BOARD OF EDUCATION
525 SUNSET RIDGE ROAD
NORTHFIELD, ILLINOIS 60093
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
October 18, 2016
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

ROLL CALL: (7:07 p.m.) Mr. Warshauer called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. and upon roll call, the following were present:

Present: Ms. Alpert-Knight, Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck, Mr. Warshauer

Absent: Mrs. Papas, Mrs. Mirkovic

Also Present: Mr. Beerheide, Dr. Sukenik, Dr. Greene, Ms. Dunham, Mrs. Styczen, Mrs. Golub, Dr. Pauls, Mrs. Mason, Mrs. Tennenbaum Mrs. Detlefsen, Mrs. Buzza, Mr. Hayes, (Students: A. Leipzig, E. Viergg, E. Detlefsen, A. Schiff, Brian Ondyak, Scott Zigmond (Performance Service, Inc.), Betsy Allen (Miller Cooper, L.L.C.)

SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENTS: Representatives from Sunset Ridge’s Student Council gave a presentation on their plans for this year, which include offering a U Dawg U lunch to take home on the upcoming half day, benefiting The Northwest Settlement House; improvements to the 4th and 5th grade Halloween party by offering more games and activities; and preparations for the Northwest Settlement House gift giving program. Superintendent Dr. Ed Stange praised the students’ dedication to their school community, pointing out that the leadership skills they are developing will serve them well in all of their future endeavors.

CONSENT AGENDA:

3.1 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting – September 13, 2016

3.2 Bills and Salaries
Mr. Subeck moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Alpert-Knight seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Ms. Alpert-Knight, Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck, Mr. Warshauer

Absent: Mrs. Papas, Mrs. Mirkovic

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

COMMUNICATIONS:

4.1 Communications
Dr. Stange shared several letters from last year’s retired staff members giving their thanks and appreciation for the time they spent at District 29. He also informed the board of his response to a Winnetka resident’s inquiry into the District’s plans to recycle or salvage parts of the old SRS building before demolition, which was to advise her on our preservation efforts, the items we plan on reusing, and tentative plans to hold a rummage sale.
OLD BUSINESS:

5.1 Capital Improvement Update
Dr. Stange reported that the construction of the new SRS building remains on schedule and on budget. The gym and music structures have been completed, with the two stairwells not far behind. Steel framing is the next step. Dr. Stange also detailed the plans to digitally capture all of the existing murals in the current building, for which a district parent who is a professional photographer/videographer has generously offered his services.

NEW BUSINESS:

6.1 Audience Comments
There were no audience comments.

6.2 Board Open Discussion
There was no Board open discussion.

REPORTS:

7.1 Finance & Facilities Committee

7.1a Report from October 18, 2016 Meeting

7.1a1 Update: Benefits Committee Recommendations
Mr. Subeck reported that the Benefits Committee has been highly effective in managing the health care components of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. He indicated that the Committee will not be recommending any changes to the Benefits Foundation Level.

7.1a2 Update: 10-Year Life Safety Report
Mr. Subeck reported on the results of the 10-Year Life Safety Report conducted recently on Middlefork School. Although it showed nothing that might be considered an emergency action item, there were a few repairs that require immediate attention, and will be scheduled for service within the next year. Other repairs of lesser priority will be made over the next 3-5 years. Replacing galvanized plumbing will be part of a larger planned remodel of the building that will take place during the summer of 2019.

7.1a3 Update: Photovoltaic Cells Project
Mr. Subeck reviewed the presentation from Performance Services, Inc. at the Finance Facilities Committee meeting related to the installation of photovoltaic cells on the new Sunset Ridge School. Mr. Subeck noted that the Finance/Facilities Committee was supportive of the proposal and that details of the financing of it are to be determined.
7.14 Discussion and Possible Approval: FY16 Audit
Betsy Allen from Miller-Cooper, LLC reviewed the highlights of the FY16 Financial Audit. Mr. Spaan the moved to approve the FY16 Audit as presented. Mrs. Peterson seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:
Aye: Miss. Alpert-Knight, Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck, Mr. Warshauer
Absent: Mrs. Papas, Mrs. Mirkovic
Nay: None
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

7.1b Next Meeting: January 24, 2017, at 7pm.

7.2 Education Committee
7.2a 2016-2017 Performance-Based Pay Targets
Mr. Warshauer provided a synopsis of the Performance-Based Pay Committees’ recommendations for the 2016-2017 performance Targets, noting that the group agreed to set the Level I Target at the average combined reading and math achievement level and the Level II Target at the highest combined reading and math achievement level.

7.2b Next Meeting: November 8, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

7.3 External Relations
7.3a IASB
Mrs. Peterson reported on the referenda and tax proposals that will be on the ballot in many counties across the state of IL in order to raise money for school facilities. She took a moment to appreciate the fact that District 29 did not have to go to referendum in order to finance the new Sunset Ridge, due to the history of fiscal responsibility of past Boards.

7.3b PTO
Mrs. Peterson reported that the New Family Ice Cream Social was a great success. The Box Challenge held at Middlefork School was enjoyed by children and adults alike, and was a true representation of STEAM learning in action. House and Gardens is working with The Garden Club to repurpose annuals on the property. 87% of families have paid their classroom /PTO fees to date. The Book Fair will be held on November 13th, at Barnes and Noble in Deerfield, with plans for District 29 music students to perform during the event. The Winter Benefit is scheduled for March 4, 2017, at Valley Lo Country Club, and the PTO is looking for volunteers to help with the planning of the event and the auction.
7.3c NSSED
Mr. Spaan reported that the new Superintendent is fitting in well and everything progresses smoothly.

7.3d Northfield Park District
There was no report.

7.3e Village of Northfield
Mr. Subeck reported that two police officers were promoted recently, and many local children were in attendance to congratulate them.

7.3f Foundation Fund
Mrs. Peterson reported that the Foundation is planning two events, one October 30th and one in early November, in order to educate the public about the new construction. They are finalizing details that will allow them to accept stock as payment of a donation. Additionally, they are planning a letter writing campaign before the end of the year. Donations and pledges towards the new Sunset Ridge project have reached almost $420,000.

7.4 Administrative Reports

7.4a Freedom of Information Act Requests
Dr. Stange reviewed three Freedom of Information Act requests. One related to District purchasing, one regarding the use of Epinephrine injectors, and one to staff and administrative compensation.

7.4b 2016-2017 Enrollment Update
Dr. Stange provided an update on the 2016-2017 enrollment data. He noted that enrollment is steady with 193 students at Middlefork and 258 at Sunset Ridge.

7.4c 2016-2017 District Committees
Dr. Stange reviewed the list of District committees for the 2016-20176 school year. Both he and Mr. Warshauer encouraged board members to participate on steering committees.

7.4d Discussion: 2017-2018 District Calendar
Dr. Stange presented the first draft of the 2017-2018 District Calendar. While looking at options for the district calendar for 2017/18, the Board discussed the need for a long 2017 summer in order to accommodate the construction schedule, the desire for congruence with the New Trier High School winter and spring break, and the desire to be sensitive to family and camp plans.
7.4e Discussion: Chromebook Study
Dr. Stange detailed the current Chromebook study happening across grades, which is part of the District’s efforts to constantly explore new technologies in order to remain knowledgeable and updated.

CLOSED SESSION:
At 8:03 p.m. it was moved by Mrs. Peterson and seconded by Mr. Subeck that the Board enter into closed session to discuss the Minutes of the September 13, 2016 Board Meeting, to consider information regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, or dismissal of specific employees or legal counsel; to discuss the placement of individuals in special education programs; and to discuss potential litigation. The Board voted as follows:
Aye: Ms. Alpert-Knight, Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck, Mr. Warshauer
Abesent: Mrs. Papas, Mrs. Mirkovic
Nay: None
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING:
Upon resumption of the open meeting at 8:46 p.m., the following recommendations were made.

10.1 Approval: Closed Session Minutes – September 13, 2016
Mr. Subeck moved to approve the minutes as presented and Mrs. Peterson seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:
Aye: Ms. Alpert-Knight, Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck, Mr. Warshauer
Abesent: Mrs. Papas, Mrs. Mirkovic
Nay: None
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

10.2 Approval: Employment of Donald Kolakowski
Ms. Alpert-Knight moved to approve the employment of Donald Kolakowski as presented and Mr. Subeck seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:
Aye: Ms. Alpert-Knight, Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck, Mr. Warshauer
Abesent: Mrs. Papas, Mrs. Mirkovic
Nay: None
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.
10.2 Acceptance: Notice of Retirement for Linda Polak
Mrs. Peterson moved to accept the notice of retirement from Linda Polak (Sunset Ridge School Librarian) and Mr. Spaan seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Ms. Alperi-Knight, Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck, Mr. Warshauer
Absent: Mrs. Papas, Mrs. Mirkovic
Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

DELEGATIONS/PETITIONS: No delegations or petitions were presented.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Ms. Alpert-Knight and seconded by Mr. Subeck to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m. All were in favor.

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education

Approved 15 November, 2016