

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
January 27, 2009**

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held at Lake Forest High School West Campus in the Board Room and called to order at 7:11 p.m. by President Mark Mitter.

Board members present at roll call were:

Sally McDonald	Laurie Rose
Mark Mitter	Chris Rossman
Jeff Pinderski	Rick Salzer
	Julia Wold

Administration Present:

Dr. Harry Griffith, Superintendent  
Allen Albus, Deputy Superintendent  
Kyle Schumacher, Asst. Superintendent  
Anne Whipple, Director of Communication  
Andy Henrikson, Executive Director of Student Learning

Staff Present: Pam Burke, Board Clerk

Guests Who Signed in: District 67 teachers Jane Swisher, Gloria Malizewski, Denise Galatsianos, Barb Binversie, and APT representatives Megan Morris, Jill Hill.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

No report was presented.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Griffith thanked everyone for being present this evening and in particular, welcomed and congratulated the 2008 National Board Certified Teachers. Mr. Schumacher announced four teachers, Barb Binversie, Denise Galatsianos, Gloria Malizewski, and Jane Swisher who were recognized by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards after successfully completing the National Board Portfolio and exams. These teachers join the ranks of 23 other outstanding District 67 educators who have passed this rigorous process. Dr. Griffith and members of the Board of Education congratulated the teachers again and Dr. Griffith noted it is a wonderful accomplishment for each of them as well as for District 67.

Dr. Griffith announced that the calendar committee met to amend the 2008-09 calendar due to a snow day that was taken on December 19. Students will have a half-day of school on February 13 and teachers will have a records day in the afternoon. This will

eliminate the need for students to come back to school for one (1) hour on Monday, June 8. The amended calendar has been filed with the state and approved. Dr. Griffith reported that the amended calendar will be presented to the Board for final approval, once the last day of student attendance is determined.

Dr. Griffith introduced Dr. Julie Cooley who presented a brief update on the Data Retreat, which was held on November 6, 2008. This was the first ever district-wide retreat. The information presented was individualized to each school and ultimately supported and expanded efforts to use data to inform instruction across the district. She announced that the district is at an all-time high in the use of data teams in every school and cumulatively in District 67.

Dr. Griffith announced that several Board members plan to attend the Franczek Radelet Annual School Law Conference on Saturday, January 31. It was the consensus of Board members that a Law Conference Update would be presented at the February Board Meeting.

Dr. Griffith announced that under the direction of Kyle Schumacher, a second episode of “300 South” is now available on the website. This episode focuses on Instructional Technology in the District.

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public comment.

#### **BOARD COMMITTEE**

Board Education Committee - Chris Rossmann, Laurie Rose

The Education Committee has not met since the last Board Meeting. The next meeting of the committee will be held on February 2 at 8:15 a.m.

Board Operations Committee – Julia Wold, Sally McDonald

The Operations Committee has not met since the last Board Meeting. The next meeting of the committee will be held on February 11 at 8:00 a.m. This meeting is no longer a joint meeting with District 115.

Board Finance Committee – Mark Mitter, Rick Salzer

The Finance Committee has not met since the last Board Meeting. The next meeting of the committee will be held on February 12.

Board Shared Services Committee – Mark Mitter, Rick Salzer

The Board Shared Services Committee met on January 15. Lake Bluff Superintendent Dr. David Vick and Dr. Griffith presented an update on the Tri District Data Initiative. The data will be used by teachers to improve instruction as well as at the administrative level to improve programs. Dr. Vick provided an update on the one-on-one computing initiative that is occurring in Lake Bluff schools. Currently, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students in District 65 have a MacBook laptop. Next year, 5<sup>th</sup> graders and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are targeted to

receive laptop computers. The committee also heard an emotional wellness update, information on the Elawa Farms project and science articulation.

## **DISTRICT COMMITTEES**

### North Suburban Special Education District – Chris Rossman

Mrs. Rossman reported that the NSSED Board met on Wednesday, January 14 and held a routine business meeting. She announced that she has accepted a position on the Executive NSSED Board. Mrs. Rossman's position will begin in April or May.

Mrs. Rossman reported that an NSSED Adaptive PE teacher passed away at the end of school last Thursday. She extended sympathies to students, staff and family.

### Illinois Association of School Boards/ED-RED – Julia Wold

Mrs. Wold reported that several Board members attended the ED RED dinner last night. She noted she would not report on events in Springfield as she was sure everyone is fully aware of the situation.

### Professional Development – Rick Salzer

Mr. Salzer introduced Mr. Schumacher who reported that Dr. Linda Silverman, a licensed psychologist will be presenting two lectures sponsored by School District 67. The first, *If Our Child is So Smart, Why Aren't Our Lives Easier?* is designed for the parent of the gifted child and will be held on January 21. The second, *Twice Exceptional Learners with Visual-Spatial Gifts*, is to be presented to District 67 teachers on January 22.

### Curriculum Coordinating Committee – Laurie Rose

Mrs. Rose reported that CCC has not met since the last Board Meeting. The next meeting will be held on February 4 at Everett School.

### Spirit of 67 Foundation – Sally McDonald

Mrs. McDonald reported that the Spirit met on January 6. The new Spirit website is up and running. Mrs. McDonald reminded everyone that February 28 is Spirit Appreciation Night at the Adler Planetarium from 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. The Home Tour is May 7. Donation participation across the district is 28%. The next meeting of the Board will be held on February 3 at 9:00 am at West Campus.

## **REPORTS**

### Human Resources Annual Report

Mr. Cyrus presented a comprehensive overview and analysis of the Human Resources Department. He compared staffing levels over the last three years and discussed the teacher turn over rate, which is approximately 10% per year. Retirement remains the driving need to hire new staff. In the fall of 2008, District 67 had 64 new hires. Nearly half were internal hires or new to the profession. Mr. Cyrus reported that District 67 has a good market presence. When interviewing, Mr. Cyrus announced he looks for the best candidate and noted he is fortunate to be able to hire experienced teachers. He noted that over half the teachers in District 67 have achieved their Masters degree, which is a positive reflection on the District as a whole.

Mr. Cyrus briefly explained the interview process stating that all applicants are screened with an online instrument that yields measures of student-centeredness vs. teacher-centeredness. All finalists for teaching positions are further screened with an in-person, structured interview.

Board members thanked Mr. Cyrus for his very informative and thorough report.

#### Mandarin Chinese Update

Mr. Henrikson presented an overview of the first six months of classroom Mandarin instruction and he spoke of the successes of the program. He announced that there are currently 82 students enrolled in daily Mandarin instruction, grade 4-8. In addition to the 82 students enrolled in the program, there are nine (9) elementary students in the after-school Brainstormers Mandarin Class. He noted this enrollment is down from 16 students last year, probably because Mandarin is offered this year during the school day.

Mr. Henrikson reported success and/or progress in several aspects of the Mandarin initiative. He announced that students are learning the vocabulary in all grade levels (4-8) and they can recognize and write 35-70 characters, depending on their age, and their pronunciation of the language is quite good.

Mr. Henrikson thanked host families Mina & Roger Zimmerman, Ann & Richard Knapp, Janet & Michael Hughes, and Allison & Doug Waggoner for their graciousness and generosity in hosting both Jessica Wang and Jun Wang. He also thanked District 67 and 115 teachers and staff for helping all three teachers, Jessica, Jun and George Kang feel welcome.

Board members thanked him for a very interesting report.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### Approval of Amended 2009-10 Amended Calendar

Mr. Schumacher reported that the 2009-10 school calendar was approved last year. In the meantime, the beginning of the 2008 year was a good one, beginning with three (3) institute days prior to the start of school. Therefore, the 2009-10 calendar was amended through collaboration with the Calendar Committee to reflect a similar start. The calendar has been adjusted to include three (3) institute days prior to the start of school. The calendar fulfills are requirements for a legal school year.

**MOTION:** Mrs. McDonald moved, seconded by Mrs. Rossman that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the 2009-10 Amended Calendar as presented.

On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the 2010-2011 School Calendar (Exhibit I)

Mr. Schumacher advised that the Calendar Committee met on January 6, 2009 to consider the 2010-2011 school calendar. The calendar follows the same scheduling parameters as the 2009-10 school calendar. The calendar is aligned with Lake Forest High School and fulfills all requirements for a legal school year. The Calendar Committee has recommended the 2010-2011 school calendar for approval.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Wold moved, seconded by Mrs. Rossman that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the 2010-11 School Calendar as presented.

On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Wide Area Network (WAN) Partnership (Exhibit II)

Dr. Griffith reminded board members that at the December Board Meeting, Cornelius DuBose presented a comprehensive report on the framework of the WAN and the education and operational benefits associated with this type of structure. A financial breakdown of the intended network was presented at that time. This network will provide interoperability and connectivity to all schools in District 67 and 115. Dr. Griffith reported that the proposal presented this evening is exactly the same as what was presented in December.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Wold moved, seconded by Mr. Pinderski that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the funding for the Wide Area Network Partnership.

The votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Wold, Salzer, Rossman, Ross, Pinderski, Mitter, McDonald.

Nays:

Absent:

Motion carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The following items were listed as part of the Consent Agenda:

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of A Regular Meeting – December 16, 2008

Approval of A Public Hearing: December 16, 2008

Approval of Disbursements, Payrolls, and Financial Statements – December 2008  
(Exhibit III)

Approval of Personnel Items (Exhibit IV)

Approval of Destruction of Audio Recordings: April 8, 2007

**MOTION:** Mrs. Wold moved seconded by Mr. Salzer that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

The votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Wold, Salzer, Rossman, Rose, Pinderski, Mitter, McDonald

Nays:

Absent: Rose

Motion carried.

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA)**

None

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Thursday, January 29**

Spirit Grant Submission Deadline – 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 12

Kindergarten Registration/Orientation Night

5:45 p.m. – All elementary schools

Friday, February 13

Institute Day – ½ day student attendance (no kdgn. Attendance)

Monday, February 16

Presidents Day – No School

Tuesday, February 24

Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

LFHS West Campus – Board Room

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Mrs. McDonald moved seconded by Mrs. Rossman that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

On voice vote, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

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Chris Rossman, Secretary

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Date