

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING,
BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL
DISTRICT #225, COOK COUNTY,
ILLINOIS, June 9, 2008**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, School District No. 225 was held on Monday, June 9, 2008, at approximately 10:35 p.m. at the Glenbrook High Schools Administration Building, pursuant to due notice of all members and the public.

The president called the meeting to order. Upon calling of the roll, the following members answered present: Berzon, Boron, Hammer, Jeffery, Shein, Taub, and Torf. Also present: Dill-Varga, Freeman, Hales, Ptak, Riggle, Schilling, Thimm, and Wegley.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING as amended in motion

Motion by Mr. Boron, seconded by Mr. Hammer to approve the agenda for this meeting with the deletion of item #4 Discussion/Action: Security Report Review which had been moved to the first meeting this evening and with the addition of Board and Superintendent Reports in its place.

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Berzon, Boron, Hammer, Jeffery, Shein, Taub, and Torf.

nay: none

Motion carried. 7-0

RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY VISITORS

President Torf asked if any members of the community wished to be recognized and Mr. Elias Matsakis, former board member and parent of Glenbrook South graduate asked to be recognized. He offered the following tribute in honor of retiring superintendent Dr. Dave Hales:

“As a parent of three GBS graduates, a former school board member and a 34 year resident of Glenview, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Hales and his entire administrative team for an extraordinary ten years of service to the Glenbrooks.

Over those ten years, Dr. Hales presided over a 25 % increase in our student enrollment, a turnover of a majority of our faculty and multiple renovations at both high schools. Throughout it all, Dr. Hales’ focus on excellence in the three A’s: Academics, Activities and Athletics was steadfast and unwavering. Creating opportunities for our kids was and remained

his number one priority. Dr. Hales led the District to achieve this through an extraordinary 24/7 optimistic and engaging personality that created positive connections throughout our schools and community.

It is impossible to list all the positive changes that I have witnessed in the past ten years, but let me name a few:

- We initiated an outreach with our feeder districts that created greater alignment between our middle schools and high schools curricula, all for the benefit of our students.
- We restructured our student schedules at both schools with the support of our faculty.
- We dramatically expanded our special education offerings - now at both schools.
- We relocated a critical safety net off campus program with innovative ways to reintegrate those students into our mainstream high school.
- Our evening school annually has produced life-changing opportunities for students whose circumstances require special accommodations.
- We integrated database management tools to help inform our educators on how to best serve our at risk and transfer students.
- We integrated our District curriculum and financial planning processes to enable us to effectively prioritize our resources.
- We systematically surveyed our students on their student stress and surveyed our community to learn their perceptions and values as to implementing our mission.
- We initiated systematic reviews of every administrative service function and created efficiencies and improvements in the process.
- We expanded and developed our signature programs in the arts (from drama, speech and debate, GSO, band, vocal performance, dance, fine arts - with disproportionate number of our students being recognized as best in the state and the country).

- We routinely celebrated and acknowledged students and staff that excel.
- We revamped our software and network operations, created technology enabled classrooms, and are now poised to go wireless.
- We offered a diversified and expanded athletic offering for boys and girls with countless conference, regional, sectional and state titles.
- We created systematic dashboard reports to monitor the progress and demographics of our high schools.
- We maintained the highest fiscal bond rating of any high school district from both Standard & Poors and Moody's.
- We faced some challenging student discipline issues and developed policies, interventions and procedures to preserve the safety of our schools and to identify and assist students who are at risk and help students make good choices.
- We maintained a collaborative relationship with our teachers union and together adjusted that have enhanced education culminating in another long term contract and instituted an internationally acclaimed wellness program
- We revamped our teacher evaluation methods to "best practices" and enhanced our professional development programs.
- We improved our recruiting methods to attract quality teachers in a competitive market.
- We improved our relationship and coordination with other local government bodies and agencies and our villages and improved our disaster and crisis resources for the safety of our students and staff.
- We established a set of expectations for board members and administrators alike that has facilitated communication, oversight and good decision-making.
- We preserved and expanded our signature peer mentoring programs, our diverse curriculum offerings, our Academy and created significant technology tools to support our educational mission.

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- At a critical juncture, we engaged our community and solicited and received their support for a referendum that maintained our student teacher ratios, our signature programs and rehabilitated antiquated portion of our building thereby preserving excellence in education by improved facilities and maintenance of necessary certified staff.
- Our schools have been safe and each high school is a major source of pride for the Villages of Glenview and Northbrook.
- Our parents groups and residents have provided us with critical volunteer resources and we have kept them better informed on issues affecting their schools and children.

In citing these accomplishments to you, I think we all recognize that virtually everyone of those accomplishments was led by a member of Dave's administrative team, other than Dave. Many of these programs were led by Craig Schilling, Barb Dill-Varga, Kim Ptak, Vicky Helander-Heiser, George Tuttle, Diane Freeman and others in your District Team. They were also the result of the unique leadership and commitment we have enjoyed from Mike Riggle, Brian Wegley and David Smith and their associate and assistant principals, instructional supervisors and faculty at both schools. Still other of these programs were initiated and had the active participation of your School Board.

Through it all, Dave, your empowerment of these gifted educators and willingness to learn from everyone with whom you encountered has created a culture of achievement that transcended your personality. In truth, your ongoing optimistic approach was critical to aligning all constituencies in support of our mission.

On a personal level, during my six years as a board member, Dave, you have extended me every courtesy imaginable and integrity was always at the cornerstone of our relationship. Whatever your personal opinion, you implemented board directives with a sincerity and diligence that created the trust that facilitated achievement.

I was constantly amazed at my experience walking the halls of either high school and hearing students shout "Hey Dr. Hales" and see you stop and ask them about their particular activity and then talk about their siblings as if they were family. Everyone knows that you are more comfortable in shorts and a t-shirt rather than a sports

coat and tie. Dave you brought us into your family through your open expressions of love of your two daughters and your dear Brenda. Dave somehow you found time to play and tennis commitments were sacrosanct. You also found time for private one-on-one charity and to support for those less fortunate or in need in our community.

Looking forward, we are most fortunate that Dr. Riggle will be our next superintendent. Over these past many years Dr. Riggle has been a unique and positive leader both at Glenbrook North and throughout our District. The communication and collaboration among our high schools has never been better and I have every confidence that many years from now a future board member or parent will be at this podium thanking Dr. Riggle for his leadership.

Dave, I believe you will approach your retirement with the same passion and energy that you gave our District. May you continue to share your gifts, renew your spirit, live your dreams.

BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

President Torf and Vice President Shein presented Dr. Dave Hales, retiring superintendent, with a plaque to be hung on the Wall of Fame in the district office lobby engraved with the following: "He leads as he lives: Do some good, have some fun, and tell the ones you love that you love them." President Torf read a poem she had written in honor of Dr. Hales.

Dr. Dave Hales, or Dave, as he probably would insist we call him in these parting remarks, spent a few minutes sharing his reactions and thoughts with the Board during what is now being called "A Decade with Dave." He talked about important values to him: honesty, trust, open collaboration, caring about students and each other, a sense of commitment. He cited how proud he was of the people in the district who together had built the successes enjoyed in academics, extracurriculars and athletic opportunities for all students. He shared his excitement about the opportunities in front of him during his "gap year" but remarked that it was bittersweet as "his beloved Brenda" would not be there with him to share it. He thanked the Board and administration for their support and for the honor to serve them and all of the students and families in District 225.

The Board and all present thanked Dave for his service and dedication to the district.

DISCUSSION/ACTION: APPROVAL OF 5-YEAR TRACTOR LEASE

Mrs. Kim Ptak informed the Board of Glenbrook North's need of a tractor to pull its 7-gang reel mower, which is used to do the bulk of the general grass cutting on athletic fields. This

annual lease payment will be paid out of GBN building operating funds and purchased under a state contract. The purchase will then be financed through a third party (American Capital). The tractor has a 50-year warranty and at the end of the lease GBN will have ownership. Requests were sent to four companies and Mrs. Ptak's recommendation was that the board should approve a 5-year dollar value lease to American Capital in the amount of \$5,482.84.

MOTION TO APPROVE 5-YEAR EQUIPMENT LEASE FOR TRACTOR

Motion to approve 5-year equipment lease for tractor from American Capital in the amount of \$5,482.84.

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Berzon, Boron, Hammer, Jeffery, Shein, Taub, and Torf.

nay: none

Motion carried. 7-0

(see agenda item #5)

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Boron, seconded by Mr. Hammer, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 11:10 p.m.

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

Motion carried.

* means Berzon, Boron, Hammer, Jeffery, Shein, Taub, and Torf.

CERTIFIED TO BE CORRECT:

PRESIDENT - BOARD OF EDUCATION

SECRETARY - BOARD OF EDUCATION

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS:

Meetings will be held in the
Board Room (unless otherwise noted) of the

Northfield Township High School District #225
Administration Building,
1835 Landwehr Road,
Glenview, Illinois.

Thursday, June 26, 2008	6:00 p.m.	Board Retreat/Meeting at The Glen Club
Monday, July 7, 2008	7:30 p.m.	Regular Board Meeting