

School District U-46
Elgin, Illinois

December 18, 2017

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 5:32 p.m. at the Educational Services Center, 355 East Chicago Street, Elgin, Illinois. The following Board members answered roll call: Phil Costello, Sue Kerr, Veronica Noland, Melissa Owens, Jeanette Ward, and Donna Smith. Board member Traci O'Neal Ellis was not present at the meeting.

President Smith requested a motion to move into closed session to discuss individual student disciplinary matters; pending, probable or imminent litigation; the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees; the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the School Board; the setting of a price for the sale or lease of real property owned by the School Board; collective negotiating matters between the School Board and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; review of closed session minutes; and individual student matters. The motion was made at 5:33 p.m. by Ms. Noland, second by Mrs. Ward. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

A motion was made at 6:52 p.m. by Ms. Kerr, second by Mrs. Ward to reconvene into open session. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

The business session began at 7:00 p.m. Present for the business session of the meeting were the same Board members listed in the first paragraph above, Student Board Member Casey Pearce, Chief Executive Officer Tony Sanders, and Chief Legal Officer Miguel Rodriguez. The following administrators were also present: Steve Burger, Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Dr. Terri Lozier, Melanie Meidel, Ron Raglin, Dr. Ushma Shah, Dr. Annette Acevedo, Christopher Allen, Dale Burnidge, Mary Fergus, John Heiderscheidt, Dr. Robin Lenart, Bruce Phelps, and Trisha Shrode. Also present were: media representatives Rafael Guerrero of the Courier and Seth Hancock of the Examiner, as well as other administrators, guests, and visitors. Ms. Pearce led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was held in honor of Hannah Ramos, a student at Streamwood High School, who recently passed away.

1. Comments from the Audience

Pastor Katie Shaw Thompson spoke about her concerns with a post on social media made by Jeanette Ward regarding an article her child brought home from school as an assignment. Ms. Shaw stated that while she agrees with Mrs. Ward that the article in question was not correct, she does, however, take exception to Mrs. Ward's approach on her social media post.

Sulayman Hassan also spoke about his concerns with Mrs. Ward's post. Mr. Hassan stated that as faith leaders they are often confronted by articles and statements with which they disagree, but they believe these instances represent a valuable opportunity to teach children why they disagree with the information and how to communicate this with respect and humility.

Rabbi Steven Peskind also spoke about his concerns with Mrs. Ward's post. Rabbi Peskind stated that they believe that honoring holy teachings means engaging in respectful dialogue and using care when exercising the privileges granted to them as leaders, elected, ordained, or otherwise. Rabbi Peskind stated that for them faithful respectful leadership means engaging teachers and administrators directly; fostering kind conversations about differences that bring people together rather than divide; and honoring the dignity and worth of all persons regardless of differences.

Reverend Denise Tracy also spoke about her concerns with Mrs. Ward's post. Reverend Tracy, as President of the Coalition of Religious Leaders, read a joint statement on behalf of the Coalition. Reverend Tracy thanked the Board for allowing them to make a statement and asked the Board to bring out the best in the diverse community by engaging in respectful dialogue that honors both the differences and the worth of every person.

2. Other Business - Board Member and CEO Update

A. Additional Information

Mrs. Ward asked the coalition of faith leaders which part of her post offended them, the part where she asked if Muslims believe in the same God as Christians and Jews or the part where she stated that the article from her daughter's homework assignment was utterly incorrect. Mrs. Ward stated that there was nothing in her post that was uncivil. Mrs. Ward stated that she was pointing out that the claim in the article was factually wrong and was offensive to many Muslims, Jews, and Christians. Mrs. Ward agrees with the coalition that this was a teaching moment. Mrs. Ward asked how was the community to know what was being taught unless she informed them. Mrs. Ward stated that it is her obligation to inform parents and taxpayers.

Ms. Pearce reported on the Student Summit. Ms. Pearce thinks it went well and she has received a lot of positive feedback.

Mr. Sanders thanked Ms. Pearce for her work on the Student Summit and stated that it was an amazing day.

Ms. Noland reported that she participated in the U-46 Engage Program and it is a great and innovative program.

Ms. Kerr thanked CAC for hosting the administrative roundtable meeting. Ms. Kerr stated that it was well attended and well run. Ms. Kerr also attended the Bartlett Chamber Christmas Program and it was great.

Ms. Owens also attended the U-46 Engage Program. Ms. Owens stated that it was very exciting to see all the parents there.

Mr. Sanders reported that three administrative assistants will be retiring, and he thanked them all for their years of service and for all the work they have done for U-46.

B. Board Self Evaluation Update

Mrs. Smith stated that the Board self-evaluation will be held on February 3, 2018, and asked the Board to discuss whether the self-evaluation will be held in an open or closed session.

Mrs. Ward reiterated her opinion on Board self-evaluations being unproductive and in some cases offensive. Mrs. Ward stated that at previous self-evaluations there has been name calling and bullying. Mrs. Ward feels that if the self-evaluation is open to the public this behavior will not occur. Mrs. Ward stated that unless the Board self-evaluation is open to the public she will not attend.

Ms. Kerr stated that she prefers the Board self-evaluation be held in closed session. Ms. Kerr stated that she believes there can be deeper discussions in closed session.

Ms. Noland stated that she prefers the Board self-evaluation be held in closed session. Ms. Noland stated that she was at the meeting Mrs. Ward is referring to and she agrees it was not pleasant, but she believes this is the only way there can be constructive dialogue. Ms. Noland stated that the IASB representative does an excellent job and is there to facilitate the meeting.

Mr. Costello stated that he would like to have the Board self-evaluation in public. Mr. Costello values having the discourse in public. Mr. Costello stated that the Board's own personal issues have no place in any discussion.

Ms. Owens stated that she has not attended a Board self-evaluation before therefore she does not have an opinion at this time.

Mrs. Smith stated that she would like the Board self-evaluation to be held in closed session. Mrs. Smith believes it gives the Board the opportunity to have discussions about how they govern and how they can make the District better.

Mrs. Smith stated that after hearing the Board member's opinions the self-evaluation will be held in closed session.

C. Minutes of Board Committee Meetings

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Ms. Noland to accept the minutes of Board of Education Finance Committee meeting of November 6, 2017, as presented. Upon

roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

D. FOIA Requests - 1

Mr. Sanders, Chief Executive Officer, reported on the request for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

3. Consent Agenda

- A. Personnel Report and Workers' Compensation Cases
- B. Minutes of Board Meeting - October 16, 2017
- C. Minutes of Special Board Meeting - October 30, 2017
- D. Minutes of Board Meeting - November 6, 2017
- E. Termination of Maria Baeza, Noon-Hour Supervisor
- F. Termination of Craig Reeves, Plant Operations
- G. Termination of Mary Williams, Food & Nutrition Services
- H. Bid - Distribution Center - Truck Replacement
- I. Change Order - Horizon Elementary School - Roof Replacement

Motion by Ms. Noland, second by Ms. Owens, to approve the Consent Agenda of December 18, 2017, items A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, and I, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

4. Discussion/Action

A. 2018-2019 School Calendar

Mr. Sanders provided the Board of Education with the proposed calendar for the 2018-2019 school year. Administration recommended the approval of the proposed calendar for the 2018-2019 school year.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Ms. Owens, to approve the 2018-2019 school calendar, as presented.

Mrs. Ward stated that the early start date has been rejected every time it has been put before the community. Mrs. Ward stated that she also opposes the institute days in the middle of the week. Mrs. Ward indicated that she would be voting no.

Ms. Kerr stated that she realizes it is hard because elementary parents want the later start and high school parents want exams over before the break. Ms. Kerr indicated she would be voting yes.

Mr. Costello stated that he would like to make sure that the public will be surveyed next year. Mr. Costello indicated that he would be voting yes.

Ms. Pearce stated that she is in favor of having the semester end before break because of finals.

Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: Mrs. Ward. The motion carried by a vote of 5-1.

B. Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics and Advanced Placement Human Geography Resource Proposal

Dr. Lenart, K-12 Social Studies Coordinator, and Trisha Shrode, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, reviewed information relating to the Advanced Placement (AP) U.S. Government and Politics and AP Human Geography resource proposal. Administration recommended the approval of the AP U.S. Government and Politics and the AP Human Geography resource proposal.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Ms. Noland, to approve the Advanced Placement U. S. Government and Politics and Advanced Placement Human Geography resource proposal, as presented.

Ms. Ward stated that the proposed resources are not balanced and do not present opposing views of issues. Rather the resources seek to indoctrinate students in one point of view. Mrs. Ward indicated she would be voting no.

Mr. Costello asked Dr. Lenart and Ms. Shrode to comment on Mrs. Ward's statement.

Dr. Lenart stated that these are resources to teach the course and are not the only resources used. These resources are used to help the teacher teach students how to think not what to think.

Ms. Shrode stated that the curriculum is what the learning outcomes should be, and these resources are two of several vetted titles from the College Board.

Ms. Kerr stated that since this is an AP class the District does not establish the curriculum, the College Board does.

Ms. Pearce stated that in her AP classes there is a lot of discussion and both sides are presented even if not in the resource.

Ms. Owens stated that she is concerned about the Board looking at these resources with such pin point and not understanding the over arching concept that is being taught.

Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: Mrs. Ward. The motion carried by a vote of 5-1.

C. Itemized Bills - December 18, 2017

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, presented the itemized bills of December 18, 2017. Administration recommended the Board of Education approve the List of Bills in the amount of \$7,379,622.55.

Motion by Mr. Costello, second by Ms. Kerr, to approve the itemized bills of December 18, 2017, in the amount of \$7,379,622.55 as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

D. Proposal - Educational Support Programs & Alignment - AVID Regional Path Training

Mr. Phelps, Interim Director of Business Services, and Mr. Raglin, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Support Programs and Alignment, reviewed the proposal. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from AVID Center in the amount of \$55,900.00 and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Educational Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2017-2018 school year. This amount will cover 130 participants at \$430.00 each. This is a slight increase of \$10 per participant compared to the 2017 cost of \$420.00 per participant. It is also a significant reduction from past expenses when teachers would travel out-of-state.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Ms. Owens, to approve the proposal – Educational Support Programs & Alignment – AVID Regional Path Training, as presented.

Mrs. Ward stated that she loves what the AVID acronym stands for, but she feels that the AVID Regional Path Training includes controversial sessions focused on culturally relevant teaching. Mrs. Ward feels that conversations about race, gender, class, and sexual orientation are best had at home with parents. Mrs. Ward feels that these sessions are about leftism and focusing on what divides instead of what unites. Mrs. Ward indicated she would be voting no.

Ms. Kerr stated that she disagrees with Mrs. Ward's statements. Ms. Kerr stated that these sessions are teaching teachers how to deal with diverse populations not how to teach these topics.

Ms. Owens stated that there are nine pages of different sessions for teachers to choose from and she cannot understand voting no because of two of them. Ms. Owens also feels that the two sessions Mrs. Ward has concerns about are important because they help teachers recognize and deal with the District's diverse community. Ms. Owens indicated that she would be voting yes.

Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: and Mrs. Ward. The motion carried by a vote of 5-1.

E. Proposal - Dale Carnegie Leadership Training

Mr. Phelps, Interim Director of Business Services reviewed the proposal summary that has been revised to reflect the correct amount that is being requested.

Administration recommended approval of the proposal with Dale Carnegie Training in the amount of \$93,800.00, approximately \$1,876.00 per person and will include 25 hours of training per person for 50 people, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Educational Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2017-2018 school year.

Motion by Ms. Owens, second by Mr. Costello, to approve the proposal – Dale Carnegie Leadership Training, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

F. Proposal - Information Services-Bartlett Elementary - Parents & Teachers of Bartlett (PTB) - Technology Purchase

Mr. Phelps, Interim Director of Business Services and Ms. Keltner, Principal, Bartlett Elementary School, presented the proposal. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Heartland Business Systems in the amount of \$32,880.00 and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Educational Fund. The cost will be reimbursed in full by the Bartlett Elementary PTB.

Motion by Mrs. Ward, second by Ms. Kerr to approve the proposal – Information Services – Bartlett Elementary – Parents & Teachers of Bartlett (PTB) – technology purchase, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

G. Board Policy Update - Section 7/Students

Mr. Rodriguez, Chief Legal Officer, Dr. Johnson, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction, along Ms. Owens, Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee Representatives, reviewed suggested edits to Board Policies #7.100 - Physical and Health Examinations of Students and #7.102 - Immunization of Students.

Motion by Ms. Kerr, second by Ms. Owens, to approve the Board policy update – Section 7/Students, as presented. Upon roll call, yes votes: Ms. Kerr, Ms. Owens, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: Mr. Costello, Ms. Noland, and Mrs. Ward. The motion failed by a vote of 3-3.

Mr. Sanders noted that the failure of the vote means that first day exclusions will remain the policy.

5. Other Business - CAC Update

There was no update from the CAC.

6. Other Business - Student Disciplinary Cases

A. Student E

Motion by Ms. Owens, second by Ms. Kerr, to approve administration's recommendation to expel Student E for one semester, the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year. While serving the expulsion, Student E will have the opportunity to enroll in an alternative education program. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

7. Other Business - Mr. Sanders

A. 2018-2019 Board of Education Meeting Schedule

Mr. Rodriguez, Chief Legal Officer, and Mrs. Smith presented the 2018-2019 Board of Education Meeting Schedule.

B. November Financial Report

Mr. Burnidge, Director of Financial Operations, reviewed the Financial Report. Total fund balance at the end of November 30, 2017, was \$294,822,875.00, which was a decrease of \$22 million from the October 31, 2017, balance. During the month of November, the District received \$2.4 million in property tax payments and \$27,000 from the State for Catagoricals. The state currently owes the District \$10.5 million. The District received \$2.9 million in Federal funds. Total revenue is 6% higher than last year and expenditures are 2.7% higher but in line with the budget.

8. Work Session – Bids/Proposals

A. Proposal - Plant Operations - A&O Vehicle Replacement

Mr. Phelps, Interim Director of Business Services, and Mr. Allen, Director of Plant Operations, presented the proposal. Administration recommended that the Board of Education approve the State Bid/Suburban Purchasing Cooperation (SPC) in the amount of \$468,437.00 as submitted by Currie Motors, and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Operations and Maintenance Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2017-2018 school year.

B. Proposal - Teaching and Learning/ELL Department - ESL Textbook Purchase (Update)

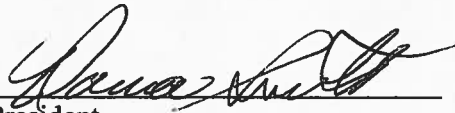
Mr. Phelps, Interim Director of Business Services, Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction, and Dr. Acevedo, Director of English Language Learners, reviewed the proposal. Administration recommended approval of the proposal from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in the amount of \$442,953.91 and requested authorization for District administration to execute related documents. This expenditure will be charged to the Educational Fund. The cost is included in the budget for the 2017-2018 school year.

9. Adjournment

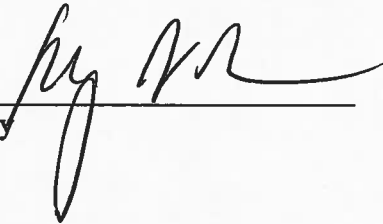
Motion by Mrs. Ward, second by Ms. Noland, to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of December 18, 2017, at 8:35 p.m. Upon roll call, yes votes: Mr. Costello, Ms. Kerr, Ms.

Noland, Ms. Owens, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Smith. No votes: 0. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Approved this 5th day of February, 2018



President



Secretary