

**Official Minutes of the Monday, November 27, 2017
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, November 27, 2017. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM.

Roll Call **Members Present:** President Barbara Somogyi, Vice-President Janice Krinsky (Secretary Pro Tem) - Members: Tim Burns, Karen Osmanski, Sharon Roberts, and Mardell Schumacher

Members Absent: Sunil Bhave, Secretary

Others Superintendent, Dr. Arthur Fessler; Associate Superintendent, Tom Luedloff; Assistant Superintendent for Business Services, CBSO, Vickie Nissen; Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, Kelley Zeffahs; Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services, Karen Starr; Assistant Superintendent for Communication and Design, Ben Grey; Executive Director of Literacy, Dr. Kim Barrett; Executive Director of Student Growth and Accountability, Dr. Josh Carpenter; Executive Director for Innovative Learning, Ross Vittore; Recording Secretary, Kathie Lange.

Also Present Dr. Katie Ahsell, Director of Social Emotional Learning; Mari Gonzalez, Transportation Coordinator; Will Hogan, Ridge Assistant Principal; Dr. Nicole Robinson, Salt Creek Principal; Mary Beth Niles, Director of Math; Phil Stevens, Grove Jr. High Assistant Principal; Rachel Solomon, Clearmont Principal; Jodi Briggs, Devonshire; Kelly Green, John Jay; Alyssa Kocher, Clearmont; Sara Magnifichi, Byrd; Lindsey Frank, D59; Andrea Cohn, D59; Angie Kelly, Ridge; Becky Martin, Devonshire; Michele Lara, DEA and Salt Creek; Kristy LaCost, Brentwood; Matt Legg, Juliette Low; Margaret Goodwin, Forest View; Cindy Placko, Math Facilitator;

In addition, a scanned copy of the Guest Sign-In Sheet from November 27, 2017 is attached to minutes of this meeting (Attachment #1).

Pledge of Allegiance

4.01 Synergy Team Update

Dr. Kim Barrett, Executive Director for Literacy and Instructional Coaching, along with several teachers, coaches, and a building principal, shared the work being done by the district's coaching team and the student-centered coaching model being used in all schools. Staff who participated in the presentation include coaches Andrea Cohn and Bob Padilla, teachers Deanna Bavaro and Angela Kelly, and principal Diana O'Donnell. The presentation can be view [here](#).

4.02 Budget Planning

Ms. Nissen shared that an outcome of the Board Financial Workshop held on November 20, 2017 is to have the district develop a two-year plan to meet the

financial goals of the district. There was discussion on establishing a process to reduce \$5 million in expenditures for 2018-19 budget. The SLT has developed drivers so that as recommendations for reductions come before the board, the leadership has some benchmarking to base recommendations on and stay aligned with the board's strategic plan.

The district is looking to reduce costs that have the least impact on students' learning. One potential area of reduction that was discussed is the possibility of renegotiating the district's regular education transportation contract. The board explored four options that would have an impact on start and dismissal times for schools.

Board members discussed the pros and cons of the four options for transportation for regular education students. The board directed the administration to gather staff, parent, and stakeholder feedback regarding potential start and dismissal time changes for Option 2 and Option 3. The board will take action on an option to change at the December 11, 2017 meeting due to the timeline for the 'opt out' clause.

Dr. Fessler indicated that the board will take final action for all recommended reductions prior to spring break (March 23, 2018).

The presentation regarding budget planning, can be accessed [here](#).

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Mrs. Mary Cosenza Vicars, 715 S. Ridge Drive, Arlington Heights, addressed the Board of Education on several topics. A copy of her statement is included in the minutes of this meeting (Attachment #3).

Mr. Jim Stuber, 311 W. Haven, Arlington Heights, IL, addressed the Board of Education on the topic of data and outcomes for District 59 students' achievement.

Mrs. Astrid Kowalczyk, PTO President at Robert Frost Elementary School - addressed the Board of Education on the topic of coaching and negative comments on Facebook.

Mr. Dan Makowski, 1213 Cedar Lane, Arlington Heights - addressed the Board of Education on the topics of curriculum, collaboration, and student growth.

Ms. Karen Davidson, Mt. Prospect resident, addressed the Board of Education on the topic of the need for transparency with curriculum outcomes and to share her experience as a parent of a District 59 TDP student.

Mr. Leo Cox, Elk Grove Village resident, addressed the Board of Education on the topics of coaching, the budget, and the Elk Grove Village TIFF.

Mrs. Ann Clinton, 44 Roxbury Ct., Des Plaines, addressed the Board of Education to thank them for their service and spoke on the topic of collaboration.

Ms. Lynn Oberg, Elk Grove Village resident, addressed the Board of Education on the topic of curriculum, test scores, transparency, and requested to have board meetings be recorded.

An Arlington Heights resident (W. Noyes St.) addressed the Board of Education on the topic of homework and student achievement.

An Elk Grove village resident, addressed the Board of Education on the topic of the budget and spoke in opposition to an increase in the levy.

Mrs. Jodi Briggs, Arlington Heights resident and teacher at Devonshire Elementary School, addressed the Board of Education on the topic of communication.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2017 PROPOSED TAX LEVY

MOTION

At 9:37 p.m., it was moved by Mrs. Roberts, seconded by Mrs. Osmanski that the Community Consolidated School District 59 Board of Education meeting be opened for a public hearing on the proposed tax levy.

Roll Call

Ayes: 6 Burns, Krinsky, Osmanski, Roberts, Schumacher, and Somogyi
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Bhave
Abstain: 0

Motion Carried: 6-0-1-0

The board held a public hearing to receive community feedback regarding the 2017 proposed tax levy. The state's Truth in Taxation Law requires that if the estimated levy exceeds 105% of the prior year's extension, the district must give public notice of and hold a public hearing on its intent to adopt an aggregate levy. While District 59's proposed levy does not meet this 5% level, the administration believes that meeting the spirit of the law is in the District's and community's best interest. The board will vote on the final proposed 2017 tax levy at the December 11, 2017, board of education meeting.

Ms. Nissen explained the levy process and responded to questions from Board members.

The following community members addressed the Board of Education and Ms. Nissen during the public hearing:

Mr. Daniel Ruiz, 69 Kendal Rd Elk Grove Village, IL

Mrs. Mary Cosenza Vicars, 1715 Ridge Dr. - Arlington Heights, IL

Mr. Jim Stuber, 311 W. Haven, Arlington Heights, IL

MOTION at 9:53 p.m. by Mrs. Osmanski, seconded by Mrs. Schumacher, to close the public hearing on the 2017 tax levy.

Roll Call Ayes: 6 Burns, Krinsky, Osmanski, Roberts, Schumacher, and Somogyi
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Bhave
Abstain: 0
Motion Carried: 6-0-1-0

ACTION ITEMS

7.01 Award Of Bid For Paper Bid

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

WHEREAS bids were opened on October 25, 2017 for paper; and

WHEREAS six (6) bids were received with the lowest conforming bids submitted by Murnane Paper for xerographic; and Veritiv Operating Company for vellum;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on the 27th day of November 2017, the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 59 award the paper bid to Murnane Paper, 345 Fisher Farm Road, Elmhurst, Illinois for \$38,495.50 and Veritiv Operating Company, 1141 N. Swift Road, Addison, Illinois, 60101 for \$7,223.75 for a grand total of \$45,719.25.

Roll Call Ayes: 6 Burns, Krinsky, Osmanski, Roberts, Schumacher, and Somogyi
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Bhave
Abstain: 0
Motion Carried: 6-0-1-0

7.02 Approval To Apply For Special Education Young Athletes Grant

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

BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the 27th day of November, 2017, the Community Consolidated School District 59 Board of Education approves processing the application of the Special Education Young Athletes Grant with an estimated grant award of \$1,500.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the 27th day of November, 2017, the Community Consolidated School District 59 Board of Education approves the processing of the Special Education Young Athletes Grant application, 500 Waters Edge Lane, #100, Lombard IL. The grant award will be used to fund a Family Night Event at the ELC, with participation in the Special Olympic Respect Campaign focusing on teaching children respect regardless of race, religion or disability.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT when the grant award is received, the Superintendent shall communicate to Special Education Young Athletes, in writing, expressing the appreciation of the members of the Board of Education, and that this grant shall be listed in the “official” minutes of this meeting.

Roll Call

Ayes: 6 Burns, Krinsky, Osmanski, Roberts, Schumacher, and Somogyi
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Bhave
Abstain: 0

Motion Carried: 6-0-1-0

SPECIAL INTEREST TOPICS

8.01 Parent Satisfaction Survey

Mr. Grey presented results from the parent satisfaction survey administered in the fall. Parents indicated a high level of satisfaction with the educational experience in CCSD59. Parents also expressed a desire to learn more about what is happening in the buildings and to receive more communication about the curriculum.

The board expressed interest in keeping the survey consistent and to have this data used this as a benchmark.

To view the results of the parent satisfaction survey, please click [here](#).

REPORTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mrs. Schumacher shared that her husband spoke with 4th grade students at Clearmont for one of the Veterans Day activities. Mrs. Schumacher also shared some of the Thank You cards that students in her cursive writing class at Clearmont presented to her for Thanksgiving.

Mrs. Schumacher shared a photo from the Daily Herald Newspaper showing Holmes and Grove Jr. High students playing flag football at Soldier Field. (Attachment #3)

Dr. Burns attended the Triple I Conference. He shared details of the session on Monitoring District Performance. He stated that the essential message was, “If it is worth doing, put it into board policy and measure it.” He also attended a session recruiting school board members..

REPORTS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT’S TEAM

The Board agreed to postpone the report on the 1st Trimester Update until the meeting on December 11, 2017.


CLOSED SESSION

It was determined that the Closed Session was not necessary.


ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

at 10:15 PM by Mrs. Osmanski, seconded by Mrs. Schumacher to adjourn.
On voice vote, motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.



Barbara Somogyi, President

ATTEST 

Sunil Bhawe, Secretary

ATTACHMENT #1

Sign In Sheet from November 27, 2017 Board of Education Meeting

GUESTS

NAME

ADDRESS

NAME	ADDRESS
November 27, 2017	
Will Hogan	Ridge
Matt Legg	Low
Margaret Goodwin	Forest View
Cindy Placko	Ad Bldg

NAME

ADDRESS

NAME	ADDRESS
Scott Fournier	EGV
Kelly Green	John Jay
Alyssa Kucher	Clearmont
Sara Magnafichi	Byrd
Jindsey Frank	D59
Andrea Cohn	D.59
Gregg Kelly	Ridge
Betsy Martin	DeVorchine
Dennis Beulter	Retired Teacher
Nicole Robinson	Salt Creek
Muhle You	SC
Ann Sullivan	SC parent
Kristy Lacost	BW
Mary Beth Hiles	D59
Paul Stevens	Grove

Kerene Beres	Ar. Hts.
Nick Johnke	614 W. Tower
Jodi Briggs-Drey	1506 S Harvard 60005 AH
Rachel Solomon	Clearmont
Dan Mazanski	Ar. Hts.
Marcy J. Fisher Daley	A.H.
Cass Davidson	MP
Judith Cox	EG-L
Klaciaki Martz	MP
Geely Kuhn	A.H.
Pat West	
Anne Clucka	44 Roxbury Ct. D.P.
Maria Post	1622 S. Harvard 60005

ATTACHMENT #2

Mary Cosenza Vicars, 1715 South Ridge Dr., AH

1. I have become the bearer of bad news. The administration has people only talk about the good things that they say 59 is doing. For example, in our discussion of the Dual Language Program, the administration brought in many English-speaking parents who are happy that their children are learning a second language. That was never our issue. We have an issue with their 80/20 Dual Language Program and how our Spanish-speaking students are doing. We've yet to see evidence that when you follow these students throughout the grades, they improve academically on state-mandated tests. So, whenever the administration spins a story, I will be back to explain the other side of the issue.
2. At the last board meeting we were told that our 8th grade students are well prepared for high school. Our 8th graders have an easier time adjusting to high school because they have gone over to Elk Grove High School several times to meet with EG faculty and students. The Elk Grove freshman class is active in sports and extracurriculars. EG freshman have few discipline problems. This is wonderful, but for once can we talk about academics? Our students that enter EGHS score lower than students coming from other districts. Our freshman at Elk Grove High School in remedial Math and Reading are one grade level lower than freshman in remedial classes at Hersey High School. Generally, low-scoring schools say that scores don't matter. Call high achieving schools and they will emphasize academics as well as extracurricular activities.
3. Next, the administration did a presentation on the 2017 PARCC scores. According to the administration, there is growth on their own assessments. Shouldn't a presentation on PARCC have compared 2016 scores to 2017 scores as I shown? How can you talk about PARCC and not talk about the fact that, except for two schools, all the schools in 59 declined? Our District's average has declined for three straight years. We are lower than the State average. We keep hearing that we have ELL students and low-income students and that is driving our scores down. Well, according to the data, many of our English-speaking kids aren't doing well. Some schools with similar demographics are doing better. Instead of saying "More Than a Score," why don't we ask, "If other schools are doing better, why not us?"
4. Tonight, we will also hear about a parent survey. I don't know the results, but if the administration conducted it, then I am sure the results will say all kinds of positive things about this district. If you want how people feel about our district, have a third party conduct the survey and include all 59 residents as well as teachers, or you can also walk door to door with me this winter as I urge voters to vote NO on March 20. I am sure you will get an earful; I did this summer.
5. Whether I like it or not, I have to be the bearer of bad news, because you will never get the true story from our administration. When the board takes a tour of a school, why don't you listen to the teachers who have complained to you about the curriculum? To the administration: Instead of always trying to spin stories to present District 59 in the most favorable way possible, why don't you spend that time working to improve the educational achievement of all our students?

Attachment #3

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2017

DAILY HERALD SECTION 5 PAGE 3

Grove, Holmes students play flag football at Soldier Field

Submitted by District 59

Thanks to District 59's partnership with the Chicago Bears, junior high students from Holmes and Grove had a rather surreal experience during a recent game of flag football.

They played it on Soldier Field during halftime.

While walking onto the field, looking up with a huge smile on her face, Grove student Esmeralda Agullera told teacher Margaret Ketterick, "This happens once in a lifetime!"

Twenty-five students from Grove and Holmes, PE teachers/coaches Margaret Ketterick, Tracy Hogan and Justin James, and event organizer and Ridge Assistant Principal Will Hogan all were at Soldier Field during the game Sunday, Sept. 24.

Celebrating the 10th year of the program, this new opportunity was offered by the Chicago Bears and partner Fuel Up to Play (FUTP) 60/Midwest Dairy Council. FUTP60 is an in-school nutrition and physical activity program to raise children's self-awareness on how to lead healthier lives.

The invitation to play at the stadium was extended to District 59 because of its long-standing relationship and performance within the FUTP60 program, and both Grove and Holmes met the required criteria to qualify to play on the field at halftime.

As the FUTP60 excitement and self-awareness on the importance of healthy habits have grown, additional



District 59 students and staff members from Grove and Holmes junior high schools take advantage of a photo op in the end zone at Soldier Field. The students played flag football on the field at halftime on Sept. 24 as part of their participation in the "Fuel Up to Play 60" program.

District 59 schools are getting involved in the program and may qualify for future events.

The Chicago Bears and Midwest Dairy partnered to cover the transportation bus for the students to get to and from Soldier Field.

The Grove and Holmes students and staff were able to watch the game on screens in the locker room, which was shared with national anthem singer Wilbur Pauley and the Navy SEALs Leap Frog Team.

According to Hogan, watching the last six minutes of the first half of the game from the field, prior to the students' scrimmage, was just an

amazing experience.

"We were just a few yards from Adam Shaheen's touchdown catch, Marcus Cooper's 73-yard blocked field goal return, and Connor Barth's field goal," he said. "We would like to believe we were influential in the outcome of the game," he said.

Students were able to enjoy many other unique experiences at Soldier Field as well. They saw the tunnels under the stadium and many of the various activities that go into game day. During player warm-ups, students had on-field access and spent over an hour of pregame time watching offensive, defensive,

and special teams prepare for the game.

The children interacted and took selfies and group pictures with numerous players, gymnast and six-time Olympic medalist Aly Raisman, and NFL media, game referees and officials.

Chicago Bears coaches also played catch with the students, who were then allowed on the field during the national anthem and witnessed the Navy SEALs Leap Frog Team parachute into the stadium.

Hogan was proud of all the students who attended, and the determination and perseverance they continuously



District 59 students from Grove and Holmes junior high schools smile for selfies with Chicago Bears running back Benny Cunningham. The students played flag football on the field at halftime Sept. 24 as part of their participation in the "Fuel Up to Play 60" program.

show in their dedication to staying healthy.

"They did an outstanding job of representing District 59," he said.

"They were respectful and encouraging to one another," James agreed. "I could hear

them talking about how nervous they were, so I just reminded them to take in this whole experience because most people will never get to do something like this. I just encouraged them to soak it all in."