

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

Regular Board of Education Meeting held on October 20, 2016

The Board of Education of School District 68, Cook County, Illinois, met on the 20th day of October 2016, 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
Katrina Bell-Jordan
Richard Berk
Menucha Levy
Una McGeough
Mark Weil

Absent: None

Also present were: James Garwood, Ed.D., superintendent of schools; Lisa Schwartz, assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction; Ryan Berry, chief school business official; Peg Lasiewicki, Ed.D., director of student services; Nancy Battaglia, director of technology; Barbara Marler, director of EL services; Karen Bradley, Ed.D., principal; Robyn Huemmer, principal; Susan O'Neil, principal; Hal Schmeisser, principal; Phyllis Carlstrom, recording secretary; other staff, and members of the community.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was one request to address the Board of Education. Mr. Matt Tomenillie, District 68 special education classroom teacher and Education Association Co-president, wanted to inform the Board how much the members of the Education Association appreciated that when closing Old Orchard Junior High School on October 14, 2016, Dr. Garwood took the safety of staff, as well as that of students, into consideration when making the decision.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

PARCC Student Data Report

Mrs. Schwartz, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, presented a report comparing 2015 and 2016 school year PARCC data. The complete report can be found [HERE](#).

Gateway to Technology Program Update

Mrs. Schwartz presented a report that explained how the Gateway to Technology Program is being utilized at the junior high, along with a brief description of each unit that is currently available to students.

After-School Enrichments Update

Mrs. O'Neil, Jane Stenson principal, reported on the progress that has been made toward implementing after-school clubs for students at the elementary schools. Mrs. O'Neil previewed the variety of clubs that will be available in two 12-week sessions and stated that there are approximately 180 students at each elementary school that have signed up to participate.

Superintendent's Reports

Dr. Garwood noted that Friday, October 21, 2016, is identified as Principal Appreciation Day. He stated that District 68 is very fortunate to have outstanding administrators in all of our schools who are deeply committed to our learning community of parents, students, and staff.

Dr. Garwood briefly reviewed the timeline regarding the decision to close Old Orchard Jr. High on Friday, October 14, 2106, for the safety of students and staff and that due to a malfunction with the software, the voice call and a second email did not go out until 7:26 a.m.

READING AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

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

- September 15, 2016, Board of Education Regular Meeting
- September 15, 2016, Board of Education Closed Session

A roll call was held with the following results:

AYE: Alkyer, Anson, Bell-Jordan, Berk, Levy, McGeough, Weil

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Levy made a motion, seconded by Mr. Alkyer, that the items on the Consent Agenda be approved, as presented, which included the following items:

- A. Personnel Report
- B. Financial Reports
- C. Approval of Pay Orders and Expenditures
- D. Board of Education Policy – 2nd Reading
 - a. 2:70 Vacancies on the School Board-Filling Vacancies
 - b. 6:100 Using Animals in the Education Program
 - c. 7:10 Equal Education Opportunities

A roll call was held with the following results:

AYE: Alkyer, Anson, Bell-Jordan, Berk, Levy, McGeough, Weil

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

NTDSE #807

Dr. Berk, District 68 board representative, reported that the next Trivia Night fundraiser will take place on May 6, 2017. IDEA grants monies have been received. EC enrollment is up 36%. A change will take place in how districts are billed for student lunches. Water was tested for lead and found to be within safe limits. A resurfacing project will be taking place.

Review of Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) Resolutions/Recommendations

Board members agreed to review the list of (IASB) Resolutions/Recommendations and submit their opinion on each item to Mrs. McGeough, board president, no later than November 10, 2016, in order to inform the Board's representative to the Illinois Association of School Board's Joint Annual Conference Delegate Assembly.

Board Policy – 1st Reading

The following policies were brought to first reading:

4:170 Safety

8:110 Public Suggestions and Concerns

No changes were recommended and these policies will be brought to the November meeting for final reading.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Architect of Record

Mr. Weil made a motion, seconded by Dr. Berk, to name STR Partners as the Architect of Record for Skokie School District 68, as recommended.

A roll call was held with the following results:

AYE: Alkyer, Anson, Bell-Jordan, Berk, Levy, McGeough, Weil

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

Resolution for Approval of Superintendent Contract 2016-2020

Dr. Bell-Jordan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Alkyer, to approve the resolution authorizing a new contract for Dr. James Garwood, superintendent of schools, that extends his service to the District until June 30, 2020.

A roll call was held with the following results:

AYE: Alkyer, Anson, Bell-Jordan, Berk, Levy, McGeough, Weil

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

Mrs. McGeough reported that there were five (5) requests and/or responses for information under the Freedom of Information Act during the period of September 10, 2016, through October 14, 2016. Responses to four of these requests had been sent, one response is pending.

CLOSED SESSION

Dr. Anson made a motion, seconded by Dr. Berk, to go into closed session to discuss Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).

A roll call was held with the following results:

AYE: Alkyer, Anson, Bell-Jordan, Berk, Levy, McGeough, Weil

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried. The Board recessed at 8:42 p.m.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to open session at 10:12 p.m. on a motion made by Dr. Anson and seconded by Mr. Weil.

The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

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

A roll call was held with the following results:

AYE: Alkyer, Anson, Bell-Jordan, Berk, McGeough, Weil

NAY: None

ABSENT: Levy

The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 p.m.

Richard Berk, Secretary
Board of Education

Una McGeough, President
Board of Education