

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING,
BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL
DISTRICT #225, COOK COUNTY,
ILLINOIS, AUGUST 22, 1990**

A special meeting of the Board of Education, School District No. 225 was held on Wednesday, August 22, 1990 at approximately 7:00 p.m. at the Glenbrook High Schools Administration Building, pursuant to due notice of all members.

The president called the meeting to order. Upon calling of the roll, the following members answered present: Baer, Howland, McConachie, Morris, Wilson, Winton, Zimmerman. Also present: Freeman, Lacivita, McGrew.

DISCUSSION OF DISTRICT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE 1990-91 SCHOOL YEAR

Mr. Morris announced that the purpose of the special meeting was to establish goals for the 1990-91 school year.

Mr. Wilson asked for a clarification as to the differentiation between Board objectives and superintendent objectives. Dr. McGrew indicated that there ought to be some differentiation, but that the two terms have been used interchangeably during the last several years.

Dr. McGrew then presented seven areas or topics which he suggested the Board ought to consider developing into objectives for the coming school year. These topics are:

1. Cost Containment
2. Educational Technology
3. Critical Thinking and Integration of Subject Matter
4. Budgeting Process
5. Board of Education Organization, Functions, and Processes
6. International Tests and Studies
7. Public Relations and Community Involvement

Dr. McGrew also described a cyclical planning process for addressing Board objectives that would be continuous and fluid with objectives being addressed by the Board on a regular basis throughout the school year. Dr. McGrew stressed the process of planning as opposed to developing a static plan.

Dr. McGrew also presented two concepts that he indicated he would be addressing to the faculty at the opening of school assemblies. He indicated that he was proposing that two grades should be given in all English courses: a grade for literature and a separate grade for writing. He also indicated that in subsequent years an advisory grade in writing would be given in all academic courses.

The second concept Dr. McGrew proposed involved student homework. He suggested that greater emphasis and guidance should be given to student homework. He said he would ask for faculty volunteers to develop comprehensive homework manuals that would systematically list the homework assignments for an entire course, together with suggested references and study aids.

Board members expressed enthusiasm for the two concepts presented by Dr. McGrew and encouraged him to proceed with his concepts. The Board commended Dr. McGrew for his creative and innovative concepts.

Mr. Baer suggested that the two concepts appear to be related to superintendent objectives and that the Board ought to develop Board objectives as well.

Mr. Wilson and Mr. Winton expressed the need for the Board to complete its work on its mission statement, strategic goals and objectives, and long range plan. The Board considered several methods for developing a long range strategic plan including a weekend Board retreat or the use of consultants. Mr. Howland suggested that the Board could begin the process by replacing the current Board policy on philosophic goals and objectives with the mission statement which has been under development by the Board.

Mr. Baer stated that there appeared to be Board consensus that one of the Board objectives ought to be to work toward the development of a long range plan which would include the development of a mission statement, philosophy, strategic goals and objectives.

Mr. Wilson suggested that the Board consider an objective of achieving world class schools. He further suggested the Board start this objective by obtaining and analyzing international exams and deciding whether or not these exams are desirable as standards for our schools.

Mr. Winton indicated he supported a Board objective which aimed at increasing learning time for our students and time-on-task through a variety of means.

Mr. Howland raised the issue of whether or not the Board members supported a separate mission statement for the Board in addition to a mission statement for the district. Mr. Baer suggested that the consideration of a separate mission statement for the Board should be part of the development of a long range strategic plan.

After further discussion, the Board reviewed all the objectives which had been proposed by members of the Board. Among the objectives under review, the Board adopted two objectives as its first priority objectives for the 1990-91 school year. The two objectives are the development of a long range strategic plan and cost containment.

The Board also identified four additional objectives which the Board will consider once the first two priority objectives are adequately addressed. The four additional objectives are public relations and community involvement, increased student learning time and time on task, critical thinking, and integration of subject matter. The Board will begin to work on its top two priority objectives using the cyclical planning process suggested by Dr. McGrew.

Mr. Morris suggested that the Board consider a weekend retreat to begin the long range strategic planning process, with the possible use of a facilitator to assist the Board in the process.

BOARD REPORT

Mr. Morris distributed copies of an article written by Jack Mabley that appeared in the Daily Herald on August 20, 1990 and an anonymous letter that Mr. Morris had received describing errors in the article.

Mr. Morris reported to the Board about the meeting he, Mrs. McConachie, and Dr. McGrew had attended with representatives of the Northbrook Park District concerning the rental of the fieldhouse. He indicated that it was a useful meeting and that the most likely arrangement would be for the school district to exchange an hour of use of the fieldhouse for an hour of use of the Leisure Center used by the school district's special education program. The other proposal considered was for each district to rent the other district's facility for a dollar per year. Mr. Morris indicated that the president of the Park District would attend the next Board of Education meeting to further review the arrangements.

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Mrs. Zimmerman requested that the Board meeting procedures be an agenda item for a future Board meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. McGrew gave the Board a status report concerning retirement payments for one of the district's retirees as they relate to Senate Bill 1591 which was recently amendatorily vetoed by the Governor. It was the consensus of the Board to proceed in a manner suggested by Dr. McGrew.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mrs. Zimmerman, seconded by Mr. Wilson, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:55 p.m.

Upon call for a vote on the motion, all present voted aye.*

Motion carried.

* **Means Baer, Howland, McConachie, Morris, Wilson, Winton and Zimmerman all voted aye.**

CERTIFIED TO BE CORRECT:

PRESIDENT - BOARD OF EDUCATION

SECRETARY - BOARD OF EDUCATION

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: AUGUST 27, 1990 Glenbrook Administration Center
7:30 P.M. 1835 Landwehr Road
Glenview, Illinois