

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

September 20, 2021

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

Pamela Alper
Paul Torres
Jeremy Wilson
Paul McGivern
George Karagozian
Mark Thannert

Members Absent:

John Przekota

Erin Majchrowski, Director of Business Services; Matthew Mayer, Assistant Superintendent; Matt Condon, Principal; Darcy Willis, Assistant Principal; Katie Douglas, Coordinator of Special Education; Brad Voehringer, Superintendent; and Deirdre Koehler, Board Secretary were in attendance. The following teachers were also in attendance: Wendy Rice, Lily Ruklick, Angel Loizzo, Martha Ahlborn, Jane Melnick, and Ajete Sulic. Also in attendance was Kate DeWitt, a parent and community member.

Pledge of Allegiance

***Audience
To***

Visitors

Kate DeWitt, parent and community member asked a question regarding the authority of the Board as it relates to quarantine. She would like a written answer from the district.

***Approval of
Minutes
Regular Mtg.
8/16/2021***

Copies of the Minutes from the Board of Education Meeting on August 16, 2021 were included in the Board Packet.

A motion was made by Member Karagozian and seconded by Member Alper to approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on August 16, 2021.

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

Approval of Deposits

A motion was made by Member Karagozian and seconded by Member Torres to approve the deposits for the month of August 2021.

Student Fees	\$52,846.00
Summer School	155.00
Student Lunch	<u>1,105.80</u>
TOTAL	\$54,106.80

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

Approval of Payables

A motion was made by Member Karagozian and seconded by Member Torres to approve the payment of bills for the month of August 2021 presented in fund totals as follows:

Fund 10 – Education	\$148,895.31
Fund 20 - O&M	\$49,687.15
Fund 40 – Transportation	\$10,123.70
Fund 51 – Municipal Retirement	\$60.75
Fund 80 – Tort Immunity	\$3,088.00
TOTAL	\$211,854.91

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

Treasurer's And Business Report

Mrs. Majchrowski presented the treasurer's report. Mrs. Majchrowski also provided the Budget Hearing presentation.

Education Report

Mr. Condon reported that he and Mrs. Willis continue to seek ways to ensure we hire the best candidates for new teachers. He introduced the new excellent hires; Ajeta Sulic, ELL; Erin Ceba, PE; Olivia Hobson, 3rd grade; Angel Loizzo, 6th grade, all from last year. Our new hire for this year is Lily Ruklick, 4th grade.

Mr. Voehringer recognized Wendy Rice and Martha Ahlborn for achieving tenure. Mr. Voehringer emphasized what an important accomplishment this is.

He also mentioned how special Wendy and Martha are and how much they love kids.

Dr. Mayer reminded the Board that at the August board meeting Dr. Siemieniec from ECRA provided an overview of student performance last school year. She specifically noted that while, overall our students held their ground, we did have students that suffered learning loss due to the pandemic. Dr. Mayer has been working to identify the students that were impacted and suffered this learning loss. He is now in the process of developing a comprehensive program to address these learning gaps. This will involve using multiple approaches to provide targeted, direct instruction to close instructional gaps.

***Special
Education
Report***

Katie Douglas shared that students have been identified who need social/emotional supports at school. These students will be in groups with the Kenneth Young center student mentors.

Mrs. Alper shared news from NTDSE. They are working on a program to provide cohesive programming for a K-12 school. The Molloy project will be breaking ground in October.

***Super-
Intendent
Report***

Mr. Voehringer shared that he and Mrs. Byrne and Mrs. McCloskey visited a school district that is doing the SHIELD testing. Park View will be starting SHIELD testing with a 3rd party vendor. There will also continue to be weekly COVID testing for staff members who have not been vaccinated and any other staff members who wish to be tested. There were no new COVID cases last week or today at Park View.

Mr. Voehringer also explained what a Tax Increment Financing District (TIF) is and shared that the Village of Morton Grove is looking to have a new TIF within district boundaries. Their plan (at this time) may be to include more residences. The district has shared concerns with the village about the possible impact on the school district. Mr. Voehringer asked the board if the district can reach out to a consultant to help determine what the next steps might need to be taken to ensure it is ready in case there is an influx of students.

***Informational
Items***

***Enrollment
Report***

The total enrollment as of August 31, 2021 is 851 students broken down as follows:

PreK-5	545
6-8	291
PreK-8	836
Total (including NTDSE)	851

***FOIA
Requests***

A FOIA request was received from Kate DeWitt at katedewitt1@gmail.com on August 24, 2021 asking “What is the district’s insurance liability related to COVID”. You have requested a copy of one of the insurance policies currently in place for this School District. The district responded via email on August 27, 2021. Our School District is a member of an almost 40-year-old governmental self-insurance Pool in which a large number of School Districts have joined together to provide the equivalent of commercial insurance coverage. The intergovernmental entity is called SSCIP. Each year, SSCIP puts in place the text of the coverage which it will supply to its Members. The inquiry that you have made for information about our coverage relates to a claim which could possibly be filed that specifically relates to the COVID-19 health epidemic. For the current claim year, the coverage provided by the SSCIP Pool, like almost all commercial insurance companies, has a specific exclusion relating to claims, demands, or suits relating to the COVID-19 epidemic. Hopefully, that information will answer your inquiry about any insurance coverage the School District has regarding its actions or decisions associated with COVID-19 or any other infectious disease. The School District simply has no insurance coverage whatsoever with regards to claims associated with the epidemic. No action is needed from the Board.

***Action
Items***

***Approval of
FY22 Final
Budget***

A motion was made by Member Karagozian and seconded by Member Wilson to approve the FY22 Final Budget.

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

***Approval of
School
Maintenance
Grant***

A motion was made by Member Karagozian and seconded by Member McGivern to approve the School Maintenance Grant which is a \$50,000 matching grant with the State to help pay for the next phase of the roof project.

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

***Approval of
Citywide
Building
Maintenance
Contract
Amendment***

A motion was made by Member Karagozian and seconded by Member Thannert to approve the Citywide Building Maintenance Contract Amendment which will add a day porter.

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

***Approval of
Transfer
Resolution***

A motion was made by Member Karagozian and seconded by Member Alper to approve the Transfer Resolution which moves funds into the debt services fund for purposes of paying school bonds.

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

***Approval of
New Hire***

A motion was made by Member Karagozian and seconded by Member Thannert to approve the hire of Melisa Hadzipasic, lunch/recess supervisor.

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

***Approval of
New Hire***

A motion was made by Member Karagozian and seconded by Member Thannert to approve the hire of Zoe Luksa, teacher assistant.

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

***Approval of
Position
Change***

A motion was made by Member Karagozian and seconded by Member Wilson to approve the position change of Nahrain Behnam from teacher assistant to teacher for the 2021-2022 school year.

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

***Old
Business***

None

***New
Business***

Member Torres asked if something could be done about the heat in the gymnasium. Mr. Voehringer said the district looked into it before and it was very expensive but he would look into it again.

***Audience
To
Visitors***

None

***Move to
Closed
Session***


At 8:06pm, a motion was made by Member Karagozian and seconded by Member McGivern to move to closed session. All members were in favor.

***Move to
Open
Session***


At 9:12pm, a motion was made by Member McGivern and seconded by Member Alper to move to open session. All members were in favor.

Adjournment At 9:13pm, a motion was made by Member Karagozian and seconded by Member McGivern to adjourn the meeting. All members were in favor.

Approved by:



President



Secretary