

**Official Minutes of the
Oak Park Board of Education District 97,
970 Madison Street, Oak Park, Cook County, Illinois
Meeting April 26, 2016**

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Brisben, Gates, O'Connor, Spurlock, Felton, Datta (6:05 p.m.), and Spatz
Absent: None
Also Present: 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, and Board Secretary Sheryl Marinier

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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Spatz moved, seconded by O'Connor, 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 Negotiations 5 ILCS 12/2(c)(2). Roll call vote.

Ayes: Spatz, O'Connor, Felton, Spurlock, Gates, and Brisben
Nays: None
Absent: Datta (arrived at 6:05 p.m.)
Motion passed.

OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION

O'Connor moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education move into Open Session at 6:54 p.m. All members of the Board were in agreement. The meeting reconvened at 7:01 p.m.

REORGANIZATION OF BOARD

BOARD REORGANIZATION

Brisben moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, elect Jim Gates as President from April 26, 2016 through April 26, 2017.

It was noted that the Bylaws require the Board to reorganize annually.

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

Spurlock moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, elect Amy Felton as Vice President from April 26, 2016 through April 26, 2017.

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

Gates moved, seconded by Felton, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, elect Sheryl Marinier as Secretary from April 26, 2016 through April 26, 2017.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Barbara Mullarkey, an Oak Park resident, representing the Oak Park Environment Network (OPEN), addressed the Board regarding a FOIA request. She asked the Board to identify the ingredients in the Nike Plus turf; what manufacturing processes are involved in creating Nike Plus and what is the date of the material safety data sheet for Nike Plus synthetic rubber turf at Brooks and Julian?

Mullarkey shared a Chicago Tribune article related to turf fields, and noted that she sent a similar letter to Dr. Roberts last year. In that letter, she asked seven questions and Dr. Roberts responded in five paragraphs. Mullarkey noted that the organization did not feel that the letter answered their specific questions.

Lynn Allen, an Oak Park resident and district administrator, thanked the Board, Dr. Kelley and Dr. Starks Turner for their efforts to relocate the Multicultural Center to the Dole branch of the Public Library. Allen noted that she is in full support of the plan.

REPORTS

REPORTS

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING UPDATE

Architect Jennifer Costanzo and Project Manager Bill Truty came to the table. The administration building project budget was shared, noting that the April 15, 2016 data was reflected on this document and there has been no change in the contract value. It was noted that the bottom line for the construction cost has not changed. Truty noted that the rough-in for the first floor is almost done, and the crew is starting work on the second floor, window frames are going up, and the roof should be complete this week. The crew will begin installing drywall at the end of this week, gas is scheduled to be installed on May 2, 2016, and the elevator is scheduled to be installed at the end of April or early May. He noted that everything is on schedule, and the completion date is still scheduled for the end of September or early October, but the crew is trying to improve on that. Currently the plan is to relocate over the Columbus Day weekend. Costanzo noted that the parking lot is the only unknown that is left.

It was noted that FAC met last Tuesday and spent an hour vetting this report. The FAC committee walked through the site two weeks ago and will schedule another walk-through in the near future. It was noted that the bottom line of \$9,401,062 should be lowered due to efficiencies and unused contingency funds (currently \$375,000). It was suggested that the Board receive another update during the second Board meeting in June, 2016.

TYPE OF REFERENDUM PRESENTATION

Heidi Katz from Robbins Schwartz, Elizabeth Hennessy from William Blair and Anjali Vij from Chapman and Cutler came to the table. Member Brisben recapped the purpose of this discussion, noting that the Board agreed to the need for a referendum in April, 2017.

Hennessy shared the current projection summary of operating funds, noting that the middle school bonds will be maturing in levy year 2017, and the district will see a tax deduction in levy year 2018.

Vij shared formulas that could be used and sample language that could be considered. She noted that the Board could go out for one to four years, and the district would benefit from the new properties being built within Oak Park.

Katz explained the relevant legal changes to limiting rate propositions. Vij shared limiting rate increase considerations, and Hennessy shared illustrations of a limiting rate referendum.

Member Brisben asked the Board to reflect on why the Board is going out for a referendum in 2017, and reminded them that in 2017, the District will be at a negative balance. Brisben summarized the different options, and he suggested that the Board consider an Increase Living Rate and Increase Extension Limitations referendum. Hennessy noted that the Increase Extension Limitation is a guaranteed amount, but there is a perception problem with this option.

It was noted that the next step would be to receive the 10-Year Capital Expense presentation on May 19, 2016.

ACTION ITEMS**2.1.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 12, 2016 BOARD MEETING**

Spatz moved, seconded by Datta, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, approve the minutes from the April 12, 2016 Board meeting. Roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

Motion passed.

2.2 APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Spatz moved, seconded by Gates, 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 Approval of Donation – Brooks Middle School Garden

2.2.4 Adoption of Policies

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

Nays: None

Motion passed.

2.3.1 APPOINTMENT OF HOLMES PRINCIPAL

This item was tabled.

2.3.2 APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF ACADEMIC AND ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER

This item was tabled.

2.3.3 RESIGNATION OF SENIOR DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Spurlock moved, seconded by Brisben, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, accept the resignation of Norm Lane, Senior Director of Buildings and Grounds effective immediately. Roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

Motion passed.

2.4.1 APPROVAL OF THE YOUTH INTERVENTIONIST AGREEMENT RENEWAL

Datta moved, seconded by Gates, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, That the Board of Education, District 97, approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for Youth Interventionist Program and to participate in the funding of the Program for FY 2016-2017 and FY 2017-2018 at a maximum estimated amount as follows: FY 2016-2017- \$31,419.00, FY 2017-2018 - \$31,890.00. Roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

Motion passed.

2.4.2 APPROVAL OF LANDSCAPING BID

Spatz moved, seconded by Datta, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, award a contract to McAdam's Landscaping, for a period of one year (July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017), in the total amount of \$35,160 for districtwide landscaping needs as outlined in the memorandum to the Superintendent dated April 12, 2016. Roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

Motion passed.

2.4.3 APPROVAL OF FURNITURE, FIXTURES & EQUIPMENT (FF&E) FOR NEW ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Spatz moved, seconded by Datta, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, award a contract to Lowery McDonnell in the total amount of \$282,722 for the Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment bid for the District’s new Administration Building as outlined in the memorandum to the Superintendent dated April 12, 2016. Roll call vote.

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

2.4.5 APPROVAL OF INSURANCE RATES FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

Gates moved, seconded by Spatz, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, approve the insurance rates and design changes as presented during the April 12, 2016 Board meeting. Roll call vote.

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

**BOARD
ASSIGNMENTS**

BOARD ASSIGNMENTS

STANDING BOARD COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORT FOLLOW

FORC

The committee will be meeting in the next month.

FAC

This committee discussed the administration building, and during their next two meetings plan to begin looking at a possible addition to Holmes School. This topic will also go to FORC for consideration and then to the Board.

CLAIM

Carolyn Newberry Schwartz and Felicia Starks Turner were acknowledged for reporting on equity and excellence during the last CLAIM meeting. On May 19, 2016, Bob Spatz will report on the impact of the proposed state funding. The committee suggested inviting Robbins Schwarz to outline the “does and don’ts” of running a referendum. It was suggested that the Board consider this topic for the May 24, 2016 meeting and include the questions from CLAIM.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND LIAISON REPORT FOLLOW UP

I-ECO met last Wednesday. Preliminary documents were shared noting no financial commitment. It was noted that this committee will be asking the Superintendent to sign off in support of this project by mid-June, 2016.

The Collaboration Governing Board meeting agenda will be sent out for May 11, 2016 meeting. The Board members were asked to send their questions and/or topics recommendations for the November meeting. It was noted that the contract with this group expires in 2018, but is a self-renewing contract.

BOARD MEETING CALENDAR FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

Board Secretary Marinier explained the recommended changes to the Board Meeting Calendar. This item with return to the Board for action on May 10, 2016.

DISCUSSION ON POSSIBLE TOPICS TO SHARE WITH LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

Member Spatz shared a chart noting that out of the 14 districts within the jurisdiction of local representatives; District 97 is one of the least needy based on EAV. Based on where the district falls on the charts, it was difficult to determine what our message to Senator Harmon would be. Board members were asked to send comments/suggestions to member Spatz. This item was tabled and added to the Parking Lot.

SUPERINTENDENT’S EVALUATION PROCESS

Member Brisben noted that the quantitative portion of the evaluation process and Dr. Kelley’s self-evaluation have been completed. He will be sending the qualitative portion of the superintendent’s evaluation to the Board members for consideration, and asked them to return the completed document to

SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION PROCESS (Continued)

him within one week. Brisben noted that the executive session on May 10, 2016 will begin at 5:30 p.m. to ensure enough time for this process.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Member O'Connor expressed interest in seeing an update on community conversations, ensuring strong attendance at these events, and encouraged everyone to promote the community conversations. He noted that although M2 does not encourage Board members to attend the community conversations, they would be happy to meet with the Board separately. It was reported that the Board will receive the results of these meetings on June 14, 2016. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed that they would rather hear the results from the community input than spend time sharing their own thoughts.

The lack of clarity between the work being done by M2 and the focus of the Board on this topic was expressed as a concern. It was suggested that the work team bring forward some recommendation on mechanisms for reaching the community. This item will be included in the May 10, 2016 Board agenda.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

ADMINISTRATIVE
ITEMS

ANALYZING TEACHING FOR STUDENT RESULTS (ATSR)

This item was not discussed at the table. Board members were asked to review the materials in the Board packet and be prepared to take action on May 10, 2016.

WEST SUBURBAN COOK COUNTY MATH INITIATIVE

This item was not discussed at the table. Board members were asked to review the materials in the Board packet and be prepared to take action on May 10, 2016.

ODYSSEY OF THE MIND

This item was not discussed at the table. Board members were asked to review the materials in the Board packet and be prepared to take action on May 10, 2016.

RELOCATION OF THE MULTICULTURAL CENTER

The Board agreed that the District should continue discussion on possibly relocating the Multicultural Center to the Dole branch of the Oak Park Public Library.

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT FOR RESULTS (FAR)

This item was not discussed at the table. Board members were asked to review the materials in the Board packet and be prepared to take action on May 10, 2016.

TEACHBOOST

This item was not discussed at the table. Board members were asked to review the materials in the Board packet and be prepared to take action on May 10, 2016.

WEST COOK YMCA

This item was not discussed at the table. Board members were asked to review the materials in the Board packet and be prepared to take action on May 10, 2016.

CONCLUDING ITEMS

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ITEMS

BOARD REMARKS

Member Datta expressed interest in hearing feedback on the needed and/or recommended professional development. She questioned what the buy-in is from the teachers, and expressed interest in hearing about how the district is receiving feedback. She asked for more information on the choices being made and demonstration on how this is working in the end. She suggested a map or table for next year that lays out all the programs and how they overlap.

Member Brisben questioned what initiated the current purchase requests and asked for a two minute statement to clarify. He questioned what the district usually spends in this area and what has currently been spent. He asked administration to identify the gaps and to explain how these programs fill them. He suggested that the district consider a better frame work for the Board to use to make these purchasing decisions.

BOARD REMARKS (Continued)

It was noted that the State of Illinois is asking school districts for refunds. Interest was expressed in hearing about what is requested from District 97. Member Spatz will reach out to Therese O'Neill regarding this topic.

Interest was expressed in the district being deliberate about the hiring process, noting the need to support the teachers so they grow and stay in the district.

The Oak Park Education Foundation fundraiser did extremely well.

The IASB dinner was last night and several Board members were in attendance.

It was noted that member Spatz works with ED-RED and IASB. He was recently recognized during one of these events, along with Ralph Martire from District 90 for their outstanding work.

BOARD RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT

It was agreed that Chris Jasculca will meet with Dr. Kelley about response to this request.

LONG-TERM CALENDAR AND PARKING LOT

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

AGENDA MAINTENANCE

The May 10, 2016 Board agenda was reviewed and recommendations were made.

BOARD MEETING ASSESSMENT

The Board meeting assessment was distributed to the Board members.

ADJOURNMENT

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There being no further business to conduct, President Gates declared the meeting adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

Board President

Board Secretary