

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 64  
Minutes of the Special Meeting held at 7:30 p.m.  
June 11, 2012  
Emerson Middle School – Multipurpose Room  
8101 N. Cumberland Avenue  
Niles, IL 60714**

Upon direction from Community Consolidated School District 64 legal counsel, Superintendent Dr. Philip Bender addressed those present for the beginning of the meeting that the official bringing of the meeting to order would not occur at this time. The Closed Session originally planned for this time had been changed. Instead, contract negotiations with the PREA would be taking place at this time, which falls outside the Open Meetings Act. The Special Board Meeting began at 7:30 p.m.

Board President John Heyde called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. Other Board members in attendance were Eric Uhlig, Scott Zimmerman, Sharon Lawson, Pat Fioretto, Dan Collins and Anthony Borrelli. Also present 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, Director of Facility Management Scott Mackall, Public Information Coordinator Bernadette Tramm, and members of the public.

Board of Education meetings now are 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>

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Public  
Comments

There were no public comments.

**JUDITH L. SNOW AWARDS**

Judith L. Snow  
Awards

ELF representative Kathleen Hagenlocker introduced the annual Judith L. Snow Awards, given to one or more 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who exemplify ethical leadership. This year, there were 25 applicants for the Award. The winners are Colin Besetzny and Julia Sirvinskaskas from Emerson Middle School, and Adriana Sclafani and Anne Reardon from Lincoln Middle School.

Ms. Hagenlocker described each student's character and activities and why they deserve to be recognized as ethical leaders among their peers.

The students were congratulated by Dr. Bender and Board of Education members. On behalf of the Board of Education, Mr. Heyde added his appreciation for what the students do for their school community, their ability to balance academics and leadership skills, and set positive examples for their classmates.

**PRESENTATION ON TENTATIVE  
BUDGET DRAFT #2**

Presentation on  
Tentative Budget  
Draft #2

In the Board's packet of information on the tentative budget, Ms. Allard included a narrative, budget calendar, and recap of changes in revenue and expenses.

Under revenue, a reduction of \$177,000 is expected, mostly due to a decrease in property taxes because of lower new construction. Additional revenue can be expected because of reimbursements from MTSEP funds and LICA. The Cook County Assessor appears to be on time with this year's property tax levy and bills; timely tax receipts help improve the District's cash flow.

On the expense side, Ms. Allard projected expenditures of \$162,500 in teacher salaries for additional classes at Roosevelt and Franklin to accommodate class size guidelines, but a \$50,700 reduction in supplies and a \$56,506 decrease in purchased services, based on actual renewals of insurance, for a total expense increase of \$55,294.

The third draft of the 2012-13 tentative budget will be presented at the July 9, 2012 Board of Education meeting. On September 10, 2012 a Public Hearing will be held on the final budget prior to its adoption at the September 24, 2012 Board meeting.

Board members asked questions to clarify some points in Ms. Allard's report. There was discussion about tracking data on students' use of online textbook subscriptions. Ms. Bresnahan will check the level of detail available on usage compared with subscription costs.

Additional class splits and Illinois legislative actions could affect the tentative budget. Ms. Allard said the Illinois legislature could use the Veto Session in late October/early November to take action that may impact school district budgets, but the 2013-14 budget would likely be affected, not the 2012-13 cycle.

**RECOMMENDATION ON NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL  
SOCIAL STUDIES ADOPTION**

Recommendation on  
New Middle School  
Social Studies Adoption

Diane Betts, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning, presented recommendations for adoption of new middle school Social Studies materials. The social studies curriculum was last reviewed in the 2003-04 school year. The current review began in 2010-11 as part of the District's Strategic Plan work of identifying Priority Standards. In addition, teachers examined current Illinois Learning Standards and both national and state Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

Ten themes were identified for social studies standards in grades K-8, CCSS literacy standards for social studies were prioritized in reading and writing for each grade level, and civil behavior standards were also identified.

Special Board Meeting Minutes  
June 11, 2012

The need for new textbooks was driven by the new Priority Standards and the age and deterioration of current books. The ability to differentiate instruction is lacking in current textbooks and there is a very limited online component.

The curriculum review team examined four textbook companies; two limited pilots were conducted by teachers in grades 6-8 at both Lincoln and Emerson.

The *Holt McDougal* textbook was recommended for its alignment with national and state Common Core Standards and its wide variety and easy navigation of online resources for both students and teachers. The curriculum review included a debate about whether to purchase textbooks for each student vs. classroom sets; teachers' opinions were mixed.

The recommendation includes purchasing only enough physical textbooks for classroom use plus online editions (good for 6 years) and some additional textbooks for students without home Internet access. This would result in a small savings of approximately \$12,000. If having only class sets of books doesn't work for students, additional textbooks can be purchased. The total estimated textbook adoption is \$93,024, which was accounted for in the 2012-13 budget.

The Board engaged in a lengthy discussion about 21<sup>st</sup> century learning and how instruction will change with the use of technology such as Smart Boards and iPads in the classroom as well as online resources.

The social studies curriculum review team did not discuss the option of not using any textbooks at all. Currently, there is not enough hardware available in classrooms to support an all online approach to instruction. However, Instructional Coaches will work with the middle school teachers to explore how to use technology for social studies instruction. Smart Boards will be used for visuals such as graphs, maps, etc., but Ms. Betts said students are still learning how to read information in textbooks for main ideas and content details; they are not ready for online learning exclusively.

Teachers are cataloging and sharing ideas about how to integrate technology into the curriculum. Social studies teachers are very ready to make a change to new textbooks. Between one-third to one-half of social studies teachers were involved in developing Priority Standards or piloting the new textbooks. Staff development is planned for fall.

## **REVIEW OF TECHNOLOGY PURCHASES**

### **Review of Technology Purchases**

Terri Bresnahan, Director of Technology, provided information on proposed technology equipment purchases for the 2012-13 school year.

In planning for technology purchases, all aspects of the curriculum were reviewed and input was gathered from the Technology Department, administration, and the Technology Implementation Committee. With the approval of Instructional Coaches for all buildings, the natural next step is to ensure appropriate and reliable technology is available for use by staff and students.

Special Board Meeting Minutes  
June 11, 2012

District 64 strives to use its technology equipment for as long as possible and get the most value for its money. Ms. Bresnahan reviewed the refresh cycle for staff laptops (every 4 years), student laptops (every 4-5 years), lab computers (every 5 years) and iPads (life cycle not yet determined; minimum 3 years expected). She described the purpose of each type of equipment, the proposed quantity needed and the cost per item. She also addressed SmartBoards and network infrastructure. The total budgeted amount for 2012-13 is \$616,150 for all technology purchases.

Feedback from staff who piloted limited use of iPads this year was positive. There is potential for a wide array of future uses for iPads and their associated apps (applications); they proved especially helpful with differentiating instruction in the classrooms.

Currently, all 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes, one-half of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes, one-half of art and music classrooms, and most core subject classrooms in the middle schools have SmartBoards.

The District's network infrastructure is currently in good shape, with no foreseeable upgrades needed for next year. Reductions in infrastructure expenses will offset other equipment purchases for 2012-13.

Through the generosity of ELF, PTO's and grants funded for special education, supplemental technology equipment such as cameras, laptops, SmartBoards and iPads have been purchased.

Final price quotes will be provided prior to Board approval scheduled for the June 25, 2012 Board meeting.

The Board discussed how to evaluate the use of technology in order to substantiate which are the best and most cost effective instructional tools over time. There were also questions about the anticipated refresh cycle for SmartBoards and related equipment (projectors, bulbs) and laptops.

Ms. Bresnahan stated that each item or tool serves a different purpose and are vital to instruction. Technology is no longer optional; it is a curricular need and students are expected to know how to use technology to learn. She was asked to provide a wish list for the Board of type and quantity of devices, where and for what purpose technology could be used District-wide.

**FIRST READING OF POLICIES 3:60, 5:10, 5:90,  
6:50, and 7:270**

First Reading of Policies  
3:60, 5:10, 5:90, 6:50,  
and 7:270

The Board has lagged behind in its review and approval of policies. There was considerable discussion about Policy 6:50 as it relates to controlling sugary foods brought into schools. Concerns were raised about communicating the policy to parents, PTO's and teachers before the start of the school year. The Wellness Committee introduced the change in policy because some parents continue to send sugar-laden treats even though current practice is to restrict sugary treats for birthdays, holidays, etc.

Special Board Meeting Minutes  
June 11, 2012

Mr. Borrelli will send Dr. Bender a suggested change in wording in Policy 7:270 regarding administering medicines to students prior to the June 25<sup>th</sup> Board meeting and also ask Margaret Petkofski to review it.

These policies are scheduled for approval at the June 25, 2012 Board of Education meeting.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Consent  
Agenda

The Board considered pulling Policy 2:120 for further discussion, but chose to approve it now and tweak wording later if additional changes are needed in order to move forward with the policies.

**A. PERSONNEL REPORT**

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

**B. BILLS**

10 - Education Fund-----	\$ 380,895.94
20 - Operations and Maintenance Fund -----	105,880.69
30 - Debt Services -----	-
40 - Transportation Fund -----	85,675.81
50 - Retirement (IMRF / SS / MEDICARE) -----	-
60 - Capital Projects -----	37,492.79
80 - Tort Immunity Fund -----	-
90 - Fire Prevention and Safety Fund -----	-

Checks Numbered: 108438 - 108584

Total: \$ 609,945.23

**C. AUTHORIZATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT**

**D. APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION DIRECTOR**

**E. APPROVAL OF POLICY ISSUE 78, JANUARY 2012, AND POLICIES 4:80 AND 7:305**

**F. APPROVAL OF CUSTODIAL SUPPLY BID**

**ACTION ITEM 12-06-1**

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 Consent Agenda of June 11, 2012, which includes the Personnel Report; Bills; Authorization of Environmental Consultant; Appointment of Special Education Director; Approval of Policy Issue 78, January 2012, and Policies 4:80 and 7:305; and Approval of Custodial Supply Bid. The votes were cast as follows:

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

Special Board Meeting Minutes  
June 11, 2012

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion passed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment

At 9:46 p.m., it was moved by Board member Lawson and seconded by Board member Zimmerman to adjourn to closed session to discuss ~~collective negotiations~~ employment of a specific employee 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)(1), not to reconvene in open session. The votes were cast as follows:

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

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary