

MARCH 18, 2019
WILMETTE, IL
REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Monday, March 18, 2019 at the Mikaelian Education Center, 615 Locust Road, Wilmette, Illinois. President Mark Steen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mark Steen, Jon Cesaretti, Tracy Kearney, Frank Panzica,
 Alice Schaff, Lisa Schneider-Fabes, Ellen Sternweiler

Members Absent: None

Administrators Present: Ray Lechner, Ellen Crispino, Romy DeCristofaro, Heather Glowacki,
 Katie Lee

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Principal Kelly Jackson introduced eighth grade basketball coach, Mr. Konicek, who acknowledged the team's accomplishments with 17 wins and 2 losses this season. Coach Levy introduced two state qualifiers from District 39's 5-8th grade wrestling program who placed 4th and 2nd in the state competition. The group then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ARTWORK

President Steen stated the artwork on display this month in the foyer and the Board room is a wonderful sampling of 1st-8th grade student work from all six schools. Every March we observe "Youth Art Month" by showcasing the talented student artwork created across the District. "Youth Art Month" emphasizes the value of art education for all children and encourages quality school programs.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Steen reminded everyone that this is a public meeting and all are among neighbors and fellow residents. He stated appropriate conduct is expected from everyone. He asked that people speak only when called upon, that everyone treat each other kindly and with proper respect, and refrain from distracting behaviors such as such as loud conversations, cheering, clapping, or booing.

APPROVE THE MINUTES

Mr. Panzica moved, seconded by Mrs. Schaff, to accept the February 25, 2019 Board of Education and Executive Session minutes. The minutes were approved as submitted by **General Consent**.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

School Finance – Mr. Panzica reported the committee met as part of Committee of the Whole March 11th. The committee conducted a deeper dive on operating funds. Items deviated by a noticeable amount were highlighted. Mr. Panzica reported Forecast5, a software program, was recently discovered that has the ability to compare similar line items with other area districts. Mrs. Crispino presented different data and formats that led to a detailed discussion. The consensus was that this tool would be very valuable running operations for the District and preparing analysis for the Board.

Facility Development – Mrs. Schaff reported the committee met as part of Committee of the Whole on March 11th. The construction manager reported bids for Harper Kindergarten Enrichment would be opened April 4th in time for a vote at the April Board meeting. They began a review of large space air conditioning at all of the schools, which included possible air conditioning projects and related costs. The committee discussed District construction timing and priorities for the next two years as there is a fair amount of construction taking place. The next meeting is April 23rd.

Strategy Committee – Mrs. Schaff reported the committee met as part of Committee of the Whole on March 11th. The committee reviewed work that began in February, refining and reorganizing strategic priorities in development of the Strategic Plan with the new superintendent.

Wilmette Community Special Education Agreement (WCSEA) – Mrs. Sternweiler stated WCSEA met earlier today. The committee approved the Draft FY2020 Budget and Draft Budget Calendar and Guidelines. The also approved projected expenditures and annual summary of expected costs for 2020. The next meeting is April 4th at the District office.

Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB)
Mrs. Sternweiler stated there was no news to report.

ED RED – Mrs. Sternweiler stated there had been a Call to Action for members to contact the Senate Education Committee to request a no vote on SB1189, the Physical Education Bill. This is significant to District 39 because of the mandated 45 minutes of physical education as physical education is currently 40 minutes per day at the upper grades. If approved, this bill would require schedule changes.

Mr. Cesaretti requested details regarding this bill.

Board Agenda Items

Legislative Update

Mrs. Kearney stated the five-clock hour school day was deleted in favor of more outcome-based philosophy; Senate Bill 28 would revert back to defining a school day based on a five-hour minimum. The minimum teacher salary bill is being reviewed with two bills pending - Senate Bill 10 and House Bill 2078; the intent is to create a minimum teacher salary of \$40,000 phased in over four years to 2023-2024. Discussion ensued regarding legislative bills for forced consolidation of local governments including school districts.

Mr. Cesaretti requested discussion regarding the Illinois Association of School Board (IASB) resolutions be added to the Committee of the Whole agenda to see where Board members stand on these issues. President Steen agreed.

INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Written Communication

The Board did not receive any written communication this month.

B. Administrative Announcements

Dr. Lechner stated on Sunday, March 10th the annual Go Green Wilmette environmental fair was held at Michigan Shores. This year's theme was "Waste Not, Want Not" and all District 39 schools were represented. District 39 Green Teams, teachers, administrators, and parents showcased the District's sustainability efforts. They displayed a mini-composting station and engaged attendees in making tote bags out of t-shirts.

Dr. Lechner stated the District received a FOIA from Selena Garcia requesting possible contracts for outsourced vendor custodial services. District 39 has no out-sourced custodial contracts.

C. Strategic Plan Updates

1. 2018-2019 Strategic Plan Updates: New Initiatives

Dr. Lechner stated on September 24, 2018, the Board of Education approved the 2018-2019 District 39 Strategic Plan. This executive summary report provided mid-year updates on two new initiatives: School Nutrition and Differentiated Instruction.

Ms. Lee reported on school nutrition noting the District is committed to providing students a well-balanced lunch. She stated a committee of parents, staff, and administrators reviewed the current lunch program. They surveyed parents and students to determine if they were satisfied with the current food options, if they felt the meals met nutritional standards, and whether students liked the food. Based on results the committee has broken into sub-groups to research nutritional quality, nutrition education, lunch times, and fruits, vegetables, and proteins. The committee plans to send out another survey on these four topics.

Ms. Lee stated District 39 has practiced differentiated instruction for over two decades. Curriculum & Instruction reviewed current practices to ensure resources are best utilized and services support students. She noted the review identified a need for more time for professional development. In response, principals have provided time during staff meetings for staff to share effective strategies and arranged classes to be covered in order to support peer observations. Another need identified was for support in mathematics instruction and for a delivery model for that instruction. Administration continues to seek input and feedback for mathematics support for teachers.

Board discussion included the review of policies; if lunch prices for the food service program should be stated in board policy; whether lunch program costs should be on a “break-even” basis as cost and quality are related; the amount of food waste in the cafeteria; improving food choices; explicitly defining metrics and goals for food service to include nutrition as well as nutrition education and curriculum; explicitly defining metrics and goals for differentiation to include student growth; if larger class sizes affect how differentiation is implemented; provide more information on how teachers handle differentiation for a large spectrum of students; updating the differentiation vision on the District website.

D. Annual Business

1. Fiscal Year 2020 Non-Operating Funds Tentative Budget

Dr. Lechner said the District has begun the budget cycle for Fiscal Year 2020. As discussed during School Finance Committee, administration presented the non-operating funds.

Ms. Crispino reported the Debt Service Fund had a small increase of \$47K that would be used for debt service obligations. She reported a transfer of \$800K from the Operations & Maintenance fund to the Debt Service Fund to cover debt certificate payments for Fiscal Year 2020. She stated the Capital Projects Fund included approved construction for Highcrest Middle School and estimated costs for Harper Kindergarten Enrichment. Mrs. Crispino reported the Life Safety Fund can only be used for life safety projects approved by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). She said the Life Safety study was completed in FY18 and submitted to ISBE for approval. She said there is no activity in the fund for FY20 as identified projects would be paid using operating funds.

E. Board Policy Review

1. First Reading of Board of Education Policies 4:63, 4:70, 4:80, 4:90, 4:95, 4:100, 4:110, 4:115, 4:130 and 4:140

Dr. Lechner and Dr. Glowacki both said they received policy edits and suggestions from Board members. Policies would be updated further for second read in April.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Erin Stone, Wilmette, acknowledged this board meeting as the last complete meeting for Mrs. Kearney and Mrs. Schaff. She thanked both members for their many years of service to the District.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Consent Agenda

Mr. Panzica moved, seconded by Mrs. Schaff, to approve the personnel report dated March 18, 2019 which included licensed full-time employment of **Morgan Paulson**, effective March 18, 2019; educational support personnel full-time employment of **Omotayo Atoyebi**, effective April 2, 2019; licensed resignation of **Christopher Baum**, effective March 8, 2019; **April Breidenbaugh**, (LOA), effective February 28, 2019; **Sara Frank**, (LOA), effective February 28, 2019; **Deborah Greer**, (LOA), effective February 28, 2019; **Devra Kaplan**, effective June 14, 2019; educational support personnel resignation of **Elizabeth Kim**, effective March 22, 2019; **Benjamin Lipman**, effective April 25, 2019; **Elizabeth Weaver**, effective March 15, 2019; licensed retirement of **Kathleen Peth**, effective the end of the 2023-2024 school year; educational support personnel retirement of **Stanley Stankiewicz**, effective September 29, 2022; tenured leave of absence of **Kristie Biederwolf**, for the 2019-2020 school year; licensed request from sick leave bank for Employee 12238, grant 5 days from WEA sick leave bank: approve the resolution dated March 18, 2019 authorizing the honorable dismissal of teachers: approve as first reading Board of Education Policies 4:63 *Quality Purchasing*; 4:70 *Building and Grounds Management*; 4:80 *Periodic Audit*; 4:90 *School Activity Funds*; 4:95 *Petty Cash*; 4:100 *Insurance Management*; 4:110 *Transportation*; 4:115 *Bus Warm Up*; 4:130 *Food Services*; and 4:140 *Waiver of Student Fees*: approve the accounts payable for bills listed between February 26, 2019 – March 18, 2019 in the following amounts: Educational Fund \$368,908.82; O&M Fund \$142,480.04; Transportation Fund \$175,330.17; Capital Projects \$39,229.00; Tort Fund \$3,412.00; total all funds \$729,360.03: approve the manual checks issued between February 26, 2019 - March 18, 2019 in the following amounts: Educational Fund \$565,370.97; O&M Fund \$2,850.68; Transportation Fund \$109.31; total all funds \$568,330.96.

On a roll call vote on the motion, voting “yea” – Jon Cesaretti, Tracy Kearney, Frank Panzica, Alice Schaff, Lisa Schneider-Fabes, Ellen Sternweiler, Mark Steen; voting “nay” – none; absent – none:

Motions Carried.

CONFERENCE ITEMS

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Good and Welfare

Mr. Panzica attended the Go Green Event on March 10th and noted how each year the event matures and improves. He stated District 39 was well represented and the depth and quality of the presentations were great.

Mr. Panzica moved, seconded by Mrs. Schaff to adjourn to executive session to discuss collective bargaining and review executive session minutes and executive session recordings in accordance to Policy 2:220.

On a roll call vote on the motion, voting “yea” – Jon Cesaretti, Tracy Kearney, Frank Panzica, Alice Schaff, Lisa Schneider-Fabes, Ellen Sternweiler, Mark Steen; voting “nay” – none; absent – none: **Motion Carried.**

The meeting adjourned to executive session at 7:47 p.m. and returned to the regular meeting of the Board of Education at 8:09 p.m.

Being no further business, Mr. Panzica moved, seconded by Mrs. Schaff, to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education. It adjourned at 8:11 p.m. by **General Consent.**

President

Secretary