

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 126  
Zoom Meeting  
January 14, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 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  
Joe LaChica, Vice President  
Lori Ann Pierce, Secretary  
Kim Powers  
Harry Tannehill  
Therese Zaker  
Donna Waldrom

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Donna Waldrom, "To approve the minutes of the November 12, 2020 Regular Board Meeting". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: LaChica, Sinnott-Snooks, Tannehill, Waldrom, Pierce, Zaker. Nay: none, Abstain: Powers. The motion carried 6-0-1.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Joe LaChica moved, seconded by Harry Tannehill, "To approve the Consent Agenda". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Sinnott-Snooks, Powers, Pierce, Tannehill, Zaker, Waldrom, LaChica. Nay: none. The motion carried 7-0.

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**

Steve Gress stated that we received a FOIA request from Nicholas Hoover at Amazing Education Resources, LocalLabs, and SmartProcure, LLP and we responded within the proper length of time.

**FINANCIAL**

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Kim Powers, "To ratify the December bills paid by the District and approved by the Superintendent for the dates of November 12, 2020 through December 11, 2020". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Sinnott-Snooks, Powers, Pierce, Zaker, Powers, Tannehill, LaChica. Nay: none. The motion carried 7-0.

Donna Waldrom moved, seconded by Kim Powers, "To accept the report of the independent auditors for Fiscal Year 2020." Aye: Zaker, Sinnott-Snooks, Powers, Pierce, Tannehill, LaChica, Waldrom. Nay: none. The motion carried 7-0.

**EDUCATIONAL REPORT**

Lori Connolly reported on District eLearning. She stated that prior to winter break, the district sent out to all families a survey asking families about their eLearning experience and their plans to have their children return to school under the current health conditions. We had 511 families complete the survey. Overall, the survey results were positive. She reported that 80% of families indicated that eLearning is working for both their children and their families 62% of families feel that the academic screen time for their children has been the right amount, while 35% indicated that there has been too much screen time 82% of the families reported that the amount of school work given to during eLearning has been the right amount. 79% of families believe their children feel connected to a certain agree to their classmates and teachers as much as possible during eLearning. Lori included that when asked if District 126 were to resume hybrid (in-person) instruction under the current health conditions, 56% of the responding families indicated they would send their children back to in-person instruction 44% of the responding families indicated they would prefer to continue with eLearning.

Craig Gwaltney discussed students returning to in-person learning with the hybrid model on January 21<sup>st</sup>. He discussed the precautions the district continues to take to ensure safety of all staff and returning students. Another survey will be sent out in the spring to give parents the opportunity to change their learning choice for their student if they wish.

Craig also discussed roll out plan 1B for COVID19 vaccines. More information to come.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Steve Gress discussed the Transportation contract amendment that was a reconsideration request by the Cook Illinois Corporation.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Harry Tannehill moved, seconded by Lori Pierce, "To appoint a Board Committee of Therese Zaker and Harry Tannehill to meet with the administrators and union officers to review the 2021-2022 School Calendar". Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Waldrom, Pierce, Zaker, Powers, Tannehill, LaChica, Sinnott-Snooks. Nay: none. The motion carried 7-0

**ADJOURNMENT**

Therese Zaker seconded by Kim Powers, "To adjourn the meeting". Upon roll call, the vote as follows: Aye: Sinnott-Snooks, Powers, Pierce, Tannehill, Zaker, Waldrom, LaChica. Nay: None. The motion carried 7-0 at 7:43 p.m.

  
President

  
Secretary