

**Official Minutes of the Monday, September 28, 2015
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 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, September 28, 2015.

President Roberts called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

Roll Call Members Present: President Sharon Roberts, Vice-President Janice Krinsky, Secretary Karen Osmanski; Members: Sunil Bhawe, Dr. Tim Burns, Mardell Schumacher and Barbara Somogyi.

Others Superintendent, Dr. Arthur Fessler; Associate Superintendent, Tom Luedloff; Assistant Superintendent for Business Services, Vickie Nissen; Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services; Ben Grey, Assistant Superintendent for Innovation and Communications; Executive Director of Human Resources, Kelley Zerfahs; and Recording Secretary, Kathie Lange.

Also Present Eydie Cohen, DEA President; Christy Prikkel, Director of Fiscal Services; Dr. Josh Carpenter, Executive Director of Student Growth and Accountability; Ms. Janet Fisher, Coordinator of Purchasing and School Nutrition; Melissa Ward – ELC; Marvin Zuege, Elk Grove resident; Kathy Schreck – ELC; Heather Soskin – ELC; Fabiola Belmontes – ELC; Michele Ramsey, Principal – ELC, Mary Beth Niles, Principal John Jay; Griselda Tapia, Assistant Principal – John Jay; Colleen Carlberg – Ridge, Kara Brodeur – Ridge, Noreida Garcia, SW – ELC.

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

**AUDIENCE
RECESS**

Present Roberts welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if anyone wished to address the Board of Education.

Ms. Eydie Cohen addressed the Board. She stated that she has been helping a neighboring district that recently went on strike. The situation was very difficult and she is thankful for the relationships that Board and the District have with DEA.

The Board thanked Ms. Cohen for her comments.

**REPORTS OF
BOARD OF
EDUCATION**

Ms. Krinsky recently met with several community leaders regarding Family Community Engagement. She shared information regarding the Greater Chicago Food Depository. This agency provides a weekend backpack program and a mobile food pantry.

Ms. Krinsky also attended the Reading & Writing workshop on September 15, 2015. She was impressed with the approach and felt that Dr. Barrett did a wonderful job presenting.

Mrs. Roberts shared that several of the District 59 board members attended the Joint Board of Education meeting hosted by D214 on September 15, 2015. Topics included:

- A legislative update
- Information on the Promise Scholarship Program where every high school student in Harper's District can earn up to two years of tuition at Harper College.
- District 214 will start conversations with parents and students to get feedback on the possibility of a year-round calendar

Mrs. Schumacher distributed an article from Youth Service regarding how sleep impacts learning. She shared that a former employee, Joyce Taucher, former secretary for Dr. Howard, had recently passed away. Mrs. Schumacher distributed an article listing the pros and cons of computers.

Mrs. Schumacher introduced, Mr. Marvin Zuege. She met Mr. Zuege at the 50th Celebration of the Elk Grove Historical Society. Mr. Zuege graduated in 1958 from Higgins School in Elk Grove. Mr. Zuege is a Vietnam Army veteran and the Senior Vice-Commander at VFW in EGV. He shared copies of his yearbook and several memories of former teachers and administrators.

The Board of Education thanked Mr. Zuege for coming.

Dr. Burns met with a local disability group. They asked how they could participate in Board of Education meetings if they are not physically able to attend the Board meeting. Dr. Burns stated that he knows there are other school districts that are video-recording their meetings. Dr. Burns asked if the District has had past discussions on this topic. Mrs. Roberts asked to move that topic to New/Old Business.

Dr. Burns shared that he is aware that Dr. Fessler is addressing Mr. Sullivan's concern about the lighting at the ELC being too bright at night. Dr. Burns stated that he spoke with two of Mr. Sullivan's neighbors and he visited the area at night and agreed that he could see how the lights were a problem.

Dr. Burns had conversation with Matthew Ronan and Ray Rummel from Elk Grove Village about draft ideas for electronic signs at schools. Dr. Burns likes the idea of the Amber Alert message, but he is concerned about the risk involved.

Dr. Burns and Mrs. Roberts participated the Forecast 5 presentation and thanked Ms. Nissen for that opportunity. Dr. Burns also met with a Mt. Prospect senior citizen advisory group.

Mrs. Roberts stated that she had visited Early Learning Center with Dr. Fessler and stopped in at one of the Fountas & Pinnell trainings.

SPECIAL INTEREST TOPICS

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Mrs. Ramsey, principal at the Early Learning Center, introduced several Early Learning Center staff members. Prior to the opening of the ELC, the Early Learning Program was located in five of the elementary buildings and there was little opportunity for staff to collaborate or pool resources. The staff, parents and students are extremely happy with the location, design and construction of the ELC. The ELC staff presented the Board with a “Thank You” banner created by the students.

Mrs. Marlyn DeLeon-Orozco, Family Facilitator at the ELC thanked Ms. Krinsky and her husband, Stefan Tucker, for a generous donation to begin a book and toy-lending program for the ELC families in need.

Mrs. Somogyi stated that she felt the architects were integral in capturing the wants and needs of the staff. She suggested that staff might want to let them know how pleased they are with the space.

Mrs. Osmanski stated she had recently met with a group of retired educators, some of who had toured the building. The conversation was very positive.

Mrs. Krinsky thanked Mrs. Ramsey and the staff for their presentation and for all that they do for our youngest students.

Mrs. Roberts thanked the ELC staff stated that the excitement of the staff is contagious.

Dr. Burns asked if the new site would allow for changes in the Early Childhood Program evaluation as a whole.

Dr. Fessler stated that would be a conversation with the SLT and leadership team at the ELC.

ACTION

ITEM

2015/16 APPLICATIONS TO ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION – RECOGNITION OF SCHOOLS

MOTION

by Mrs. Somogyi seconded by Mrs. Osmanski to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the 28th day of September, 2015, the Community Consolidated School District 59 Board of Education approve the Applications for Recognition of Schools for all District 59 schools and authorize submission of the required applications to the Illinois State Board of Education.

Roll Call

Ayes: 7 Bhave, Burns, Krinsky, Osmanski, Roberts, Schumacher and Somogyi.

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion carried: 7-0-0-0

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BOARD POLICY REVISIONS

MOTION

by Mrs. Somogyi seconded by Mr. Bhavé to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the 28th day of September, 2015, the Community Consolidated School District 59 Board of Education approve the following updates to the Community Consolidated School District 59 Board of Education Policy Manual.

SECTION 2 – School Board

(Updated) 2:160 BP -- Board Attorney

(NEW) 2:160 E -- Exhibit - Checklist for Selecting a Board Attorney

(Updated) 2:260 BP -- Uniform Grievance Procedure

SECTION 4 – Operational Services

(Updated) 4:50 BP -- Payment Procedures

SECTION 5- Personnel

(Updated) 5.50 BP -- Drug and Alcohol-Free Workplace; Tobacco Prohibition

(Updated) 5.270 BP -- Employment At Will, Compensation and Assignment

(Updated) 5.290 BP -- Employment Termination and Suspensions

SECTION 6- Instruction

(Updated) 6:210 BP -- Instructional Materials

(Deleted) 6:220 BP -- Instruction Materials Selection and Adoption

SECTION 7 - Students

(Updated) 7:10 BP --Equal Educational Opportunities

(Updated) 7:40 BP -- Nonpublic School Students, Including Parochial and Home-Schooled Students

(Updated) 7:260 BP -- Exemption from Physical Activity

(Updated) 7:310 BP -- Restrictions of Publications

(Renamed) 7:325 BP -- Student Fundraising Activities

SECTION 8 - Community Relations

(Updated) 8:10 BP -- Connection with the Community

Motion carried: 7-0-0-0

Comment: Mrs. Schumacher stated she continues to be amazed by the extremely generous donation of the Pecoulas family each year. The Board agreed.

**DISCUSSION
ITEMS**

SLT 1ST TRIMESTER WORK PRIORITIES

Dr. Fessler thanked Mrs. Roberts and the Board for their feedback on the Strategic Plan. He believes the District has an evaluation cycle that is second to none. It is focused solely on the Strategic Plan and Student Achievement and includes three levels of reporting and feedback to review that work.

Dr. Fessler walked the Board through the links on the Work Maps for this 100-day period. Each Department reported out. Mr. Grey gave an overview of the Scorecard, which will be complete in November.

OPEN MEETINGS ACT REVIEW

Mr. Sraga, Board attorney, provided a short training on the Open Meeting Act, focusing on problem areas for School Districts.

- Bargaining agreements/contracts – terms and conditions of individual's employment
- Sale of property
- Adherence to the motion for the requirements of the exception to go into closed session.
- Adherence in closed session to stick to the topics that allowed the Board to go into closed session
- Board gatherings (physical or electronic) or meetings where there has not been specific notice given

Mr. Sraga distributed common scenarios to the Board and answered questions on specifics related to communication between Board members.

The Board thanked Mr. Sraga for attending.

BOARD POLICY REVISIONS

The Board reviewed Policy 6.140 – Education of Homeless Children. Board members gave suggestions for change in the language regarding the choices for schools that a homeless child can attend.

Mrs. Roberts will craft the language for the recommended change to the language and bring it back to the Board for approval at the next meeting.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAFF STIPENDS

Mrs. Roberts stated there has been a request from a Board member for

information about staff stipends. The information is being gathered, but is not ready to be presented yet.

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Dr. Fessler stated he does not object to providing information of this nature to Board members, but when the request will take a significant amount of time and work to prepare, he would like to confirm that it is at the pleasure of the full Board.

Mrs. Schumacher asked for clarification on the request.

Dr. Burns stated that he had requested the information about staff stipends that are not listed in the certified negotiated agreement. He stated that he chose to file a Freedom of Information Act request to obtain the information.

Mrs. Zerfahs stated that the information is being gathered and will be provided.

BOARD SELF-EVALUATION

Mrs. Roberts reminded the Board about the Special Board Meeting on October 3, 2015 at 8:30am for the purpose of Board Self-Evaluation. Ms. Barbara Toney, IASB Director, will facilitate the meeting.

Ms. Krinsky requested that the Board consider ways to connect with the community. She feels it would be advantageous for the Board to sit down with community members to hear their thoughts about the District.

Mrs. Osmanski asked Mr. Grey if he had heard about the software “Let’s Talk” that District 15 is using to get feedback from the community. Mr. Grey said he would investigate that software.

Dr. Burns questioned why parents registering a new kindergartner student would need to select only one choice program (Two way Dual Language or Ridge Family Center).

Mrs. McAbee shared that the District will look at this process for next year as the shift to full day kindergarten has had an impact on how many parents register for those programs.

Dr. Burns asked if someone could request that audio file of the Board meeting for members of the community that would be interested.

Mrs. Somogyi stated that if the secretary records the meetings on her own recorder and her own device, the recordings are her property. If the meeting is recorded on district-owned equipment, it is the property of the district and should be available to anyone that wants to listen to it.

Mrs. Schumacher was interested in more information about “*Understanding Behaviors and Conducting Functional Behavior Analyses*” which was shared in the Board Weekly Update. Mrs. Lake agreed to send additional information.

Mrs. Schumacher expressed concerned about the number of subs that the District is using.

Mr. Luedloff explained that we have used fewer subs this year than last year. Some staff members were unable to attend the trainings during the summer.

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REPORTS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT'S TEAM

Ms. Zurfahs shared that Ridge intersession classes have started. The theme is printmaking.

Ms. Zurfahs also shared that only seven parents opted out of full-day kindergarten for their students, three from Devonshire, two from Frost and two from Juliette Low. Currently we have 632 kindergarten students.

Mrs. McAbee spoke with a staff member from ISBE regarding the daily PE compliance and what constitutes daily PE in terms of licensure and curriculum. In terms of licensure, elementary teachers are self-contained teachers, so they can provide the PE instruction in the regular classroom in addition to what the PE teacher is providing. ISBE felt that the District is on an innovative path and that we might not need to file another waiver. They recommended that the District submit a plan using the combined approach, along with the supplemental PE curriculum.

Dr. Fessler clarified that our PE teachers will continue to do some gap analysis and make sure that what we are doing in the classroom is aligned with the standards. The recommendation from ISBE was to finish out the current two-year waiver and then submit the plan for compliance to ISBE.

Ms. Nissen shared that Forecast 5 Analytics shared a presentation with the Finance Committee. It was recommended that this presentation come to the full Board. This presentation will take place at the 10/26/2015 and will be in addition to the Financial Workshop on the same day.

Mrs. Roberts shared that the committee discussed providing a template that will allow the full Board to look at the 20% of the budget that is not salary and benefits to see budget vs. actual spending. Ms. Nissen will work on creating that template.

Mr. Grey shared that on November 2, 2015 from 9:00am – 12:00pm at Hersey High School, Districts 214, D21, D23, D25, D26, D57, and D59 will participate in a Technology Ed Camp for parents. The Districts have pooled resources and planned a great opportunity for parents. Mr. Pohlmeier and Mr. Vittore have done a lot of great work related to the upcoming event. The Board watched a video that Mr. Pohlmeier created promoting the event.

Dr. Fessler attended the first Suburban Superintendents' Association meeting. Sara Boucek, IASA attorney spoke to the superintendents about the state budget and the impact of the political interaction between Madigan and

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Governor. District 59 is positioned well financially, but the long-term ramifications of the state budget need to be scrutinized.

Another topic at the SSA meeting was the PARCC test. Illinois is one of seven states that subscribe to PARCC and only five states are active. There was discussion about PARCC folding financially if the number of states was less than five. Illinois has somewhere between 1-3 three years left on their PARCC contract. Dr. Fessler will be in Springfield later in the week and will bring back updates.

No closed session was held.

MOTION

by Mr. Bhave seconded by Mrs. Schumacher to adopt the following resolution:
BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the 28th day of September 2015, the Community Consolidated School District 59 Board of Education meeting is adjourned.

Roll Call Ayes: 7 Bhave, Burns, Krinsky, Osmanski, Roberts,
Schumacher and Somogyi.

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion carried: 7-0-0-0

ATTEST:

Sharon Roberts, President

Karen Osmanski, Secretary

