

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT 126
PRAIRIE JUNIOR HIGH
11900 South Kostner
Alsip, IL 60803
February 13, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board and audience stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Pierce called the roll.

Present: Marigrace Sinnott-Snooks, President
Lori Ann Pierce, Secretary
Therese Zaker
Donna Waldrom
Harry Tannehill
Joe LaChica

Absent: Kim Powers

Also Present: Craig Gwaltney, Superintendent
Steve Gress, Assistant Superintendent
Lori Connolly, Director of Teaching and Learning
Robert Condon, Director of Special Education

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Joe LaChica, "To approve the minutes of the January 9, 2020 Regular Board Meeting. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Pierce, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Waldrom, Zaker, LaChica. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Donna Waldrom moved, seconded by Joe LaChica, "To approve the Consent Agenda". Aye: Pierce, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Waldrom, Zaker, LaChica. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

Steve Gress stated that we received a FOIA request from NBC Chicago, Rachel Conner, Illinois Retired Teachers Association and American Institute of Architects and we responded within the proper length of time.

EDUCATIONAL REPORT

Lori Connolly discussed that in a few weeks, the 5th and 8th grade students will be taking the required Illinois Science Assessment (ISA). The assessment is online only and some changes have been made again to the structure of the test. This will be a temporary test for this year with plans for a new test to be administered next school year. Once again, students in grades 3-8 will be required to take the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR). Additionally, both Stony Creek School and Hazelgreen School have been selected by the state to participate in an ELA field test session during IAR testing for grades 3-6. The purpose for the field test is to try out new material and to replenish and expand the item pool for future assessments.

Lori also stated that there is a need for an Instructional Literacy Coach. This individual would support teachers in their implementation of practices is complex and cannot simply be done in a one-and-done type of workshop approach. The district has been fortunate to have partnered with a literacy consultant over several years who also serves as our K-5 literacy program consultant from the Benchmark Education company. Because she is an outside consultant, we also have to pay her personal consulting fees, which she sets for herself. As beneficial as it has been to have our literacy consultant, she is unable to provide a level of coaching support day in and day out for teachers because she is not a district employee. She is unable to provide support when she is not in the district, causing coaching follow up to be more challenging. Having our own district instructional literacy coach would provide these supports more in-deftly for teachers and allow for specifically targeted implementation while meeting the needs of both students and teachers.

Craig Gwaltney reported on staffing for the district. He stated there will be some staff moving around within the district there is no need for RIF's this year.

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Therese Zaker, "To approve the position of Instructional Literacy Coach". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Pierce, LaChica, Zaker, Waldrom. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Donna Waldrom, "To approve the staffing plan for the 2020-2021 School Year". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Sinnott-Snooks, LaChica, Pierce, Tannehill, Waldrom, Zaker. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

Therese Zaker moved, seconded by Joe LaChica, "To adopt the 2020-2021 School Calendar as presented by the Board Calendar Committee". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: LaChica, Pierce, Tannehill, Sinnott-Snooks, Waldrom, Zaker. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Therese Zaker, "To approve the Prairie Junior High Future City Trip to Washington D.C. from February 15th through February 19th". Aye: Waldrom, Zaker, LaChica, Pierce, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Joe LaChica moved, seconded by Therese Zaker, "To adopt the Resolution Regarding Transportation Serious Safety Hazards for the 2019-2020 School Year". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: LaChica, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Waldrom, Zaker, Pierce. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Therese Zaker, "To approve the submittal of an application for the School Maintenance Program Grant." Aye: Pierce, Waldrom, Zaker, LaChica, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

Donna Waldrom moved, seconded by Joe LaChica, "To approve the facility use for the Panthers Basketball Organization". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Tannehill, LaChica, Zaker, Waldrom, Pierce, Sinnott-Snooks. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

Joe LaChica moved, seconded by Therese Zaker, "To go out to bid for the Hazelgreen parking lot replacement". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Zaker, Pierce, LaChica, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Waldrom. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Steve Gress reported on the National School Lunch Community Eligibility Program. Steve will take a look at the numbers again next year to determine if we are moving closer to participating.

CLOSED SESSION

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Therese Zaker, "To go into Closed Session to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, LaChica, Zaker, Pierce, Waldrom. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0 at 8:15p.m.

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Therese Zaker, "To come out of Closed Session". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Sinnott-Snooks, LaChica, McLaughlin, Tannehill, Pierce, Zaker. Nay: none. The motion carried 6-0 at 8:32.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Therese Zaker, "To adjourn the meeting". Upon roll call, the vote as follows: Aye: Pierce, LaChica, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Zaker, Waldrom. Nay: None. The motion carried 6-0 at 8:35p.m.



President



Secretary