

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

Regular Board of Education Meeting –February 21, 2012

The Board of Education of School District 68, Cook County, Illinois, met on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2012, 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  
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  
Rob McElligott, Old Orchard Junior High School Assistant Principal  
Beth Millard, Assistant Superintendent for Business  
Randy Needlman, Devonshire School Principal  
Susan O’Neil, Jane Stenson School Principal  
Irina Ziemann, Director of Information Technology

Absent: None

Visitors:	Jen Anderson	Michelle Harris
	Lila Ardell	Sena Kim
	Ilbra Arkis	Ken Meyer
	Ryan Berry	Lisa Nimz
	Alexandra Burrell	Paul Ostaszewski
	Andy Carpenter	Jennie Rutzen
	Natalie Dandino	Marilyn Soglin
	Eugene Edmond	Amy Uyeda

1. INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND VISITORS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

President Beller asked Board members and administrators at the head table to introduce themselves. A Jane Stenson parent shared her concern about sharing MAP test scores with elementary students. An Old Orchard parent asked that the Board reconsider the elimination of scoliosis screening and that it be reinstated. A parent representing the Junior Viking program invited students to an open gym this Sunday.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Minutes  
Regular Board of Education Meeting – January 17, 2012  
Closed Board of Education Meeting – January 17, 2012
- b. Personnel: Certified Resignation: A. Ghetzler, S. McKinney, M. Miller, T. Saipe, S. Spiegel; Family Medical Leave: J. Foley; Classified Appointment: M. Preis; Classified Resignation: G. Howe, D. Lombardo
- c. Financial Reports
- d. January expenditures as follows: (a) accounts payable checks in January in the amount of \$376,747.39 and (b) January payroll checks in the amount of \$1,684,042.67; for a total of \$2,060,790.06 checks issued for January

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None.

Motion carried.

3. TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Technology Director Ziemann and the technology team presented the first annual technology report. She began with a summary of the evolution of technology in the district. She also presented an overview of team activities and projects. Key areas presented by various team members included:

- Communication
- Infrastructure
- User Support
- Data Management
- Network Management
- Equipment/Software Initiatives
- Using Technology in Teaching and Learning

There was discussion about how to adequately provide user support as technology becomes mission critical to classroom instruction and the definition and response time for help desk tickets flagged as a technology emergency. There was extended discussion about the future of technology in the district, aligning to district priorities, and managing costs over time. President Beller thanked the presenters for their report.

4. 2012-13 SCHOOL CALENDAR

It was moved by Member Schneider, seconded by Member McGeough, to adopt the 2012-13 School Calendar as follows:

**2012-13 School Calendar**

August		January	
14-16	New Teacher Report	1-4	Winter Recess
20-21	Teachers' Institute Days	21	Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School
22	First Day of School for Pupils	February	
September		18	Presidents' Day – No School
3	Labor Day – No School	March	
17	Rosh Hashanah – No School	1	Teachers' Institute Day
26	Yom Kippur – No School	4	Casimir Pulaski Day – No School
October		22	No School
8	Columbus Day – No School	25-29	Spring Recess
November		April	
5	Teachers' Institute Day	9	Consolidated Election – No School
6	Presidential Election – No School	May	
21	No School	27	Memorial Day – No School
22-23	Thanksgiving Recess – No School	31	Records Day
December		June	
24-31	Winter Recess	5	Last day of school
		10	Last day of school – allowing for make-up of emergency days

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None.

Motion carried.

5. NILES TOWNSHIP DISTRICT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION #807

Member Berk reported on the January 26 and February 23, 2012, Board meetings of the Niles Township District for Special Education #807. President Beller thanked Dr. Berk for his report.

6. BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2012-13

Superintendent McTague presented the planned schedule for Board of Education meetings. There was discussion about the August date. Board member availability for that date will be reassessed this summer.

7. PRE-SCHOOL AND CHILD CARE FEES FOR 2012-13

Assistant Superintendent Millard presented the proposed fees for 2012-13 and Director of Special Services McBride reviewed highlights of the pre-school program. Enrollment is up this year, especially in the after-school child care program which was moved from the Early Childhood Center to each K-5 building. The Creative Curriculum, which was implemented last year has also rejuvenated the program. The two-day per week child care option will be eliminated.

It was moved by Member Anson, seconded by Member Berk, to adjust the Early Childhood Center Fees for 2012-13 as follows:

- Reduce the rate for the Child Care program from \$6.05 to \$5.90 per hour (2.5% decrease)
  - Eliminate the two-day per week option
  - Eliminate the 5% discount for children enrolled at least three days per week
  - Reduce the discount for children enrolled five days per week from 20% to 15%
  
- Increase the rate for the Pre-School program from \$550 to \$565 per day of attendance for (2.7% increase)
  - Total annual cost for a five day-a-week program will be \$2,825
  - Total annual cost for a three day-a-week program will be \$1,695

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None.

Motion carried.

#### 8. STUDENT FEES FOR 2012-13

It was moved by Member McGeough, seconded by Member Schneider, to adjust student fees for 2012-13 as follows:

	<u>2011-12</u>	<u>2012-13</u>
Books and materials <sup>(a)</sup>	\$115	\$120
Jr. High Yearbook – optional	\$ 15	\$ 16
Bus Service – optional <sup>(b)</sup>	\$235	\$240

<sup>(a)</sup> These fees may be reduced or waived for students who qualify for free or reduced lunch under the Child Nutrition Act. For the 2012-13 school year, additional documentation will be required in order to qualify for reduced or waived fees.

<sup>(b)</sup> Bus service is free for students who reside over 1½ miles from school or live in a designated hazard zone. Bus fees may be reduced for students who qualify for free or reduced lunch under the Child Nutrition Act as follows:

	<u>2011-12</u>	<u>2012-13</u>
Reduced Students	\$117.50	\$120
Free Students	\$ 0	\$ 25

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None.

Motion carried.

9. BIDS FOR OLD ORCHARD CLASSROOM RENOVATION

It was moved by Member Anson, seconded by Member McGeough, to award a contract for casework and doorway replacement in the third floor east wing classrooms at Old Orchard Junior High School to Stuckey Construction in the amount of \$122,000.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None.

Motion carried.

10. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING UNDER-VALUATION ASSESSMENT APPEAL FOR 9200 SKOKIE BOULEVARD, SKOKIE

It was moved by Member Schneider, seconded by Member Zakeri, to adopt a resolution authorizing an under-valuation assessment appeal for the property located at 9200 Skokie Boulevard, Skokie, as follows:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING UNDER-VALUATION  
ASSESSMENT APPEAL FOR 9200 SKOKIE BOULEVARD, SKOKIE**

**Whereas**, it is in the best interest of Skokie School District No. 68, Cook County, Illinois (the “District”) that all property located within its corporate boundaries bear a legal, fair, and equitable share of the local real property tax burden; and

**Whereas**, the property known as the Westfield Old Orchard Mall located at 4999 Old Orchard Center, Skokie (9200 Skokie Boulevard, Skokie according to County Records) and identified by the permanent index numbers 10-09-411-071-0000; 10-09-411-072-0000; 10-09-411-073-0000; 10-09-411-076-0000; 10-09-411-078-0000; 10-09-411-079-0000; and 10-09-423-044-0000 (the “subject property”) is located within the corporate boundaries of the District; and

**Whereas**, it has come to the attention of the Board of Education that for the 2011 assessment year the subject property has been assessed at a value substantially below that reflected by its fair cash value; and

**Whereas**, the Illinois Property Tax Code provides that any taxing district that has an interest in the assessment of any property that is under assessed may file a written complaint with the board of review seeking that the assessment of a property be revised, corrected, altered or modified; and

**Whereas**, the Illinois Property Tax Code provides that any taxing district that has an interest in the decision of the board of review on an assessment made by any local assessment officer may file a written appeal with the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board within 30 days after the date of written notice of the decision of the board of review.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Education of Skokie School District No. 68, Cook County, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1: All of the recitals contained above are true and correct and that the same are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2: The Board hereby authorizes the law firm of Franczek Radelet P.C. to: (1) file any actions necessary to perfect a 2011 assessment year under-assessment claim as related to the subject property, including, but not limited to filing an appeal with the Cook County Board of Review and the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board, and (2) represent the District's interests in those proceedings including the retention of expert witness(es).

Section 3: The Board hereby ratifies those prior actions taken and filings made on its behalf in furtherance of the under-assessment claim on the subject property.

Section 4: All motions and resolutions or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Resolution are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed.

Section 5: If any section, paragraph, provision, or clause of this Resolution shall be held invalid, the validity of such section, paragraph, provision, or clause shall not affect any of the other sections, paragraphs, clauses, or provisions of this Resolution.

Section 6: This Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon its adoption.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None.

Motion carried.

11. COMMUNICATIONS

The Board reviewed a Communication item.

12. ADJOURN THE MEETING

It was moved by Member Schneider, and seconded by Member Berk, and unanimously approved, to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 P.M.

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Beth Millard, Board Secretary

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David Beller, President