

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**LAKE FOREST SCHOOL DISTRICT 67
December 13, 2011**

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 7:01 p.m. by Julia Wold.

Board members present at roll call were:

Bill Andersen	Laurie Rose
Lesley Fisher	Rick Schuler
John Julian	Julia Wold
Jeff Pinderski	

Administration Present:

Dr. Harry Griffith, Superintendent
Allen Albus, Deputy Superintendent
Jennifer Hermes, Asst. Superintendent
Dr. Julie Cooley, Asst. Superintendent

Also Present:

Staff Present: Pam Burke, Board Clerk

Guests Who Signed in: Julie Meadows, LFEA President, Mike Borkowski, Cherokee parent, Jennifer McGregor, Everett parent, Maureen Knipe, APT representative, Colleen Berto, Cherokee APT, Stephanie Klein, APT representative, Rich Brandel.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Wold updated the community on the search for a new superintendent. She reported that the Board did interview six (6) candidates over two (2) evenings and met on Saturday for a long time to review each candidate in depth. Because of the strength of four (4) of the candidates, the Board agreed to move ahead with four (4) rather than three (3). Those candidates will interview the week of January 9 from noon to 8:00 pm with administrators, parents, teachers, community and board members. The Boards will be meeting on Saturday, January 14 for final deliberation.

Mrs. Wold thanked her fellow board members, and the members of the District 115 Board of Education for providing wonderful insight, common sense, and the ability to cooperate and work as a team to ensure the success of the process.

Mrs. Rose extended thanks from the Board of Education to both President Wold and District 115 President Sharon Golan for their leadership in the process.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Griffith thanked everyone for attending tonight and noted particularly parents who were present to see tonight's presentation. He extended a thank you to the school nurses in all of the District schools for the excellent 100% compliance for immunization and physical exam requirements which is conducted annually. 100% compliance requires hard work and cooperation from both staff and District families. Dr. Griffith reported that Mr. Albus recently received a letter from Moody's Investor's Service informing him that on November 22, 2011, District 67 was assigned a rating of Aaa. The rating is based on the financial health of the District. He extended a thank you to the Finance Committee and to the District as a whole. Dr. Griffith reminded Board members that the ED RED Annual Dinner will be held on Monday, February 6, 2012 at the Chicago Marriott O'Hare Hotel. He advised that Charlotte Danielson is the keynote speaker and one of the foremost speakers on teacher evaluation. He encouraged members to attend.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

REPORTS

2020 Vision

Dr. Griffith introduced Dr. Andy Henrikson to present the update on 2020 Vision. Dr. Griffith noted that District 67 teachers and students are present tonight to provide the update.

Dr. Henrikson reported that this is probably the most exciting report he will present this year. 21st Century Learning has transformed itself into 2020 Vision, which identifies themes and the tenants of what the students should be able to achieve by the time the year 2020 arrives. It is a look into the future, but great strides have already been made.

Dr. Henrikson advised that tonight the Board will hear three parts to the presentation. He called upon Bridget Booker, Assistant Principal at Everett, Technology Coach and a 21st Century Learner Leader to make the first part of the presentation. Mrs. Booker wrote a successful Spirit grant for a set of iPads in each elementary school for grades Kindergarten, Grade 1, and Grade 2. She presented a brief journey into the beginning stages of the use of iPads in kindergarten, first grade and second grade classrooms.

Dr. Henrikson introduced Mrs. Colleen Brueggeman, Gifted Director who has been reviewing the International Baccalaureate (I.B.) program and how it relates to 21st Century Learning. Mrs. Brueggeman and the Explore and Enrichment teachers have developed an integrated, problem-based learning unit that has become a model for teachers to study and copy. *The Water Project – Water Crisis* unit is primarily being used by fourth grade Explore students, but last fall, the Explore and Enrichment teachers worked with all K-4 teachers to incorporate lessons for all students. Students have learned how the availability of water is related to health, safety, and economics. They used critical thinking skills to analyze relevant situations, students worked collaboratively to solve problems, and they used an iPad app to estimate how much water they use each day and to study their families' water bill. The unit is very learner centered so no classroom will look the same year to year. The unit helps them to understand through hands-on work that they can be a part of changing their own world. Everett students, Brooke MacDougal and Bridget Mitchell presented the findings of the water projects. Their teacher, Ms. Karen Lucas also was present. Dr. Griffith and the Board of Education congratulated them on their excellent presentation.

Dr. Henrikson introduced Mrs. Amy Lamberti, DPM 21st Century Learning Coach, and Mrs. Laura Montgomery, DPM Technology Coach who presented a short presentation on the Netbooks and how they are transforming learning at Deer Path Middle School.

Mrs. Montgomery and Mrs. Lamberti began their presentation with a video displaying the use of a web based learning tool called Edmodo which highlighted the 1-1 Netbooks and the 2020 Vision at Deer Path Middle School. Netbooks promote collaboration, creativity, the creation of websites (Weebly), critical thinking and problem solving, and communication both locally and globally. Deer Path Middle School students, Lindsey Folkert and Thomas Knight responded to questions from the Board of Education regarding the use of the Netbooks. The Board thanked them for their insight.

BOARD COMMITTEES

Board Education Committee – Lesley Fisher, Bill Andersen

Mrs. Fisher reported that the Education Committee met on Monday, December 5 at 8:15 am. The main focus of the meeting was to discuss committee members' reflections of the current District Dashboards. The committee looked at the current dashboards from the perspective of District and community members, as well as from the vantage point of outside individuals attempting to gain knowledge about District 67. The committee wants the District Dashboard to be informative, reflect the District mission, and to provide current information regarding achievement, student involvement, and data/assessments. Committee members offered input which included Updating graphics on the Dashboard, considering additional sections including 21st Century Learning, improving chart clarity and showcasing trends in test score improvement without overwhelming the audience.

The committee also discussed updating the District website. The committee would like the website to provide ample information with a clean new look. Members of the Finance and Operations Committees will review the website and its contents and discuss design.

Dr. Cooley reported to the committee that NSSD has offered a reduction in membership fees more representative of the cost of tuition and additional costs associated with the relatively small number of students who participate in the program. There is a possibility of even further reductions in the future. The District's contract with NSSD would be extended to 2014 if the new contract were accepted.

Dr. Henrikson provided the Curriculum Coordinating Committee December 1 minutes regarding the Netbook Pilot implementation for eighth grade students in 2012-13. A Spirit grant will be written to offset the cost.

The next committee meeting will be held on February 14 at 8:15 am. Colleen Brueggeman will discuss the IB Baccalaureate Program and the current practice in fourth grade EXPLORE classes as it relates to their study of water. Next year's 21 Century Learning goals will also be discussed.

Board Operations Committee – Laurie Rose, Rick Schuler

Mrs. Rose reported that the Operations Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The next meeting has not been scheduled.

Board Finance Committee

Mr. Pinderski provided an update on the bond refinancing issue which was much more successful than originally anticipated due to the very low interest rate environment. Mr. Albus presented a brief summary. Back in October, the Board approved a resolution to refinance \$2.1 million in outstanding debt. That recommendation to refinance came to the District from William Blair. Any time the present value savings meets or exceed 3%, if the bond is callable, they recommend refinancing the debt. Based on the projections that were run, Mr. Albus anticipated a savings of about \$94,000 (3% savings) but instead, savings came in at \$112,000 (5.3% savings.) Final documents will be reviewed today. Mr. Pinderski thanked Mr. Albus, Ms. Hermes and the Finance Committee for making the refinancing happen.

DISTRICT COMMITTEES

North Suburban Special Education District – Jeff Pinderski

A full version of the changes and structure of the contract will be presented in January.

Illinois Association of School Boards/ED-RED – Bill Andersen

No report was presented.

Professional Development – Rick Schuler

No meetings or updates have been received since last month.

Curriculum Coordinating Committee – Laurie Rose

The Curriculum Coordinating Committee met on December 1 to discuss the implementation of the Netbook Pilot. Mrs. Rose reported that on behalf of the Deer Path Middle School Netbook Pilot Steering Team, Dr. Henrikson brought forward the proposal that the District provide 1 to 1 netbooks for eighth graders in 2012-13. The committee held a discussion which culminated in a unanimous vote to move forward with the proposal. Pros and concerns of the proposal were evaluated. Pros included the benefit of a 21st Century Learning Tool, the relatively low cost of the purchase, and the opportunity to provide professional development for both seventh and eighth grade teachers at once instead of over two years. Concerns included the benefit of using this tool for only one year, decision making regarding the use of an assignment notebook or the use of on-line calendar and what to do with the used eighth grade netbooks in June 2013. Several suggestions were made including providing them to fifth grade students at a discount, keeping some of them as spares and sharing more with the elementary schools. This proposal will be shared with the Education Committee and a Spirit Grant to support the proposal will be written.

Spirit of 67 Foundation – Julia Wold

Mrs. Wold reported that The Spirit of 67 held their holiday party this morning in lieu of their regular meeting. The Foundation will meet again in January.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Adoption of the 2011 Tax Levy

Dr. Griffith reminded the Board that this is an annual event and called upon Mr. Albus to present the levy.

Mr. Albus reported that taxing bodies in Illinois must adopt and file their tax levies by the last Tuesday in December. The Board adopted a tentative levy at the October meeting, and it is

recommended that those figures be adopted as the final 2011 Tax Levy. No changes have been made. Mr. Albus asked the Board of Education for final adoption.

MOTION: Mr. Pinderski moved seconded by Mr. Schuler that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois adopt the 2011 Tax Levy as presented.

Ayes: Fisher, Pinderski, Schuler, Andersen, Julian, Rose, Wold
Nays: None
Absent: None

Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Approval of An Executive Session – November 28, 2011
Approval of Minutes of A Special Meeting – November 28, 2011
Approval of Minutes of A Special Meeting – November 29, 2011
Approval of Minutes of A Regular Meeting – November 29, 2011
Approval of An Executive Session – November 29, 2011

Approval of Disbursements, Payrolls, and Financial Statements for November 2011
Approval of Human Resources Items
Approval of Destruction of Audio Recordings: None

MOTION: Mrs. Rose moved seconded by Mr. Pinderski 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: Andersen, Fisher, Julian, Pinderski, Rose, Schuler, Wold
Nays: None
Absent: None

Motion carried unanimously.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA)

Nancy Thorner, 331 E. Blodgett Ave., Lake Bluff, Illinois

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session was held prior to tonight's meeting.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday, December 16	Winter Break Begins at Close of School Day
Tuesday, January 3, 2012	School Resumes
Monday, January 16	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – No School
Tuesday, January 24	Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 pm LFHS West Campus, Board Room

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Pinderski moved seconded by Mr. Schuler that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois adjourn at 8:15 pm

On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm

Laurie Rose, Secretary
