

BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 64

Minutes of the Board Retreat
held at 6:00 p.m. July 29, 2011
Emerson Middle School - LRC
8101 N. Cumberland Avenue, Niles, IL 60714

President John Heyde convened the meeting at 6:10 p.m. Other Board members present were Scott Zimmerman, Eric Uhlig, Pat Fioretto, Dan Collins, Sharon Lawson and Anthony Borrelli. Also present were Superintendent Philip Bender, John Cassel and Laurel DiPrima.

Public Comments

Public Comments

There were no public comments

Effective Board Governance

Effective Board
Governance

John Cassel, Field Representative for the Illinois Association of School Boards facilitated the workshop and discussion with assistance from IASB Field Representative Laurel DiPrima. During the working dinner, Board members participated in a Timeline exercise that indicated their overall role in the City of Park Ridge and the timing of their interest in School Board work. Board members indicated the District as being a very 'hometown' place to raise a family, traditional and generational, and dedicated to the continual improvement of the educational experience for children.

Mr. Cassel made presentations on the purpose of effective school boards and the way that we do business in our communities. He presented materials on how to be an effective Board by working together to achieve educational excellence, exhibit sound financial management, and be open-minded toward the community. He emphasized the need for Board members to stay attuned to the 'Balcony' and not participate on the 'Dance Floor', meaning to be involved in the overall picture of the District and leave the details to those hired to do so. He also spoke of the need for trust and its importance in overall Board relationships with each other and the community. It is the superintendent's responsibility to carry out the Mission and Vision of the Board of Education.

Mr. Cassel discussed in-depth about how we do business as a Board. He referenced materials about how to make decisions on non-agenda items, agreements of no surprises, and how is it that we can go from being 'good to being 'great.' Members all agreed that we can always do better at the job of governing.

Closing out the evening session, Mr. Cassel let the members know that Saturday we would be working on setting goals for the next two years.

Upon motion of Scott Zimmerman and second of Dr. Anthony Borrelli, the Board adjourned the meeting by consensus at 9:00 p.m.

President

Secretary