

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
February 24, 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 7:04 p.m. by President Mark Mitter.

Board members present at roll call were:

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

Absent: Rick Salzer

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
Tom Cardamone, Asst. Principal, DPM-E/ Director of Oral Language
Rebecca Leafman, DPMW Asst. Principal, Dir. of Emotional Wellness
Joe Malin, Emotional Wellness District Mentor
Laura Paull, Lead Teacher for Professional Development/Interventions

Staff Present: Pam Burke, Board Clerk

Guests Who Signed in: APT representatives Megan Morris, Beth Clemmensen, Allison Waggoner, Tami Schneider; Chris Munoz, Lake Forest Caucus.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Mitter welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting. No report was presented.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Griffith thanked everyone for being present this evening. He acknowledged presenters and guests in the audience and announced that, with the consent of the Board, oral reports would be presented during the Superintendent's Report. Board members agreed.

Dr. Griffith introduced Tom Cardamone, Director of Oral Language, who presented an update on the Oral Language Initiative. He reported that the oral presentation rubrics were developed in 2006-07 and implemented into all schools and grade levels during the 2007-08 school year. Teachers have found the rubrics to be user friendly and effective for individual student skill assessment. The assessment rubrics have been used in all elementary grade levels and in the middle school in the core subjects as well as in art, technology and drama.

Mr. Cardamone reported that the yearly highlight of the Oral Language Initiative is the Lakeside Speech and Drama Festival, which was hosted by Deer Path Middle School this year. Two fifth grade students who received a perfect score at the festival performed for the Board of Education. Mr. Cardamone advised that 170 students from surrounding districts participated and 75 of those were students from Deer Path Middle School.

Dr. Griffith introduced Ms. Leafman and Mr. Malin, who presented an update on the Emotional Wellness Initiative. Ms. Leafman began by explaining that the Social Emotional Wellness Initiative is a journey that focuses on the five character traits of teamwork, caring, honest/integrity, respect and responsibility. She announced that the months of March and April will highlight the character trait of respect. She referred to several resources that are used to support socio-emotional character development. These include the character booklet, the character picture books, and *Second Step*.

Ms. Leafman reported that the Emotional Wellness team has restructured this year to include school based and district based action committees. She advised that committee meetings occur at each building and on a district level on a monthly basis. The Emotional Wellness Committee has spent a significant amount of time this year attending coaching and professional development opportunities hosted by Charmm'd and Character Education Partnership (CEP). Mr. Malin reviewed some of the professional development activities that have occurred since the beginning of the year. He reported that each of these activities aligns to the initiative, which is to empower students by teaching, reinforcing and modeling the social-emotional competencies necessary to thrive.

Dr. Griffith introduced Mrs. Laura Paull who presented an update on tiered instruction. Mrs. Paull discussed the RtI (Response to Intervention) Initiative which is a tiered approach to providing educational services to students school-wide. Student progress (growth) is monitored and decisions are data-driven. RtI models can help schools decrease the number of students referred for special education services. Mrs. Paull presented an instructional overview, which differentiated Tier 1 (80%), Tier 2 (10-14%), and Tier 3 (5%) of the student population. She also reviewed assessments and noted that the materials the district uses are wonderful at pinpointing the needs of the Tier 2 & 3 students.

The Board of Education and Dr. Griffith thanked each presenter for their excellent report.

Dr. Griffith continued with his Superintendent's Report.

Dr. Griffith and Board members gave a brief review of the Franczek Radelet & Rose Law Conference held on Saturday, January 31. Board members attended presentations on special education, federal policies and the impact of the election on education. Board members commented on the excellence of the conference.

Dr. Griffith reported that he has received preliminary kindergarten registration numbers for the 2009-10 school year. Preliminary registration shows a modest increase from 115 students in 2008 to 120 students for fall of 2009. Final kindergarten registration numbers will not be available until fall but he expects to see the numbers rise before the start of the school year.

Dr. Griffith updated Board members on the Little Scouts program which is doing very well in its new location at Lake Forest High School – West Campus. The program is very robust with 110 student enrolled for the 2008-2009 school year.

Dr. Griffith announced that Mr. John Asplund has been selected to replace retiring superintendent Dr. David Vick, Lake Bluff School District 65. Mr. Asplund, currently Superintendent at Reed Custer Community School District 255U in Braidwood, IL, will begin his responsibilities on July 1, 2009. He congratulated Mr. Asplund and the District 65 Board of Education.

Dr. Griffith reported that that State Senator Susan Garrett has announced her new assignment as Majority Caucus Whip. She will chair the Senate's Committee on Environment and will also serve as Vice-Chair of the Senate Committee on Commerce. Senator Garrett will retain her seat on the Senate Committees of Public Health and Education and take on the task of serving on the Senate's Committee on Revenue.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public comment.

BOARD COMMITTEE

Board Education Committee - Chris Rossman, Laurie Rose

The Education Committee met on February 2. Ms. Leafman and Mr. Malin presented an update on the progress of the Emotional Wellness Initiative. Dr. Cooley gave a brief update on the Tier II Response to Intervention Initiative. Board Goals were also discussed. The goal structure was distributed. The majority of next month's meeting will be devoted to Board Goals. Dr. Cooley presented a summary of the recent data retreat and reported that data has been gathered that previously was not available. This data will be used to inform instruction. Dr. Griffith previewed the upcoming challenges the district will face in light of the 0.1% CPI. Dr. Cooley presented an analysis of the management of the Community of Learners. Based on the analysis, it is recommended that District 67 assume the management of this program. The next committee meeting is March 18, 2009.

Board Operations Committee – Julia Wold, Sally McDonald

The Operations Committee met on February 11. The majority of the meeting was spent reviewing the Buildings and Grounds Five-Year Capital Plan. In light of concerns about declining revenue, the committee discussed delaying all expenses except those that are safety issues. Therefore, capital outlay was reduced to \$41,000 to maintain the buildings and grounds, delaying approximately \$200,000 in expenditures. The committee also discussed committee goals.

Board Finance Committee – Mark Mitter, Rick Salzer

The Finance Committee met on February 12. Mr. Mitter reported that some of topics were discussed at the Board of Education District Goals Workshop held earlier this evening. The committee also discussed and reviewed the Five Year Financial Forecast and discussed the challenges the District will face over the next five years, given the CPI of 0.1% for the 2010-2011. The committee looked at prioritizing board goals to maximize the education provided in District 67 schools while effectively reducing expenses. The committee discussed the NSSED Intergovernmental Agreement, which will be presented to the Board of Education for approval next month, and the Intergovernmental Agreement Resolving Territorial Issues, a 20-year agreement with Lincolnshire and Rondout. The committee also reviewed the SEIU contract, specifically the retirement program. A recommendation will be brought to the Board of Education next month.

Board Shared Services Committee – Mark Mitter, Rick Salzer

The Board Shared Services Committee has not met since the last Board meeting.

DISTRICT COMMITTEES

North Suburban Special Education District – Chris Rossman

Mrs. Rossman reported that the NSSED Board did not meet in February. The next scheduled meeting of the Board is Wednesday, March 11 at 7:30 p.m.

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

Mrs. Wold reported that the State Appropriations committees met last week to discuss the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) or the stimulus package. Administrative rules that guide the distribution to districts and the use of funds at the local level are still being developed. The State of Illinois could receive as much as \$3.1 billion from the U.S. Department of Education. These funds will be used for Title I, IDEA, the State Stabilization Fund, and School Technology. It is the District's understanding that District 67 will receive two payments of approximately \$350,000 to be used primarily for Special Education. The Illinois State Board of Education submitted its budget for 2010 with an increase.

Mrs. Wold advised that the Corporate Personal Property Relief Tax (CPPRT) is down 25% from last year. This will have an impact on all tax-capped districts. In addition, there are rumors that Governor Quinn is considering a 1% income tax increase, which could create a modified progressive income tax. ED-RED believes there is significant support for an income tax increase and that it may be going forward.

Professional Development – Rick Salzer

No report was presented.

Curriculum Coordinating Committee – Laurie Rose

Mrs. Rose reported that CCC met on February 5. The committee reviewed three (3) curriculum presentations. The first was a social studies program for 7/8 grade students. History Alive is a more innovative, hands-on program than what has been used in the past. The Lake Bluff Middle School teachers have positively reviewed the curricular materials. The CCC was excited about the program. The second program the committee reviewed was the Drugs and Alcohol Prevention Program for 7/8 grade wellness classes. This unit will be incorporated into the curriculum this spring. Parents will be notified prior to implementation of the program and the committee is hoping it will result in a stronger home-school partnership. The third presentation, the Calm Classroom Pilot, was a video presentation presented by Mrs. Booker. Through a series of exercises, second grader students were calmed or engaged in the exercise. This is a pilot at Everett but it will be shared with other grade levels and hopefully, with other schools in the District.

Spirit of 67 Foundation – Sally McDonald

Mrs. McDonald reported that the Spirit met on February 3. The Grants Committee saw a demonstration of the Student Response System (AKA “the clickers”), which is used in 6-8 grade science classes. She also reported that the Board voted to approve the Spirit By-Laws, which have been updated. Mrs. McDonald reminded everyone that Saturday, February 28 is Spirit Appreciation Night at the Adler Planetarium from 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. The Home Tour is May 7 and she announced that the White Sox outing will be held on Tuesday, July 21 at 7:00 p.m. The next meeting of the Spirit of 67 Foundation will be held on March 3 at 9:00 a.m.

RECOMMENDATIONS

There were no recommendations.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of A Regular Meeting – January 27, 2009

Approval of Disbursements, Payrolls, and Financial Statements – January 2009

Approval of Personnel Items

Approval of Destruction of Audio Recordings: May 22, 2007

MOTION: Mr. Pinderski moved seconded by Mrs. Wold 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: Rose, Pinderski, Rossman, Mitter, Wold, McDonald,
Nays:
Absent: Salzer

Motion carried.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA)

None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thursday, March 5 Parent Teacher Conferences – ½ day (PM Kdgn. attends)
Friday, March 6 Parent Teacher Conferences – NO SCHOOL
Tuesday, March 24 Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m. LFHS West Campus
Board Room

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mrs. Wold moved seconded by Mrs. McDonald that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

On voice vote, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Chris Rossman, Secretary

Date

