

**Official Minutes of the Monday, December 11, 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, December 11, 2017. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM.

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

Members Absent: none

Others Superintendent, Dr. Arthur Fessler; Associate Superintendent, Tom Luedloff; Assistant Superintendent for Business Services, CBSO, Vickie Nissen; Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, Kelley Zerfahs; Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services, Karen Starr; Executive Director of Facilities and Operations, Tony Rossi; Executive Director of Student Growth and Accountability, Dr. Josh Carpenter; Executive Director for Innovative Learning, Ross Vittore; Director of Communications and Design, David Pohlmeier; Director of Math, Mary Beth Niles, and Recording Secretary, Kathie Lange.

Also Present Rob Bowers, Holmes Jr. High School Principal; Susan Ejma, Juliette Low Elementary School Principal; Nicole Chatel, Juliette Low; Melissa Ward, ELC/Ed Services; Sara Magnafichi, Byrd Elementary School; Patti Czarnik, Byrd Elementary School; Brenda Wojcik, Byrd Elementary School; Michele Lara, DEA Secretary/Salt Creek Elementary; Meg Weickert, Forest View Elementary Principal; Nancy Odon, Juliette Low Elementary School; Jori Kaufmann, Devonshire Elementary School; Becky Martin, Devonshire Elementary School; Jodi Briggs, Devonshire Elementary School; Ann Wing, President of the District 59 Education Association;

In addition, a scanned copy of the Guest Sign-In Sheet from December 11, 2017 is attached to minutes of this meeting. (Attachment #1).

Pledge of Allegiance

STUDENT CELEBRATIONS

Juliette Low Presentation

Four 1st grade students from Juliette Low Elementary School, Kyle, Jordan, Sophie, and Taylor shared personal writing works along with reflections of their writing experiences. First grade teacher, Nicole Chatel, and Instructional Coach, Amanda Hager, also presented.

Click on the link to view the [Juliette Low Presentation](#).

Ms. Krinsky requested to move Item 12.01 1st Trimester Board Update up to item 5.05 on the agenda. No board members objected.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.01 Typically Developing Preschool Students Program Fees: 2018/2019 School Year

Currently District 59's Preschool Program has space to host 60 typically developing students. In 2012/13, the District moved to offering the 4-day afternoon program to typically developing children, thereby reserving the 5-day morning program solely for At-Risk and Special Education students.

The 2017/18 school year rate charged to families with typically developing children attending the District preschool programs is:

- September - June: \$220 per month (\$1,100 per semester, \$2,200 per year).

The administration recommends a 2.73% increase to the fee for 2018/19. Families are now required to pay the first month fee at the time of confirmation of placement in the program, with a family eligible for a refund of the first month payment through July 31, 2018.

Rather than comparing District 59's fees to area park district or private programs as has been the past practice, the administration collected fee information from area school districts. While program options are not necessarily the same as the program offered by District 59, the comparison allows the Board to compare programs that blend the student population and where instruction is offered by certified teachers.

The board discussed the proposed 2018-19 school year fee for typically developing preschool students, and the resolution the board will consider for approval at the next meeting sets the program fees at \$226 per month (\$1,130 per semester or \$2,260 for the year). The proposed fee rate reflects a 2.73% increase from the current year's fee.

Administration will revisit the preschool program being housed at Ridge at one of the board meetings in January.

5.02 K-8 Instructional Materials Fees: 2018/2019 School Year

Members of the Board of Education will be asked to authorize the Instructional Materials Fees for the 2018/19 school term to offset a portion of the cost of instructional materials and supplies. Effective with the 2014/15 school year, the Student Fee was renamed as the Instructional Materials Fee to better describe the purpose of the fee. Effective with the 2012/13 school year, the historical junior high school-based Fine and Practical Arts Fee was combined with the Board-established Student Fee.

It is permissible for the Board of Education to establish a fee to cover the cost of school supplies and special activities offered by the school district even though the result of a referendum approved in 1973 requires the district to provide free textbooks to students enrolled in school. The 2002/03 school year marked the first year for District 59 to require a student fee. The following chart presents the history of this fee charged since its inception:

Historical Instructional Materials Fees

	2002/03 thru 2005/06	2006/07 thru 2009/10	2010/11 thru 2011/12	2012/13	2013/14 thru 2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	Proposed 2018/19
Half-Day K	\$20.00	\$25.00	\$30.00	\$32.00	\$35.00	\$0	\$0	\$35.00
Full-Day K-5	\$40.00	\$45.00	\$50.00	\$53.00	\$55.00	\$0	\$0	\$55.00
Grades 6-8	\$40.00	\$45.00	\$50.00	\$63.00	\$65.00	\$0	\$0	\$65.00

Members of the board expressed their thoughts on the possibility of reinstating instructional fees. Ms. Nissen indicated that instructional fees could potentially bring in \$220,00 in revenue.

Mrs. Schumacher stated that she supports initiating the fees.

Mr. Bhave indicated that he is opposed to instructional fees and believes it runs counter to offering a free public education. He views it as a tax on parents and believes that the entire community should shoulder the responsibility for public education.

Dr. Burns requested that Ms. Nissen provide information to the board regarding procurement process at the January 8, 2018 meeting.

Mrs. Osmanski expressed the desire to have a process in place for families that do not qualify for a waiver and might have difficulty paying the fees all at once.

Ms. Krinsky stated that her thinking is aligned to Mr. Bhave's regarding a free public education, but due to the district's current financial situation, she will likely support reinstating the instructional material fees.

5.03 Junior High School Extracurricular Participation Fees: 2018/2019 School Year

Members of the Board of Education will be asked to authorize the Junior High School Extracurricular Participation Fee for the 2018/19 school term to offset a portion of the cost of materials and supplies.

Historical Extracurricular Participation Fees	2017-18	Proposed 2018-19
Basketball	\$30.00	\$30.00
Cheerleading	\$30.00	\$30.00
Cross Country	\$15.00	\$15.00
Spirit Squad/Pom Pons	\$30.00	\$30.00
Soccer	\$30.00	\$30.00
Volleyball	\$30.00	\$30.00
Wrestling	\$30.00	\$30.00

At the January 8, 2018 board meeting, members of the board of education will be asked to authorize the Junior High School Extracurricular Participation Fee for the 2018/19 school term. The proposed fees remain at the same level as the 2017-18 fees. The proposed rate is \$15.00 for cross country and \$30.00 for basketball, cheerleading, spirit squad/pom pons, soccer, volleyball, and wrestling.

Mr. Bhave stated that, as in the past, he will vote to support fees for extracurricular programs because these programs are optional.

Ms. Nissen and Dr. Fessler confirmed that students who qualify for a fee waiver, are not required to pay the fees for extracurricular activities.

Sports offered at each Jr. High depends on the interest of the students. If there is enough interest in a sport and the school can field a team, the Junior High School offers the sport. Although District 59 does not offer track at this time, Dr. Fessler indicated that adding track could be explored.

5.04 Suspending Administrative & Non-Negotiated Employee Access to and Participation in Retirement Program and Benefits

As part of the ongoing review of district finances, which includes compensation and benefits of employees, the administration is recommending the suspension of access to and participation in the retirement program and benefits outlined in the Administrative Staff and Non-Negotiated Staff Handbook for administrative and non-negotiated employees. Access to this benefit will remain in effect until June 18, 2018 before which any eligible employee may access the benefit as outlined in the Administrative Staff and Non-Negotiated Staff Handbook.

The board will take action on this discussion item at the January 8, 2018 meeting.

5.05 1st Trimester Board Update (originally item 12.01)

Members of the Superintendent's Leadership Team provided highlights from the 1st Trimester Update. Click [here](#) to view the full report.

Dr. Burns indicated that he has heard that video and/or audio recordings of the Board of Education meetings may be added as a binding question on the ballot in the March 2018 election.

Dr. Fessler agreed to add audio/video recording of Board meetings to the agenda for discussion at the January 8, 2018 board meeting. Additionally, Mr. Grey will provide the information he shared previously in this week's Board Update.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Mary Cosenza Vicars - 1715 Ridge Dr., Arlington Heights - addressed the Board on several topics. A copy of her address is attached (Attachment #2).

Judy Cox - Elk Grove Village resident - addressed the Board of Education on the topic of transparency and the District 59 curriculum. She also requested that Board members' microphones be turned as she was having difficulty hearing the conversation.

Lynn Oberg - Elk Grove Village resident - addressed the Board of Education on the topic of instructional fees, bus schedules, PARCC scores, full transparency and the video recording of board meetings. She also expressed that she has difficulty hearing the conversations at times.

Dan Makowski - 1213 Cedar Lane, Arlington Heights - addressed the Board of Education to request information on district finances and fiscal responsibility and how the district measures success.

Karen Davidson - Mt. Prospect resident - addressed the Board of Education on the topics of the math, science, and social studies curriculum, and bus schedules.

Leo Cox - Elk Grove Village resident - addressed the Board of Education on the topic of communication and community involvement/connection.

Mardell Schumacher - 1255 Aspen Lane, Elk Grove Village - requested to speak as an individual from the podium. She suggested Board members pull microphones down when speaking. She shared details from the cursive class she is teaching at Clearmont and an anecdotal story about her son's experience with math.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Krinsky requested to pull items 7.01 (a.) And 7.01 (b.)

Dr. Burns requested to pull item 7.02 and 7.04 (a).

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

BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the 11th day of December, 2017, the Community Consolidated School District 59 Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda as amended:

7.01 Approval of Minutes-Prior Meetings

- a. ~~Regular Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2017~~
- b. ~~Closed Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2017~~
- c. Financial Workshop Meeting Minutes of November 20, 2017
- d. Regular Meeting Minutes of November 27, 2017

~~7.02 Disbursements Resolution~~

- a. ~~Disbursement Listing for December 11, 2017 FY 2017-18~~

7.03 Acceptance of Financial Reports Reports

- a. Detail Balance Sheet as of October 31, 2017
- b. Combined Revenue and Expense Report as of October 31, 2017
- c. Investment Report as of October 31, 2017
- d. Activity Fund Statements as of October 31, 2017

7.04 Acceptance of Recommendations: Human Resources Report

- a. ~~ESP Probationary Termination~~

- b. ESP Resignation
 - c. CAMEO Contract
 - d. Certified Lane Changes
 - 7.05 Release of Closed Session Meeting Minutes
 - a. Closed Minutes of March 13, 2017
 - b. Closed Minutes of April 25, 2017
 - c. Closed Minutes of May 8, 2017 (Session I)
 - d. Closed Minutes of June 12, 2017
 - e. Closed Minutes of June 26, 2017
 - 7.06 Approval to Destroy 18 Month Old or Older Closed Session Recordings
- Roll Call** Ayes: 7 Bhave, Burns, Krinsky, Osmanski, Roberts, Schumacher, and Somogyi
- Nays: 0
- Absent: 0
- Abstain: 0
- Motion Carried: 7-0-0-0

7.01 Approval of Minutes-Prior Meetings
a. Regular Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2017

Ms. Krinsky requested to pull 7.01 a. and b. as she was not present and wanted to abstain from the vote.

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

BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the 11th day of December, 2017 the Community Consolidated School District 59 Board of Education approve the minutes of the following meetings (as presented/amended) by Board action:

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

7.01 Approval of Minutes-Prior Meetings
(b.) Closed Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2017

Dr. Burns requested a legal review of a portion of the closed minutes to determine if the discussion was covered by the exception for a closed session as defined by the Open Meetings Act. He indicated he did not have any issues with the first part or the last part of the topics discussed during closed session.

Item 7.01 b. was tabled until the results of the legal review of the middle portion of the closed session discussion are available.

7.02 Disbursements Resolution

a. Disbursement Listing for December 11, 2017 FY 2017-18

Dr. Burns requested information on reimbursement for food when traveling for the district. Dr. Fessler explained that currently the district has a daily allowance for food reimbursement.

Dr. Burns and Mrs. Schumacher suggested further conversation may be beneficial in the area of setting guidelines for reimbursement for food while attending a conference.

MOTION

by Mrs. Osmanski, second by Mrs. Schumacher to approve 7.02 (a.) Disbursement Listing.

Roll Call

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion Carried: 7-0-0-0

7.04 Acceptance of Recommendations: Human Resources Report

a. ESP Probationary Termination

Dr. Burns explained that he requested to pull this item to request additional information. Dr. Fessler suggested the conversation take place in closed session with an Action Item to follow after the Board reconvenes. Item 7.04 (a.) was tabled.

ACTION ITEMS

8.01 Approval of the Amendment for the Extension of the Termination for Convenience Date for Regular Education Transportation Contract with First Student, Inc.

MOTION

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

AMENDMENT TO SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AGREEMENT

This Amendment is entered into on the date set forth below, by and between First Student, Inc. (“Contractor”) and the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 59 (“Board”).

WHEREAS, the Board and the Contractor entered into a School Bus Transportation Services Agreement dated February 27, 2017 (“the Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, the Board and the Contractor wish to amend the Agreement as provided herein;

NOW THEREFORE, the Board and the Contractor agree as follows:

- 1. The parties agree to revise the “Termination for Convenience” provision added to Section F(9) pursuant to the “Items for Inclusion in the Final Contract” document, so that the provision now states as follows:

Termination for Convenience

Either party may terminate this agreement for convenience with written notice to the non-terminating party by December 31 of each contract year, except that either party shall have until January 31, 2018 to provide written notice of termination during the 2017-2018 contract year. Such termination shall be effective at the completion of the normal school year.

- 2. The remaining terms of the Agreement will remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Amendment has been approved by the Board and the Contractor on the date identified below.

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF COMMUNITY
CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 59

By: _____ Date: _____

Attest: _____ Date: _____

FIRST STUDENT, INC.

By: _____ Date: _____

Print Name:

Title:

If the Board approves this extension, the plan is for SLT members to meet with the transportation company December 20th to discuss additional options for combining routes that may provide cost savings, and develop routes and start/dismissal times that better meet the needs of students families and staff. Dr. Fessler will share options with the board prior to winter break and then the options for discussion at the January 8 board meeting.

Open house and a survey for staff and parents will be scheduled in early January. The district plans to share this data and information with the board in preparation for board action at the January 22 board meeting.

Dr. Burns expressed a desire to see all options for cost reductions before voting on this option.

8.03 Authorizing Reduction Of Certain Fund Levies

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

WHEREAS, on December 11, 2017 the Board of Education of School District 59, Cook County, Illinois ("School District") did file a duly approved certificate of tax levy for the 2017 levy year with the County Clerk of Cook County ("County Clerk"); and

WHEREAS, Public Act 89-01 subjected Cook County school districts to the Property Tax Extension Limitation Act ("PTELA") for the 2017 levy year and imposed a limit on the increase in tax extensions from the 2016 levy year to the 2017 levy year; and

WHEREAS, the County Clerk has notified each Cook County taxing district now subject to the PTELA that it may direct the County Clerk's Office, by proper resolution, to make specific and necessary reductions to its tax levy for the 2017 levy year to meet the requirements of the PTELA.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 59, Cook County, Illinois as follows:

Section 1. That the Board of Education hereby finds that all of the recitals contained in the preambles to this Resolution are full, true and correct and does hereby incorporate them into this Resolution by reference.

Section 2. That the Board of Education hereby authorizes and directs the County Clerk to make the necessary reductions to the School District's tax levy for the 2017 levy year in order that the levies by fund shall be no less than the following amounts as indicated:

Education	\$67,050,000
Special Education	950,000
Building	6,000,000
Transportation	4,500,000
Working Cash	0
Municipal Retirement	1,000,000
Social Security	1,000,000

Section 3. That the Board of Education further authorizes and directs the County Clerk that if any additional reductions are required to be made to the School District's tax levy beyond those projected and specified by the Board of Education Section 2 above, that such reductions shall be made to the following funds as indicated: Operations & Maintenance - 100%.

Section 4. That all other resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed and this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately and forthwith upon its passage.

Ms. Nissen provided an explanation to Dr. Burns' question on Section 3.

Roll Call

Ayes:	7	Bhave, Burns, Krinsky, Osmanski, Roberts, Schumacher, and Somogyi	Motion Carried: 7-0-0-0
Nays:	0		
Absent:	0		
Abstain:	0		

8.04 Approval of Education First Donation

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

BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the 11th day of December, 2017, the Community Consolidated School District 59 Board of Education approves the Education First donation of \$10,000.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the 11th day of December, 2017, the Community Consolidated School District 59 Board of Education approves the \$10,000 donation from Education First, P.O. Box 22871 Seattle, Washington, 98122-0871, which will support CCSD59's ongoing Social Emotional Learning and Student Equity initiatives and programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Superintendent shall communicate to Education First, 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:	7	Bhave, Burns, Krinsky, Osmanski, Roberts, Schumacher, and Somogyi	Motion Carried: 7-0-0-0
Nays:	0		
Absent:	0		
Abstain:	0		

SPECIAL INTEREST TOPICS

9.01 FOIA Requests

Ms. Zerfahs shared that the District has received eight FOIA requests since the last update provided to the Board. One request was granted an extension to December 28, 2017.

NEW/CONTINUING BUSINESS

None

REPORTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mrs. Roberts was able to attend some of the sessions the SLT is holding at each of the school buildings. In the news, Mrs. Roberts heard that one in five students nationwide suffer from anxiety or depression. She is appreciative of the work the District's Social and Emotional team is providing to our students.

Ms. Krinsky shared some of the Timber Ridge highlights from NSSEO.

Ms. Krinsky also attended the ceremony for the Master of Education in Literacy students at Judson University. She shared that three District 59 staff members were honored:

- Erica Suarez - Instructional Coach at Salt Creek
- Stephanie Moser - LBS teacher at Grove
- Rebecca Bromley - Language Arts teacher at Grove

Mrs. Schumacher brought information back from the Triple I conference and shared handouts with those who were interested. She also shared a handout about District 54's English Language Learners Welcome and Assessment Centers.

Dr. Burns provided an update from the Insurance Committee meeting he attended earlier in the evening.

Dr. Burns has been receiving a number of questions regarding an award that District 54 received for their Spanish Academy Program. He would like to hear more about that award.

REPORTS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT'S TEAM

Trimester Board Update was moved to section 5.01 of the agenda.

CLOSED SESSION

MOTION at 10:16 p.m. by Ms. Krinsky, seconded by Mrs. Schumacher to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT on the 11th of December 2017, the Community Consolidated School District 59 Board of Education recess in a closed meeting for discussion of "The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the


Barbara Somogyi, President

ATTEST



Sunil Bhawe, Secretary

ATTACHMENT #1**Sign In Sheet from December 11, 2017 Board of Education Meeting**

GUESTS	
December 11, 2017	
NAME	ADDRESS
Lynn Pamel	904 W. White Oak St. Arlington Hts
Florette Flores	1737 Sable Ln #300 Mt. Prospect IL
Michelle Perez	1700 Sable Ln mt prospect
Melissa Ward	ELC/Ed Services
Susann Ejner	Low
Nicole Chatel	LOW
Kowalozuk Family	11623 S Chesterfield dr. Arlington Heights
Sara Magnafichi	Byrd
Laura Sandord	Jay
A Wing	PS-105
Rob Bowers	Holmes JH
Patte Garink	Byrd
Brenda Wojcik	Byrd
Maria Tele Rem	SR
Mary Beth Nicks	Ad Bldg

ATTACHMENT #2

Mary Cosenza Vicars

December 11, 2017

You are our elected representatives. You should be our watchdogs and be a check on the administration. You have not.

Here are some examples of things you should have investigated.

Shouldn't you have investigated whether the administration could have discussed the preliminary PARCC scores prior to the official ones coming out? I said you could; Art said you shouldn't. A phone call to the State could have settled that.

When Josh presented the PARCC scores, shouldn't he have created two charts as I did—comparing 2016 and 2017 for each school and showing our District decline from 2015-2017? Why would you not want to see that data?

When I said that the State told me that low scores are troubling, but what is more troubling is the pattern of declining scores, why didn't you look into what I said? Call the State.

Why aren't you concerned that our students entering Elk Grove High School score lower on Math and Reading than the average District 214 student?

When Art said that boundaries could not be changed because he didn't want to face litigation as U46 did and Joan Burke explained that what Elgin did and what we were asking were two entirely different things, why didn't you look into that? Only one of them could be right.

When a neighboring district received an award for their Dual Language program, why didn't the board say to the administration, why didn't we put in for this award?

When you ask a question on a survey whether parents want their children prepared for life, and they answer yes, do you think that question will really help the district assess their programs?

When you conduct a survey and you don't have a third party conduct it nor do you ask teachers to respond, do you think your results are valid?

When parents from all over District 59 schools speak at these meetings, people whom I have never met, and they raise concerns about the lack of academic rigor, weak curriculum, and lack of homework, why don't board members investigate further?

Why don't you ask our teachers if they think it's better educationally for our kids if they used textbooks with their own supplemental materials rather than having a weak curriculum as we have now?

When Mardell showed us at the last meeting the beautiful cards that she received from her Cursive kids, but said that these kids can't spell, why doesn't that concern you? Shouldn't students have proofread their work that they sent it to a school board member? Even if you use spell check, it doesn't pick up all your mistakes and doesn't write your paper for you.

Do you really think it is sound educational practice to believe that our children don't have to have basic factual knowledge because everything that they need to know can be looked up on the Internet? Just observe other neighboring 21st century schools.

I have heard several times that the administrators are the experts. You may not have the PhDs that they have, but you are bright. It is dangerous when we rely ~~blindly~~ on the "experts."

I have to continue to come to these meetings. ~~blindly~~ *blindly*