

**Official Minutes of the  
Oak Park Board of Education District 97,  
970 Madison Street, Oak Park, Cook County, Illinois  
Meeting July 7, 2015**

Vice President Felton called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Spatz, Brisben (6:32 p.m.), O'Connor, Spurlock, Datta (6:33 p.m.), and Felton  
Absent: Gates  
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, Senior Director of Administrative Services Felicia Starks Turner, Director of  
Technology Michael Arensdorff, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Carrie Kamm  
and Helen Wei, and Board Secretary Sheryl Marinier

ROLL CALL

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

EXECUTIVE  
SESSION

Spatz moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education move into Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. to discuss (Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), Collective Negotiations 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), Pending or Probable Litigation 5 ILCS 12/2(c)(11)). Roll call vote.

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

**OPEN SESSION**

OPEN SESSION

Spatz moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education move into Open Session at 7:04 p.m. All members of the Board were in agreement. The meeting reconvened at 7:05 p.m.

Dr. Carol Kelley was welcomed as the new Superintendent of Schools, and she expressed her pleasure for joining the district.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

PUBLIC  
COMMENT

None

**ACTION ITEMS**

ACTION ITEMS

**2.1.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 23, 2015 BOARD MEETING**

Spatz moved, seconded by Datta, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, approve the revised minutes from the June 23, 2015 Board meeting. Roll call vote.

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

**2.2 APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

Spatz moved, seconded by Brisben, 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 as amended during executive session
- 2.2.3 Recertification of Hazardous Crossings
- 2.2.4 Acceptance of Donation to the Lincoln Band Department and BRAVO

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

One new faculty member was introduced.

**2.3.8 APPOINTMENT OF DATA ANALYST**

Spatz moved, seconded by Brisben, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, appoint Saad Bawany as Data Analyst for the 2015-2016 school year, with an annual salary of \$77,140, prorated based upon an August 17, 2015 start date. Roll call vote.

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

Therese O'Neill introduced Bawany to the Board.

**2.3.1 ACCEPTANCE OF VEHICLE BID**

Spatz moved, seconded by Datta, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, award a contract to Rizza Ford in North Riverside, IL, in the amount of \$29,960, for the purchase of a 2016 Ford Transit Van, along with the trade-in of two former District vehicles, and as recommended by the Superintendent in his memorandum to the Board dated June 23, 2015. Roll call vote.

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

**2.3.2 APPROVAL OF TAX OBJECTIONS**

Spurlock moved, seconded by Spatz, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, accept the recommendation of its legal counsel, Hodges, Loizzi, Eisenhammer, Rodick and Kohn, in resolving the 2007 and 2008 tax objections and as recommended by the Superintendent in his memorandum to the Board dated June 23, 2015. Roll call vote.

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

**2.3.3 ACCEPTANCE OF ASBESTOS ABATEMENT**

Spatz moved, seconded by Brisben, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, award a contract to Kinsale Contracting Group (KCG), for asbestos related work at Irving, Lincoln and Whittier Schools, in the amount of \$28,100, as outlined in the memorandum to the Superintendent dated June 23, 2015. Roll call vote.

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

**2.3.5 APPROVAL OF THE 2015-2016 TECHNOLOGY BUDGET**

Brisben moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, direct that \$281,047 be included in the District 97 2015-2016 budget to cover purchases for the first year of the 3-year Technology Plan as presented and discussed at the June 9, 2015 meeting and updated and discussed at the June 23, 2015 meeting. Roll call vote.

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

**2.3.4 ACCEPTANCE OF THE 3-YEAR TECHNOLOGY PLAN**

Brisben moved, seconded by Spatz, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, approve the 3-year technology plan as presented and discussed at the June 9, 2015 meeting and updated and discussed at the June 23, 2015 meeting. Further, the Board directs that the \$906,255 for 2016-2017 and \$468,000 for 2017-2018 be included in the District's multi-year financial projections and that the plan be used for any E-rate or other filings requiring a multi-year technology plan. The Board will review and approve the proposed 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 technology plans on an annual basis before inclusion in the following year's budget.

It was explained that motion 2.3.5 will keep the technology plan in motion for this year, and this motion (2.3.4) is to keep things on the radar for the future by allowing administration to keep line items in place when thinking about future budget needs. This motion is the vision; the Board is not locking into anything definite. This motion allows the technology department to engage in these decisions and determine how it interrelates to curriculum, etc. There will be future presentations for the Board to approve after this year.

Board comments included interest in more data regarding iPad usage (how long are they on? How many times were the devices opened? What Websites did they access? What is the evaluation plan for tracking this kind of data? Is there anything in place that demonstrates that the 1:1 initiative is working?). The need to begin collecting data starting in the fall was expressed, noting that it would then be available when discussions on the future technology plans occur. It was suggested that Board members review the proposal and if they identify something that they believe is missing, to send their ideas to Dr. Kelley by July 23, 2015. She will share the preliminary responses with the Board during the August 11, 2015 Board meeting, with a goal for a plan to be developed in September.

Roll call vote.

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

**2.3.6 ACCEPTANCE OF THE SEIU CONTRACT**

Brisben moved, seconded by O'Connor, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, approve the terms of the new five-year collective bargaining agreement between the Board of Education and Local No. 73 of the Service Employees International Union. (With the understanding that the Board President is authorized to execute the final copy of the agreement once it is prepared by the District's legal counsel).  
Roll call vote.

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

**2.3.7 ACCEPTANCE OF THE OPTA MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

Spatz moved, seconded by Brisben, that the Board of Education of Oak Park District 97, accept the Memorandum of Understanding with the Oak Park Teacher's Association regarding Appendix C: Concerts and Art Festivals, Math Enrichment, Extended School Year (ESY), PKP Coordinator, Data Coaches and Hatch PBIS Coordinator. Roll call vote.

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

## **COMMITTEE / WORK GROUP REPORTS**

### **2014 – 2015 PRIORITIES**

#### **CONTRACT IMPLEMENTATION AND MAINTENANCE**

It was reported that members Spatz and Datta met with O'Neill today regarding the Contract Implementation and Maintenance document. They identified that there are no urgent contracts pending at this time. They recommended adding some new categories to make the document easier to follow, and will submit a new draft to the Board by the August 29, 2015 retreat. It was noted that additional contracts need to be added to the list.

#### **COMMON CORE AND IB IMPLEMENTATION**

The Information Only report included in this Board packet was acknowledged.

#### **FINANCIAL STABILITY**

Member Spatz reported that the chart of comparison districts will be included in the September FYI. Members Spurlock and Spatz will meet with Chris Jasculca in late July to prepare the document and meet the August 24, 2015 deadline for submission.

#### **BOARD RETREAT**

It was reported that part of the August 29, 2015 Board retreat will be led by Barbara Toney from IASB, who will lead the Board through the newly constituted Board process and part of the goal setting discussion. Gil Hermann was also suggested as a facilitator for part of the meeting. Additional topics during the retreat will include reviewing the Board agenda layout, goal setting, and translating the goals to measurable goals for the Superintendent.

It was reported that Hazard, Young and Attea (HYA) and IASB have materials available for new Board training. Member Brisben will share both documents with the Board for review to determine a preference. Member Brisben noted the need for a goal setting process and suggested that once the goals are established, the Board will need to determine smart goals that can be measured.

A brief discussion occurred regarding the number of retreats that the Board would like to participate in during the year.

## **STANDING BOARD COMMITTEES**

### **FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND REVIEW COMMITTEE (FORC)**

Members Spatz and Brisben will meet with Therese O'Neill and Dr. Kelley to review the CAP-EX process to ensure that items cannot be overlooked.

Vice President Felton reported that the Board committees have several new members, and she shared a brief bio on each.

FORC will be welcoming Willie Mack. Mack is the Vice President of Educational Planning for the Schnack Financial Group and Principal of Mack Asset and Funding Planners LLC and holds a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

FORC will also be welcoming Carolyn Hanger who is the Vice President, Director of Fair Lending and Responsible Banking for BMO-Harris Bank, NA. Hanger holds a Ph.D. in Jurisprudence in Law from Syracuse University and is a Certified Regulatory Compliance Manager.

FAC will welcome Will Leon. Leon is a Project Architect/Project Manager with Proteus Group, LLC in Chicago. He has worked on projects at many neighboring school district.

CLAIM will be welcoming Mary Anderson, who is the Managing Director, Portfolio Director for Operational Management for Mission + Strategy Consulting. Anderson earned a Juris Doctorate from the New York University School of Law. Anderson has extensive experience in both state level public policy advocacy as well as public education issues.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

ADMINISTRATIVE  
ITEMS

### **GYMNASIUM EQUIPMENT**

O'Neill shared that the Physical Education Chairperson expressed a safety concern, noting that the rings and ropes were in need of repair. Norm Lane met with a consultant who analyzed the department needs. Lane then prioritized the items according to safety concern and identified almost \$33,000 worth of needed repairs to the rings and ropes. O'Neill reported that if the Board approves the repairs on July 28, 2105, all work can be completed by August 17, 2015. She noted that repairs will be needed to other equipment, and will be prioritized and included in the 2016-2017 budget.

### **DONATION – IRVING PTO – BASKETBALL HOOPS**

It was reported that the Irving PTO would like to purchase two basketball hoops for the school at a cost of \$7,570. This item will return to the Board for approval on July 28, 2015. It was noted that Beye School also has basketball hoops installed on its playground.

## **CONCLUDING ITEMS**

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ITEMS

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Kelley thanked the administrative team for helping with her transition. She acknowledged the fabulous Cabinet and community for welcoming her into town. She is currently busy acclimating to her new surroundings and working on a plan for a listening/learning tour where she plans to speak to people about key issues. She met with Cabinet this morning and the Board leadership yesterday. She will be seeking help in testing out her draft plan prior to sharing it with the Board during the next Board meeting.

Next week, Dr. Kelley will be attending the AASA Conference for Superintendents, where she is beginning the second year of a two year national superintendents program. Upon her return, she plans to continue meeting with building administrator and begin the listening tour with stakeholders.

She expressed gratitude to the Board for the honor to serve as Superintendent of Schools.

### **BOARD CONCERNS / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Administration was reminded of the importance of reviewing the early admissions process for the early childhood program.

Interest was expressed in hearing about how the new online Kindergarten registration is going.

Interest was expressed in hearing more about student security related to MasteryConnect. Carrie Kamm reported that she is working on the terms and conditions of the contract and it has been sent to legal counsel for review. The representative at MasteryConnect is on vacation this week and should be touching base with Kamm next week.

Interest in the next steps regarding the ECRA methodology was shared. It was suggested that administration carefully review ECRA methodology and ensure that the district is comfortable with their methods. It was noted that the new contract began on July 1, 2015. It was suggested that the Dashboard committee review the ECRA data. Members Spatz and Datta met regarding the ECRA document and will share their notes with Dr. Kelley. Member Spatz suggested that the new Student Data Analysis review the document and meet with the appropriate Board members. The need to distinguish which reports are most appropriate for the Board, teachers, administration, etc. was suggested. Board members were asked to send their thoughts to member Datta.

Several Board members expressed interest in touring the schools with Dr. Kelley as part of the learning tour.

It was noted that member O'Connor will not be in attendance during the July 28, 2015 Board meeting.

Member Brisben thanked everyone for returning their Board retreat surveys. He noted that the survey indicated interest in more than 60 different potential goals. Because of the large quantity, he asked the Board members to prioritize the list.

Member Spatz attended the IASB West Cook meeting. He noted that some school boards make it a point to assign a school board mentor to new board members. It was noted that the Board Policy references mentorship. It was suggested that the Board reach out to Barbara Toney at IASB about the possibility.

**BOARD CONCERNS / ANNOUNCEMENTS (Continued)**

Member Spatz shared two documents from the Ounce of Prevention and the Office of Early Childhood for the Governor’s Office. He note that they will be posted on the Office for Early Childhood Website. Oak Park was one of four communities featured by an outside agency hired by the Ounce of Prevention and the Governor’s Office on Early Childhood.

**BOARD RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**PREVIEW AGENDAS**

The draft agenda for July 28, 2015 was reviewed and modifications were recommended.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

Datta moved, seconded by Brisben, that the Board of Education move into Executive Session at 8:29 p.m. to discuss (Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Specific Employees 5 ILCS 120/2/(c)(1), Collective Negotiations 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2). Roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Gates

Motion passed.

**OPEN SESSION**

**OPEN SESSION**

Spurlock moved, seconded by Spatz, that the Board of Education move into Open Session at 10:29 p.m. All members of the Board were in agreement.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to conduct, Vice President Felton declared the meeting adjourned at 10:29 p.m.

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Board Vice President

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Board Secretary