

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

Rescheduled Board of Education Meeting – December 14, 2010

The Board of Education of School District 68, Cook County, Illinois, met on the 14th day of December, 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 president of the Board, Hank Schneider, who presided. Members of the Board were present as follows:

Present: Amy Anson  
David Beller  
David Ehrlich  
Paul Livieri  
Una McGeough  
Hank Schneider  
Tanja Tuck (entered at 7:40 p.m.)

Absent: None

Administrative staff members were present as follows:

Frances McTague, Superintendent  
Leslie Gordon, Highland School Principal  
Robyn Hawley, Old Orchard Junior High School Principal  
Jac McBride, Director of Special Services  
Rob McElligott, 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  
Barbara Phillips, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

Absent: None

Visitors:	Natalie Dandino	Lisa Omori
	Meghan Espinoza	Nick Tarantello
	Phoebe Leopoldo	Christine Toy
	Ellan Miller	Darius Zakeri

1. INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND VISITORS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

President Schneider asked 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 Beller, seconded by Member Ehrlich, that the Board of Education approve the items on the Consent Agenda, which contained the following:

- a. Minutes  
Regular Board of Education Meeting –November 16, 2010
- b. Personnel: Classified Appointment: R. Berry; Classified Resignation: F. Dorado, C. Singer
- c. Financial Reports
- d. November expenditures as follows: (a) accounts payable checks dated 11/30/10 in the amount of \$716,002.56; (b) handwritten and void checks in the amount of \$7,590.48; (c) payroll checks in the amount of \$1,499,088.87; for a total of \$2,222,681.91 checks issued for November.
- e. Renew Property, General Liability, Vehicle, and Umbrella Liability insurance for the period 12/31/10-12/31/11, with Suburban School Cooperative Insurance Pool for a premium of \$154,097 and add Cyber Risk Insurance for an annual premium of \$5,043.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Anson, Beller, Ehrlich, Livieri, McGeough, Schneider

NAY: None.

Motion carried.

## 3. REVISED DISTRICT AND SCHOOL WEB SITES

Director of Instructional Technology Jennifer Anderson presented an overview of the revised format of district web pages which will go live on January 3, 2011. Several faculty members highlighted the grade level and team sites as well as the teacher blogs. She noted that parents would be able to subscribe to their child's teachers' blogs so that they would receive an email whenever it was updated. There was discussion about the system requiring parents to be proactive and visit the website to get school and community information rather than being notified through E-news. There was a suggestion that an option be created to allow parents to subscribe to the community bulletin board so that they are notified of additions. There also was concern about the number of emails a junior high parent would receive since there would be a separate one from each member of the team. It was agreed that feedback should be solicited from staff and parents to determine if modifications are necessary. President Schneider thanked Ms. Anderson for her report.

## 4. POLICY 5139: MANAGEMENT OF LIFE-THREATENING FOOD ALLERGIES

It was moved by Member McGeough, seconded by Member Beller, to approve Policy 5139 Management of Life-Threatening Food Allergies as follows:

An important goal of the School District is to address and minimize the risks faced by students with life-threatening food allergies at school and school-related activities, although these risks cannot be completely eliminated. The Superintendent shall implement a food allergy management program designed to achieve this goal. The program shall include education and training, implementation of individualized health care and food allergy action plans, procedures for responding to life-threatening reactions to food, and protocols to avoid

exposure to food allergens. The program shall be, in substance, consistent with the Illinois State Board of Education/Illinois Department of Public Health “Guidelines for Managing Life-Threatening Food Allergies in Illinois Schools,” as may be modified from time to time.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None.

Motion carried.

5. REVISION OF POLICY 5140: ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

It was moved by Member Anson, seconded by Member McGeough, that the Board of Education revise policy 5140 Administration of Medication to Students by District Health Personnel and Self-Administration of Asthma and/or Allergy Medication as follows:

Administration of medication by District health personnel shall occur only in exceptional circumstances where the prescribed medication interval requires that medication be administered during school hours. No student shall possess or consume any prescription or non-prescription medication on school grounds or at a school-related function other than as provided for in this policy.

Teachers or other non-administrative school employees, except registered certified school nurses and non-certified registered professional nurses, shall not be required to administer medication to students. However, nothing in this policy or its implementing procedures shall prohibit any school employee from providing emergency assistance to students, including administering medication.

A student may self-administer asthma and/or allergy medication or use an epinephrine auto-injector without supervision once the student’s parent/ guardian has complied with the requirements set out in the procedures established to implement this policy and physician have completed the District’s “Authorization/Hold Harmless Form for Self-Administration of Asthma and/or Allergy Medication.” The authorization must be renewed each school year.

The Superintendent shall establish procedures to implement this policy.

Legal Reference 105 ILCS 5/10-20.14b; 55/10-22.21b; and 5/22-30.

Policy adopted by the Board of Education on 6/18/91

Revised 4/20/04, 8/15/06, 12/14/10

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None.

Motion carried.

6. NILES TOWNSHIP DISTRICT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION #807

Member Beller reported on the December 9, 2010 meeting of the Niles Township District for Special Education #807. Superintendent McTague updated the Board on the process of revising

the Articles of Agreement. President Schneider thanked Member Beller and Dr. McTague for their report.

7. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOUNDARIES

The administration reviewed background information about K-5 enrollment and facility needs. Based on the recent pattern of imbalance between the schools, three options for redrawing elementary school boundaries were presented and discussed. There was a broad based discussion about the options as well as the philosophy behind selection of one option vs. another and/or opening up the discussion to a more extensive district-wide realignment. It was agreed to have further discussion of the three options in January with additional information on the number of students and families that would move.

8. GENERAL MATHEMATICS LEARNING TEAM RECOMMENDATIONS

Assistant Superintendent Phillips summarized the work of the Math Learning Team which met over the course of the fall. She noted that the implementation team will begin their work in January. President Schneider thanked Dr. Phillips for her report.

9. K-8 ELL LEARNING TEAM

Assistant Superintendent Phillips presented information on the ELL Learning Team which will meet over the next several months to evaluate and revise the K-8 ELL program. President Schneider thanked Dr. Phillips for her report.

10. 2011-2012 SCHOOL CALENDAR DISCUSSION

The proposed 2011-2012 school calendar was presented using the existing guidelines. There was discussion about moving the March 2<sup>nd</sup> Institute Day to March 20<sup>th</sup>, which is currently a non-attendance day for elections. Superintendent McTague will discuss this with the Education Association and report back at the January meeting.

11. ADOPTION OF THE TAX LEVY RESOLUTION FOR TAX YEAR 2010

In accordance with the discussion of the Board of Education on November 16, 2010, President Schneider stated that it was necessary at this time for the Board of Education to adopt the tax levy resolution for the tax year 2010, 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	\$17,200,000	for educational purposes, and
the sum of	3,500,000	for operations and maintenance purposes, and
the sum of	700,000	for transportation purposes, and
the sum of	100,000	for working cash purposes, and
the sum of	450,000	for Illinois Municipal Retirement purposes, and
the sum of	550,000	for social security and Medicare purposes, and

the sum of	0	for fire prevention, safety, environmental, and energy conservation purposes, and
the sum of	200,000	for tort immunity purposes, and
the sum of	200,000	for special education purposes

on the equalized assessed valuation of all the taxable property in School District 68, Cook County, Illinois, for the year 2010.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:  
 AYE: Anson, Beller, Ehrlich, Livieri, McGeough, Schneider, Tuck  
 NAY: None.  
 Motion carried.

12. TAX BILL AND RATE INFORMATION

Assistant Superintendent Millard presented information on a typical residential 2009 tax bill for a District 68 taxpayer. She noted that public schools account for the majority of the bill with 35% of the total going to District 219 and 31% designated for District 68. She noted that the overall EAV of the district decreased 4.9%. Projected tax revenues increased 1.0% (tax cap level of 0.1% plus revenue from new construction).

13. FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS

Assistant Superintendent Millard presented the five-year financial projections. Ms. Millard explained that the district’s financial health continues to be impacted by the economy, the tax cap, business property tax appeals, uncertainty of state funding, and escalating costs. As a result of the disparity between relatively flat revenue increases and increasing costs, the operating deficit is projected to grow significantly over the next five years. She noted that minor changes can have a major impact over a number of years and that there are a number of unknown factors that could significantly impact the long range projections so prudent planning to preserve financial stability for future students is a high priority for the district. President Schneider thanked Ms. Millard for her report.

14. FACILITIES STUDY AND ASSESSMENT

It was moved by Member Beller, seconded by Member Tuck, that the Board of Education appoint BLDD Architects to perform a comprehensive facilities assessment of district buildings for a fee of \$29,500.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:  
 AYE: Anson, Beller, Ehrlich, Livieri, McGeough, Schneider, Tuck  
 NAY: None.  
 Motion carried.

15. ADJOURN THE MEETING TO CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Member Beller, seconded by Member McGeough, to move the meeting to closed session at 10:20 p.m. to discuss matters pertaining to collective negotiating matters between the district and its employees or their representatives per 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) and student discipline issues per 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None.

Motion carried.

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Beth Millard, Board Secretary

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Hank Schneider, President