

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING,  
BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL  
DISTRICT #225, COOK COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS, AUGUST 10, 2015**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, School District No. 225 was held on Monday, August 10, 2015, at approximately 7:01 p.m. at Glenbrook District Office, 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, Hanley, Martin, Shein, Taub

Absent: Doughty, Wilkas

Also present: Fagel, Finan, Geallis, Geddeis (arrived at approximately 7:13 p.m.), Gravel, Hennessy (William Blair) Ptak, Riggle, Siena, Swanson, Williamson

Arrived at approximately 8:00 p.m.: Bachula, Freund

Arrived at approximately 8:34 p.m.: Barnes (consultant)

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING**

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

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Boron, Hanley, Martin, Shein, Taub

nay: none

Motion carried 5-0.

**RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY VISITORS**

None.

**BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS**

Dr. Riggle:

- Stated that we are happy to be in our new Board room.
- Thanked the Board for their support in the renovation of the district office building.
- Noted that residency is going well.
- Stated the dates of the new teacher meetings.

- Stated that renovations at GBN are going as planned.
- Stated that the GBS tennis courts are in good shape.

Dr. Finan stated that GBN construction is on schedule and looks good.

In response to a board member's question the administration stated that the Board can expect an update on the roofing projects after the September 9<sup>th</sup> facility meeting.

A board member thanked that administration and all those involved in the beautiful Board room and professional development room.

A board member mentioned the Glenbrook Foundation's Back-to-school event on August 29<sup>th</sup> at GBS and hopes all will support the activity.

**MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA**

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

1. Appointments
  - a) Certified - none
  - b) Support Staff

Name	Position	Effective	Building	Salary
				(FY15-16 TBD)
Collins, Nicole (repl. Susan Hahn)	IA SPED	08.20.15	GBN	\$18.41
O'Keefe, Emmett (repl. Richard Drake)	IA SPED	08.20.15	GBN	\$18.41
Wiley, Megan (repl. PT Barb Nellans)	IA SPED	08.20.15	GBN	\$18.41

2. Resignations/Terminations
  - a) Certified
  - b) Support Staff

Name	Position	Effective	School
Drake, Richard	1:1 Aide SPED	06.12.15	GBN

3. FOIA - none

4. Vendor Bills

Description	Amount	Attached register dated
Vendor Checks Nos. 68606 through 68686	\$286,037.68	August 4, 2015

5. Payroll - none

6. Imprest

Description	Amount	Represented by checks Numbers
Reimbursement of the Revolving Fund for Employees for the month of July	\$16,902.76	20044 through 20060, 20072 through 20074, 20112 through 20125
Reimbursement of the Revolving Fund for Vendors for the month of July	\$124,935.68	20061 through 20071, 20075 through 20086, 20087 through 20111, 20126 through 20282, 20283 through 20300, 20313 through 20462.
Checks issued in July voided in July		N/A
Check issued in previous months, voided in July:		N/A

7. Minutes

- July 27, 2015 Regular Board Meeting
- July 27, 2015 Regular Closed Board Meeting
- July 21, 2015 Finance Committee Meeting

8. Academic Attainment

9. Board Policy: 8450 - Weapons Possession

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Boron, Hanley, Martin, Shein, Taub

nay: none

Motion carried 5-0.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION: UPDATE OF FINANCING OPTIONS**

Mrs. Siena introduced Elizabeth Hennessy of the William Blair Company to speak with the Board regarding an update of refunding options to refinance bonds that were issued following

the referendum. Ms. Hennessy presented some statistics on the bond market and an analysis of the District 225 debt structure.

Ms. Hennessy:

- Presented trends
- Interest rates
- Municipal yield curve
- Outstanding debt
- Outstanding debt service
- Refunding options
- Comparison of options
- New money limited bonds
- Non-referendum limited bonds

In response to a board member's question Ms. Hennessy and Mrs. Siena explained:

- Interest rates
- Savings would be for the taxpayers, not for operations
- Benefits of refunding
- Bonds would be used for capital projects
- Possible criticisms
- Benefits of issuing bonds
- Several debt ratios which are based on our bond ratings (which is AAA).\*

\*Note: Ms. Hennessy will provide additional information to Mrs. Siena who will forward to the Board on debt ratios and where the district stands.

In response to a board member's question the administration explained when they would have more information on capital projects and life safety projects and recommended a 3 year vision for capital projects.

A board member stated the importance of scrutinizing capital projects going forward.

#### **DISCUSSION/ACTION: FOOD SERVICES RECAP**

Dr. Riggle explained that we are in the last year of our contract with Quest, so at a future Board meeting discussions regarding how we want to proceed will need to take place.

Dr. Ptak

- Provided a financial recap of Quest's services.
- Provided an update on beverage sales.
- Noted that cooking lines were installed with our fund balance.

- Noted that new signage with calorie counts have been installed in the cafeterias.
- Stated that the district received \$50,000 because Quest uses our facility to prepare food for Lincolnshire schools.
- Stated that the option to renew is May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Answered clarifying questions regarding Quest contract.
- Explained the philosophy of the fund balance.

A board member asked that the administration explore the topic of how to continue to reduce unhealthy choices and how we could further reduce soda consumption.

Dr. Riggle stated that we are heading in a good direction with our healthy choices. He said that we should talk to our students and other institutions and see what they recommend or what they are doing to promote healthy choices. He noted that because the Glenbrooks don't receive funds from the federal lunch program, we aren't required to meet the beverage standards.

Dr. Ptak acknowledged that choice is very important to our students.

Dr. Riggle noted that the Glenbrooks were featured in a Salud America publication for its efforts in promoting healthy beverage choices.

In response to board member's question GBS administration noted that there is a water fountain in near proximity to the cafeteria, but GBN does not have a water fountain.

Dr. Ptak noted that Loyola does not sell bottled water, but provides water fountains.

#### **DISCUSSION/ACTION: LONG-RANGE PLANNING AND DISTRICT INITIATIVES**

Dr. Riggle stated that at the Board retreat it was discussed that last year we had a lot of initiatives. This year we have two new principals and believe that there are some initiatives that we absolutely want to proceed with and some that need some long term planning before proceeding. He reviewed some initiatives that the administration is ready to proceed with.

Dr. Riggle stated that he plans on bringing an initiatives framework to the August 24<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. He reviewed the suggested process beginning with focus groups in late September to gather information on what the communities' expectations are.

Dr. Riggle stated that this is the time to stop and assess where the district is headed. He expects to be able to present a blueprint for where the district is going in the next 2-3 years at a December Board meeting.

In response to a board member's question Dr. Riggle stated that this process will help target our initiatives.

A Board member:

- Stated that they are happy with community involvement, but wants to make sure that it is communicated to all, not just an invited few.
- Asked for a mock calendar to be provided with the initiatives framework.
- Is interested in getting data from faculty (by department and longevity of the teacher) for our homework study.
- Asked if students' schedules need to be reviewed as part of the homework study.

In response to the conversation regarding homework, Dr. Williamson stated that our homework report to the Board stated that we would like to collect some data from parents, students and faculty regarding perception and focus groups will help gather that data.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION: VILLAGE OF NORTHBROOK 6B CLASSIFICATION**

Dr. Riggle stated that Bell Flavors and Fragrances is requesting approval from the Village of Northbrook for a Cook County Class 6B tax relief status for a 15,000 to 20,000 square foot expansion of their corporate headquarters. As part of the Village's approval and review process, they are asking the affected school districts to review the proposal and provide feedback prior to the Village's final decision.

A meeting of the Northbrook Economic Development Commission was held to review the proposal. District 225 was represented by Mr. Taub, Vicki Tarver and Dr. Riggle. The proposal was warmly received by the EDC and a vote to recommend approval was unanimous. The EDC serves in an advisory capacity to the Village of Northbrook.

Dr. Riggle explained the process and entertained any questions.

A Board member stated that Bell has been a contributing community member and feels that the Board should support the proposal. The company brings jobs to the community and there is no reason to deny the application.

A Board member noted for the record that D225 is not financially affected by this proposal.

Dr. Riggle noted that there was consensus of support from the Board, but there is no need for a vote.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS**

In response to a board member's comment, Dr. Ptak explained the rationale for the numbers presented on the bookstore realized savings and stated that in the future they should be able to present more detailed information.

A board member noted that it was great to see how much textbook costs have declined.

Dr. Riggle wanted to make the Board aware that it is a very political time in the State of Illinois. He stated that:

- A law was passed requiring all graduating students to take a civics course. (more information will be presented at a future Board meeting)
- Senate bill 318 passed the Senate which includes a two year property tax freeze.
- The House is looking at it in committee and will probably vote.
- The result will be devastating to the district.
- It is important to keep an eye on these laws as we work on the district's three year financial plan.

Mrs. Siena reviewed scenarios of how this bill would affect different school districts. She stated that the bill will have devastating impact on schools and it is important for the Board to be aware.

Dr. Riggle noted that there are additional monies lost to property tax appeals.

In response to a board member's statement the administration stated that black box theaters and how refinancing may help pay for them will be placed on a future facility committee meeting agenda.

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

The administration will refine the framework of long term planning.

At the September facility meeting a capital projects plan will be presented which will help determine our plan for refinancing bonds.

**MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION**

Motion by Mr. Boron, seconded by Mrs. Hanley to move into closed session at approximately 8:58 p.m. to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. (Section 2(c) (1) of the Open Meeting Act).

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Boron, Hanley, Martin, Shein, Taub

nay: none

Motion carried 5-0.

The Board returned to open session at 10:19 p.m.

**ACTION REGARDING EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION**

Motion by Mr. Boron, seconded by Mrs. Hanley that Neville Thompson be given a five day suspension without pay as recommended by administration.

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Boron, Hanley, Martin, Shein, Taub

nay: none

Motion carried 5-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mr. Boron, seconded by Mrs. Hanley to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:20 p.m.

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

Motion carried 5-0.

\* Boron, Hanley, Martin, Shein, Taub

CERTIFIED TO BE CORRECT:

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PRESIDENT - BOARD OF EDUCATION

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SECRETARY - BOARD OF EDUCATION

**UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS:**

Mon., Aug. 24, 2015 7:00 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting  
(District Office Public Mtg Rm  
100A)