. Keefer also recognized Emerson Middle School 7th grade student Anna Benuzzi who won the District's Spelling Bee competition. A record number of 259 students in grades 3-8 participated this year. Because of the popularity of the Bee, each school conducted its own spelling bee and selected three students to move on to the District level competition. Anna made it to the Top 10 in the regional Spelling Bee competition. She and the other two top winners will receive a free online Power Speak language program and a free, online one-year subscription to Kids Encyclopedia Britannica.

RECOGNITION OF TENURED TEACHERS

Recognition of Tenured Teachers

Dr. Sandra Stringer, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, announced that 19 teachers will achieve tenure at the end of the 2010-11 school year. These teachers have been employed by District 64 for four consecutive years, achieved outstanding results in the classroom, were evaluated every year and demonstrate passion and dedication for excellent teaching. The 19 teachers received certificates of achievement and were congratulated by Board members and Dr. Bender.

Mr. Heyde stated his hope that these teachers will remain active participants in the way education is delivered in our District. Ms. Erin Breen, President of the Park Ridge Education Association, also praised and congratulated the tenured staff on their achievement.

ELF GRANT AWARDS

ELF Grant Awards

On behalf of the Elementary Learning Foundation (ELF), Teresa George announced this year's recipients of nearly \$60,000 in grants for innovative and unique teaching ideas to enhance and enrich education for students.

Since its inception in 1994, ELF has awarded \$500,000 for more than 200 grants. This year, 26 proposals were received and 12 were selected for grants. The grant recipients were presented with certificates of achievement and were congratulated by the Board and Superintendent Bender.

**APPROVAL OF IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE
AND BUDGET FOR STRATEGIC PLAN 2011-12**

Approval of
Implementation Schedule
and Budget for Strategic
Plan 2011-12

Dr. Bender opened the discussion on the Strategic Plan schedule and budget. At the last Board of Education meeting and following a lengthy discussion, the Board expressed concerns about the overall budget and the instructional coaching pilot.

In the Board's packet of information, these issues were explained in further detail and a revised budget proposal of \$225,000 for the 2011-12 Strategic Plan (a reduction of over \$100,000) was included. Dr. Bender said District administrators believe strongly in the instructional coaches. No formal presentation was provided. The Board acknowledged the effort of all those who worked on the Strategic Plan, and expressed their final approval or concerns for the revised proposal. Those in favor supported the coaching pilot as a means to assist teachers so they can impart their knowledge to students. The concerns mostly involved whether the coaches would be hired from within District 64 staff or outside. The concerns also revolved around whether all Board members' questions had been answered satisfactorily.

Resident and Emerson Middle School teacher Steve Senf believed current staff should be considered before hiring others. Residents Caroline Shotman and Teresa George spoke in favor of the instructional coaching pilot.

Dr. Bender asked the Board to give administration the professional courtesy and authority to hire instructional coaches, saying it is important to always hire the best-qualified person. He assured the Board that administration would hire from within if possible.

ACTION ITEM 11-05-14

Action Item 11-05-14

It was moved by Board member Zimmerman and seconded by Board member Lawson that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District

64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, approve the Implementation Schedule and \$225,000 Budget for the Strategic Plan 2011-12.

The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Lawson, Collins, Heyde, Zimmerman

NAYS: Fioretto, Uhlig, Borrelli

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda

A. Personnel Report

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

B. APPROVAL OF BILLS

Bills

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| 10 - Education Fund----- | \$ 270,836.88 |
| 20 - Operations and Maintenance Fund ----- | 187,643.53 |
| 30 – Debt Services ----- | - |
| 40 - Transportation Fund ----- | <u>150,473.55</u> |
| 60 - Site and Construction Fund ----- | - |
| 80 –Tort Immunity Fund ----- | - |
| 90 - Fire Prevention and Safety Fund ----- | - |

Checks Numbered: 103586 - 103743

Total: \$ 608,953.96

ACTION ITEM 11-05-15

Action Item 11-05-15

It was moved by Board member Lawson and seconded by Board member Borrelli that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, approve the Consent Agenda of May 23, 2011, as amended, which includes the Personnel Report, Bills, Approval of Final Calendar for 2010-11, Approval of RFP Copier Bid, Approval of April Financials for the Period Ending April 30, 2011 and Destruction of Audio Closed Minutes. The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Borrelli, Uhlig, Zimmerman, Heyde, Fioretto, Collins, Lawson

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

**ADOPTION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE
INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS**

Adoption of Foreign
Language
Instructional

Dr. Borrelli inquired if it was necessary to change foreign language textbooks at this time. Ms. Betts explained that the proposed new textbook provides better differentiation materials, grammar and a cultural component. In addition, delaying the purchase a year or two would coincide with adoption of new math textbooks, so it might be better to spread out the adoption of materials in consideration of the budget.

ACTION ITEM 11-05-17

Action Item 11-05-17

It was moved by Board member Fioretto and seconded by Board member Lawson that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge-Niles, Illinois approve the foreign language instructional materials. The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Lawson, Collins, Fioretto, Heyde, Zimmerman, Uhlig

NAYS: Borrelli

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Minutes

ACTION ITEM 11-05-16

Action Item 11-05-16

It was moved by Board member Uhlig and seconded by Board member Collins that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge-Niles, Illinois, approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 9, 2011 and Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting Minutes of May 9, 2011. The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Borrelli, Uhlig, Zimmerman, Heyde, Fioretto, Collins, Lawson

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

OTHER ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Other Items of
Information

Dr. Bender noted bids for physical education uniforms and information on a technology audit for the District. Mr. Mackall is investigating the T8 lighting replacement issue.

Mr. Heyde asked Board members to advise him if they are available next week for the last school visit of the year at Carpenter School and if they have any suggestions for changes to the draft of the budget for 2011-12.

Dr. Bender reminded the Board that 8th grade promotion ceremonies will be held Wednesday, June 8, 2011 for Emerson Middle School students at Maine East High School and for Lincoln Middle School students at Maine South High School. Any Board members who are able to attend should advise Dr. Bender.

Mr. Fioretto said he was unable to attend the Retirees Dinner last Thursday, but was very impressed with the art created by Emerson and Lincoln Middle School students and on display at the Brickton Art Center that same evening.

TOUR OF EMERSON SCHOOL FACILITY

Tour of Emerson
School Facility

Following a brief recess, at 9:20 p.m. Emerson Principal Vicki Mogil, Assistant Principal Tim Benka and Director of Facility Management led the Board and others in attendance on a tour of the school and pointed out significant features of the building along the way. Dr. Mogil noted that the school was 13 years old and that most of the equipment was original; she stated the parking lot and playground surfaces were the only specific areas of concern.

On the first floor, the Board viewed music rooms, a mechanical area, kitchen, and the gym and fitness room. Moving to the second floor, the Board toured the Learning Resource Center, another mechanical room, Family & Consumer Science (FACS) classroom, special needs rooms, and a science classroom. A social studies room featuring a flexible wall and equipped with a SmartBoard also was visited. Board President Heyde commended Dr. Mogil for her work as Emerson's only principal and congratulated her on her upcoming retirement from District 64. Following the tour, the Board returned to the multipurpose room.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment

Board of Education Meeting Minutes
May 23, 2011

At 10:01 p.m., it was moved by Board Member Lawson and seconded by Board Member Zimmerman to adjourn; the motion passed by consensus

President

Secretary