

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT 68, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Regular Board of Education Meeting held on February 21, 2019

The Board of Education of School District 68, Cook County, Illinois, met on the 21st day of February 2019, in regular session at the Educational Service Center, 9440 Kenton Avenue, Skokie, Illinois, according to the rules of the Board.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the President of the Board, Una McGeough, who presided. Members of the Board were present as follows:

Present: Frank Alkyer
Amy Anson (arrived at 7:01 p.m.)
Katrina Bell-Jordan
Richard Berk
Meghan Espinoza
Una McGeough
Joseph Ruffner

Absent: None

Also present were: James Garwood, Ed.D., superintendent of schools; Christie Samojedny, Ed.D., assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction; Ryan Berry, assistant superintendent of business and chief school business official; Barbara Marler, Ed.D., director of EL services; Karen Bradley, Ed.D., principal; Susan O'Neil, principal; Hal Schmeisser, principal; Greg Hanson, assistant principal; Phyllis Carlstrom, recording secretary; and members of the staff and community.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no requests to address the Board of Education.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

ELL Parent Center Services Strategic Plan Review

Mrs. Diana Juarez, director of the ELL Parent Center which serves six school districts in the township, previewed the new Strategic Plan which includes their vision/mission statement:

"The English Language Learner (ELL) Parent Center serves as a welcome resource for parents to support them in advocating for their children's academic achievement. Through survival-based programming, the Center offers English classes, access to community services, and uniquely designed workshops. Programs are crafted to meet parent needs and encourage parental involvement and leadership in the community at large. Ultimately the Center strives to provide the skills and tools to understand and navigate the U.S. educational and health systems for the rich and diverse tapestry that is the backdrop for the communities we serve."

Mrs. Juarez also introduced the five goal areas identified in the Strategic Plan:

- Equity and Access of Programming
- Community Partnership Building
- Expanded In-District Outreach
- Parent/Community Capacity-Building
- Communication

Mrs. Juarez went on to present data detailing the number of parent mentors, the number of students impacted by the mentors, and the total volunteer hours that the mentors have contributed to the schools in the township. She also pointed out the 23 mentors have gone on to be hired by participating school districts. Next steps involve finding additional professional development opportunities so that parent mentors have broader opportunities in the community.

Participants in the parent mentor program took turns speaking about how the program has impacted their life and the lives of their families.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Garwood, superintendent of schools, reported on the following:

- It was noted that legislation is still pending regarding additional proposed changes to school calendars, which may include the required number of student attendance days. Dr. Garwood is playing close attention to this, and depending on the timing, and/or the outcome, the 2019-2020 school calendar could come back to the Board for approval of a revised calendar.
- The IASB dinner meeting is on March 20, 2019, at Niles West High School. All board members are invited to attend.
- Initial kindergarten registration has taken place at each of the elementary schools. Current new kindergarten student registration numbers are at 110 spread across the three schools. These numbers are similar to last year at this time. Students will continue to be registered as needed.

READING AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Dr. Anson made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Espinoza, that the minutes from the following meeting of the Board of Education be approved and placed on file:

- January 24, 2019, Board of Education Regular Meeting
- January 24, 2019, Board of Education Closed Session

A roll call was held with the following results:

AYE: Alkyer, Anson, Bell-Jordan, Berk, Espinoza, McGeough, Ruffner

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Berk made a motion, seconded by Mr. Alkyer, that the items on the Consent Agenda be approved, as presented, which included the items below:

- A. Personnel Report
- B. Financial Reports
- C. Approval of Pay Orders and Expenditures
- D. Board of Education Policy – Second Reading
 1. 5:60 Expenses
 2. 7:70 Attendance and Truancy
 3. 7:260 Exemption from Physical Education

A roll call was held with the following results:

AYE: Alkyer, Anson, Bell-Jordan, Berk, Espinoza, McGeough, Ruffner

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion carried.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

NTDSE #807 Report

Dr. Berk, District 68 representative, was not in attendance at the February NTDSE meeting, therefore there was no monthly report. He did share that the date for this year's Trivia Night is April 13, 2019. The cost is \$205.00 per team with a maximum of eight players per team. Proceeds benefit the SEED Foundation which supports NTDSE.

IASB Board Governance Review-Next Steps

- Board Member School Visits - Board members agreed that each board member would plan to visit one school each year. Phyllis Carlstrom, board recording secretary, will assist in the scheduling of these visits.

- Strategic Dashboard - Dr. Garwood showed the Board a sample of what the District's online dashboard might look like as provided at no cost by the ECRA Group. The purpose of a dashboard is to further provide transparent, open communication about the performance of our schools through a public website. Visitors to this site, will have access to student achievement, financial, and other data that are important to community members. Dr. Garwood will begin populating some of the areas, and as this site is built he will continue to preview it at board meetings so that board members can review and make recommendations to the information provided that helps represent our school district.

ACTION ITEMS

2019 Bus Leases

Mr. Alkyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ruffner to approve a lease agreement with Midwest Transit Equipment, Inc., for a five-year lease for five (5) New 2020 IC CE 72-passenger buses for a lease price of \$11,498 per year, as recommended.

A roll call was held with the following results:

AYE: Alkyer, Anson, Bell-Jordan, Berk, Espinoza, McGeough, Ruffner

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION

Mrs. McGeough, board of education president, reported on one (1) request and/or response for information under the Freedom of Information Act during the period January 19, 2019, through February 15, 2019.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Dr. Anson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ruffner, to adjourn the meeting.

A roll call was held with the following results:

AYE: Alkyer, Anson, Bell-Jordan, Berk, Espinoza, McGeough, Ruffner

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Richard Berk, Secretary
Board of Education

Una McGeough, President
Board of Education