

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
May 4, 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 Julia Wold.

Board members present at roll call were:

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| John Julian | Laurie Rose |
| Sally McDonald | Chris Rossman |
| Jeff Pinderski | Julia Wold |
| | 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

Staff Present: Pam Burke, Board Clerk

Guests Who Signed in: APT representatives Megan Morris, and Mr. Garry Finley, parent.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Wold welcomed new member John Julian. She noted that what makes members of this Board so special, aside from all living in the same community, is that each one brings a different perspective to the decisions the Board makes. She again welcomed Mr. Julian and the new perspective he will bring to the Board of Education.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Griffith thanked everyone for being present this evening. I would like to offer a heartfelt thank you to Mark Mitter who has been a key member of the team for the last nine (9) years. He came to the Board with a great deal of confidence and credential from the business world. I know I speak for Mrs. Hermes and Mr. Albus who worked with Mr. Mitter as the Chairman of the Finance Committee. I think I am most proud of Mr. Mitter for his work behind the scenes on the Social Emotional Wellness Initiative. Welcome to Mr. Julian and congratulations. We look forward to working with you.

Dr. Griffith introduced Jared Rose, son of Board member Ms. Laurie Rose. Jared has a birthday tomorrow. Happy Birthday Jared!

Dr. Griffith reported that Ms. Maureen McNicholl, Spanish teacher and World Language Team Leader at Deer Path Middle School, has received a Fulbright Scholarship to Mexico for the summer. She will be part of a select group of U.S. teachers visiting indigenous communities, archaeological sites, schools, and museums in southern Mexico exploring Mexican folklore. Ms. McNicholl is honored and excited about the opportunity.

Dr. Griffith asked Mr. Schumacher to report on the Asian Culture Fair held on April 24 at Deer Path Middle School. Mr. Schumacher advised that the Fair was a wonderful opportunity for students to experience Asian culture focusing on Asia, Japan, China and a variety of Asian cultures that are not as visible as the Mandarin program the District offers. Channel 41 filmed the event which is available on Utube. This fair concluded the major units of studies in sixth grade social studies.

Mr. Schumacher reported that the third graders at Sheridan School have been piloting the NEO2's since the beginning of April. Mr. Schumacher met with the teachers earlier last week, and some of the teachers noted that use of the NEO's has changed the way they are teaching in the classroom. With the NEO2's, teachers are able to check for student understanding while the class is in progress. Mr. Schumacher advised that data regarding the initiative would be shared in the fall. He also noted that the NEO2 initiative would be expanding to all third graders next year.

Mr. Schumacher reported on the Percussion Festival which was held on April 21. It was exciting to have Deer Path Middle School, Lake Forest High School and Lake Forest Country Day School involved in the production this year. The David Miller Theatre was filled to capacity which made the event even more thrilling. Lake Forest High School played some of their original works. Mr. Schumacher also reported that the Brainstormers program presented *Once on This Island* which was held last Thursday and Friday. Fifty (50) sixth, seventh and eighth graders were involved in the production which was well done. Mr. Schumacher thanked parents and teachers alike for the hours they devoted to making costumes and organizing the students for the production.

Dr. Henrikson reported that the K-2 Language Arts committee is working to revise the Language Arts curriculum and will be finishing and bringing a proposal to the Board of Education sometime next spring when research and pilots are completed.

Dr. Griffith reported that he has been in discussions with superintendents of surrounding districts regarding the Swine Flu (H1N1) Pandemic. He briefly explained the difference between a pandemic and an epidemic noting that a pandemic is widespread while an epidemic is intense. Normally in the fall, we have many staff and students who go home with a case of the flu and approximately 36,000 people died from the flu last year in the United States. He noted that one small child has died from the Swine flu in the United States. Recent reports indicate that this type of flu may not be quite as virulent as first thought. The number of deaths in Mexico is dropping significantly as facts emerge. However, we need to be diligent and take this seriously. We have received new guidelines from the Center for Disease Control, which asks that a school close for 14 days should a confirmed case of the Swine flu be reported. Mrs. Whipple reviewed the

pro-active emergency protocol used to notify parents and staff within the District. Dr. Griffith noted that in the event a confirmed case of Swine flue is reported, school would be closed immediately for 14 days and staff and children alike would be asked to stay home.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public comment.

REPORTS

2010 NSSED Budget (first draft)

Dr. Griffith asked Mrs. Rossman, who is part of the NSSED Executive Committee, Mr. Albus and Dr. Cooley to present the report. Mrs. Rossman advised that in the past, the NSSED Budget has come to the Board in a perfunctory manner, often after the budget has been approved, which does not allow the District Board any time for review or input. NSSED is realigning their budget cycle to allow member districts to respond prior to final adoption in July.

Mrs. Rossman advised that a first draft of the budget is before the Board of Education this evening. She noted that the budget will be a “not to exceed” budget and will continue to be fine tuned based on enrollment, until July. Dr. Griffith reported that Dr. Cooley and Mr. Albus have raised certain issues that will be passed to Board Member Rossman. The second draft of the budget should be presented to the District 67 Board of Education at the May meeting.

NWEA Math Correlation with PLAN Testing

Dr. Julie Cooley and Mr. Malin provided a report on the use of middle school students’ NWEA MAP assessment results as predictors of later PLAN Examination math performance. Earlier MAP scores (Spring of 6th, 7th, and 8th grade) were found to be significant and useful predictors of PLAN performance. One implication is that cut scores or benchmarks could potentially be drawn to correspond with probabilities of performing at or above a desired level on the PLAN exam. These benchmarks could be utilized to form student intervention groups. Another implication is that these two commonly used assessments appear to be closely related in terms of what they are measuring. Dr. Cooley and Mr. Malin plan to continue sharing results with administrators and staff (e.g., the D67 Mathematics Committee) in the upcoming weeks. Thus far, they report that the report has fueled strong discussion and interest.

Federal Stimulus Funds

Dr. Griffith reported that Districts 67 and 115 are confronted with making significant changes to realign revenue expectations. Administration is working hard on the reduction of costs in the system for the 2009-2010 and 2010-11 school years. New revenue sources have gone to zero except for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (AARA). A significant portion of the funding from AARA will be directed toward K-12 education nation-wide. Dr. Griffith mentioned that he was recently in Washington D.C. to meet with other superintendents and Secretary of Education Arnie Duncan and his key staff. While attending the conference, he also met a Congressional Assistant on loan to Mr. Duncan from Senator Kennedy. The Assistant also is a 1969 Lake Forest graduate.

Dr. Griffith explained how the AARA funds would be distributed. No Title I money will be distributed to Lake Forest. 60% of all Title I funds will be directed to the largest and poorest schools in America. District 67 will receive AARA funding through the IDEA grants earmarked for Special Education, totaling \$522,832, 50% to be used to supplement the District budget and 50% to supplant. Illinois has decided to distribute the money in two checks. Of the \$522,832, 3% is earmarked for NSSSED Professional Development and \$51,000 is earmarked for private and parochial schools in Lake Forest. Dr. Griffith advised that AARA funds will be very closely monitored and must be spent appropriately. The District will have to report to both the state and federal government how these funds are spent.

BOARD COMMITTEE

Mrs. Wold advised that she would be contacting Board members to reseal Board committees.

Board Education Committee - Chris Rossman, Laurie Rose

The Education Committee has not met since the last meeting. The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for May 20 at 8:30 a.m.

Board Operations Committee – Julia Wold, Sally McDonald

The Operations Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. No committee meeting has been scheduled.

Board Finance Committee – Mark Mitter, Rick Salzer

The Finance Committee met on April 9 at 7:30 a.m. in a joint meeting with District 115. The committees discussed the NSSSED Intergovernmental Agreement that the District 67 Board approved last month. District 115 felt very comfortable with the Agreement. Mr. Salzer reported that the committee held a lengthy discussion on student fees for the 2009-10 school year. Given the state of the economy, it was the consensus of the committee to keep the 2008-09 fee structure in place for 2009-2010. The committee also met with the District's audit firm, Miller Cooper & Co. Ltd., and received a staff evaluation. He noted the District is solid on management and internal controls. The District was encouraged to continue to stay diligent and to have the right standards in place. The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for May 14 at 7:00 a.m.

Board Shared Services Committee – Mark Mitter, Rick Salzer

The Committee has not met since the last meeting. The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for May 14 @ 4:00 p.m.

DISTRICT COMMITTEES

Mrs. Rossman reported that the NSSSED Board met on Wednesday, April 15. Budget guidelines and timing for the 2009-2010 budgets were discussed. New information about the Early Childhood Center for Innovative Learning was presented. The Early Childhood programs will not be continuing in the Rubloff facility. Alternative locations are being reviewed. The NSSSED building project is on time and on budget. Some of the first contracts have been awarded. Some discussion of the use of stimulus funds was held.

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

Mrs. Wold reported that last summer, the Chicago Urban League (CUL) filed suit against the state and the Illinois State Board of Education for perpetuating an inequitable education funding system. Earlier this month, the Judge dismissed four of the five claims made by the CUL, but agreed to hear arguments on racial inequities in the state's school funding system. School funding reform continues to be a significant issue in Springfield.

Mrs. Wold stated ED-RED's position on funding and funding priorities including increasing Special Education personnel reimbursement to at least \$14,000 per certified teacher and increasing the foundation level to the amount recommended by the Education Funding Advisory Board. She also reviewed SB 1828, which creates the P20 Longitudinal Data System Act (LDS). This is one of ISBE's primary initiatives for the year. She reviewed the goals of the project. The reality is other states have successfully implemented LDS's and Illinois has not kept pace with new opportunities in data collection and analysis to determine the efficacy of state investment in P20 programs.

Professional Development – Rick Salzer

Mr. Salzer advised that the Professional Development Report will be presented at the May 26 Board of Education Meeting.

Curriculum Coordinating Committee – Laurie Rose

Mrs. Rose reported that CCC met on April 16 at 4:00 p.m. Committee members heard a presentation on the Student Leadership Training Program to be offered to 7/8 grade students in the fall. The training is required for all students involved in leadership roles and will be offered for four to six weeks during lunch period. The training sessions will focus on training skills for effective leadership. Training will also be offered to other interested students. CCC congratulated DPM for this initiative and focus.

Spirit of 67 Foundation

Mrs. McDonald reported that the Spirit Board met on April 17. Most of the meeting was spent reviewing the recommendations of the Grants Committee, which awarded over \$200,000 to 25 different grants to enhance and enrich the District's curriculum. The Grants Reception will be held on May 13 at 6:00 pm at LFHS West Campus. She encouraged Board members to attend. Mrs. McDonald recognized Germaine Arnson who has ably chaired the Grants Committee for the last two years.

Mrs. McDonald announced the seventh Annual Home Tour will be held on Thursday, May 7, and the White Sox outing will be held on Tuesday, July 21 at 7:00 p.m. The next meeting of the committee will be held May 5 at 9:00 am at LFHS West Campus.

Other

Mrs. Wold reported that the Negotiation Committee formed a sub committee, including teacher representatives, which worked to meet the concerns that the teachers union had with their current health plan. The sub committee presented a proposal to change the

District provider. Mrs. Wold advised that a narrow window for this change exists and the current provider must be notified of the intent to change by May 15. Mr. Albus reported that the District plan is part of an Employee Benefit Cooperative (EBC) with a PPO and a POS system. NIHIP, the proposed provider offers more options and rates are very comparable to EBC. The driving decision to change providers stems from Blue Cross' elimination of the POS option. Any alternative Blue Cross offered was not very attractive. Mr. Albus advised that he will be sending a letter to EBC regarding the District's withdrawal and starting the approval process for NIHIP.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Approval of Lifetouch Student Photography Renewal

The student photography contract is periodically reviewed and that the current contract is expiring at the end of June. Overall, the staff and parents have been pleased with the services provided, and it is recommended that a one-year renewal with Lifetouch be approved.

MOTION: Mrs. Rose moved seconded by Mr. Pinderski that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois approve a one-year contract with Lifetouch as presented.

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

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

Approval of Renewal of Workers Compensation Insurance Program

Lake Forest currently utilizes the services of T.A. Cummings in the coordination of the Workers Compensation Insurance Program. As a result of a large claim affecting our experience rating, the renewal rate for 2008-09 includes a 14% increase. The District received a quote from another agency and after review of both proposals, renewal of the existing program is recommended.

MOTION: Mrs. McDonald moved seconded by Mr. Pinderski that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the renewal of the Workers Compensation Insurance Program with T.A. Cummings.

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

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

Approval of 2009-2010 School Fees

Dr. Griffith advised that this was overviewed earlier during the Finance Committee Report. The Finance Committee is not recommending any increase in school fees for the 2009-2010 school year.

MOTION: Mrs. Rossman moved seconded by Mrs. McDonald that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the 2009-2010 School Fees as presented.

On voice vote, motion carried.

Approval of Lake Forest/Lake Bluff Cooperative Paper Bid

MOTION: Mrs. Rossman moved seconded by Mr. Salzer that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois approve the Lake Forest/Lake Bluff Cooperative Paper Bid as presented.

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

Ayes: McDonald, Rose, Rossman, Julian, Salzer, Pinderski, Wold
Nays: None
Absent: None

Motion carried.

Acceptance of the 2007-2008 Audit Report

The Audit Committee has met with Miller Cooper & Co. to review the audit and recommends that the 2007-08 Audit Report be accepted as presented.

MOTION: Mr. Salzer moved seconded by Mrs. Rose that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois accept the 2007-08 Audit Report as presented.

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

Ayes: McDonald, Rose, Rossman, Julian, Salzer, Pinderski, Wold
Nays: None
Absent: None

Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of A Regular Meeting – March 24, 2009
Approval of Minutes of An Executive Session – March 24, 2009
Approval of Disbursements, Payrolls, and Financial Statements – March 24, 2009
Approval of Personnel Items

Approval of Destruction of Audio Recordings: None
Approval of 2009 Deer Path Middle School Graduates

MOTION: Mr. Pinderski moved seconded by Mrs. McDonald 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: McDonald, Rose, Rossman, Julian, Salzer, Pinderski, Wold

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA)

No FOIA's were presented.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Tuesday, May 5 | Incoming 7 th Gr. Orientation Mtg., 10-11:00 am & 7-8:00 pm DPM-Haskins Ctr. |
| Thursday, May 7 | Spirit Home Tour, 9:00 – 3:00 pm |
| Monday, May 22 | Institute Day – ½ day (No Kdgn.) |
| Monday, May 25 | Memorial day – No School |
| Tuesday, May 26 | Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 pm, LFHS West Campus |

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mrs. Rose moved seconded by Mrs. McDonald that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois adjourn the meeting at 9:01 p.m.

On voice vote, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Laurie Rose, Secretary

Date

