

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

Regular Board of Education Meeting – March 15, 2011

The Board of Education of School District 68, Cook County, Illinois, met on the 15th day of March, 2011, in regular session at the Educational Service Center, according to the rules of the Board.

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by the president of the Board, Hank Schneider, who presided. Members of the Board were present as follows:

Present: Amy Anson
David Beller
David Ehrlich
Paul Livieri
Una McGeough
Hank Schneider
Tanja Tuck

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
Beth Millard, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Randy Needlman, Devonshire School Principal
Susan O'Neil, Jane Stenson School Principal
Barbara Phillips, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

Absent: Jac McBride, Director of Special Services
Rob McElligott, Old Orchard Junior High School Assistant Principal

Visitors:	Mike Amiot	Ellen Gaffney	Eric Perreault
	Katrina Bell-Jordan	Ryan Levin	Anne Rutherford
	Richard Berk	Abby Livers	Matt Schuchhardt
	Brandi Boze	Ken Meyer	Mark Snyder
	Natalie Dandino	Paul Ostaszewski	Amy Uyeda
	Meghan Espinoza	Aidan Perreault	Lisa Westman

1. INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND VISITORS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

President Schneider 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 Beller, seconded by Member Ehrlich, that the Board of Education approve the items on the Consent Agenda, which contained the following:

- a. Minutes
 - Regular Board of Education Meeting – February 15, 2011
 - Closed Board of Education Meeting – February 15, 2011
- b(i). Personnel: Certified Resignation: R. Borree, P. Kim, A. Steegmueller; Classified Resignation: N. Nair
- b(ii). Certificated Employee Contracts and Honorable Dismissal of Certified Employees (see Attachment A)
- b(iii). Honorable Dismissal of Classified Employees (see Attachment B)
- c. Financial Reports
- d. February expenditures as follows: (a) accounts payable checks dated 2/28/11 in the amount of \$1,678,679.23; (b) handwritten and void checks in the amount of \$6,758.91; (c) payroll checks in the amount of \$1,476,717.66; for a total of \$3,162,155.80 checks issued for February
- e. Appointment of Miller, Cooper & Co., Ltd. As auditor for 2010-11 Financial Records

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Anson, Beller, Ehrlich, Livieri, McGeough, Schneider, Tuck

NAY: None.

Motion carried.

3. REACH FOR THE STARS PRESENTATION

Matt Schuchhardt, graduate fellow at Northwestern University, and Old Orchard Junior High teacher Andrew Augustine described the *Reach for the Stars* program which has been offered at Old Orchard Junior High this year through a National Science Foundation grant program which provided for a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) partnership with Northwestern University.

President Schneider thanked Mr. Schuchhardt and Mr. Augustine for their report.

4. PROJECT CARE PRESENTATION

Gifted Education teachers Ellen Gaffney and Lisa Westman, Northwestern professor Eric Perreault, and several Old Orchard Junior High students, described the STEM partnership program Project CARE which has focused on helping high achieving students make the real world connection between science and mathematics.

President Schneider thanked the presenters for their report.

5. TECHNOLOGY UPDATE REPORT

Mike Amiot and Mark Snyder, consultants from Revere Group, presented a report on the Information Technology Assessment project that has been completed over the last five weeks. The presentation focused on the I.T. assessment methodology and approach, observations,

solutions and benefits, and an I.T. roadmap for the future. There was discussion about the future of technology in the district and the projected cost of implementing the recommendations both short term and long term.

President Schneider thanked Mr. Amiot and Mr. Snyder for their report.

6. K-5 REDISTRICTING AND TRANSITION PLAN

Superintendent McTague summarized the recommendation to adjust the elementary attendance boundaries by moving the one and one-half block area bounded by Davis Street, Skokie Boulevard, Grove Street, and the alley between Lamont Avenue and Lacrosse Avenue from the Highland School attendance area to the Devonshire School attendance area.

It was moved by Member Anson, seconded by Member Tuck, to adjust the elementary school attendance boundaries as listed in the agenda materials.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Anson, Beller, Ehrlich, Livieri, McGeough, Schneider, Tuck

NAY: None.

Motion carried.

7. 2010-2011 CALENDAR REVISIONS

It was moved by Member Beller, seconded by Member Anson, to designate February 2 and February 3, 2011 as emergency days and June 10, 2011 as the closing day of the 2010-2011 calendar, with June 3 and 13 as emergency days.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Anson, Beller, Ehrlich, Livieri, McGeough, Schneider, Tuck

NAY: None.

Motion carried.

8. NTDSE #807 ARTICLES OF JOINT AGREEMENT AND MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

It was moved by Member Beller, seconded by Member Tuck, to approve a resolution to ratify the required changes to the Niles Township District for Special Education #807 Articles of Joint Agreement and approve the Memorandum of Understanding as detailed in Attachment C.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Anson, Beller, Ehrlich, Livieri, McGeough, Schneider, Tuck

NAY: None.

Motion carried.

9. NILES TOWNSHIP DISTRICT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION #807

Member McGeough reported on the February 23, 2011 meeting of the Niles Township District for Special Education #807. She noted that the auditors presented the 2009-10 report.

President Schneider thanked Member McGeough for her report.

10. 2011-2012 STAFFING ALLOCATIONS

Superintendent McTague presented background on recommendations for additional staffing in ELL/Bilingual, preschool Special Education, traffic control, and technology (to be considered in April). She also described proposed cost reductions to partially offset these costs including elimination of ELL tutors and the school resource officer, as well as reductions in instructional coaching, clerical and custodial staffing, and other cost containment measures.

There was discussion about the rules impacting the staffing recommendation for an ELL/Bilingual teacher. There was also discussion about the benefits of creating a special education preschool class in terms of continuity of program and savings in NTDSE tuition costs. There was strong support for keeping Fall Fest as an annual event rather than moving it to biannual and a suggestion to solicit sponsorship from businesses and the PTAs. There was also discussion about the school resource officer position with general support for elimination of the position.

There was a broader discussion about a more comprehensive review of costs to enable a Board conversation about core values. It was agreed that the Board would begin to look at this during the 2011-12 school year.

It was moved by Member Beller, seconded by Member Ehrlich, to approve the following staffing allocations:

- up to seven full-time ELL/Bilingual teachers
- a preschool special education teacher and instructional assistant
- a police officer for afternoon traffic control at Old Orchard Junior High
- additional technology staffing to be considered in April

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Anson, Beller, Ehrlich, Livieri, McGeough, Schneider, Tuck

NAY: None.

Motion carried.

11. SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION

There was agreement to move up the timetable for the superintendent's evaluation so that the current Board completes the process before the new Board is seated.

12. NEW BOARD MEMBER ORIENTATION

Superintendent McTague discussed dates for the orientation for the prospective Board Members who are running unopposed in April.

13. BUS LEASE

Assistant Superintendent Millard presented the rationale behind the recommendations for leasing two busses from Central States. She noted that the cost saving from greater fuel efficiency on the larger bus more than makes up for the difference in cost from the one proposed Midwest Transit. The Micro Bird 30 passenger bus from Central States is recommended due to superior features including better visibility, wider seating and aisle, and smoother ride. It also has a better maintenance record than the Chevy/Collins.

It was moved by Member Tuck, seconded by Member Anson, to approve a lease agreement with Central States Bus Sales, Inc., for a five year lease for a 2012 Blue Bird Vision 71-passenger bus for the lease price of \$10,573 per year and a five year lease for a 2011 Micro Bird 30 passenger bus for the lease price of \$7,042 per year. A 71-passenger 1996 bus and a 29-passenger 2005 bus will be traded in.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Anson, Beller, Ehrlich, Livieri, McGeough, Schneider, Tuck

NAY: None.

Motion carried.

14. COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

Several communication items were reviewed by the Board.

15. ADJOURN THE MEETING TO CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Member Beller, seconded by Member McGeough, to adjourn to closed session at 10:15 p.m. to discuss matters pertaining to personnel, as per 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), as amended by P.A. 93-0057.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Anson, Beller, Ehrlich, Livieri, McGeough, Schneider, Tuck

NAY: None.

Motion carried.

Beth Millard, Board Secretary

Hank Schneider, President

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CERTIFICATED EMPLOYEE CONTRACTS FOR 2011-2012

It was approved that the Board of Education

- (1) Issue an employment contract for Continued Contractual status (Tenure) to eighteen certificated staff members, beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, in accordance with The School Code of Illinois, Section 24-11 (see list entitled “Going on Tenure” School Year 2011-2012, page 2).
- (2) Authorize and direct the Superintendent to issue annual notification of employment and salary for the 2011-2012 school year to thirty-two certificated staff members who are to remain on continued Probationary status (see list entitled “Continuing on Probation” School Year 2011-2012, page 2).
- (3) Issue part-time annual contracts for 2011-2012 to nine part-time certificated staff members who are not eligible for tenure because of part-time status and whose employment must be annually approved by the Board (see list entitled “Annual Contracts - Part-Time Staff Members” School Year 2011-2012, page 3).
- (4) Adopt a resolution of honorable dismissal of one second-year full-time probationary teacher, nine first-year full-time probationary teachers, three part-time probationary teachers, and seven tutors (see page 4).

GOING ON TENURE – SCHOOL YEAR 2011-2012

Devonshire

Elizabeth Bottonari
Owen Douglas
Caitlin Eckert
Meghan Kearns
Rebecca Obeler
Patricia Vale

Highland

Nichole Alvear
Brandi Boze
Jacqueline Foley
Lori Linforth
Sarah Newcorn

Jane Stenson

Molly Rose Flanagan
Anica Hrvojevic
Sena Kim
Kara Tapscott

Old Orchard Jr. High

Heather Doane
Colette Halverson
Cara Novy-Benewitz

CONTINUING ON PROBATION — SCHOOL YEAR 2011-2012

Devonshire

Bryan Kelly
Kitty Lierandi
Brya Myers
Victoria Ostrovsky
Judy Wheatley

Highland

Alexandra Burrell
Megan Byrne
Mary Graul
Renee Phillipose
Kate Whitehead

Jane Stenson

Erin Haring-Switzer
Sylwia Laniewski

Old Orchard Jr. High

Anastasia Barrow
Erica Brand
Allison Fruchtman
Derek Fugate
Katherine Gassensmith
Nicole Guerrero
Robyn Hawley
Sarah Larsen

Old Orchard Jr. High

Claudy Levin
Ryan Levin
Rob McElligott
Sara Ryder
Nicholas Tarantello
Phyllis Tsevis
Alison Vinkler
Allison Yoder

District

Jennifer Anderson
Kate Frampton
Christina Heath
Jac McBride

NOTE: Listing by school is in accordance with present assignment —
subject to change for 2011-2012

**ANNUAL CONTRACTS - PART-TIME STAFF MEMBERS
SCHOOL YEAR 2011-2012**

Art

Tarryl Saipe (Jane Stenson)
DeAnn Saykawlard (Highland)
Molly Siegel (Devonshire)

ELL

Merilee Aguirre (Old Orchard)

Foreign Language

Karen Arnold (Old Orchard)
Grace Pigozzi (Old Orchard)

Gifted

Lisa Westman (Old Orchard)

Psychologist

Joan Evans (Highland)

Speech

Shannon Griffiths (Highland)

NOTE: Listing by school is in accordance with present assignment —
subject to change for 2011-2012

HONORABLE DISMISSAL OF CERTIFIED EMPLOYEES

The Board of Education adopted a resolution authorizing reduction in force of certified personnel as follows:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REDUCTION
IN FORCE OF CERTIFIED PERSONNEL**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education (the “Board”) of Skokie School District 68 (the “District”) is required to notify certified personnel of honorable dismissal at least forty-five days before the effective date of dismissal due to the Board’s decision to decrease the number of certified personnel; and

WHEREAS, the Board has decided to reduce the number of certified personnel employed for the 2011-2012 school term;

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the Board of Education of Skokie School District 68, Cook County, Illinois, as follows:

1. The Certified Personnel listed in the attached Exhibit 1 shall be dismissed effective at the close of the 2010-2011 school term.
2. The notice of honorable dismissal shall be substantially in the form of the attached Exhibit 2. The President and Secretary of the Board shall cause the notice to be served as soon as reasonably possible by first class mail and by either personal service or by certified mail, return receipt requested.
3. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this 15th day of March, 2011, by the following vote:

AYES: 7
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0

s/s Hank Schneider
President, Board of Education

ATTEST:
s/s Beth Millard
Secretary, Board of Education

EXHIBIT 1

CERTIFIED PERSONNEL TO BE HONORABLY DISMISSED

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>
Merilee Aguirre*	Old Orchard Jr. High School
Daniel Anderson	Highland School
Diane Balter	Highland School
Margaret Bohlin	Old Orchard Jr. High School
Fran Eres	Devonshire School

Arlene Harris	Highland School
Mary Helmstetter	Devonshire School
Lisa Goyco	Jane Stenson School
Jeff Kaplan	Jane Stenson School
Katie King	Jane Stenson School
Jessica Kochy	Old Orchard Jr. High School
Abby Livers	Highland School
Trevor Nicholas	Highland School
Pearl Park	Devonshire School
Christine Perkins	Jane Stenson School
Melissa Roter	Highland School
DeAnn Saykawlard*	Highland School
Judy Solway	Highland School
Lisa Umans	Highland School
Marcie Weinstein	Jane Stenson School

* Returning to part-time status in the same position

EXHIBIT 2

NOTICE OF HONORABLE DISMISSAL

March 16, 2011

Name
Address

Dear _____:

We regret to inform you that the Board of Education of Skokie School District 68 has determined to decrease the number of certified personnel in the category of position to which you are assigned. You are honorably dismissed effective at the close of the 2010-11 school term.

Sincerely,
/s/ Beth Millard
Beth L. Millard, Secretary
Board of Education

cc: Personnel File

First Class Mail and
Personal Service or
Certified Mail/Return Receipt Requested

HONORABLE DISMISSAL OF CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REDUCTION
IN FORCE OF EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education (the “Board”) of Skokie School District 68 (the “District”) is required to notify educational support personnel of honorable dismissal at least thirty days before the effective date of dismissal due to the Board’s decision to decrease the number of educational support personnel or to discontinue some particular type of educational support service; and

WHEREAS, the Board has decided to reduce the number of educational support personnel employed for the 2011-2012 school term;

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the Board of Education of Skokie School District 68, Cook County, Illinois, as follows:

1. The Educational Support Personnel listed in the attached Exhibit 1 shall be dismissed from the categories of position shown opposite their names, effective at the close of the 2010-2011 school term.
2. The notice of honorable dismissal shall be substantially in the form of the attached Exhibit 2. The President and Secretary of the Board shall cause the notice to be served as soon as reasonably possible by first class mail and by either personal service or by certified mail, return receipt requested.
3. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this 15th day of March, 2011, by the following vote:

AYES: 7
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0

/s/ Hank Schneider
President, Board of Education

ATTEST:
/s/ Beth Millard
Secretary, Board of Education

EXHIBIT 1

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL TO BE HONORABLY DISMISSED

<u>Name</u>	<u>Category of Position</u>	<u>School</u>
Alearsi Alfaro	Teaching Assistant	Devonshire School
Carolyn Cooper	Office Assistant	District
Jessica Johnson	Teaching Assistant	Early Childhood Center
Sherry Reiss	Kindergarten Teaching Assistant	Devonshire School
Persimmon Smith	Kindergarten Teaching Assistant	Highland School

EXHIBIT 2

NOTICE OF HONORABLE DISMISSAL

March 16, 2011

Name
Address

Dear _____:

We regret to inform you that the Board of Education of Skokie School District 68 has determined to decrease the number of educational support personnel in the category of position to which you are assigned. You are honorably dismissed effective at the close of the 2010-2011 school term.

Sincerely,
/s/ Beth Millard
Beth L. Millard, Secretary
Board of Education

cc: Personnel File

First Class Mail and
Personal Service or
Certified Mail/Return Receipt Requested

ATTACHMENT C
(NTDSE Agreement)