

**Official Minutes of the
Oak Park Board of Education District 97,
970 Madison Street, Oak Park, Cook County, Illinois
Meeting March 15, 2016**

Vice President Felton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Brisben, Gates (8:38 p.m.), O'Connor, Spurlock (6:02 p.m.), Felton, Datta (6:01 p.m.),
and Spatz

ROLL CALL

Absent: None

Also Present: Superintendent Dr. Carol Kelley, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations
Therese O'Neill, Senior Director of HR Steve Cummins, Senior Director of Special
Services Mike Padavic, Senior Director of Policy, Procedures and Communication Chris
Jasculca, Director of Technology Michael Arensdorff, Director of Curriculum and
Instruction Carrie Kamm and Helen Wei, and Board Secretary Sheryl Marinier

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

Brisben moved, seconded by Spatz, that the Board of Education move into Executive Session at 6:00 p.m. to discuss (Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees or Legal Counsel for the District 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), Collective Negotiation 5 ILCS 12/2(c)(2), Purchase or Lease of Real Property 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5), Probable Litigation 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)). Roll call vote.

Ayes: Brisben, Spatz, Felton, and O'Connor

Nays: None

Absent: Datta, Spurlock and Gates

Motion passed.

OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION

Datta moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education move into Open Session at 7:00 p.m. All members of the Board were in agreement. The meeting reconvened at 7:05 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC
COMMENT

Mr. and Mrs. Victor Ancieta, Oak Park residents, thanked Dr. Kelley and members of the Board for responding to their recent request regarding the safety of the Brooks students. They expressed their disagreement with the findings, and their interest in the scheduled meeting with Dr. Kelley for the next day. They asked for the Board's assistance in the matter, specifically regarding the involvement of the school administrators and disturbing comments in the recent report. They expressed interest in having Board members attend tomorrow's meeting with Dr. Kelley and asked that Dr. Kelley speak with Chris Jasculca about the concerns, as he met with Mr. and Mrs. Ancieta on two occasions.

2.4.1 APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

Spatz moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, appoint Dr. Alicia Evans as the Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations effective July 1, 2016 through June 20, 2017 at a salary of \$148,357. Roll call vote.

Ayes: Spatz, O'Connor, Brisben, Felton, Datta, and Spurlock

Nays: None

Absent: Gates

Motion passed.

Dr. Evans expressed her gratitude to the Board.

REPORTS

PARCC RESULTS

Felicia Starks Turner came to the table with Dr. John Gatta and shared a presentation on the PARCC results. He noted the federal and state policy shift regarding No Child Left Behind (NCLB), Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), and the Illinois Balanced Accountability. Gatta noted that the district is more competitive in reading and language arts than in math, but noted that the district is well above the state standard in all categories. Additionally, he noted that the district is more competitive in the early grades than the upper grades. Gatta reminded the Board that District 97 students who placed in the low percentile, are still considered average in the national percentile.

Gatta reported that since 2012-2013, all schools showed similar growth. He noted that African Americans and low income gaps begin to appear in 2015-2016, and he noted that missing data has no effect on the district's results.

Dr. Kelley noted that administration has been reviewing the data and agree that all students need to be at an equitable outcome. She noted that in order to accomplish that goal, some students will require accelerated growth.

Board comments included interest in seeing data on students making a year of growth and how District 97 compares to similar districts. It was noted that few districts are asking the level of questions as District 97.

ACTION ITEMS

2.1.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 23, 2016 BOARD MEETING

Spatz moved, seconded by Brisben, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, approve the amended minutes from the February 23, 2016 Board meeting. Roll call vote.

Ayes: Spatz, Brisben, O'Connor, Spurlock, Felton, and Datta

Nays: None

Absent: Gates

Motion passed.

2.1.2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 27, 2016 BOARD MEETING

Spatz moved, seconded by Datta, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, approve the amended minutes from the February 27, 2016 special Board meeting. Roll call vote.

Ayes: Spatz, Datta, Spurlock, Felton, Brisben, and O'Connor

Nays: None

Absent: Gates

Motion passed.

2.2 APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

O'Connor moved, seconded by Spurlock, that the Board of Education, District 97, approve the consent agenda as presented.

2.2.1 Approval of Bill List

2.2.2 Personnel Action

2.2.3 Adoption of Policies

2.2.4 Move the April 25, 2016 meeting date to April 26, 2016

2.2.5 Approval of Administrative and Administrative Support Salaries for the 2016-17 School year

Ayes: O'Connor, Spurlock, Felton, Brisben, Spatz, and Datta

Nays: None

Absent: Gates

Motion passed.

2.3.1 APPROVAL OF DOCUMENTARY REQUEST

O'Connor moved, seconded by Spatz, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, approve the documentary filming request made on February 23, 2016, supporting option one, or a variation thereof. Roll call vote.

Ayes: O'Connor, Spatz, Brisben, Felton, Spurlock, and Datta
Nays: None
Absent: Gates
Motion passed.

Dr. Kelley reported that District 97 will follow the protocols created by District 200; which includes parent notification.

2.3.2 ADOPTION OF FOOD SERVICES PROPOSAL

Brisben moved, seconded by Spatz, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, accept the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools in implementing the 10 Food Service recommendations delineated in the attached memorandum to the Board for the 2016-2017 school year and as presented in detail at the February 23, 2016 Board meeting. Roll call vote.

Ayes: Brisben, Spatz, Datta, Felton, O'Connor, and Spurlock
Nays: None
Absent: Gates
Motion passed.

2.3.3 DISTRICT 97 VISION PLANNING (STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT)

Datta moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, approve the agreement with M2 Communications to support the District 97 vision planning efforts.

She shared a document with the Board. Dr. Kelley explained that a core team planning meeting had occurred that included a President Gates and Vice President Felton. Members of the team thought that one of the things she wants to do is share the accumulated data to date. During the Vision meeting, participants created six word stories as their visions. Dr. Kelley shared the results with the community. 182 people voted, and the top four statements were shared with the Board. The Board was asked to review the four statements and by April 15, 2016, identify the elements that resonate with them. On the April 12, 2016 agenda, the Board will have the opportunity to discuss their homework assignment. Roll call vote.

Ayes: Datta, O'Connor, Brisben, Felton, Spurlock, and Spatz
Nays: None
Absent: Gates
Motion passed.

2.3.4 APPROVAL OF JOB DESCRIPTION FOR INSTRUCTIONAL COACHES

Spatz moved, seconded by Brisben, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, approve the job description for Instructional Coach (previously known as Data Technology coach) as defined by the Superintendent on February 23, 2016. Roll call vote.

Ayes: Spatz, Brisben, Felton, Datta, O'Connor, and Spurlock
Nays: None
Absent: Gates
Motion passed.

2.3.5 APPROVAL OF INTENT TO RUN A REFERENDUM

O'Connor moved, seconded by Spurlock, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, adopt the formal attached non-binding referendum resolution delineating an April 4, 2017 referendum date. Roll call vote.

Ayes: O'Connor, Spurlock, Brisben, Felton, Datta, and Spatz
Nays: None
Absent: Gates
Motion passed.

2.4.2 ACCEPTANCE OF ADMINISTRATOR RESIGNATION

Spatz moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, accept the resignation of Steve Cummins, Senior Director of Human Resources effective June 30, 2016. Roll call vote.

Ayes: Spatz, O'Connor, Brisben, Felton, Datta, and Spurlock
Nays: None
Absent: Gates
Motion passed.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

SUPERINTENDENT'S
UPDATE

DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS AND EVERYDAY HEROES

Dr. Kelley reported that there is interest in hosting a National Board Cohort. In order for the district to be eligible, 10 staff members must express interest. This would have a positive impact on teachers and on the students and schools culture. She explained that the district hosted an interest meeting and had eight people immediately express interest in participating. The district's cost would be about \$751 per staff member. Dr. Kelley explained that each candidate would be required to pay a \$1,200 fee, however, grants are available to reimburse that amount. She noted that Dr. Kamm is a National Board Certified teacher and volunteered to be the liaison for the group. She reported that a teacher liaison would also be necessary. It was noted that this aligns with the current OPTA contract.

BOARD ASSIGNMENTS

BOARD
ASSIGNMENTS

STANDING BOARD COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORT FOLLOW

FORC

A meeting of FORC was held last week, but a quorum was not in attendance. Those in attendance reviewed the referendum data that was presented to the Board on February 27, 2016. This committee will meet again in mid-April or early May.

CLAIM

It was noted that a liaison report was shared from the previous meeting. The next CLAIM meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2016. It was reported that ED-RED might be in a position to present at that meeting.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND LIAISON REPORT FOLLOW UP

The meeting notes from the last IGOV meeting were shared.

BENEFITS COMMITTEE

To date (as of March 15), there has been no board member participation in the Benefits committee.

COLLABORATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD – IGA GOVERNING BOARD

It was noted that this group met recently. No further information was shared.

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION WORK TEAM UPDATE

Member Brisben shared data with the Board today. He reported that the main action now is the quantitative element, and asked Board members to complete the goal areas by April 26, 2016. The qualitative questionnaire will be sent out in late April. It was noted that time will be needed during executive sessions in May to complete this process.

It was noted that time during executive sessions will be needed during April meetings for negotiation discussions.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

A document created by intern, Kelsey Connor was shared. Board members were asked to review the document and share comments before Friday.

REFERENDUM TIMELINE

The referendum decisions were recapped. It was agreed that the next step is to determine the size and type of referendum. The timeline was reviewed and Board members were asked to share their thoughts with

REFERENDUM TIMELINE (Continued)

member Brisben by the end of the business day on March 21, 2016. It was suggested that the Bond Attorney report to the Board during the April 26, 2016 Board meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

ADMINISTRATIVE
ITEMS

APPROVAL OF ENGAGEMENT LETTER FOR FISCAL YEAR AUDIT

Therese O'Neill came to the table and reported that the district is in the third year of a contract with McGladrey, LLC. She noted that after five years, the district would need to go out for an RFP. She noted that this process would need to begin with the close of the 2016 audit. She noted that the 2016 audit will be submitted to the state by October 15, 2016, and reminded the Board that an internal control audit has been conducted every two years.

O'Neill explained that the contract with McGladrey expires on June 30, 2016. She asked the Board for direction as to how to proceed. She noted that McGladrey supplied a new principal this year, thus offering a new set of eyes.

President Gates arrived at 8:38 p.m.

After discussion, the Board agreed to a one year extension, allowing the new Chief Financial Officer and the new Fiscal Services Coordinator the opportunity to review the process. This item will return to the Board for action on April 12, 2016.

PRINTER / COPIER RECOMMENDATION

Michael Arensdorff came to the table. He reported that a committee of 16 staff members met on numerous occasions to create a reliable, uniform, cost effective solution to the district's copier needs. Arensdorff shared proposals and the process, recommending that the district enter into a contract with Canon Solutions of America. He reported that the plan would go into effect in July with training of the staff after summer break. Therese O'Neill recognized Arensdorff for his effort on this project, noting that the district will see a savings of \$250,000 over the next five years. This item will return to the Board for action on April 12, 2016.

A/V BID FOR NEW ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Arensdorff reported that bids went out and Pace Systems is the company of choice. He noted that the bid came in under the allocated amount. This item will return to the Board for action on April 12, 2016.

It was reported that video capability will be installed, minus the camera setup. It was noted that if the Board moves toward videotaping the Board meetings, the cost of an operator may be necessary, however, this topic could be the outcome of the community engagement conversations.

K-5 MATH CURRICULUM MATERIALS

Carrie Kamm came to the table. She reported that the Math Curriculum Review team completed an in depth study and is ready to make a recommendation. She explained that the team used a Consensus Based Decision-Making Process (School Reform Initiative), the team came to consensus on recommending Eureka Math for adoption for grades kindergarten through fifth grade. The following Eureka Math features were named as positive features of the program: The high level of focus, coherence, and alignment to the Common Core Math Standards, the rigor and specificity of lessons, the availability of on-demand video demonstrations of lessons, and the prioritization of the major work of each grade. The team recommended that the district invest in initial and ongoing professional learning, leverage the expertise of teachers who are familiar with the Engage NY math program (Eureka Math is based on Engage NY), and support teachers (via professional learning and resources) as they work to differentiate math instruction.

Kamm reported that at this time, she is working with Eureka Math to determine a quote for Teacher Editions, grade-level team access per school of the online program Navigator, and student workbooks. She is also working with principals to identify teachers who are able to participate in summer professional learning.

Kamm noted that there was a mid-point check in process with the teachers where their questions were answered. Dr. Kelley was asked to share the questions and answers with the Board. This item will return to the Board for action on April 12, 2016.

K-5 MATH CURRICULUM MATERIALS (Continued)

Board comments included appreciation for how this process went through the IMET model. Concern was expressed about the fifth - sixth grade articulation as identified in the ECRA report. Concern was expressed regarding the third grade lesson structure having no variety. Interest was expressed in knowing how long this program would be in place before another review.

K-5 ILLINOIS LEARNING STANDARDS SCIENCE – PURCHASE

Carrie Kamm expressed the need to update the district’s FOSS (Full Option Science System) Science kits, noting that some are first and second additions. She noted that FOSS has updated the kits to reflect the needs of the new science standards, and reported that the teachers are eager to get access to updated materials. Kamm noted that she worked with Ann Rochelle to make this decision, noting that Rochelle knows the market place well and most of the districts she works with are also using FOSS. O’Neill reported that the cost was part of the 2016-2017 budget, but efficiencies were found to cover this endeavor this year.

RTI PROPOSAL

Helen Wei came to the table. She reported that the K-5 and 6-8 teams are meeting monthly to align the interventions across the district. She reported that the results of the review was a recommendation for 95 Percent Group and Spire, which are already in use at seven of the eight elementary schools within the district. Wei recommended that the district purchase the most recent versions of these programs. This item will return for action by the Board on April 12, 2016.

K-5 ELA CURRICULUM

Helen Wei came to the table and proposed that the district adopt Lucy Calkins’ *Units of Study* for Reading and Writing (Teachers College Reading and Writing Project). She explained that *Units of Study* implements a workshop model of teaching reading and writing, which uses a “gradual release of responsibility” model of teaching, offering direct instruction through a mini-lesson, demonstration of the skill, guided practice, and independent practice—all with constant feedback and support from the teacher, as well as peers. In addition, there are classroom teachers in the district who have implemented *Units of Study* in their classrooms this year.

Wei reported that the IMET process was not completed due to the urgency for the curriculum. She reported that she received two quotes, one for reading and one for writing, and Hatch is currently piloting the program. Wei noted that this program is aligned to Common Core. This item will return to the Board for action on April 12, 2016.

Board comments included interest in more thought process and in the buy-in from the teachers, noting that buy-in on all curriculums is essential.

CONCLUDING ITEMS

BOARD REMARKS

ED-RED is scheduled to present at the next CLAIM meeting.

Interest was expressed in knowing when the Brooks students who submitted a letter requesting change will be receiving a response from administration.

President Gates was an election judge today and expressed his gratitude to Vice President Felton for running the Board meeting in his absence.

BOARD RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Kelley will be meeting with Mr. and Mrs. Ancieta tomorrow at 9 a.m. and invited a Board member to attend.

AGENDA MAINTENANCE

The April 12, 2016 Board agenda was reviewed and recommendations were made.

LONG-TERM CALENDAR AND PARKING LOT

The Long-term calendar and Parking Lot Documents were reviewed and modified.

Datta left the meeting at 9:53 p.m.

BOARD MEETING ASSESSMENT

The Board assessment from the February 27, 2016 meeting was shared. The next assessment will be given after the April 26, 2016 meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

O'Connor moved, seconded by Spurlock, that the Board of Education move into Executive Session at 9:56 p.m. to discuss (Collective Negotiation 5 ILCS 12/2(c)(2)). Roll call vote.

Ayes: O'Connor, Spurlock, Felton, Gates, Spatz, and Brisben
Nays: None
Absent: Datta
Motion passed.

OPEN SESSION

Gates moved, seconded by Spatz, that the Board of Education move into Open Session at 10:21 p.m. All members of the Board were in agreement.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, President Gates declared the meeting adjourned at 10:21 p.m.

Board President

Board Secretary