

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT 68, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Regular Board of Education Meeting – April 21, 2009

The Board of Education of School District 68, Cook County, Illinois, met on the 21st day of April, 2009, in regular session at the Educational Service Center, according to the rules of the Board.

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by the President of the Board John Frendreis, who presided. Members of the Board were present as follows:

Present: David Beller
David Ehrlich
John Frendreis
Paul Livieri
Una McGeough
Hank Schneider
Tanja Tuck

Absent: None

Administrative staff members were present as follows:

Frances McTague, Superintendent
Leslie Gordon, Highland School Principal
Kimberly Heath, Old Orchard Junior High School Assistant Principal
Luis Illa, Old Orchard Junior High School Principal
Beth Millard, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Randy Needlman, Devonshire School Principal
Susan O'Neil, Jane Stenson School Principal
Barbara Phillips, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
Connie Powell, Director of Special Services

Absent: None

Visitors:

Amy Anson	Ellan Miller
Lila Ardell	Lisa Omori
Natalie Dandino	Renee Rowen
Kate Hanson	Diana Schmidt
Curtis House	Amy Uyeda

1. INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND VISITORS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

President Frendreis asked the Board members and administrators at the head table to introduce themselves. He asked for comments from the audience regarding items not on the agenda. There were no comments.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Member Ehrlich, seconded by Member Beller, that the Board of Education approve items on the Consent Agenda, which contained the following:

- a. Minutes
Regular Board of Education Meeting– March 17, 2009
Closed Board of Education Meeting – March 17, 2009
Special Board of Education Meeting – April 15, 2009
- b. Personnel: Classified Resignation: A. Alfaro, J. Neiman, L. Wellner;
2009-10 Job Sharing Proposal: D. Schmidt, K. Hanson; Personal Leave:
T. Deppen, T. Hovis
- c. Financial Reports
- d. March expenditures as follows: (a) accounts payable checks dated 3/31/09
in the amount of \$352,971.81, (b) handwritten checks in the amount of
\$206,477.70, (c) payroll checks in the amount of \$1,379,823.76, for a total of
\$1,939,273.27 checks issued for March.
- e. Review of Closed Meeting Minutes
The Board of Education, in compliance with the provisions of the Open
Meetings Act, take action as shown below on the minutes of closed meetings
and verbatim records of closed meetings held:

i. Transfer to Open Meeting Minutes

<u>Date of Meeting</u>	<u>Topic of Meeting</u>
3/18/08	Personnel, Administrative Benefits
4/15/08	Personnel, Possible Litigation
5/20/08	Student Matter, Personnel, Superintendent's Evaluation
6/3/08	Board Vacancy
7/15/08	Superintendent's Contract
9/16/08	Personnel
10/21/08	Review of Closed Meeting Minutes, Personnel
11/18/08	Personnel
12/16/08	Personnel

ii. Retain as Closed Meeting Minutes

<u>Date of Meeting</u>	<u>Topic of Meeting</u>
4/18/06	Collective Bargaining, Review of Closed Meeting Minutes, Superintendent's Evaluation
2/20/07	Personnel

iii. Destruction of Verbatim Record of Closed Meeting Minutes

<u>Date of Meeting</u>	<u>Topic of Meeting</u>
5/15/07	Collective Bargaining, Administrative Salaries
6/19/07	Collective Bargaining, Personnel
7/17/07	Collective Bargaining, Student Matter
8/21/07	Collective Bargaining, Student Matter
9/18/07	Collective Bargaining, Student Matter, Review of Closed Meeting Minutes
10/16/07	Collective Bargaining, Personnel

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Beller, Ehrlich, Frendreis, Livieri, McGeough, Schneider, Tuck

NAY: None

Motion carried.

3. FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE AT OLD ORCHARD JUNIOR HIGH

Superintendent McTague provided an overview of the current module based Family and Consumer Science program and noted that modifications were made last summer creating two full kitchens to provide for the expanded 12 week program. She presented a recommendation to install four additional kitchens to move the program to a more hands on model. There were questions about state and federal standards and how the curriculum would be developed. After discussion, the Board expressed support for making this program change.

4. NILES TOWNSHIP DISTRICT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION #807

Member McGeough reported on the March 31, 2009 meeting of the Niles Township District for Special Education. There was extended discussion about billing errors which have been uncovered for this year as well as the three previous years. It was noted that the Superintendents and Business Managers are meeting with NTDSE to determine the best course of action to remedy the shortfall that resulted from these errors. There was also discussion about the need to revisit the subject of reconstructing the NTDSE board to include some superintendents. President Frendreis thanked Member McGeough for her report.

5. SUPERINTENDENT EVALUAION

Superintendent McTague outlined the superintendent evaluation process which will start at the beginning of May and conclude by June 30.

6. RESOLUTION TO INTERVENE IN TAX APPEALS

It was moved by Member Beller, seconded by Member Ehrlich, that the Board of Education adopt a resolution authorizing the Niles Township Property Tax Appeals Cooperative to file a tax appeal intervention as follows:

**Resolution Authorizing Intervention
in Proceedings before the
State of Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board**

Whereas, an owner or manager of a parcel or parcels of real property located within the boundaries of the State of Illinois has the right to file an appeal challenging the assessed value of the parcel or parcels of real property with the State of Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board (“PTAB”); and

Whereas, an appeal before the PTAB seeks a reduction in the assessed value of the parcel or parcels; and

Whereas, a reduction in the assessed value of a parcel or parcels granted by the PTAB will lead to the issuance of a real estate tax refund from, among other taxing bodies, the Boards of Education of Skokie School District 68 (“Board”), School District 69; School District 70, School District 71, School District 72, School District 73, School District 73.5, School District 74, and School District 219 (collectively, the Districts); and

Whereas, the taxing Districts have organized the Niles Township Property Tax Appeals Cooperative administered by the Niles Township School Treasurer’s Office; and

Whereas, the number of such appeals has been increasing in terms of both the absolute number of appeals filed and the total dollar amount of assessed valuation reductions sought; and

Whereas, a taxing district has the right to intervene in proceedings before the PTAB in order to protect the taxing district’s revenue interest in the assessed value of a parcel or parcels; and

Whereas, Requests to Intervene in Appeal Proceedings have traditionally been filed in the name of Skokie School District 68 on behalf of the Niles Township Property Tax Appeals Cooperative; and

Whereas, the time period during which a taxing district may intervene is only 60 days after the taxing district’s receipt, from the Cook County Board of Review, of notice of the filing of an appeal by an owner or manager of a parcel or parcels of real property; and

Whereas, the Board, the Districts and together the Niles Property Tax Appeals Cooperative have determined that it is necessary, desirable, advantageous, and in the public interest to defend the Board’s and the Cooperative’s real property tax base by intervening in PTAB appeals filed on parcels within the boundaries of the Board and the Cooperative.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of Skokie School District 68, Cook County, Illinois, as follows:

1. The Board finds that all of the recitals contained above are true and correct, and that the same are hereby incorporated herein by reference.
2. The Board hereby authorizes Franczek, Radelet & Rose P.C. to file a Request to Intervene in Appeal Proceedings in all appeals filed for assessment years 2007-2009 filed at the PTAB for which the Cooperative receives notice through the Niles Township School Treasurer’s Office from the Cook County Board of Review and take appropriate action to protect the Board and the Cooperative’s interests in those proceedings.
3. All motions and resolutions or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Resolution are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed.
4. If any section, paragraph, clause, or provision of this Resolution shall be held invalid, the invalidity of such section, paragraph, clause, or provision shall not affect any of the other sections, paragraphs, clauses, or provisions of this Resolution.
5. This resolution shall be in force and effect upon its adoption.

After a full and complete discussion thereof, Member Beller moved that the foregoing Resolution be adopted and Member Ehrlich seconded the motion. The President directed the Secretary to call the roll for a vote upon the motion to adopt this Resolution.

Upon a roll call vote taken, the Board of Education voted as follows:

Ayes:

Nays:

Abstaining:

Present:

Absent:

The President declared the motion carried and the Resolution duly adopted.

Dated: April 21, 2009

By: /s/ John Frendreis, President, Board of Education

Attest: /s/ Beth Millard, Secretary of the Board of Education

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Beller, Ehrlich, Frendreis, Livieri, McGeough, Schneider, Tuck

NAY: None

Motion carried.

7. HIGHLAND AND JANE STENSON PAVING AND PLAYGROUND BIDS

It was moved by Member Tuck, seconded by Member Livieri, that the Board of Education award contracts to Superior Paving in the amount of \$325,000 for Base Bid #1 and Pedersen Construction for the amount of \$204,080 for Base Bid #2.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Beller, Ehrlich, Frendreis, Livieri, McGeough, Schneider, Tuck

NAY: None

Motion carried.

8. JANE STENSON RENOVATION BID

It was moved by Member Beller, seconded by Member Schneider, that the Board of Education reject all bids for this project.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Beller, Ehrlich, Frendreis, Livieri, McGeough, Schneider, Tuck

NAY: None

Motion carried.

9. COPIER LEASE

It was moved by Member Tuck, seconded by Member Livieri, that the Board of Education approve a lease agreement with Xerox Corporation for three copiers, one for Old Orchard Jr. High School and two copiers for the Educational Service Center for a lease price not to exceed \$15,178 per year for five years plus annual maintenance fees of \$15,712.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Beller, Ehrlich, Fren dreis, Livieri, McGeough, Schneider, Tuck

NAY: None

Motion carried.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

The Board reviewed several communication items.

Outgoing Board member John Fren dreis was recognized for his service to the District 68 Board of Education.

11. ADJOURN THE MEETING

It was moved by Member Tuck, seconded by Member Schneider, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. *sine die*.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Beller, Ehrlich, Fren dreis, Livieri, McGeough, Schneider, Tuck

NAY: None

Motion carried.

Beth Millard, Board Secretary

Hank Schneider, President