

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 64
Minutes of the Regular Meeting held at 7:30 p.m.
April 23, 2012
Roosevelt Elementary School – South Gym
1001 S. Fairview Avenue, Park Ridge**

John Heyde called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. Other Board Members present were Scott Zimmerman, Eric Uhlig, Sharon Lawson, Anthony Borrelli, Dan Collins and Pat Fioretto. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Bender, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Dr. Sandra Stringer, and Business Manager Becky Allard.

At 6:35 p.m., it was moved by Board member Sharon Lawson and seconded by Board member Dan Collins to adjourn to closed session for the purpose of discussing matters related to collective negotiations 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) and employment of specific individuals 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1). The votes were cast by roll call as follows: Ayes - Borrelli, Lawson, Uhlig, Fioretto, Heyde, Zimmerman and Collins; Nays - None; Present – None. The motion carried.

The Board adjourned from closed session at 7:30 p.m. and resumed the regular Board meeting at 7:35 p.m. Present at the regular meeting were Superintendent Dr. Philip Bender, Assistant Superintendents Dr. Sandra Stringer and Diane Betts, Business Manager Becky Allard, Director of Pupil Services James Even, Director of Technology Terri Bresnahan, Directory of Facility Management Scott Mackall and Public Information Coordinator Bernadette Tramm.

Board of Education meetings are now being videotaped and may be viewed in their full length from the District's website at:
<http://www.d64.org/subsite/dist/page/board-education-meetings-984>

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by students who are part of the *Girls on the Run* program at Roosevelt School. Dr. Kevin Dwyer, Principal at Roosevelt, introduced *Girls on the Run* and 4th grade teachers Nicole Benoit and Taryn Handlon, who serve as their coaches.

Girls on the Run is a PTO sponsored after-school program involving 75 female students in its second year at Roosevelt. They are training for a 5K run on June 9, 2012. In addition to the physical aspect of the program, the girls are learning social skills, conflict resolution, collaboration and how to stand up for themselves. Several of the students spoke about their positive experiences with *Girls on the Run*. Mr. Heyde thanked the girls, their teachers and parents, and praised the program as a way to build community and for students to learn from each other.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comments

Kathy Jozwiak of 14 N. Grace, Park Ridge, addressed the Board about the District's bullying policy, as she had done at the February 27, 2012 Board of Education meeting. Since February, she met with Dr. Bender and Mr. Heyde about her son, a victim of bullying. She understands the District has a bullying and civil behavior policy, but believes it is useless unless properly and equally enforced. She asked the Board to change the policy and how it is enforced to ensure all students' safety as soon as possible.

Dr. Bender said he had talked with the principal and teachers at the school where the bullying occurred. He assured Mrs. Jozwiak that the issue is being addressed. Dr. Stringer is the designated employee that addresses bullying issues in the District.

Jennifer Gallery of 615 Florence, Park Ridge, stated her concern that Carpenter School will have another new principal next year, noting a lack of consistency for students. She knows of 20-25 parents who would like to participate in developing a list of candidate qualities and/or be involved in the interview process. She also requested more than one Board member be on the principal selection committee. Mr. Heyde said Dr. Bender will organize the selection committee and ultimately make a recommendation to the Board for hiring. Dr. Bender will consider Ms. Gallery's request.

APPROVAL OF STRATEGIC PLAN YEAR 3 – 2012-13 ACTIVITIES AND BUDGET

Approval of Strategic Plan Year 3- 2012-13 Activities and Budget

Dr. Bender led the discussion on Strategic Plan activities and budget. He recognized the amount of time invested on technology coaches and how professional development has been wedged into the technology coach process. The District's current professional development model is the same as 30 years ago and is no longer effective.

With the implementation of Common Core State Standards, staff will need to develop higher order thinking skills in students. The best way to implement the new standards is to incorporate technology into what teachers do daily; they cannot be learned in a stand-alone workshop. Coaching will enable more on-the-job training for staff and more inclusion and differentiated instruction with students.

The District received accolades in a recent compliance check for its Strategic Plan components, Technology Coaching pilot and Master Facility Plan. The Strategic Plan that was adopted by the Board in 2010 included technology coaches.

Dr. Bender said it costs money to do what is needed for our students. He acknowledged that the technology coaches are not cheap, but to make coaching a reality, reductions in other areas can be found. The technology coach model is in place in more than half of District 64's comparable school districts.

He urged the Board to consider the value of coaching and find ways to fully fund them so the District will be able to provide cutting edge professional development for all staff.

The Board asked for clarification on information presented by Administration for cost savings in order to fund coaches at all buildings. Dr. Bender confirmed staff retirements and \$70,000 in professional development offsets would be actual cost savings.

Some Board members voiced their concern about increased headcount and use of reserve funds to pay for coaches, while others viewed the coaches as an investment in teachers, the best approach to transfer knowledge about technology, and were encouraged by Administration's identification of alternative sources to fund them as well as a sunset provision in the proposal.

ACTION ITEM 12-04-1

Action Item
12-04-1

It was moved by Board member Zimmerman and seconded by Board member Uhlig that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, approve the 2012-13 Strategic Plan and District-wide priorities of \$275,000 for instructional coaches and \$31,200 for the priority activities as described in the April 9 report, provided there is a reduction of \$70,000 in the professional development budget presented prior to this meeting and provided there is a sunset provision, that states if by the 2014-15 school year offsets cannot be demonstrated, the Board would sunset this provision.

The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Uhlig, Heyde, Zimmerman, Lawson

NAYS: Borrelli, Collins, Fioretto

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION OF CLASS SIZE GUIDELINES

Discussion of Class
Size Guidelines

The Board requested a discussion on class size guidelines based on

comments at previous Board meetings about the impact of class size on financial issues such as staffing and hiring. The objective of the discussion is to express likes, concerns and any ideas for potential changes to the guidelines. There is no Administrative recommendation to change the guidelines. Mr. Heyde stated he had no desire to change the maximum class sizes.

Dr. Stringer and Ms. Betts reviewed the history and background of current class size guidelines that have been in place for more than 20 years, except during the budget reduction years leading up to the 2007 referendum. Current guidelines are: Kindergarten = 22; Grades 1-2 = 24; Grades 3-4 = 26; and Grades 5-8 = 28. The number of students in a classroom may be less than the stated guidelines when Special Education or Channels of Challenge students are pulled out. The Board received a memo stating the number of students that receive those services.

Dr. Stringer listed 22 comparable districts included in a survey about class size guidelines. Of the 22, 14 have flexible frameworks for adding additional sections. Five others add sections based on guidelines that are similar to District 64's, i.e., when one additional student enrolls before the start of the school year. In District 64, if an additional student enrolls after the school year starts, a decision whether to add another section is based on principal and teacher input and students' needs.

Mr. Heyde clarified three things for the Board: the automatic nature of the District's policy, the high level of awareness of class size guidelines by parents and staff, and current guidelines are not written in Board policy anywhere.

He would prefer to make the guidelines more orderly to eliminate last minute hiring decisions.

Dr. Bender remarked that class size guidelines are more than just numbers; they deal with children of various needs and other factors.

Based on Board discussion, Administration was asked to propose a modified policy that would allow more flexibility on splitting classes rather than an automatic response based on one additional student. There was no Board sentiment to increase maximum class sizes; in fact, some Board members would prefer to decrease them. Administration will come back with a proposal at the May 21, 2012 Board meeting. There were no public comments on this topic.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF 2012-13 STUDENT FEES

Discussion and
Approval of 2012-13
Student Fees

Mr. Heyde stated he received 10 emails about changes in the student fee structure for Jefferson School. Currently, billing is calculated based on an hourly rate; a proposal presented by Administration in January 2012 was to switch to daily billing. Mr. Heyde thought the only

change was in the administrative handling of fees and did not realize it would have an impact on families financially.

Ms. Allard provided a brief history of the student fee structure. Fees have not changed since they were reviewed in 2009 by Administration and the Community Finance Committee. Recommendations for the 2012-13 school year include no change to K-8 required and participatory fees or bus fees for students who live within 1.5 miles of school. Some increases were recommended in the plate lunch and for a la carte menu items. The most significant change was Administration's recommendation to eliminate the lunch supervision fee at the elementary buildings, which are \$165 for early payment and \$215 for late payment per student. This would provide financial relief for parents. The recommendation also included changing to a closed campus for lunch at the K-5 schools to be consistent with the middle schools and to improve safety when students leave school grounds. District 64 would still provide supervision during the lunch periods. Parents would be able to pick up their children and take them to lunch on occasion, following the same procedure as picking up their children for doctors' appointments.

Increases in the elementary before-school program fees were also recommended and are reflective of the December 2011 Consumer Price Index. Audience members weighed in on the proposed changes.

Ms. Katie Renali, a Roosevelt parent, said she welcomes the recommendation to eliminate the lunch supervision fee, citing overall high fees parents pay in District 64 for public education.

Mr. Darin Winckler of 918 Brookline Drive, Park Ridge, has two children that use Jefferson School services for approximately one hour per day. Changing from an hourly to a daily billing system would increase his costs significantly, and he urged the Board to consider how families would be impacted.

Mr. Mick Duran of 8150 North Cumberland, Niles, also has two children using Jefferson, and said hourly billing would result in a major increase in his fees. He asked the Board to review the proposal and find another, more reasonable way to change the fee structure.

Ms. Julie Cook of 318 Elmore, Park Ridge, said people who are trying to balance work and family would be punished if hourly billing is used. Her fees would double. She disapproved of the way the proposed hourly fee structure was communicated with parents, saying it was not advertised, but merely included on the application for the 2012-13 school year. She urged the Board to look at other possible options for parents.

Ms. Angie Collett of 129 Stanley, Park Ridge, said she uses Jefferson on an as needed basis and will be unable to afford the program if fees are increased. She praised the Jefferson program and staff for providing

consistent support for children and nurturing the whole child. She asked the Board for its support to keep the program affordable and safe.

Board members commented on lunch supervision, Jefferson program and other fees. They supported elimination of lunch supervision fees and switching to a closed campus. Ms. Allard explained the current lunch supervision program is running at a deficit because of lunch supervisor pay increases, which were not in place when the program was run by an independent entity. She does not have access to expenses from the previous Parent Paid Lunch Program. Any surplus money from that program was given to school PTO's to spend in support of the lunch program after the District took it over.

Regarding Jefferson fees, Ms. Allard said the proposed change from hourly to daily would make record keeping easier. It is difficult to track the amount of time children spend at Jefferson as it can change daily and for each family. She said pre-billing families based on their registration information would make it easier to collect fees rather than billing after services are used. Of the 71 students using Jefferson services, there is \$22,000 currently in unpaid fees.

Ms. Allard said while she was trying to maximize revenue for the program, she also received phone calls and emails from parents about the increase. Some of the parents who will be harmed by fee increases are those who may need Jefferson services the most.

The Board asked Ms. Allard to revisit the proposed fee changes, perhaps including an hourly option to accommodate some parents, and exploring a partnership with the Park Ridge Park District or another avenue for a long-term solution. The staff-to-student ratio will also be studied.

The Board requested Ms. Allard provide estimated expenses for participatory student fees individually, and asked if the Community Finance Committee (CFC) would review all fees and compare them with similar districts. The last fee review was done in 2009. The CFC is meeting on May 1st and Ms. Allard will speak to the Committee about these items.

ACTION ITEM 12-04-2

Action Item
12-04-2

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 2012-13 student fees presented in the attached worksheet, excluding Jefferson after-school program fees.

The votes were cast as follows:

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

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

**ADOPTION OF THE 2012-13 HEALTH INSURANCE
RENEWAL RATES**

Adoption of the 2012-13
Health Insurance
Renewal Rates

Ms. Allard stated the increase in the Northern Illinois Health Insurance Plan rate for 2012-13 is 6.5% for the PPO and High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP), and 6.8% for the HMO. The distribution of rates between District 64 and employees will be determined during PREA negotiations. Similar increases were expected if the District had stayed with the previous insurance provider.

ACTION ITEM 12-04-3

Action Item
12-04-3

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, adopt the medical insurance rates as presented for 2012-13 school year per the attached documents. The votes were cast as follows:

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

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent
Agenda

The Roosevelt School track project will be rebid. Ms. Allard explained the increase in tort revenue.

A. PERSONNEL REPORT

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

B. BILLS, PAYROLL AND BENEFITS

Bills

10 – Education Fund -----	\$ 788,047.46
20 – Operations and Maintenance Fund -----	496,447.88
30 – Debt Services -----	-
40 – Transportation Fund -----	185,047.52
50 – Retirement (IMRF/SS/MEDICARE) -----	(1,418.13)
60 – Capital Projects -----	145,021.00
80 – Tort Immunity Fund -----	-
90 – Fire Prevention and Safety Fund -----	-

Checks Numbered: 107609-107610, 107636,
107661-108010

Total: \$1,613,145.73

Payroll for Month of March 2012

10 – Education Fund -----	\$5,271,220.59
20 – Operations and Maintenance Fund -----	329,258.52
40 – Transportation Fund -----	-
50 – IMRF/FICA Fund -----	249,411.13
80 – Tort Immunity Fund -----	-

Checks Numbered: 4307-4901

Direct Deposit: 900008574 – 900010666

Total: \$5,849,890.24

C. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL UPDATE FOR THE PERIOD ENDING
MARCH 31, 2012

D. APPROVAL OF IWAS – ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MAINTENANCE GRANT MATCHING FUNDS \$50,000

E. APPROVAL OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH
DISTRICT 62 FOR VISION SERVICES

F. REJECT BIDS FOR ROOSEVELT SCHOOL TRACK

G. ACCEPTANCE OF LEGOS

H. DESTRUCTION OF AUDIO CLOSED MINUTES

ACTION ITEM 12-04-4

Action Item
12-04-4

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 23, 2012, which includes the Personnel Report; Bills, Payroll and Benefits; Approval of Financial Update for the Period Ending March 31,

2012; Approval of IWAS – Illinois State Board of Education Maintenance Grant Matching Funds \$50,000; Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with District 62 for Vision Services; Reject Bid for Roosevelt School Track; Acceptance of Legos Donation; and Destruction of Audio Closed Minutes.

The votes were cast as follows:

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

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of
Minutes

ACTION ITEM 12-04-5

Action Item
12-04-5

It was moved by Board member Uhlig and seconded by Board member Zimmerman that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64 approve the Committee-of-the-Whole Minutes of April 9, 2012, Closed Session Minutes of April 9, 2012, Regular Minutes of March 12, 2012 and Closed Session Minutes of March 12, 2012.
The votes were cast as follows:

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

NAYS: None

PRESENT: Collins

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

OTHER ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Other Items of
Information

Dr. Bender noted the Maine Township Treasurer audit report, the memo on hazardous school crossings, the CFC meeting minutes, recognition from the Illinois State Board of Education, and activities in the schools for Healthy Living Month in April.

Services previously provided by MTSEP that will transition to the District will be provided at lower or comparable costs. The overall number of staff will be similar.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment

At 9:50 p.m., it was moved by Board member Zimmerman and seconded by Board member Collins to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by consensus.

President

Secretary