

**Official Minutes of the Monday, June 23, 2014
Special Board of Education Meeting**

Call to Order The Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 59 in County of Cook, State of Illinois, held a special meeting in accordance with provisions of the Open Meetings Act, according to Illinois law, at the District 59 Administration Center, 2123 South Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois on Monday, June 23, 2014. President Roberts called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

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

Also Present Eydie Cohen DEA; Kelley Zarfahs, Principal of Robert Frost School; Melissa Ward, Coordinator of Early Childhood; Laura Sandoval, Principal of Salt Creek School; Ross Vittore, Principal of Clearmont School; Randy Haack, Coordinator of Assessment; Kate Gioia-Weiland, Heather Soskin, and Sharon Klimek, Ridge staff; Dr. Josh Carpenter and family; Patrick Brosnan and Robin Randell Legat Architects; Lupe Ramirez with students and parents from Rupley Elementary School.

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

AUDIENCE RECESS Mrs. Roberts welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if anyone wished to address the Board of Education. No one came forward.

Consent Agenda MOTION by Mrs. Somogyi, seconded by Mrs. Schumacher, to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the 23rd day of June, 2014, the Community Consolidated School District 59 Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda as presented:

- 5.01 Acceptance of Recommendations: Human Resources Report
 - a. Administrative Contracts
 - b. Certified Contracts
 - c. ESP Retirement

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

Motion Carried: 7-0-0-0

Dr. Fessler noted the Board had just hired a new administrator by approving the consent agenda. He asked Mrs. McAbee to introduce him.

Mrs. McAbee asked the Board to welcome Josh Carpenter as the new Director of Math and TDP. She indicated Dr. Carpenter was a former elementary and middle school principal who came to us from District 15.

Dr. Carpenter stated he was very impressed with District 59 and was excited to begin the work ahead. Dr. Carpenter introduced his wife and daughter.

BOARD REPORTS

Mrs. Somogyi reported attending two programs, one regarding student surveys and a symposium entitled “Talk the Truth-the Crucial Conversations”.

Mrs. Roberts reported she had wanted to attend the symposium but her schedule did not allow it. She thanked Mrs. Somogyi for attending.

Mrs. Roberts reported the Board had held a special meeting the previous week, where they discussed Board/Superintendent relations and communications; committee work and meeting procedures.

SPECIAL INTEREST TOPICS

RUPLEY STUDENT PRESENTATION – *Connecting Across the Globe*

Ms. Ramirez and her third grade class presented their 21st century project on the study of cultures and diversity. The students used the 4 Cs as they Skyped with people in 10 different countries from around the world. The students presented the iMovie they created as part of their project.

The Board thanked the students for their excellent project and thanked their parents for supporting their children’s learning.

ELEMENTARY LEVEL PLANNING

Mrs. McAbee, Mrs. Sandoval, Mrs. Zerfahs and Mr. Vittore presented elementary level planning for the new schedule to be introduced next school year.

Mrs. Sandoval stated the elementary principals had met and reviewed the “why” of establishing common elements of design across all elementary schools. The reasons were: one-district approach; guaranteed experiences for all students; capture and share successful practices.

Mr. Vittore spoke to the development of design elements. He stated they had asked elementary principals what they loved about their school’s schedule. They shared ideas for maximizing instructional time. He indicated it was an excellent collaborative experience.

Mrs. McAbee stated the schedule design included an integrated instructional block to integrate content and language/literacy for about ½ of the school day. Social/emotional learning was integrated across the board for all students, with about 20 minutes per day set aside for this.

Additionally, extra time would be allotted on Wednesdays for cross grade level /family time activities. Sixty minutes of each school day would be allotted for guided reading and sixty minutes for math instruction.

Mrs. McAbee noted that every three weeks there would be time allotted for team collaboration in addition to regular Wednesday professional development. Students will have extra time for specials during this team collaboration time.

Dr. Fessler stated the aim was to keep teachers in their classrooms.

Mrs. McAbee stated the PE teachers were working on daily physical activity. A website was created with ideas to “get yourself moving” (GYM).

Mrs. Zerfahs reported the staff reaction was very positive. She indicated all specials time would be standard across the district. Principals had to give up their old schedules and adopt the district-wide schedule while retaining some flexibility.

Mrs. McAbee noted there was still work to be done to support teachers and leaders. She stated there would be parent communications to make them aware of these changes. She stated she would continue to collect feedback.

Ms. Krinsky stated it was a great framework with lots of detail.

Mrs. Roberts noted the framework would be a huge relief for principals, providing a district-wide framework for scheduling so they did not have to do it on their own.

Mrs. McPherson asked how end-of-day behavior problems would be addressed.

Mrs. McAbee stated the strategic use of brain breaks would help with behavioral problems.

Mr. Vittore indicated principals might schedule specials near the end of the day for primary students. He stated the schools with full day kindergarten would use a split schedule for specials, having some in the morning and some in the afternoon.

Mrs. McAbee thanked Mrs. Zerfahs, Mrs. Sandoval and Mr. Vittore for assisting in the presentation.

Mrs. Osmanski stated she was anxious to see the LRC curriculum.

**ACTION
ITEMS**

**AUTHORIZING WILLIAM BLAIR & COMPANY TO SERVE AS BOND
UNDERWRITER**

Mrs. Gloede stated the Dodd-Frank Act required the district to have an underwriter. She stated she recommended the Board continue its relationship with William Blair. She indicated passage of this resolution would put the district in position to move forward if the Board decides to issue bonds.

Mrs. Gloede stated she met with the finance committee to discuss the various options in issuing bonds. She indicated the consensus was to stay under a \$10M issue to keep interest rates down, then wait to see what happens at the state level in regards to funding.

Mrs. Schumacher asked if the district issued bonds to build the Early Learning Center, how would a new administration center be funded.

Mrs. Gloede stated her recommendation would be to use fund balances to build an Administration Center.

Mrs. Somogyi inquired as to why the district would issue \$14M rather than a higher amount.

Mrs. Gloede stated the Board could set the amount as they wished. She stated the Board could file for a higher amount and then not have to issue the bonds if it chose not to.

Mrs. Somogyi suggested going higher for more flexibility.

Mr. Rossi stated the Board could look at additional construction at Holmes or a renovation of Devonshire to make room for full day kindergarten.

Mrs. Roberts suggested the Board could make these decisions when more detailed information was available.

Mrs. Schumacher stated she would be happier to leave things as presented.

Dr. Fessler stated the focus for now was on an Early Learning Center.

Mrs. McPherson asked about the impact of topping the bond issue at \$14M instead of possibly \$18M. She wondered about public perception.

Mrs. Gloede stated there would be a structured payout to keep the amount constant.

MOTION by Ms. Krinsky, seconded by Mrs. McPherson, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 requires a distinction in the roles and responsibilities of municipal market participants;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the 23rd day of June, 2014, the Community Consolidated School District 59 Board of Education retains William Blair & Company as exclusive underwriter relating to the preparation for and public offerings of one or more issues of bonds.

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

Motion Carried: 7-0-0-0

AUTHORIZATION FOR ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN SERVICES

Mr. Rossi explained that the district was at the point of needing formal approval from the Board for design services. He stated the approval on this resolution offered the least financial risk to the district.

Mrs. Schumacher addressed Mr. Brosnan, asking what his firm would be doing.

Mr. Brosnan stated he had spent time meeting with teachers, which was the beginning of the design process. He stated the Board would now be authorizing Legat to provide schematic designs. He stated they would be working in three dimensions. He noted the architecture would embody ideas from staff. He stated they would provide a physical model and a computer-generated model.

Mr. Rossi stated he had met with officials from the village and everything with the site was looking good.

MOTION

by Mrs. Osmanski, seconded by Mrs. Schumacher, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board directed the administration to conduct a site feasibility study to determine a location for an Early Learning Center,

WHEREAS, concept drawings of an Early Learning Center were presented, reviewed and discussed, showing the location of the addition on the Holmes Junior High School Campus;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on the 23rd day of June, 2014, the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 59 approve authorization for Legat Architects to proceed with the design documentation for an Early Learning Center addition to Holmes Junior High School, not to exceed 100% of Schematic Design Phase as described in the AIA Owner Architect Contract.

Roll Call

Ayes: 7 Kiel, Krinsky, McPherson, Osmanski, Roberts, Schumacher and Somogyi.

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion Carried: 7-0-0-0

Dr. Fessler suggested a community forum be held to focus on the “why” of an early learning center and its financing prior to July 21st. He also stated he would arrange for another tour of the D62 early learning center for any interested Board members as well as arrange for a Skype meeting though Legat with designers in Australia.

**DISCUSSION
ITEMS**

COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

Mr. Grey stated he had worked with the Communications Committee to lay the foundation for a comprehensive communications plan. He spoke about the importance of branding and how it should instill a sense of pride. Our brand is what we are, what builds our reputation. Mr. Grey stated a district’s branding should be simple, consistent and adaptable.

Mr. Grey stated the logo derives meaning and usefulness from the quality of what it symbolizes. It should consist of things that represent school districts; symbols that capture what we are. We want to deliver on our promise; we want to inspire. He stated the torch symbolizes the torch of learning being passed from teacher to student; the path within the torch's flame symbolizes the preparation student's receive for the path they will take to their future.

Mr. Grey stated the new website was aimed at 4 audiences: parents, students, staff and community. He stated the new website would be a responsive website, adapting to different devices while providing optimal viewing experience on each device. Mr. Grey reported many teachers had already begun populating their own web pages. Mr. Pohlmeier would be providing web page training for teachers later in the week.

Mr. Grey stated the communications plan would have digital and analog components. He noted the proposed early learning center, if adopted, would require a plan for communicating with the community.

Ms. Krinsky congratulated Mr. Grey on his fabulous work, stating he did a great job leading the committee.

Mrs. Somogyi questioned the use of the logo without the CCSD59 being included.

Mr. Grey indicated the torch could be used in social media.

Mrs. Somogyi stated the logo would change again with a new administration.

Ms. Krinsky stated the logo was clear and simple.

Mrs. McPherson asked about the official roll-out.

Mr. Grey noted the roll-out would occur in mid-August. He reported the website would allow community members to sign up for e-newsletters.

ASSESSMENT PLAN – MAP UPDATE

Mrs. McAbee and Mr. Haack presented enhancements to the district's assessment plan.

Mr. Haack stated Dr. Fessler had asked him to review the current assessment plan to address key critical areas: movement to CCSS; assessment for biliteracy; integrated assessments: formative or embedded assessments.

Mr. Haack stated the process began by interviewing teachers concerning the current assessment plan. Teachers expressed a need for a social/emotional assessment. Principals expressed a need for structured delivery of data.

Mr. Haack presented a balanced assessment plan that included a universal screener for all students. Formative Assessment System for Teachers (FAST) was selected for universal screening to replace Aimsweb and IDEL. FAST would also be piloted as a possible replacement for MAP.

Mr. Haack stated the district would provide teachers with an “assessment tool box” that would assist teachers in planning instruction. He noted an Assessment Task Force would provide feedback on the implementation of the new assessments.

Dr. Fessler stated the need for a consistent approach to meet the needs of kids. We need a common language and shared strategies.

Mrs. Schumacher stated Mr. Haack had just provided the best assessment report he had ever done. She stated she was very pleased.

Dr. Fessler stated we need the accountability this plan provides. Teachers need evidence of growth for all their students.

Mr. Haack reviewed MAP data from the past 4 years. He stated the data shows how students are growing in comparison to national norms. He noted our students are scoring above the norm. He stated our math scores are consistent except for a slight dip at the junior high level.

Dr. Fessler stated the district will do more embedded assessment to develop a plan for every student and accelerate student growth.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

REPORTS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT’S TEAM

Kids Hope: Mrs. Streit explained Kids Hope is a faith-based program directed toward students’ social/emotional development. It is used in many area school districts, including D15, D54, and U46. She stated the volunteers are well trained and there are no church/state issues. She stated she is currently talking to the state director and looking at local congregations in the area to supply volunteers. She stated the program is data-driven. Mentors make a two-year commitment to students. Meetings are held at the school.

Dr. Fessler asked if the Board would be comfortable with this program.

Ms. Krinsky stated she thought it was a great idea.

Mrs. Schumacher stated she was not bothered by the fact that the program is faith-based, but expressed concern that volunteers might gossip.

Mrs. Streit stated she would address that concern with Kids Hope.

Mrs. Somogyi asked how the program would be monitored.

Mrs. Streit stated the school level coordinator would be in line of sight of volunteer and student. Also, the coordinator would collect data from students. Students will never be left alone with adults.

Mrs. McPherson questioned whether parental approval would be sought.

Mrs. Streit answered in the affirmative.

Coaching Model: Mrs. McAbee stated she was in the process of defining and planning for the start of coaching activities. Teams have been assigned to schools, with each coach having 2-3 schools. She stated it would take time to build relationships. They will be assisting teachers with assessments early in the school year. They will also be assisting with implementation of the new devices. She indicated the coaches will communicate with principals, but will not discuss individual teachers, as their role is not evaluative.

Staffing: Mr. Luedloff reported there were still six openings to fill in the district. He stated there were 127.5 new employees or new roles for current employees. He reported five ESPs had been hired as teachers. He also reported all new assistant principals were hired from within the district.

Curriculum Design: Mrs. McAbee reported the CDT met on June 12th.

Professional Development: Mr. Luedloff stated discussions had begun on the Wednesday weekly PD. He reported Dr. Seaton and Mrs. Ramsey had walked administrators through what their Wednesday PD sessions looked like at John Jay and Ridge. Mrs. McAbee surveyed staff and invited selected staff to share their thoughts on holding two site based PD sessions and two district driven sessions per month.

Mr. Luedloff stated new leaders were offered 4 training sessions, with 2 being held last week. These sessions explored what effective leadership should look like. They recaptured the work of Scott McLeod and Ben Grey for the new leaders. They sent a strong message of team building and building trust. He reported there would be 2 sessions offered in August for new assistant principals along with other general training sessions.

Scheduling: Dr. Fessler invited the Board to attend a new staff reception at his home on August 14th from 5:00-8:00 pm.

MOTION

at 10:30 p.m. by Mr. Kiel, seconded by Mrs. Schumacher, to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the 23rd day of June, 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”, “the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body”, and “...matters relating to individual students”, in accordance with 5ILCS 120/2 (c) (1, 6 & 10) 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 11:06 p.m. by Mrs. McPherson, seconded by Mrs. Schumacher, to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the 23rd day of June, 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

MOTION at 11:08 p.m. by Mrs. McPherson, seconded by Mrs. Osmanski, to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the 23rd day of June, 2014, the Community Consolidated School District 59 Board of Education meeting is adjourned.

Roll Call Ayes: 7 Kiel, Krinsky, McPherson, Osmanski, Roberts, Schumacher and Somogyi.

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion Carried: 7-0-0-0

Sharon Roberts, President

ATTEST:

Karen Osmanski, Secretary