

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING,
BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL
DISTRICT #225, COOK COUNTY,
ILLINOIS, APRIL 15, 2000**

A special meeting of the Board of Education, School District No. 225 was held on Saturday, April 15, 2000, at approximately 9:00 a.m. at Glenbrook South High School, 4000 W. Lake Avenue, Glenview, pursuant to due notice to all members and the public.

The president called the meeting to order and announced the reasons for the special meeting of the Board of Education. Upon calling of the roll, the following members answered present: Beyne, Lerner, Long, Olson, Rogal, Seymour, Shact. Also present: Babington, Casey, Freeman, Hales, Helander-Heiser, Herrick, Lacivita, Lanz, Rainier, Riggle, Sennholtz, Smith, Taccona.

RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY VISITORS FOR COMMENTS LIMITED TO TOPICS ON THIS AGENDA

Board president, Carol Rogal, announced that the Board would allow one hour for comments from community visitors. This time period was extended approximately one half hour as 34 individuals addressed the Board. The major points made by the speakers are summarized below, with the number of speakers addressing the issue in parentheses. (Note: multiple points were made by several speakers.)

- Leave the boundaries as is; preserve the community of interest; allow Glenview students to attend Glenbrook South. (24)
- Do not disrupt the current demographic makeup at Glenbrook South; preserve the racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic diversity. (3)
- Do not disturb the current academic profile of Glenbrook South; shifting segments of students to GBN would disturb this balance and cause greater academic disparity between the schools. (3)
- Empty nesters support current boundaries and community of interest. (1)
- Senior citizens support current boundaries and community of interest. (1)

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- Do not allow choice, as it will increase competition and recruitment for talent (academic, athletic, extracurricular); choice will be made along ethnic lines; increase family pressure based on current friendships and cause fragmentation and animosity. (1)
- Parents made their choice when they purchased their home, knowing full well where their students would attend elementary and high school. (2)
- Funds are available to accommodate the additional students at Glenbrook South; taxpayers are willing to pay. (3)
- The Board needs to be fiscally responsible and utilize the capacity at GBN. (1)
- Avoid splitting elementary districts; community of interest is defined by our current school and our children's current friends. (5)
- Parents are your greatest resource; don't destroy that relationship by causing withdrawal, anger, or rejection; parents' fundamental choice of community is where their kids will go to high school. (1)
- Pools at both schools are inadequate, unsafe, and functionally obsolete. (4)

**DISCUSSION REGARDING TOPICS INVOLVING FACILITY PLANNING,
FINANCIAL PLANNING AND STUDENT ENROLLMENTS**

The Board then convened a working session to discuss topics involving facility planning, financial planning, and student enrollments. The Board discussed issues and shared their feelings and opinions regarding facility needs at Glenbrook South and Glenbrook North; how to handle the growing enrollment at both schools; and how to address these issues within the financial parameters of the district.

The Board agreed that when making future decisions on these important matters, consideration must be given to:

1. Maintaining the ability to rigorously hire, maintain, and train quality staff.

2. Providing access to evolving new technology tools, teaching methods, and future programs.
3. Keeping class sizes at a level which facilitates effective teaching and learning.
4. Providing comfortable and adequately sized facilities for teaching and learning.

Although no final decisions were made, the board of education did reach a consensus on the following items:

- Regardless of student enrollment, major renovation and remodeling is necessary at GBS to meet current and future academic needs and function and to improve the environment for our students and staff.
- Projected enrollment growth will be accommodated within our current boundaries.

Having reached a consensus on these important philosophical issues, the Board asked the administration to develop a plan and to address district facility needs and the projected enrollment growth within the district's financial parameters. These financial parameters include:

1. Maintaining an acceptable operating balance for the district.
2. Allowing a cushion and flexibility to accommodate changing program needs and future priorities.
3. Not requiring a referendum or the levying of additional taxes.
4. Aggressively pursuing a state facility grant, which would fund up to 35% of eligible costs.

These plans are scheduled to be presented to the Board in May.

