

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

Regular Board of Education Meeting held on April 21, 2016

The Board of Education of School District 68, Cook County, Illinois, met on the 21st day of April 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 7:08 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 for instruction; Ryan Berry, chief school business official; Peg Lasiewicki, Ed.D., director of special services; Nancy Battaglia, director of technology; Robyn Huemmer, principal; Sue O'Neil, principal; Hal Schmeisser, principal; Greg Hanson, assistant principal; Phyllis Carlstrom, recording secretary; and members of the staff, community, and press.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no requests to address the Board.

ACTION ITEM

Acceptance of Administrator Resignation

Dr. Anson made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Levy, to approve the April 14, 2016, request submitted by Leslie Gordon for her resignation as principal of Highland Elementary School, and as employee of the school district, effective close of the day on June 24, 2016, as presented.

A roll call was held with the following results:

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

NAY: None

The motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

Superintendent's Reports

Dr. Garwood stated that the end-of-year activities that took place on last year's Teacher Records Day were well received and very much appreciated by the staff and that it will be repeated this year.

Dr. Garwood also reported that due to the recent concerns regarding water quality that have been in the news about Flint, Michigan, as well as in other communities, the District has asked the Village to perform water quality testing on the water supplied to our facilities. The Village has told us that the water supply in Skokie is actually above required standards, however they have agreed to test the water to confirm this. Results will be shared once they are received.

Elementary Report Card/Grading Learning Team Presentation

Mrs. Schwartz, assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction, Tamara Deppen and Sarah Newcorn who were representatives of the Learning Team, shared their work to create a new

elementary standards-based report card for the 2016-17 school year. They shared a draft of what the report card would look like, as well as plans for professional development for, and communications to parents to help them understand the changes.

Science Curriculum Update

Mrs. Schwartz discussed the process that determined what materials the District purchased to support the Next Generation Science Standards, along with plans for piloting and implementation of these and future new materials.

Math Curriculum Follow-up/Math Update

Mrs. Schwartz stated that while Math in Focus (MIF) is a rigorous program that incorporates both foundational skills and challenges, some of the K-5 units are not fully aligned with the Common Core. The summer of 2016, and the 2016-2017 school year, will see additional professional development for teachers, and include a search for additional supplemental resources.

READING AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

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

- March 17, 2016, Board of Education Regular Meeting;
- March 17, 2016, Board of Education Closed Session, as presented.

A roll call was held with the following results:

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

NAY: 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

A roll call was held with the following results:

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

NAY: None

The motion carried.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Niles Township District Special Education #807 (NTDSE)

Dr. Berk reported out some highlights from the March and April meetings. He commented on a report that staff have technology available that allows them to record their lessons for discussion and review with teacher and evaluating administrator. There are plans to replace air conditioning units. NTDSE is readying for the end of the school year.

Clubs and Enrichments

Dr. Garwood reviewed the club and enrichment model that existed in the past, also noting that the complete cost was covered by the District. Recent interest conveyed by parents to bring back a similar program in the schools has led Dr. Garwood to begin gathering feedback and information on how the District could once again provide a similar service. Additional efforts will be undertaken in order to create and implement some type of programming for the 2016-2017 school year.

ACTION ITEMS

Bid Award - Old Orchard Junior High Track and Field Replacement

Dr. Anson made a motion, seconded by Dr. Bell-Jordan, to approve the bid awards for the Earthwork / Site Utilities / Asphalt and Track Restoration to Riemer Engineering in the amount of \$894,474, and for the Irrigation to McCann Lawn Sprinklers in the amount of \$144,975, along with a contingency fund of \$65,000 for a total project cost of \$1,039,449 as recommended.

A roll call was held with the following results:

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Dr. Berk was absent from the room when this vote was taken.

The motion carried.

Bid Award – Bus Leases

Mrs. Levy made a motion, seconded by Mr. Weil, to approve a lease agreement with Midwest Transit Equipment, Inc., for a five year lease for one (1) New 2017 IC CE 71-passenger bus with the Cummins ISB engine for a lease price of \$9,300 per year and one (1) New 2016 Chevy/Collins 32-passenger bus for a lease price of \$7,226 per year. It is also recommended that one (1) 71-passenger 2011 Blue Bird bus that is at the end of its lease be purchased at a cost of \$35,116 as recommended.

A roll call was held with the following results:

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

NAY: None

The motion carried.

Revised Official 2015-16 School Calendar

Dr. Berk made a motion, seconded by Dr. Bell-Jordan, to adopt the Revised Official 2015-2016 School Calendar marking June 7, 2016, as the last day of school, as presented.

A roll call was held with the following results:

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

NAY: None

The motion carried.

Board of Education Agreements

Mr. Alkyer made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Levy, to adopt the revised Board of Education Agreements, as presented.

A roll call was held with the following results:

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

NAY: None

The motion carried.

Establish Time and Place of 2016-2017 Regular Board of Education Meetings

Dr. Anson made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Levy, to approve the calendar for the 2016-2017 regular Board of Education meetings, as presented.

A roll call was held with the following results:

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

NAY: None

The motion carried.

Resolution – Honorable Dismissal of Part-Time Licensed Staff

Mr. Alkyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Weil, to approve the Resolution to honorably dismiss the following part-time licensed staff at the end of the 2015-2016 school year because of the decision of the Board to decrease the number of teachers employed:

Donna Buss
Gretchen Schiltz

A roll call was held with the following results:

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

NAY: None

The motion carried.

Resolution – Honorable Dismissal of Classified Staff

Dr. Anson made a motion, seconded by Dr. Berk, to approve the Resolution to honorably dismiss the following classified staff at the end of the 2015-2016 school year because of the decision of the Board to decrease the number of classified staff employed:

Briana Bach
Laila Bechtle
Joanne Rogus
Julie Seidband
Mara Sorenson, as presented.

A roll call was held with the following results:

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

NAY: None

The motion carried.

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

Mrs. McGeough reported that there were three (3) Freedom of Information Act requests received by the District in the period between February 13, 2016, through April 14, 2016. All three responses have been sent.

CLOSED SESSION

Mrs. Levy called for a motion, seconded by Mr. Alkyer, to go into closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

A roll call was held with the following results:

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

NAY: None

The motion carried. The Board recessed at 9:32 p.m.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to open session at 11:10 p.m. on a motion made by Mrs. Levy and seconded by Mr. Weil.

A roll call was held with the following results:

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Berk (Dr. Berk left the meeting at 10:50 p.m.)

The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

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

A roll call was held with the following results:

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

NAY: None

ABSENT: Berk

The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:11 p.m.

Richard Berk, Secretary
Board of Education

Una McGeough, President
Board of Education