

**Official Minutes of the Tuesday, January 28, 2014  
Committee of the Whole Meeting**

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Call to Order The Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 59 in County of Cook, State of Illinois, met as Committee of the Whole at the District 59 Administration Center, 2123 S. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, IL on Tuesday, January 28, 2014. President Kiel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call **Members Present:** President Brian Kiel, Vice-President Sharon Roberts and Secretary Karen Osmani. Members Janice Krinsky, Seana McPherson, Mardell Schumacher and Barbara Somogyi.

Others Superintendent, Dr. Art Fessler; Assistant Superintendent for Business Services, Ruth Gloede; Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, Tom Luedloff; Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, Dr. Nancy Wagner; Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services, Becki Streit; Chief Innovation Officer, Ben Grey; Director of Buildings and Grounds, Tony Rossi; Executive Director of ELL, Maureen McAbee; Translator, Nancy Torres; and Recording Secretary, Betsy Boswell.

Also Present Eydie Cohen and Michele Lara, DEA; Christine Ciringione, Instruction; Carrie Hlousek, Byrd School; Matt Legg, Rupley School; Jessica Martinsen, Juliette Low School; Anne Hansen, Forest View School; Frank Acems, NIU; Dale Falk, Arlington Heights.

**Pledge of Allegiance** The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was completed.

**AUDIENCE ADDRESS**

Mr. Kiel welcomed everyone to the meeting, explaining the difference between a regular Board of Education Meeting and a Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Dr. Fessler noted that most Board meetings celebrate the work of students. He stated that tonight he wished to present a video produced by David Pohlmeier on a community project undertaken by the students and staff of Devonshire School. He indicated videos like this are being produced to help tell the story of our school district. The videos will be part of a new website being created for the District.

Following the video presentation, Mrs. Roberts stated she now always looks for news stories on the District's homepage.

Mr. Kiel noted it was a very professional video and congratulated the Devonshire community for its efforts.

**DISCUSSION**

**ITEM 2014 SUMMER PROGRAMMING**

Dr. Fessler stated the Board had begun discussions on summer programming during its last meeting and would be continuing that discussion tonight.

Dr. Wagner, Mrs. Ciringione and Ms. Cohen presented information on plans for 2014 summer programming.

Dr. Wagner first explained that prior to 2010 the District's Summer School offered varied programming, both enrichment and remedial. Classes were offered during two morning sessions over a varying length time.

In 2010 the District had Title I funds and decided to focus on K-2 students at Title I buildings who needed remedial reading opportunities. During that summer the District also provided traditional summer school classes. The following year the District reviewed past summer programming and came to the conclusion that the Jump Start remedial reading program was the most effective offering. Administrators looked at summer offerings within the District 59 communities and discover there was no instrumental music programming available outside the District for our students. In addition, the Board asked that an advanced math summer program housed at Friendship Jr. High continue to be offered. The 2012 summer programming therefore consisted of Jump Start for grades K-4, Instrumental Music Camp and Friendship Advance Math. In 2013 the Jump Start program extended to 5<sup>th</sup> grade and an advanced math program was offered to all qualified jr. high students.

Dr. Wagner stated that summer 2014 would be very busy with the many directions in which the District is moving. Also, staff would be needed to assist with curriculum writing.

Mrs. Ciringione stated the feedback received from parents and staff indicated a need for more creativity and movement during summer school. She stated her recommendation was to extend the morning session by 30 minutes to allow for "brain breaks". She also stated that feedback indicated summer school would experience a better rate of attendance if it were held Monday-Thursday with Fridays off. She stated the committee's recommendation also included a three-week timeframe, free transportation and the same tuition as 2013.

Mrs. Ciringione stated the extra thirty minutes would allow children who want to experience music camp to have that opportunity. She stated the need to add tech support to each summer site and possibly PE and Fine Arts staff as well. Also, the District needs to investigate new partners for afternoon childcare.

Mrs. Schumacher asks where the sites would be located.

Dr. Wagner stated that had not yet been determined, but that she would love to use Rupley on the south side and either Juliette Low or Robert Frost on the north side. As for junior high, Grove was a strong possibility.

Mrs. Somogyi stated she would like a fair program, stating the special math program at Friendship was designed by one teacher and there was a lot of extra cost in providing that program. She questioned whether this was fair to always give this opportunity to one teacher, as there were other teachers who might enjoy the opportunity.

Ms. Cohen agreed it was unfair.

Ms. Krinsky stated we are moving toward a one district approach with equity for all.

Mrs. Roberts stated she agreed with the idea of equity but with all that is going on in the District the program should remain as presented. She stated we could work toward equity in the future.

Mrs. Schumacher stated she was concerned that the Friendship program had seven extra hours of instruction for the same tuition as the Holmes and Grove programs. She stated she would prefer not to incur the extra cost of an administrator at Friendship just for the one special class.

Ms. Cohen stated Mr. Lavine believes that the incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are not prepared for advanced math at the junior high level.

Mrs. Somogyi asked why administration was not reacting to a teacher's statement that our students are not properly prepared.

Ms. Cohen stated the elementary TDP Program did not have a one district approach. She stated the need for this to change.

Dr. Fessler stated we need to resign our curriculum, but until that is done we are asking for the status quo for summer programming with a few enhancements. He stated it will take a few years to move toward the one district goal. He stated he would love to see students in our junior highs all summer long. We need to provide attractive programs-this will take a couple of years to accomplish.

Mrs. Schumacher asked if Mr. Lavine could begin his program earlier and perhaps continue it in August.

Dr. Wagner stated she would hate to short-change his program.

Ms. Cohen stated she would love to have Mr. Lavine sit down with the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade TDP teachers.

Dr. Fessler stated future summer programming will address equity through the design process.

Mrs. Schumacher stated she could approve the recommendations for 2014 summer programming except for the extra hours for the Friendship advanced math program.

Ms. Krinsky stated she favored excellence in education.

Mrs. Roberts agreed with Ms. Krinsky.

Mr. Kiel asked if Ridge students would be given a summer program option.

Dr. Fessler stated the Ridge calendar for 2014/15 had not yet been finalized.

Dr. Fessler stated the summer school committee would be presenting its recommendations to the Board for approval at the February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mrs. McPherson noted the overall reduction in hours for summer school (except for the Friendship math program).

Dr. Wagner stated she wished to allow time for curriculum writing and professional development.

## **REVISIONS TO BOARD POLICY**

Mrs. Schumacher stated she would like to amend BP6.60 by deleting the names of specific ethnic groups. All other policy revisions were accepted.

## **LEARNING SPACES TASK FORCE**

Mr. Grey stated he was forming a task force to investigate the best learning spaces for our students. He asked for a Board member to volunteer for the task force. Ms. Krinsky and Mrs. Schumacher volunteered to serve on the Task Force and Mrs. McPherson volunteered to be an alternate. Mr. Grey indicated the Task Force meetings would be scheduled from 4:00 to 5:30 pm. He stated the goal would be to return to the full Board with findings and recommendations. He noted the Task Force would research the best learning environments and bring a comprehensive presentation to the Board.

Dr. Fessler suggested some of our Learning Walkers should be part of the Task Force.

Mrs. Somogyi asked for periodic updates for the Board.

Dr. Fessler stated all Board members would be invited to site visits.

## **NEW CONTENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR WEBSITES**

Mr. Grey distributed quotes from website developers and wireless providers.

Mr. Grey stated he had met twice with the Communications Committee and stated it was time to address the District website. He stated the Committee agreed that a core requirement was that the new site be a responsive website. A responsive website works for all platforms – computer, tablet and smart phone. He stated the District wants full control of the website. We would own the site and have the ability to customize it to our needs.

Mr. Grey stated his recommendation was to contract with Floodlight Design. He stated his department had checked with many districts that had use the company and all references were good. He stated he would be bringing a resolution to the Board at the February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mrs. Schumacher asked what the company provided that the District could not do itself.

Mr. Grey noted the District's current website is not owned by the District; we must go through and be limited by the host. He stated it takes a very specific skill set to build a website.

Ms. Krinsky stated she was for many years a user interface designer. She stated she was very impressed with Mr. Grey's and Mr. Pohlmeier's abilities and she fully supported them.

Mr. Kiel asked if at the end of the contract would the District need to bid for another host?

Mr. Grey stated the District was not required to issue bids for technology.

Mr. Grey also presented quotes for adding wireless to all District elementary buildings. He stated the current budget earmarked \$500,000 for this project. He stated he included in the quotes some hardware-switches and routers-as well as upgrades to the wireless at Holmes and the Administration Center. The Ruckus quote for all these projects came in under the budgeted amount. He stated he would bring this is the February 10<sup>th</sup> Board meeting for Board approval.

### **STRATEGIC PLAN**

Dr. Fessler stated the SLT had spent 3 hours on Monday working on the planning document. The SLT is in favor of using an editor for the final version of the document. He stated an editor would bring a different perspective, which would be of great value. The cost will be between \$300-\$500.

Dr. Fessler stated the Board needs to meet again to finalize the Strategic Plan and arrange to share the document with various stakeholder groups. He asked Mr. Kiel to send out a Doodle calendar to the Board to establish a date for the special meeting.

Ms. Krinsky stated she wished to take a step back to take a look at some items that were eliminated from the plan.

Mrs. Osmanski stated she was very concerned that there were no measurable goals in the plan. She stated the District needs an assessment piece to substantiate improvement.

Dr. Fessler stated it was the Board's strategic plan. He noted the SLT took the Board's plan and tried to improve it.

Mrs. Roberts stated the measurables are in the actionables.

Dr. Fessler suggested the Board needed to decide what to share with stakeholders.

Mrs. Osmanski stated we need to be sure we are improving.

Mrs. Schumacher stated she agreed with Mrs. Osmanski. She stated that many times in the past the Board had asked for proof and the Board was told there was no proof.

Dr. Fessler stated the SLT did a lot of work on the plan and were strategic in their word selection.

Ms. Krinsky stated everyone who worked on the document did an excellent job.

Dr. Fessler stated the Board needed a plan for obtaining stakeholder feedback. He noted the plan should be reviewed annually.

Mrs. Roberts suggested the actionables have a timeline: year one/year two/year three. The Board can then check each year to insure the District is on track.

**Board  
Comments**

Mrs. Schumacher stated she had received an email from a parent who was in attendance during the January 13<sup>th</sup> Board meeting when Mrs. Schumacher distributed an article on cyber bullying. The parent asked about curriculum on cyber bullying.

Mr. Grey stated the District directly teaches responsible use of the Internet and we speak to cyber bullying.

Mrs. Boswell offered to send Mrs. Schumacher the District’s policy on cyber bullying.

Mrs. McPherson noted all students and parents sign an Internet agreement.

**MOTION** at 8:45 p.m. by Mrs. Schumacher, seconded by Mrs. McPherson, to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the 28th day of January, 2014, the Community Consolidated School District 59 Board of Education recess in a closed meeting to discuss “the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body”, in accordance with 5ILCS 120/2 (1) of the Open Meetings Act.

Roll Call Ayes: 7 Kiel, Krinsky, McPherson, Osmanski, Roberts, Schumacher and Somogyi.  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 0  
Abstain: 0 Motion Carried: 7-0-0-0

**MOTION** at 9:43 p.m. by Mrs. McPherson, seconded by Mrs. Roberts, to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the 28th day of January, 2014, the Community Consolidated School District 59 Board of Education meeting is reconvened.

Roll Call Ayes: 7 Kiel, Krinsky, McPherson, Osmanski, Roberts, Schumacher and Somogyi.  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 0  
Abstain: 0 Motion Carried: 7-0-0-0

A question was raised regarding what happens if the District exceeds the 5 “snow days” built into the school calendar. Dr. Fessler and Mr. Luedloff explained the process that would take place if that were to happen.

**MOTION** at 9:45 p.m. by Mrs. Osmanski, seconded by Mrs. McPherson, to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the 28th day of January, 2013, the Community Consolidated School District 59 Board of Education meeting is adjourned.

Roll Call     Ayes:     7     Kiel, Krinsky, McPherson, Osmanski, Roberts, Schumacher  
                    Nays:     0     and Somogyi.  
                    Absent:    0  
                    Abstain:    0                             Motion Carried: 7-0-0-0

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Brian Kiel, President

ATTEST:

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Karen Osmanski, Secretary