

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 70
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

November 13, 2023

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Paul Torres
Mark Thannert
Pamela Alper
Kate Pichon
Jeremy Wilson
Claudia Popielarczyk

Absent:

George Karagozian

Erin Majchrowski, Director of Business Services; John Wawczak, Principal; Nicole Cardillo-Kerr, Director of Curriculum and Professional Learning; Katherine McKee, Student Services Coordinator; Jacquelyn Le-Mon, Assistant Principal; Alana McCloskey, District Data Manager; Matt Condon, Superintendent; and Deirdre Koehler, Board Secretary were in attendance. The following staff members were also in attendance: Jane Berg and Laura Hansen. Dr. John Bruesch from ECRA was also in attendance.

Audience

To

Visitors None

*Approval of
Minutes*

*Regular Mtg
10/16/23*

Copies of the minutes from the Regular Board of Education Meeting on October 16, 2023 were included in the Board Packet. A motion was made by Member Torres and seconded by Member Alper to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on October 16, 2023.

Roll Call: Members Pichon, Thannert, Popielarczyk, Torres, and Wilson voted aye. Member Alper abstained. Nays none. The motion carried.

***Approval of
Deposits***

A motion was made by Member Torres and seconded by Member Alper to approve the deposits for the month of October 2023.

Preschool Tuition	\$3,375.00
Student Lunch	\$14,111.85
Adult Lunch	\$140.00
School Fees	\$19,226.00
iPad Sales	\$600.00
Rebates and Refunds	\$299.34
TOTAL	\$37,752.19

Roll Call: Members Alper, Pichon, Thannert, Popielarczyk, Torres, and Wilson voted aye. Nays none. The motion carried.

***Approval of
Payables***

A motion was made by Member Torres and seconded by Member Alper to approve the payables for the month of October 2023.

Fund 10 – Education	\$1,142,423.97
Fund 20 – O&M	\$81,494.04
Fund 30 – Debt Service	\$76,695.21
Fund 40 – Transportation	\$124,330.04
Fund 60 – Capital Projects	\$6,479.00
TOTAL	\$1,431,422.26

Roll Call: Members Alper, Pichon, Thannert, Popielarczyk, Torres, and Wilson voted aye. Nays none. The motion carried.

***Treasurer's
And Business
Report***

Director of Business Services, Erin Majchrowski, reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Revenues through October total \$1,685,425. Expenditures through October total \$5,208,471. Monthly expenditures for October total \$2,357,707. The current fund balance, which is as of the end of October 2023, is \$18,229,941 and the fund balance in October of 2022 was \$18,199,905. Mrs. Majchrowski also reported that the audit is mostly complete and will be presented at the December or January board meeting.

There was a public hearing at 7:10pm to present the levy. Mrs. Majchrowski presented the tentative levy information. The truth in taxation law states that the determination is established through the adoption of the tentative tax levy at the October board meeting. If the taxing agency's current year's tax levy request is

greater than 5% over the prior year's extension, a proper notice must be published in the newspaper and a public hearing must be held prior to adoption.

The tax levy is the request for revenue to meet operating needs for the current and future budgets. The tax extension is the actual revenue appropriated to the district based on statutory PTELL limits. If the levy is set too low, lost money is foregone in the first year and compounds significantly in every future year. The district can never catch up because the annual increase is limited by PTELL. The limiting rate formula under PTELL begins with last year's actual tax extension.

The district is asking for a 6.5% increase to capture all new property. The district is levying less than actual expenditures in IMRF to decrease the fund balance and continuing to levy more in operations and maintenance to fund capital projects.

The factors that were considered in the levy proposal are as follows: CPI for the 2022 levy is 6.5% (capped at 5%), prior year extension was \$13,381,025, 0% increase in EAV (estimate), and new property valued at \$800,000 (estimate).

Based on current factors, and the fact that a majority of these factors are only estimates, the recommendation is that the Board levy 6.5% over the 2022 aggregate extension as detailed in the tax levy presentation. There have been no changes made to the levy since the presentation to the board last month.

The recommended levy amounts per fund are as follows: Education - \$10,050,000, Operations & Maintenance - \$1,800,000, Transportation - \$800,000, Working Cash - \$125,000, Municipal Retirement - \$100,000, Social Security - \$151,000, Special Education - \$1,225,000.

Cash Reserve Balances are as follows:

Fund	Cash Balance as of 6/30/23 (FY23)	Cash Balance as of 10/31/23 (Most Recent)
Education	\$14,369,666	\$11,494,014
Operations&Maintenance	\$1,032,761	\$434,441
Debt Service	\$281,623	\$301,285
Transportation	\$2,112,050	\$2,005,119
IMRF/SS	\$261,734	\$174,818
Capital Projects	\$1,221,902	\$1,163,926
Working Cash	\$2,457,686	\$2,473,452
Fire Prevention & Safety	\$653	\$656

Outstanding debt totals \$895,000 for district bonds & \$599,704.50 for NTDSSE construction bonds.

***Super-
Intendent
Report***

Mr. Condon reported that Park View School achieved ISBE exemplary status. This means that overall performance is in the top 10% of all Illinois schools. There must be no underperforming student groups at or below the “all students” group of the lowest-performing 5% of schools. He thanked the board and the staff for their dedication and support to achieve this. Member Torres also express his admiration of the staffs’ efforts. Mr. Condon also thanked former Superintendent, Brad Voehringer, and former Assistant Superintendent, Matt Mayer, for their hard work to help achieve this.

November 15th is School Board Members Day. Mr. Condon conveyed to the Board how much the district appreciates them.

Mr. Condon also informed the board that there will be a water main project from January through April. There will be large trucks. Mr. Condon received assurances that students and staff will be safe during the project.

Dr. John Bruesch from ECRA presented the Achievement Status and Academic Growth for Park View School students. Highlights from the presentation include the following items. There was a continued rise in student achievement from 2017-2018 to 2022-2023 in the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) for ELA and Mathematics.

For ELA, in 2022, the percentage of meeting/exceeding students was 47.5% (which was the 81st percentile in the state). In 2023 that percentage was 65.8% (which was the 95th percentile in the state). For Mathematics, in 2022, the percentage of meeting/exceeding students was 45.4% (which was the 79th percentile in the state). In 2023 that percentage was 49.7% (which was the 84th percentile in the state). Per ECRA analytics, almost every grade level and every student in grades 3-8 are making higher than expected growth in both Mathematics and ELA.

Compared to the township, the district is number one in regards to percent proficient in ELA and Mathematics. This is true even though the pupil expenditure is less than other districts in the township. Out of 853 public school districts (3,977 actual schools) in Illinois, the district is in the top 10% of those schools for student achievement. This is due to prolonged efforts in using data to drive student learning through the PLC (Professional Learning Communities) process. The steady accelerated ELA and Mathematics growth since using the PLC process in 2018 continues to lead to higher proficiency than even pre-Covid norms. The district shows fiduciary responsibility while also yielding a high academic return on investment.

***Education
Report***

Mr. Wawczak shared that Halloween was a success despite the weather and the parade was moved indoors. The Parent-Teacher conferences were a success with many families/guardians attending. He also highlighted a group of 4th grade students who went out of their way to include other classmates in their activities at recess and also commended recess supervisor, John Scanlon for his involvement.

Director of Professional Learning and Curriculum Nikki Kerr and Student Services Coordinator Katie McKee shared the results of the Panorama Parent Survey. Ninety-three families responded to the survey. For Parent Teacher Conferences, some areas of strength were parents found that the school communicates well with people from their culture (96% favorable response) and the school is welcoming to parents (95% favorable response). A possible growth area is some parents did not feel a sense of belonging to their child's school community (however, this still received a 90% favorable rating).

For the school climate part of the survey, parents felt that teachers have respect for the children (96% favorable response). Parents felt that administrators create a school environment that helps children learn (95% favorable response). Possible growth areas are how fair or unfair the school's system of evaluating children (80% favorable for curriculum night and 89% favorable for Parent-Teacher Conferences).

Mrs. Kerr also talked about vertical alignment with math and work the teachers have been doing with this.

***Special
Education
Report***

Mrs. Alper gave the Special Education Report. Extended school year will be held at Todd Hall School this summer. The new technology network security system has been approved. There was a Friends of NTDSE recognition. Sydney Ratliff, a NTDSE K-2 Satellite Teacher, wrote, "Laura Hansen has been so welcoming to me as a new teacher and also to my students. She has welcomed them with open arms and always invites them to different activities in the room. She has also taken the time out of her day to brainstorm with me on how to make their experiences more meaningful! I am really happy to be working with her this year." Mrs. Alper stated that Mrs. Hansen is well respected throughout the community.

***Informational
Items***

***Enrollment
Report***

There were 871 students enrolled as of October 31, 2023.

***Lunch
Report***

There were 6,584 lunches sold in October 2023.

FOIA Requests

Guiding Question: What have been the most recent Freedom of Information Act requests since the last report to the Board of Education?

Policy Reference: 2:250 – Access to District’s Public Records

Description: Included are the most recent FOIA request. Please know the District responded appropriately for all requests or is in the process of responding.

REQUEST – received via mail on October 11, 2023

Dear Public Records Department:

Please consider this letter as a public records request for commercial purposes as defined under the laws applicable to your jurisdiction.

We are requesting:

1. A copy of the last property & casualty insurance renewal summary for all lines of insurance purchases by the school district (general liability, auto, workers comp, professional, directors and officers, etc.). This document summarizes the insurance terms, limits, deductibles, premiums and exclusions.
2. A copy of the last employee benefits insurance renewal summary for health, dental and vision plans sponsored by the school district. This document shows plan options available to the district’s employees and the pricing for employee, employee plus spouse, and employee plus family.

Please respond with PDF versions of the requested documents or any questions you may have to the following email address;

publicrecords@alliumdata.com

Thank you,

Michael Rost

Founder & CEO

Allium Data

RESPONSE – Sent via email on October 11, 2023

RECOMMENDATION – No action is needed from the Board.

***Policy
Reading***

Mr. Condon went over the first reading of the PRESS policies updated October 2023. These policies relate to Board Governance and Open Meetings as well as District Operations.

**Action
Items**

**Approval
Of
Tax Levy
Resolution**

A motion was made by Member Torres and seconded by Member Wilson to approve the Tentative Tax Levy Resolution.

Roll Call: Members Alper, Pichon, Torres, Popielarczyk, and Wilson voted aye. Member Thannert voted nay. The motion carried.

**Approval
Of
New Hire**

A motion was made by Member Torres and seconded by Member Alper to approve the hire of Lorna Pinner as the Front Office Administrative Assistant.

Roll Call: Members Alper, Pichon, Thannert, Torres, Popielarczyk, and Wilson voted aye. Nays none. The motion carried.

**Approval
Of
Resignation**

A motion was made by Member Torres and seconded by Member Alper to approve the resignation of Lauren Murphy as a kindergarten teacher aide effective October 27, 2023.

Roll Call: Members Alper, Pichon, Thannert, Torres, Popielarczyk, and Wilson voted aye. Nays none. The motion carried.

**Approval
Of
Resignation**

A motion was made by Member Torres and seconded by Member Alper to approve the resignation of Evelyn Oppenheimer as a recess supervisor, effective November 7th, 2023.

Roll Call: Members Alper, Pichon, Thannert, Torres, Popielarczyk, and Wilson voted aye. Nays none. The motion carried.

**Old
Business**

None

New

Business

Member Alper mentioned that she is representing the district at the Delegates Assembly and the Joint Annual Conference and will vote the way suggested unless anyone has any concerns. Mr. Torres brought up the possibility of starting full-day kindergarten before it is mandatory. Mr. Condon said they are meeting with the architect to do that. The facilities will look at options.

Audience

To

Visitors

None

Adjourn-

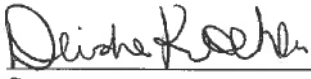
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At 8:20pm, a motion was made by Member Torres and seconded by Member Thannert to adjourn the meeting. All members were in favor.

Approved by:



President



Secretary