

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING,  
BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL  
DISTRICT #225, COOK COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS, FEBRUARY 3, 2014**

A special meeting of the Board of Education, School District No. 225 was held on Monday, February 3, 2014 at 6:32 p.m. at Glenbrook North High School Library, 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:

Boron, Doughty, Hanley, Martin, Shein, Taub and Wilkas

Absent: N/A

Also present: Caliendo, Frandson, Geallis, Geddeis, Muir, Pryma, Ptak, Riggle, Siena, Wegley, Williamson

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING**

Motion by Mr. Boron, seconded by Mr. Doughty to approve the agenda for this meeting.

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Boron, Doughty, Hanley, Martin, Shein, Taub and Wilkas

nay: none

Motion carried 7-0.

**STUDENTS AND STAFF WHO EXCEL**

Dr. Riggle stated that because our last meeting was canceled due to weather, the student's schedules did not allow them to attend tonight's meeting.

Ms. Geddeis honored the students from both GBN and GBS who were selected as finalists by the Illinois Music Educators' Association (IMEA) and explained that the students will be recognized at their individual schools.

GBN Students (10):

Orchestra: Josiah Yoo, Ki Deok Park; Chorus: Isabella Andrews, Daniel Hensel, Lesley Levy, Keira McCarthy, Christian Mergl, Billy Rude, Meg Ruocco; Band: Matt Stanielun.

GBS Students (13):

Orchestra: Daniel Ahn, Patrick Raynard; Chorus: Atticus Hebson, Brad Kirby, Nick Langas, Joseph Lee, Laretta Mosteller, Hannah Schiller, David Sucher, Paul Tisch, Minji Will; Band: Theodore Mavrakis, Marissa Takaki.

**RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY VISITORS**

None.

**BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS**

Dr. Riggle stated that GBN's night in the classroom attendance was down from first semester which is normal. The parents' questions were addressed and it was considered a success.

Dr. Riggle noted that the Variety Show is scheduled this week at GBN and two weeks later at GBS; we expect them to both be tremendous.

Dr. Riggle stated that he was happy to announce that we have a GBS alumnus who will be competing in speed skating at the Olympics.

Dr. Wegley stated that Brian Hansen from the class of 2009 will be competing in his 2<sup>nd</sup> Olympics.

**MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Doughty gave Dr. Riggle some changes to the closed session minutes.

Motion by Mr. Boron, seconded by Mrs. Wilkas to approve the following items on the consent agenda

- 1.) Appointments
  - (a) Certified - none
  - (b) Support Staff - none
- 2.) Resignations/Termination
  - (a) Certified

| <u>NAME</u>   | <u>POSITION</u>      | <u>EFFECTIVE</u> | <u>SCHOOL</u> |
|---------------|----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Weber, Karen  | Teacher,<br>PE/HE/DE | 01.29.14         | GBN           |
| Timson, Kelly | Teacher,<br>Science, | 06.06.14         | GBS           |

SwimAmerica  
Supervisor  
Gerencser, Teacher, World 06.06.14 GBN  
Jospeh Lang.

- (b) Support Staff - none
- 3.) FOIA - none
- 4.) the issuance of Vendor Checks Nos. 61162 through 61370 in the amount of \$1,660,850.09 as listed on the attached checks register dated January 21 and 22, 2014.
- 5.) the issuance of the electronic wire transfers for credit union, TRS, federal taxes, employee and employer portion of FICA and MED taxes and state taxes and payroll and payroll check numbers 71785 thru 72083. Total checks issued were \$155,191.35 of which \$149,675.98, three of these checks are voided amounting to \$3,523.30 and \$5,515.37 are vendor payroll checks. Federal, State, FICA/Medicare of \$1,212,911.54. TRS contributions of \$515,444.88, other deductions of \$441,592.61 and direct deposit of \$4,065,023.80. Gross payroll for the month of December was \$6,384,648.81. TRS employer contribution was \$499,560.26 and FICA/MEDICARE was \$166,457.67.
- 6.) Imprest - none
- 7.) the Open and Closed Session Minutes from the January 13, 2014 Regular Board Meeting.
- 8.) New Course Proposals
- 9.) GBS Japanese Student Exchange
- 10.) the acceptance of the following gifts:

| Gift From                              | Amount or Item | School | Department              | Account |
|--|----------------|--------|-------------------------|---------|
| Buchanan Energy/Exxon Mobil Northbrook | \$500.00       | GBN    | Science                 | 274410  |
| John P. McCormick                      | \$300.00       | GBN    | Student Activity Office | 820360  |
| Sarah Hudson                           | \$350.00       | GBN    | STUDENT ACTIVITY OFFICE | 820360  |

|                                    |                      |     |                                   |        |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|-----|-----------------------------------|--------|
| David & Barbara Young              | \$250.00             | GBN | STUDENT ACTIVITY OFFICE           | 820360 |
| Nan P. Young                       | \$100.00             | GBN | STUDENT ACTIVITY OFFICE           | 820360 |
| Anonymous Donor                    | \$5,000.00           | GBS | Auditorium – wireless microphones | 831302 |
| Hayford Family Foundation          | \$7,000.00           | GBS | Fencing                           | 830382 |
| Diane Moerke, Auto Parts City Inc. | 2 carburetor engines | GBS | Automotives                       | N/A    |
| Vicki Tiller                       | \$1,000.00           | GBS | Music Department                  | 364410 |

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Boron, Doughty, Hanley, Martin, Shein, Taub, Wilkas

nay: none

Motion carried 7-0.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION: CURRICULUM REPORTS**

Dr. Riggle thanked the I.S's for coming out tonight after the job fair on Saturday.

Dr. Williamson stated that the annual curriculum reports are generated by the departments under the guidelines outlined in Board Policy and Procedures 7010: Curriculum Planning Strategy.

Mr. Muir explained that curriculum teams furthered their progress in implementing the backward design process in addition to continuing to focus on better aligning curriculum to common core and other such standards.

In response to a board member question Mr. Muir explained that most standards overlap and focus on skills.

Dr. Williamson stated that Illinois has adopted the Common Core Standards which are the ruling standard Illinois expects us to meet.

The administration stated that the goal of the district is to help our students be successful after graduation and not just on standardized tests.

In response to board questions the administration explained that the majority of states have adopted the Common Core Standards.

Dr. Riggle stated that the fear is that these standards will cause teachers to teach to the test.

In response to a question regarding Spanish classes, the administration explained the difference in the two different levels.

The administration stated that there is a separate board policy regarding textbooks. We do not want to think of the textbook as our curriculum. The review presented this evening is about the curriculum, but may include textbook review.

Mr. Muir stated that we are addressing the concerns cited in the arts/ceramics department.

The World Language I.S. explained students are assessed at different levels in multi-level classrooms.

The administration explained that the purpose of the curriculum review is to help with consistency between courses so that students have the same experience. Teachers have the latitude to use the tools of their choice to present the lesson.

Ms. Frandson stated that GBN is also working on meeting the standards; Common Core, Next Generation Science, and and is working in collaboration with GBS on Project Lead the Way.

The administration explained the decision to share the orchestra position between schools.

In response to a board member question administrators stated that welding has been available for a very long time. Enrollment is stable and equipment is being updated over time.

The administration stated that students are very engaged in the fitness curriculum. The use of new technology, as well as the state of the art fitness centers are very helpful in keeping students interested. Teachers are using current fitness trends such as cross fit and the triathlon day to help students feel a sense of accomplishment which will hopefully help students look at fitness as a long term goal.

Dr. Riggle thanked the I.S's for their efforts.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION: APPROVAL OF TWO YEAR EXTENSION OF STUDENT TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT**

Dr. Ptak stated that in December 2010, the Board approved a three year contract for student transportation services with First Student, who emerged as the low bidder. They were significantly lower than the other bidders at that time and a provision was placed in the contract to allow the district to extend the contract for an additional two year period. Based on current performance Dr. Ptak recommended that the Board approve the two year extension.

Dr. Ptak explained that under school code there is a maximum 5 year contract limit without going out to bid.

Dr. Ptak explained that the benefit that First Student has is that they are local and they can use the buses for other local schools. She explained that we did not go out to bid this year.

A board member stated we need to do our due diligence by seeing what quotes we would get today, not based on what we got years ago.

Mrs. Siena stated that there has not been a fuel increase since the start of the contract.

Dr. Ptak stated that we can go out for quotes which would not affect the extension of the First Student contract.

Board members stated that in the past we have had service issues with other vendors and the administration agreed.

Board members discussed the pros and cons of not going forward with the extension.

In response to a board member's question the bus company spokesperson stated that in the industry there is talk to move to propane for school buses, but the issue is that propane does not provide enough heat to the inside of the bus in northern climates.

Dr. Ptak stated that she will get some quotes for next Monday's board meeting.

The board president stated that board consensus was to put this on consent and if necessary the item can be pulled based on Dr. Ptak's findings.

In response to a board member question Dr. Ptak explained that there has not been a fuel increase because we put it in our bid structure that we would not accept an increase.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION: FY 14/15 STUDENT TRANSPORTATION FEE**

Dr. Riggle asked Mrs. Siena to review the transportation fee since it goes hand in hand with the transportation contract.

Mrs. Siena reviewed student transportation fees and noted that our ridership is the highest it has ever been.

In response to a board member's question Mrs. Siena stated that any extra money or contingency money remains in the transportation account.

A board member stated that at another district every family is charged a transportation fee. The board member asked if the district has ever considered this option. He stated that this might help with the parking lot issue.

The administration stated that they would have to research this and would get back to the board.

Dr. Riggle stated that this could present issues in levying taxes for transportation.

Mrs. Siena stated that this will be the sixth consecutive year that we have not raised fees.

Both this item and the transportation item will be placed on the February 10 consent agenda for approval pending Dr. Ptak's research.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION: FOOD SERVICE DISCUSSION**

Dr. Riggle stated that at the Board's request, Dr. Ptak worked with Quest, to put together a presentation of the offerings made available to students in the food courts for breakfast and lunch. Both Bill Cadman and Mike McTaggart from Quest are here for tonight's board meeting.

Dr. Ptak reviewed the power point presentation.

A Board member asked what the administration thinks about a 25% participation rate of eligible low income students in the food service program.

The Administration/Quest stated that:

- The low income number has remained stable for the last 2 years.
- The 25% participation could be skewed because this factors in both breakfast and lunch so the low numbers of breakfast participants can skew the numbers.

- They do not believe it is an education issue, low income students are aware of the lunch offerings.
- Low income students are given three different lunch options.

Dr. Riggle stated that it is important to note that a significant emphasis has been placed on student choice over the last few years.

Dr. Riggle noted that Quest meets regularly with students and staff to discuss the choices made available, as well as addressing any concerns. Dr. Riggle stated that Quest has been very responsive to the students within reason.

The building principals are very familiar and involved in the process with Quest and are happy with the positive feedback they receive from parents and students on both options and quality.

Dr. Ptak reviewed the food service options.

In response to a board member question Mr. Cadman stated that a station that is not popular can be changed easily.

Dr. Ptak responded to a board member question stating that it is past practice to sell carbonated beverages, because the district feels the juniors and seniors are allowed to leave the school and make their own decision on what to eat/drink.

In response to a board member question Mike McTaggart stated that sales do go down in districts that do not allow carbonated beverages.

The administration stated that it is within the board's authority to disallow carbonated drinks.

Board members discussed the role of the district to make food choices for the students.

Dr. Riggle stated that we are not opposed to change. He suggested that he can speak with the feeder districts to find out what the expectations are from incoming students. He suggested that by including stakeholders in the decision making we will get more buy in. Dr. Riggle suggested further discussion on this topic and stated that beverages would be a good place to start.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION: BOARD POLICY AND/OR PROCEDURES**  
**6030 POLICY - PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**  
**8000 POLICY - EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Dr. Riggle stated that these revised policies are being recommended to the board to prepare the district for a Regional Office of Education Compliance Review that will be conducted in late March.

6030 Policy - Professional Development Opportunities

Dr. Riggle stated that the language introduced is intended to address the mandated trainings that are required by various staff members as outlined in numerous State Codes, as well as rules issued by governmental licensing agencies. After suggested board changes, this policy will be placed on the February 10 consent agenda for approval.

8000 Policy - Equal Educational Opportunities

Dr. Riggle stated that identified deficiency in our current policy did not specifically include homeless, ancestry and age. After making suggested board changes, this policy can be placed on the February 10 consent agenda for approval.

Dr. Riggle stated that the policy committee is meeting tomorrow so we may have some additional policies at the next meeting.

**MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS**

Dr. Riggle stated that he wanted to discuss the school closings with the board. The administration has the latitude to make this decision so we are not asking for board approval, but when it comes to the school calendar the board does need to eventually approve that.

Dr. Riggle explained that state code requires 176 days of pupil attendance, but our district has had a history of having 178 days of pupil attendance. He reviewed the school closings.

Dr. Riggle explained the different options the board has for students, teachers, instructional supervisors, and support staff with regard to state code and work contracts.

The board discussed the pros and cons of changing the students' calendar.

Board consensus was to have a student day Friday, June 6, 2014.

Dr. Riggle stated that Ms. Geddeis will work on the communication.

Dr. Riggle stated that seniors will graduate on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

In response to a board member's question on how the current strategies and future strategies differ, Dr. Riggle stated that in the past we have tried to work in unison with the feeder districts regarding school closings, but because of the amount of snow days this year, he has informed the feeder districts that we will look to avoid additional closures by utilizing a late arrival or two-hour delay strategy. This is difficult for grade school students.

A board member discussed adding this as an agenda item at a future board meeting.

Another board member asked that another possible future topic be the use of extra money from quest sales to offer a summer school class on nutrition.

The administration indicated that they could not use this money for a summer class because of School Code rules.

The board discussed ways to educate our students on nutrition.

#### **REVIEW AND SUMMARY OF BOARD MEETING**

None.

#### **MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION**

Motion by Mr. Boron, seconded by Mrs. Wilkas to move into closed session at approximately 9:31 p.m. to consider collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. (Section 2(c) (2) of the Open Meeting Act.)

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Boron, Doughty, Hanley, Martin, Shein, Taub, Wilkas

Nay: none

Motion carried 7-0.

The Board returned to open session at 10:13 p.m.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mr. Boron, seconded by Mrs. Hanley to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:14 p.m.

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

Motion carried 7-0.

\* Boron, Doughty, Hanley, Martin, Shein, Taub, Wilkas

CERTIFIED TO BE CORRECT:

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PRESIDENT - BOARD OF EDUCATION

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SECRETARY - BOARD OF EDUCATION

**UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS:**

Upcoming meetings will be held at  
Glenbrook North High School  
Library  
2300 Shermer Road  
Northbrook, IL 60062

Monday, February 10, 2014      7:00 p.m. Regular Board Meeting