

**Official Minutes of the Monday, October 28, 2013
Committee of the Whole Meeting**

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 South Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois on Monday, October 28, 2013. 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 Osmanski. 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; and Recording Secretary, Betsy Boswell.

Also Present Eydie Cohen and Michele Lara, DEA; Carina Colon, Harper student; Panagiota Angelos, Byrd School; Rich Hoops, Lindsey Rymark, Drew Blake, Anne Hansen, residents; C. Siepica, Wight & Co.; Matt Cropper and Jerry McKibben, Cropper GIS.

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. He asked if anyone wished to address the Board. No one came forward.

DISCUSSION

ITEM ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS – PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

Dr. Fessler noted the Enrollment and Facility Usage Committee had been meeting to discuss strategies addressing space issues in District 59 schools. He indicated the Board would now be updated on the progress made by that committee.

Mrs. Gloede stated the committee had spent a good deal of time examining data to address the following issues:

- Does the District have short-term space issues?
- Does the District have long term (10 year) space issues?
- Are there issues regarding equity?
- Do we have the opportunity to make things better?
- Will our approach to 21st century teaching & learning effect space issues?

Matt Cropper of Cropper GIS indicated the committee had asked him to present data on where students live and where they go to school. The committee wanted to take a look at what would happen if students all attended their neighborhood/boundary school.

Mr. Cropper reviewed the guiding principles of the Board, which had earlier been determined through a Board survey. He noted that the fourth item on the list of guiding principles was assigning students to their neighborhood school if possible. He stated he had met twice with the facilities committee, looking at enrollment as compared to building capacity and the location of programs throughout the District. He stated the committee was now studying three options.

Dr. McKibbin presented the forecasts he prepared last fall and compared them to the District's 30-day enrollment data. He stated forecasts normally fell in the range of plus or minus 2%. He also noted pre-k through first grade normally showed the most variance, while 5th grade showed the least variance. He stated enrollments were tracking close to his forecasts.

Mr. Cropper showed data for enrollment by cluster and building utilization. He noted the Friendship cluster currently had the highest building utilization and the Grove cluster had the lowest. He presented forecast data through the 2022/23 school year that showed a steady decline in enrollment for the Grove cluster; Friendship cluster enrollment peaking at 90% of building usage in 2016, thereafter declining; and Holmes enrollment peaking at 80% in 2016, thereafter declining. He noted the only school that was forecast to be over capacity was Frost, which would be over capacity in 2016.

Mr. Cropper reviewed the three options the committee is currently considering. He noted that Ridge is held constant in all options. He stated Option 1 included relocating pre-k programs from the Holmes cluster to the Grove cluster and redistricting a neighborhood from Brentwood to Salt Creek. He noted this option did not address the high utilization levels at Frost and Devonshire Schools.

Mr. Cropper reviewed Option 2, which involved substantial redistricting to balance building utilization. Finally, he reviewed Option 3, which had no redistricting (no boundary changes), but had students attending their neighborhood/boundary school. This Option led to the formation of a subcommittee to study the effects of programming for all students.

Ms. Krinsky stated she was concerned about low-income population being overloaded at one school. She asked how the different options affected the socio-economic balance.

Mr. Cropper noted the District's rental housing is well distributed throughout the District, except in the Clearmont area. He stated the goal was to not overload any school with one population. He stated special programs could bring diversity to schools. He agreed to run socio-economic numbers by Option.

Mrs. McPherson asked whether special education was addressed in Option 3.

Mrs. Streit stated it was not addressed.

Mr. Cropper stated the special education numbers were not high enough to have a program at every school. The special education programs would be offered at the cluster level.

Mrs. Gloede stated there were many options to research; that the three introduced tonight were the starting point for the committee. She stated the committee needs to look at how we deliver programming.

Mr. Kiel noted that the three options did not have enrollment forecasts that would indicate how building utilization would be affected in 10 years.

Mr. Cropper stated that when his company looks at redistricting, the forecasts hold up pretty well.

Mrs. Roberts stated she did not want the Board to receive just the final recommendation of the committee, but rather the final three options with details on how the committee came to its decisions.

Mrs. Somogyi stated there were many committees currently working in the District whose decisions could impact decisions of the Enrollment and Facility Usage Committee.

Mrs. Gloede stated the committee is looking at many factors: ELL programming, 21st century learning; special education programming, etc. Mrs. Gloede stated next steps included a subcommittee meeting to discuss programming, Mr. Rossi meeting with Friendship staff to discuss space issues, and possibly holding a public forum.

Dr. Fessler stated he would work with Mr. Cropper to provide advance information to the Board. He agreed with Mr. Rossi, who brought up the fact that each building's functional space varies greatly with the programs being offered in the school. Dr. Fessler reminded the Board that we are looking for a multiple year solution. He also noted that 200 families had denied language services, many doing so because they did not want their child to travel to a District school out of their neighborhood. These families might change their minds in the future if their home school began offering language services.

Ms. Krinsky thanked Cropper GIS for their excellent work.

STRATEGIC PLANNING DISCUSSION AND PLANNING

Dr. Fessler indicated he had shared a draft strategic plan developed following the planning session he facilitated with the Board. The plan used some of the elements from the work the Board had done with ECRA. He indicated the SLT was working with him to formulate a plan that stretches our District. He stated it needed a 21st century focus with a look to what we can do better. He asked the Board if they needed anything from him before they met on November 9th.

Mrs. Schumacher asked Dr. Fessler to send her his notes from the last strategic planning meeting.

TOWN HALL MEETINGS

Dr. Fessler and the Board discussed the idea of having Town Hall Meetings at the three junior high schools. The Board, administration and DEA would share plans for 21st century teaching and learning with parents and community members. The Board had different ideas on a timeline for these meetings.

Ms. Krinsky stated she was concerned about getting the community to come out.

Ms. Cohen suggested they be tied to a Fine Arts presentation.

Mrs. Roberts stated the Board needs to focus on the “why”.

Mrs. McPherson stated the turn-out is not the issue. She stated word would get out after the initial meeting and people would come.

Dr. Fessler suggested a first step to the Town Meeting might be his attendance at PTO meetings.

The Board agreed to Dr. Fessler’s suggestion.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING UPDATE

Dr. Fessler explained that as Board committees meet they will be asked to bring back a report to the entire Board at a Committee of the Whole meeting.

Mrs. Gloede stated the Finance Committee met on October 21st. They looked at short-term and long-term financial projections to understand our financial direction. She indicated they discussed Board Policy on fund balances to discover how people felt about it. Large fund balances give the District stability but can also give the impression that perhaps the financial position is too strong.

Dr. Fessler stated he supported getting the story out ourselves so that we can control the story. He stated that as we develop new structures we would develop a clear and concise communications plan.

Mrs. Roberts stated she was happy with the Board’s fund policy.

Mrs. McPherson indicated she wanted to know how all Board members felt about the policy.

Dr. Fessler stated he had talked with Ruth about this issue. He stated the District needs to paint a clearer picture of what 21st century teaching and learning looks like. He suggested that after the IASB conference the Board would have a fund balance policy discussion that was tied to strategic ideas.

Mrs. Roberts stated she shared the District 214 fund balance policy.

Dr. Fessler noted he had seen meaningful things going on in District 214, both during his visit to Wheeling High School and during a meeting with Dr. Schuler.

Mrs. Gloede stated the District’s fund balance policy has given us stability but has left us open to criticism.

**Board
Comments**

Mrs. Roberts welcomed a Harper student and District 59 graduate in the audience, as well as all community members in attendance.

Mrs. Somogyi stated she attended a meeting of the Erickson Institute with Martina Perez. She asked the Board if anyone wished to attend the Delegate Assembly at the IASB conference. Mrs. Roberts indicated interest.

Mrs. Schumacher distributed articles on school safety.

Ms. Krinsky stated she attended a meeting of the District 59 Education Foundation and was happy to report that Mr. Grey and Dr. Fessler had also attended the meeting.

MOTION

at 8:45 p.m. by Ms. Krinsky, seconded by Mrs. Osmanski, to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the 28th day of October, 2013, 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

Brian Kiel, President

ATTEST:

Karen Osmanski, Secretary