

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

Regular Board of Education Meeting – July 15, 2008

The Board of Education of School District 68, Cook County, Illinois, met on the 15th day of July, 2008, in regular session at the Educational Service Center, according to the rules of the Board.

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 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  
Tanja Tuck

Absent: Hank Schneider

Administrative staff members were present as follows:

Frances McTague, Superintendent  
Luis Illa, Old Orchard Junior High School Principal  
Beth Millard, Assistant Superintendent for Business  
Barbara Phillips, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction  
Connie Powell, Director of Special Services

Absent: Leslie Gordon, Highland School Principal  
Kimberly Heath, Old Orchard Junior High School Assistant Principal  
Randy Needlman, Devonshire School Principal  
Susan O'Neil, Jane Stenson School Principal

Visitors: None

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 welcomed Luis Illa to the district. There were no audience members present.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Minutes  
Regular Board of Education Meeting – June 17, 2008  
Personnel: Teacher Appointment: C.Heath; Teacher Resignation: J. Light, S. Rose; Classified Resignation: M. Nedeljkovic, Classified Appointment: C. Wallace
- c. Financial Reports
- d. June expenditures as follows: (a) accounts payable checks dated 6/30/08 in the amount of \$458,710.23, (b) handwritten checks in the amount of \$368,466.52, (c) payroll checks in the amount of \$2,282,676.42 , for a total of \$3,109,853.17 checks issued for July.
- e. Authorization of Expenses for Board Member Conferences; Authorization for Board Delegate to Vote

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

Motion carried.

4. NILES TOWNSHIP ELL PARENT CENTER INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

Superintendent McTague updated the Board on the process to finalize approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Niles Township English Language Learners (ELL) Parent Center. She noted that the new Director had started on Monday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, and there was already significant activity in the center with registrations for the Oakton Family Literacy Program. President Frendreis thanked Superintendent McTague for all of her work in making this goal into reality.

It was moved by Member Beller, seconded by Member Ehrlich, that the Board approve the Niles Township ELL Parent Center Intergovernmental Agreement.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

Motion carried.

5. REVISION OF POLICY 4142: SUBSTITUTE TEACHER SALARIES

It was moved by Member Ehrlich, seconded by Member Beller, that the Board of Education revise Policy 4142: Substitute Teacher Salaries as follows:

Effective August 27, 2008 ~~in August 28, 2004~~, certified teachers who temporarily substitute for professional staff members shall be paid at the daily rate of \$100.00 ~~\$95.00~~.

A substitute assigned for less than a full day shall receive \$50.00.

A substitute teacher who assumes the full role of the absent teacher for a consecutive period of 20 days or more shall be paid at the daily rate equivalent to the schedule salary at BA Step 1.

Formerly Policy 4141.6

Policy adopted by the Board of Education on 2/19/74

Revised ~~2/17/04~~ July 15, 2008

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

Motion carried.

6. NILES TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION #807

No Report

7. 2008-09 DISTRICT PRIORITIES

The Board reviewed the priority for the year as noted in the Tentative Budget document. There was discussion about several items including parent access to PowerSchool, committee involvement in expanding technology in the classroom, and the importance of continuing to strive for diversity in the staff.

8. 2008-09 TENTATIVE BUDGET

Assistant Superintendent Beth Millard presented the tentative budget for 2008-09. She noted that the budget is projected to be balanced, with operating revenues slightly exceeding expenditures. Revenues are projected to increase 4.8% largely due to increases in tax revenues from new property growth and the closeout payment from the former health insurance cooperative. Overall expenditures are anticipated to increase 4.4%, based on projected cost increases. President Frendreis thanked Ms. Millard for her report.

It was moved by Member Ehrlich, seconded by Member Beller, that the Board of Education adopt the 2008-09 Tentative Budget, as prepared by the Superintendent and submitted at this meeting, and direct that a copy be made available for public inspection for a period of not less than 30 days expiring on or before September 16, 2008, and that the Secretary be directed to publish a notice of said availability in the Pioneer Press newspaper on August 24, 2008.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

Motion carried.

9. RESOLUTION TO INTERVENE IN TAX APPEAL INTERVENTION

It was moved by Member Beller, seconded by Member McGeough, 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 Tax Objection Proceeding  
Pending in the Circuit Court of Cook County**

**WHEREAS**, the taxpayer of record for the real property identified by permanent index numbers:

10-09-411-071-0000;  
10-09-411-073-0000;  
10-09-411-076-0000;  
10-09-411-078-0000;  
10-09-411-079-0000;  
10-09-411-082-0000;  
10-09-423-044-0000;

with the common address of 9200 Skokie Boulevard, Skokie, Illinois (the “Subject Property”), has filed a tax objection complaint docketed as 2007 COTO 2472 (the “Tax Objection Complaint”) challenging the assessed value of the Subject Property in the Circuit Court of Cook County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Objection Complaint seeks a reduction in the assessed value of the Subject Property; and

**WHEREAS**, a reduction in the assessed value of the Subject Property granted by the Circuit Court of Cook County will lead to the issuance of a real estate tax refund from Board of Education of Skokie School District No. 68 (the “Board”); and

**WHEREAS**, the total dollar amount of all real estate tax refunds during a given year constitute a significant and ongoing expense of the Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the dollar amount of the potential refund in this Tax Objection Complaint constitutes a significant and detrimental loss of revenue for the Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the Illinois Supreme Court has ruled in *Madison Two Associates v. Pappas*, 227 Ill. 2d 474, 884 N.E. 2d 142 (2008), that a taxing district may intervene in Tax Objection Complaint proceedings before a circuit court in accordance with the requirements of the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure (735 ILCS 5/1--101 *et seq.*); and

**WHEREAS**, in Tax Objection Complaints, “[The] County is clearly not the only real party in interest. Numerous taxing districts . . . also have a legally cognizable interest in the outcome of these proceedings.” *Madison Two Associates* at 11; and

**WHEREAS**, the “legally cognizable interest” of taxing agencies in Tax Objection Complaints was “recognized by the General Assembly itself when it enacted the Property Tax Code.” *Id.* at 14; and

**WHEREAS**, the Illinois Supreme Court and County officials have “a reasonable expectation” that intervention by taxing agencies in Tax Objection Complaints will “compliment rather than inhibit the ongoing efforts of the State’s Attorney” to defend the current assessment; *Id.* at 12; and

**WHEREAS**, “Taxing districts have a direct and immediate stake in how assessment challenges are decided, for if assessments are ultimately found to be excessive, the portion of the taxes attributable to the over assessment must be refunded, and the tax proceeds available to the taxing districts will necessarily be reduced.” *Id.* at 14; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has determined that it is necessary, desirable, advantageous, and in the public interest to defend the Board’s real property tax revenue by intervening in the Tax Objection Complaint pending on the Subject Property.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Board of Education of Skokie School District No. 68, Cook County, Illinois, as follows:

1. The Board finds that the recitals contained above are true and correct, and that the same are hereby incorporated herein by reference.
2. The Board hereby authorizes Franczek Sullivan P.C., as its legal representative, to:
  - a) file a Petition to Intervene in Cook County Circuit Court Case No. 2007 COTO 2472, and
  - b) represent the Board’s interests in this proceeding.
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 McGeough 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: 6  
NAYS: 0  
Abstaining: 0

PRESENT: Beller, Ehrlich, Frendreis, Livieri, McGeough, Schneider, Tuck  
Absent from Meeting: Schneider

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

Dated July 15, 2008

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

ATTEST:

/s/ Beth Millard  
Secretary, Board of Education

10. APPROVAL OF JULY 2008 BILL LIST

It was moved by Member Beller, seconded by Member Tuck, to approve July expenditures as follows: accounts payable checks dated 7/2/08 in the amount of \$288,824.92, for a total of \$288,824.92 checks issued July 2, 2008.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

Motion carried.

11. COMMUNICATION

The Board reviewed a communication item.

12. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Member Beller, seconded by Member Livieri, that the meeting move to closed session at 8:32 P.M., to discuss a personnel matter, per 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1), as amended by P.A. 93-0057.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

Motion carried.

13. RECONVENE MEETING

The meeting was reconvened at 8:55 P.M.

14. SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT FOR 2009-2014

It was moved by Member Beller, seconded by Member Ehrlich, that the Board of Education approve a five year Administrator's Employment Contract for Superintendent Frances McTague (see Exhibit A).

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

Motion carried.

15. ADJOURN THE MEETING

It was moved by Member Beller, and unanimously approved, that the Board of Education meeting be adjourned at 8:58 P.M.

---

Beth Millard, Board Secretary

---

John Fren dreis, President