

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

Regular Board of Education Meeting –February 19, 2013

The Board of Education of School District 68, Cook County, Illinois, met on the 19th day of February, 2013, in regular session at the Educational Service Center, according to the rules of the Board.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by the president of the Board, David Beller, who presided. Members of the Board were present as follows:

Present: Amy Anson
Katrina Bell-Jordan
David Beller
Richard Berk
Una McGeough
Hank Schneider
Darius Zakeri

Absent: None

Administrative staff members were present as follows:

Frances McTague, Superintendent
Andy Carpenter, Old Orchard Junior High School Assistant Principal
Leslie Gordon, Highland School Principal
Robyn Hawley, Old Orchard Junior High School Principal
Laurie Heinz, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
Jac McBride, Director of Special Services
Beth Millard, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Randy Needlman, Devonshire School Principal
Susan O’Neil, Jane Stenson School Principal
Irina Ziemann, Director of Technology

Absent: None

Visitors: Karen Arnold Allison Pleser
Ryan Berry Megan Preis
Natalie Dandino Becky Reid
Tamara Deppen Melinda Russo
Fran Eres Annie Rutherford
Barbara Greenberg Jennifer Salpietro
Jennifer Greene DeAnne Saykawlard
Collette Halverson Marilyn Soglin
Chrisy Han Lisa Talbert

1. INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND VISITORS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

President Beller asked Board members and administrators at the head table to introduce themselves. He asked for comments from the audience regarding items not on the agenda. There were no comments.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Member Schneider, seconded by Member McGeough, that the Board of Education approve the items on the Consent Agenda, which contained the following:

- a. Minutes
Regular Board of Education Meeting – January 15, 2013
- b. Personnel: FMLA: M. Faith; Resignations: I. Borges, R. Brownwell, K. Hanson, M. Ribbens, G. Aiello, K. Patel, R. Satovitz
- c. Financial Reports
- d. Approval of Pay Orders and Expenditures

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Anson, Bell-Jordan, Beller, Berk, McGeough, Schneider, Zakeri

NAY: None.

Motion carried.

3. TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Director of Technology Ziemann presented an update on 2012-13 technology initiatives including installation of a robust wireless network in all schools and rollout of laptop computers for teachers. She also reviewed the process by which all technology services in the district were reviewed and highlighted changes in a number of those services. Instructional Technology Specialists Preis and Pleser described their role in helping teachers infuse technology into instruction using a blended approach of peer coaching and staff development.

Ms. Ziemann presented planned initiatives to prepare for 1:1 computing in the district. There was discussion about planning for the expansion of technology in the district and concern about the corresponding financial implications. President Beller thanked the presenters.

4. DISTRICT 68 LONG-RANGE STRATEGIC PLAN

Superintendent McTague reviewed the final draft of the strategic plan which was developed over the fall and winter by the Strategic Planning Committee. The four major initiatives are as follows:

- Raising Student Achievement
- Building Community Partnerships to Serve our Diverse Student Body
- Teaching, Learning and Working with Technology
- Maintaining Fiscal Responsibility

Several of the action statements were revised after discussion. There was also discussion about the sub-committee recommendation to use a revised logo to represent the district instead of the motto that emerged from strategic planning. Based on the feedback from the Board, Superintendent McTague will send a draft of the proposed logo in a future Board memo.

5. 2004-15 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Superintendent McTague presented the two remaining options for the 2014-15 calendar. She reiterated the fact that the Board can choose to adopt a 2014-15 calendar next month or opt to delay the decision to next fall. She noted that the third calendar alternative that was discussed at the January meeting, which eliminated President's Day as a holiday, was not well received and so was dropped as a possible option. She reported that feedback from the teaching staff was split between the two remaining options and noted that there may be some issues created for classified staff if option 2, which eliminates two of the current paid school holidays, is selected. There was no clear preference among Board members for one option over the other so the discussion will continue at the March meeting.

6. BOARD REORGANIZATION

Superintendent McTague explained that the new Board members must be seated between April 30 and May 7. A special meeting was set for May 1 at 6:45 p.m. She also asked for two Board members to participate in Board orientation.

7. NILES TOWNSHIP DISTRICT #807 FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION

No report.

8. COMMUNICATIONS

The Board reviewed several communication items.

9. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Member Zakeri, seconded by Member Berk, to adjourn the meeting to closed session at 9:40 p.m., to discuss the lease of school property, as per 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6); matters of personnel, as per 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), as amended by P.A. 93-0057; and school security issues, as per 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8), as amended by P.A. 93-79 and P.A. 93-722.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Anson, Bell-Jordan, Beller, Berk, McGeough, Schneider, Zakeri

NAY: None.

Motion carried.

Beth Millard, Board Secretary

David Beller, President