

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT 68, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Regular Board of Education Meeting – December 19, 2006

The Board of Education of School District 68, Cook County, Illinois, met on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2006, in regular session at the Educational Service Center, according to the rules of the Board.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by the Vice President of the Board, David Ehrlich, who presided as Acting President. Members of the Board were present as follows:

Present:        Ross del Rosario  
                  David Ehrlich  
                  John Frendreis  
                  Hank Schneider  
                  Elaine Steiner

Absent:         David Beller  
                  Jim Kaczkowski

Administrative staff members were present as follows:

Frances McTague, Superintendent  
Margaret Clauson, Old Orchard Junior High School Principal  
Leslie Gordon, Highland School Principal  
Kimberly Heath, Old Orchard Junior High School Assistant Principal  
Beth Millard, Assistant Superintendent for Business  
Randy Needlman, Devonshire School Principal  
Susan O’Neil, Jane Stenson School Principal (entered at 7:55 p.m.)  
Barbara Phillips, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction  
Connie Powell, Director of Special Services

Visitors:

Sally Abraham	Nichole Gross	Melinda Russo
Andrew Augustine	Sue Hagedorn	Anu Sharma
Erica Beall	Curtis House	Jolan Silcroft
Maria Bolos	Ellan Miller	Tanja Tuck
Natalie Dandino	Brooke Rolek	David Wiviott
Barb Greenberg		

1. INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND VISITORS

Acting President David Ehrlich asked the Board members and administrators at the head table to introduce themselves.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Acting President David Ehrlich called for statements to the Board from the audience regarding topics not listed on the meeting agenda. There were no comments.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Minutes
  - Rescheduled Board of Education Meeting – November 14, 2006
  - Closed Board of Education Meeting – November 14, 2006
  - Closed Board of Education Meeting – December 5, 2006
- b. Personnel: Resignation C. House
- c. Financial Reports
- d. November expenditures as follows: (a) accounts payable checks dated 11/30/06 in the amount of \$674,851.35, (b) handwritten checks in the amount of \$206,455.01, (c) payroll checks in the amount of \$1,289,877.65, for a total of \$2,171,184.01 checks issued for November.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: del Rosario, Ehrlich, Frendreis, Schneider, Steiner

NAY: None

Motion carried.

4. 2007-08 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Superintendent McTague reviewed the issues related to closing schools on Election Day. The Board discussed the implication of closing and examined the impact on the 2007-08 and 2008-09 calendars.

It was moved by Member Frendreis, seconded by Member Schneider, to adopt the 2007-08 School Calendar as follows:

**SKOKIE SCHOOL DISTRICT 68 SCHOOL CALENDAR 2007-08**

August 21-23, 2007	Tuesday-Thursday	New Teachers Report
August 27	Monday	District Teachers' Institute
August 28	Tuesday	<b>First Day of School for Pupils</b>

September 3	Monday	Labor Day - <b>No School</b>
September 13	Thursday	Rosh Hashanah – <b>No School</b>
October 8	Monday	Columbus Day - <b>No School</b>
November 20-21	Tuesday-Wednesday	K-8 Parent Conference - <b>No Pupil Attendance</b>
November 22-23	Thursday-Friday	Thanksgiving Recess - <b>No School</b>
December 21	Friday	<b>Last day before Winter Recess</b>
January 7, 2008	Monday	<b>School Resumes</b>
January 21	Monday	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday – <b>No School</b>
February 18	Monday	Presidents’ Day - <b>No School</b>
February 29	Friday	Teachers’ Institute Day – <b>No School</b>
March 3	Monday	Casimir Pulaski Holiday - <b>No School</b>
March 18	Tuesday	Primary Election – <b>No School</b>
March 19	Wednesday	K-5 Parent Conferences - <b>No K-5 Pupil Attendance (6-8 in Session)</b>
March 20	Thursday	K-5 Parent Conferences and 6-8 Institute Day - <b>No Pupil Attendance</b>
March 21	Friday	Good Friday – <b>No School</b>
March 24-28	Monday-Friday	Spring Recess
March 31	Monday	<b>School Resumes</b>
May 26	Monday	Memorial Day - <b>No School</b>
June 6	Friday	Records Day - <b>No School</b>
June 10	Tuesday	<b>Last Day of School</b>
June 16	Monday	<b>Last Day of School - allowing for makeup of snow days</b>

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: del Rosario, Ehrlich, Frendreis, Schneider, Steiner

NAY: None

Motion carried.

5. NILES TOWNSHIP DISTRICT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION #807

Member Schneider presented a report on the November 28, 2006, meeting of the Niles Township District for Special Education #807. He noted that the strategic planning process had begun in the District. Acting President Ehrlich thanked Member Schneider for his report.

6. BOARD POLICY REVISION

It was moved by Member del Rosario, seconded by Member Schneider, that the Board of Education revise policy 5138 as follows:

**Outdoor Education**

**5138**

The Board shall support and encourage a program of Outdoor Education at the fifth grade level. This program shall consist of an extended field experience and shall be held at an Outdoor Education School, or any other desirable location approved by the Superintendent.

One half of the costs charged to the District by the Outdoor Education School for room and board and insurance, plus one-half of the District's cost for transportation to the program will be paid by the participating pupils' parents.

Pupils shall not be required to attend the Outdoor Education School and in those instances in which a student in a class group does not attend the outdoor educational activity, the administration shall provide a continuing educational experience at the child's regular school.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: del Rosario, Ehrlich, Frendreis, Schneider, Steiner

NAY: None

Motion carried.

7. BOARD GOALS DISCUSSION

The Board continued their discussion related to development of the Performance Scorecard. This month's discussion focused on goals and indicators related to student achievement. After extended discussion, several goals were identified for inclusion in the document; Superintendent McTague will update the draft to reflect this. It was agreed that the January discussion would focus on the Safe, Orderly, and Healthy Environment section of the scorecard.

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION

The Board discussed the new evaluation instruments distributed by Superintendent McTague and agreed that a subcommittee of Board Members Schneider and Steiner will meet with Superintendent McTague in January to develop a draft of the evaluation instrument.

9. 2006 TAX LEVY HEARING

Acting President Ehrlich called the hearing to order and read the Statement of Purpose of Public Hearing. Assistant Superintendent for Business Millard presented the proposed 2006 levy. There were no questions or comments. The hearing was closed.

10. ADOPTION OF 2006 TAX LEVY

In accordance with the discussion of the Board of Education on November 14, 2006, Acting President Ehrlich stated that it was necessary at this time for the Board of Education to adopt the tax levy resolution for the tax year 2006, and asked the Secretary to present the resolution as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of School District Number 68, Cook County, Illinois, adopt a tax levy resolution as follows:

the sum of	\$15,360,800	for educational purposes, and
the sum of	3,123,400	for operations and maintenance purposes, and
the sum of	665,600	for transportation purposes, and
the sum of	0	for working cash purposes, and
the sum of	275,000	for Illinois Municipal Retirement purposes, and
the sum of	450,000	for social security and Medicare purposes, and
the sum of	0	for fire prevention, safety, environmental, and energy conservation purposes, and
the sum of	0	for tort immunity purposes, and
the sum of	204,800	for special education purposes

on the equalized assessed valuation of all the taxable property in School District 68, Cook County, Illinois, for the year 2006.

It was moved by Member Schneider, seconded by Member Frendreis, that the tax levy resolution as presented by the Secretary be adopted and that the Certificate of Tax Levy be filed in the Office of the County Clerk on or before the last Tuesday of December.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: del Rosario, Ehrlich, Frendreis, Schneider, Steiner

NAY: None

Motion carried.

11. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REDUCTION OF CERTAIN FUND LEVIES FOR THE 2006 LEVY YEAR

It was moved by Member Schneider, seconded by Member Steiner, that the Board of Education adopt a resolution authorizing reduction of certain fund levies for the 2006 levy year as follows:

WHEREAS, on December 19, 2006, the Board of Education of Skokie School District No. 68, Cook County, Illinois (“School District”) did adopt a Certificate of Tax Levy for the 2006 levy year to be filed with the County Clerk of Cook County (“County Clerk”); and

WHEREAS, the County Clerk has notified each Cook County taxing district which is now subject to the Property Tax Extension Limitation Act (“PTELA”) that it may direct the

County Clerk's Office, by proper resolution, to make specific and necessary reductions to its tax levy for the 2006 levy year to meet the requirements of the PTELA.

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

Section 1: That the Board of Education hereby finds that all of the recitals contained in the preambles to this Resolution are full, true and correct and does hereby incorporate them into this Resolution by reference.

Section 2: That the Board of Education hereby authorizes and directs the County to make the necessary reductions to the School District's tax levy for the 2006 levy year in order that the levies by fund shall be no less than the following amounts as indicated:

the sum of	\$14,746,000	for educational purposes, and
the sum of	154,000	for special education purposes, and
the sum of	2,998,000	for operations and maintenance purposes, and
the sum of	639,000	for transportation purposes, and
the sum of	0	for working cash purposes, and
the sum of	275,000	for Illinois Municipal Retirement purposes, and
the sum of	450,000	for social security and Medicare purposes, and
the sum of	0	for fire prevention, safety, environmental, and energy conservation purposes, and
the sum of	0	for tort immunity purposes

Section 3: That the Board of Education further authorizes and directs the County Clerk that if any additional reductions are required to be made to the School District's tax levy beyond those projected and specified by the Board of Education in Section 2 above, that such reductions be made to the School District's tax levy proportionally.

Section 4: That the Superintendent of Schools of Skokie School District 68 is hereby directed to file a certified copy of this Resolution with the County Clerk as soon as practicable following its adoption and execution.

Section 5: That all other resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed and this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately and forthwith upon its passage.

Section 6: That the Superintendent of Schools has the authority to supercede the reduction of the levy as stated above when the District receives the agency tax rate report from the Office of the Cook County Clerk.

**ADOPTED** this 19<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2006, by the following vote:

AYES:             5    
NAYS:             0    
ABSENT:          2  

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David Ehrlich  
Acting President, Board of Education  
Skokie School District 68

ATTEST:

Beth Millard  
Secretary, Board of Education  
Skokie School District 68  
Cook County, Illinois

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: del Rosario, Ehrlich, Frendreis, Schneider, Steiner

NAY: None

Motion carried.

12. COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

The Board reviewed several communication items.

13. CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Member Frendreis, seconded by Member del Rosario, that the Board of Education move to closed session at 8:40 p.m. to discuss personnel issues, per 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1).

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: del Rosario, Ehrlich, Frendreis, Schneider, Steiner

NAY: None

Motion carried.

14. RECONVENE MEETING

The meeting reconvened at 9:05 p.m.

15. PERSONNEL

It was moved by Member Frendreis, seconded by Member del Rosario, that the Board of Education confirm the unpaid suspension of the following staff member:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Date Effective</u>
David Ganjani	Bus Driver	12/19/06-1/19/07

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: del Rosario, Ehrlich, Frendreis, Schneider, Steiner

NAY: None

Motion carried.

16. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Member Schneider, seconded by Member Frendreis, and unanimously approved that the meeting be adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

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Beth Millard, Board Secretary

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David Ehrlich, Acting President