

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT 68, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

The Board of Education of School District 68, Cook County, Illinois, met on the 18th day of November, 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 (arrived at 7:35 p.m.)
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	Colette Halverson	Lisa Montgomery
Andrew Augustine	Ryan Levin	Jennifer Salpietro
Natalie Dandino	Andrew Mace	Matt Tomenillie
Tamara Deppen	Fred Mocking	Christine Toy
Nikki Guerrero	Ellen Mocogni	

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

- a. Minutes
Regular Board of Education Meeting – October 21, 2008
Closed Board of Education Meeting – October 21, 2008
- b. Personnel: FMLA/Personal Leave: D. Schmidt; Teacher Appointment: M. Amanishourbarik, V. Bortnikova; Classified Resignation/Retirement: B. Cristi, F. Rosendorn
- c. Financial Reports
- d. October expenditures as follows: (a) accounts payable checks dated 10/31/08 in the amount of \$718,595.47, (b) handwritten checks in the amount of \$371,424.00, (c) payroll checks in the amount of \$2,038,193.11, for a total of checks issued for October: \$3,128,212.58
- e. Review of Closed Meeting Minutes

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

Motion carried.

3. REVIEW OF ANNUAL AUDIT

Andrew Mace, a partner with the District's independent audit firm Miller, Cooper & Co., Ltd. presented the annual audit report and management letter to the Board. He commended the District for its prudent management and discussed changes that were implemented in audit procedures this year based on new accounting standards. He noted that continued caution in spending is prudent especially in light of the current economic uncertainty. President Frendreis thanked Mr. Mace for his report.

4. FALL 2008 MAP REPORT IN READING AND MATHEMATICS

Assistant Superintendent Phillips presented a report on the results of the fall, 2008 MAP testing in the district. She highlighted some of the demographic changes that have occurred over the past several years. Old Orchard Junior High teacher David Wiviott reviewed his work with fellow junior high teachers in using the MAP data to inform instruction. There were questions about how to determine the value teachers see in the use of the data for planning instruction and how to best address the needs of underperforming groups. President Frendreis thanked Dr. Phillips for her report.

5. REVISION OF POLICY 3310: Purchases

It was moved by Member Ehrlich, seconded by Member Tuck, that the Board of Education revise Policy 3310: Purchases as follows:

Purchases

3310

Adoption of the annual budget authorizes the Superintendent or designee to purchase budgeted supplies, equipment, and services. Purchases of items not included in the budget require prior Board approval, except in an emergency.

All contracts for supplies, materials, or work involving an expenditure in excess of \$10,000 **\$25,000** (~~\$20,000~~ **\$50,000** for building maintenance or renovation) shall be made in accordance with the State law bidding procedure, unless specifically exempted. The contract will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, considering conformity with specifications, delivery terms, quality, and serviceability. The Superintendent or designee shall report the results of the bidding to the Board, together with a recommendation and supporting rationale. Contracts will be awarded by the Board at an official meeting. Bid deposits of 10 percent of the bid amount, assuring good faith in bidding, and performance bonds to the extent of 100 percent of the contract amount, may be required.

The Superintendent shall develop procedures which will allow the purchase of good quality products and services at the lowest cost, with consideration for service, quality, and delivery promptness, and in compliance with State law.

Legal Reference: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21
Policy adopted by the Board of Education on 12/19/72
Revised ~~4/26/05~~ **11/18/08**

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

Motion carried.

6. NILES TOWNSHIP DISTRICT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION #807

Member McGeough reported on the October 28, 2008 meeting of the Niles Township District For Special Education #807. She noted that space continues to be a concern.

7. TENTATIVE 2008 TAX LEVY

Assistant Superintendent Beth Millard reviewed the tentative 2008 tax levy. She noted that the administration is recommending a higher levy to insure the District receives full benefit of any new property growth.

It was moved by Member Beller, seconded by Member McGeough, to adopt an estimated tax levy for the tax year 2008 in the amounts as follows:

the sum of	\$17,305,000	for educational purposes, and
the sum of	3,512,300	for operations and maintenance purposes, and
the sum of	740,100	for transportation purposes, and
the sum of	0	for working cash purposes, and
the sum of	319,100	for Illinois Municipal Retirement purposes, and
the sum of	542,700	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	173,900	for special education purposes

on the equalized assessed valuation of all the taxable property in School District 68, Cook County, Illinois, to publish notice of the proposed levy and to hold a hearing on the first regular meeting of December as required by the *Truth in Taxation* law.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

Motion carried.

8. FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS

Assistant Superintendent Millard presented the five-year financial projections. Ms. Millard noted that, similar to other school districts, District 68's financial health continues to be impacted by the tax cap, business property tax appeals, escalating costs and minimal revenue increases. She noted that recent new construction in the District has provided some relief from the restrictions in revenue from the tax cap but that the operating deficit is projected to grow significantly over the next five years. She reviewed the District strategy of using Working Cash Bond sales to offset these operating deficits but pointed out their limitations. Ms. Millard 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.

9. COMMUNICATION

The Board reviewed several communication items.

10. MOVE THE MEETING TO CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Member Beller, seconded by Member McGeough, to move the meeting to closed session at 9:20 p.m. to discuss matters of personnel, as per 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), as amended by P.A. 93-0057.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

Motion carried.

11. RECONVENE MEETING

The meeting was reconvened at 9:30 p.m.

12. PERSONNEL

It was moved by Member Beller, seconded by Member Schneider, that the Board of Education confirm the termination of a staff member, as listed in the agenda materials.

Upon roll call, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

Motion carried.

13. ADJOURN THE MEETING

It was moved by Member Tuck, seconded by Member Beller, that the meeting be adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

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

John Fren dreis, President