

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
PROSPECT HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 23
APRIL 11, 2012
GRODSKY ADMINISTRATION CENTER

Martha Olsen, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Mr. Bednar, Mrs. Botwinski, Mr. DeCoursey, Mr. Hess,
Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Zimmerman

ABSENT: None

ALSO

PRESENT: Dr. Guarrine, Superintendent; Dr. Deb Wilson, Assistant
Superintendent for Instruction; Ms. Luann Mathis, Business Manager

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND VISITOR PARTICIPATION

Mrs. Darla Stavros, 12 Oakwood Drive, Prospect Heights, thanked the Business Manager Ms. Luann Mathis and Maintenance Supervisor Ron DeGeorge for their help with the PTO rummage sale. Mrs. Stavros also thanked MacArthur custodian Marcus Sabo for all his assistance during the event.

Mrs. Stavros asked if, with the resignation of a principal, the Board would consider having one principal for Ross and Sullivan.

COMMUNICATIONS

SCHOOLSEARCH 2012 BRIGHT RED APPLE AWARD FOR EDUCATIONAL
EXCELLENCE

Dr. Guarrine reported that District 23 is one of only 79 Illinois school districts to be a proud recipient of the 2012 Bright Red Apple Award. SchoolSearch is a private research and consulting firm that publishes rankings of school systems. District 23 is one of only 79 Illinois school districts to receive the award. The award is based on academic performance, pupil/teacher ratio, expenditure per pupil, educational level of teachers and average teacher salary.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION DINNER INVITATION

The Board received invitational flyers to the Employee Recognition Dinner to be held on May 31, 2012 at the Mt. Prospect Holiday Inn.

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Mrs. Botwinski moved and Mrs. Peters seconded the motion to approve the Regular Minutes of March 14, 2012 as presented.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Bednar, Mrs. Botwinski, Mr. DeCoursey, Mr. Hess,
Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Zimmerman

NAYS: None

PERSONNEL REPORT

Mrs. Botwinski moved and Mrs. Mrs. Peters seconded the motion to approve the Personnel Report as presented, a copy of which is included with these minutes.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Bednar, Mrs. Botwinski, Mr. DeCoursey, Mr. Hess,
Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Zimmerman

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS ON THE SECOND
WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT THE
GRODSKY ADMINISTRATION CENTER AT 7:00 P.M.

Mrs. Botwinski moved and Mrs. Mrs. Peters seconded the motion to establish regular board meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at the Grodsky Administration Center at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Bednar, Mrs. Botwinski, Mr. DeCoursey, Mr. Hess,
Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Zimmerman

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE SERVICE OF VOLUNTEERS/VOLUNTEER
APPRECIATION WEEK (APRIL 15-21)

Mrs. Botwinski moved and Mrs. Mrs. Peters seconded the motion to approve the resolution to recognize the service of volunteers/Volunteer Appreciation Week, April 15 – 21, 2011 as presented.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Bednar, Mrs. Botwinski, Mr. DeCoursey, Mr. Hess,
Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Zimmerman

NAYS: None

Mari-Lynn Peters read the volunteer resolution.

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE SERVICE OF NURSES (MAY 6-12)/
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS/TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK (MAY 7-11) –
NATIONAL TEACHER DAY (TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2012) – NATIONAL SCHOOL
NURSE DAY SUNDAY, MAY 6, 2012

Mrs. Botwinski moved and Mrs. Mrs. Peters seconded the motion to approve the resolution to recognize Nurses Appreciation Week, May 6-12, National School Nurse Day Sunday, May 6, 2012, Professional Educators/ Teacher Appreciation Week, May 7-11, and National Teacher Day, Tuesday, May 8, 2012.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Bednar, Mrs. Botwinski, Mr. DeCoursey, Mr. Hess,
Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Zimmerman

NAYS: None

Mr. DeCoursey read the Teacher appreciation resolution.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES

The Executive Session Minutes were pulled, and a wording revision was made.

Mrs. Botwinski moved and Mr. DeCoursey seconded the motion to approve the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2012 as revised.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Bednar, Mrs. Botwinski, Mr. DeCoursey, Mr. Hess,
Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Zimmerman

NAYS: None

Upon completion of approval of the personnel report, Dr. Guarrine announced that Mrs. Carolyn Ranieri will be stepping up to be the new Director of Technology as of July 1, 2012. Dr. Guarrine stated that the new position is a nice segue for Mrs. Ranieri's talent, and that she will be a terrific asset to staff and students.

Mrs. Ranieri, who was in the audience, thanked the Board and Administration for giving her the opportunity to take on the new position and its responsibilities.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Hess moved and Mrs. Peters seconded the motion to approve the Financial Report as presented of bills in the amount of \$366,698.60 and the payroll for April in the amount of \$964,367.56.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Bednar, Mrs. Botwinski, Mr. DeCoursey, Mr. Hess,
Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Zimmerman

NAYS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings and Sites: A meeting is to be held on April 13, 2012. Dr. Guarrine invited all Board members and the public to attend.

IASB/ED-RED: Mrs. Zimmerman shared an IASB memo regarding the upcoming Resolutions and Delegate Assembly. If any Board member has a change or suggestion, please get it to Mrs. Zimmerman by June 20. Anyone making a suggestion must go to the assembly and state their case.

Policy: Mr. Bednar reported on the meeting held March 19. The committee went through the policy manual with IASB representative Brian Zumpf, who had preliminary questions as the district policy manual is updated. When IASB comes back with a draft of the policy manual, the Board will need a workshop meeting to review.

School/Community Relations: Mrs. Peters reported that the committee met on March 20, and went over the spring newsletter, which should be distributed electronically in May.

NSSEO: Mrs. Olsen reported that the NSSEO Governing Board is working on the budget, which has been presented to the cooperative districts. Mrs. Olsen asked Board members to review specific parts of the budget pertaining to District 23 and to the merging of NSSEO and LICA. The directed vote by District 23 will be taken at the May Board meeting, the result of which Mrs. Olsen will take back to NSSEO for their vote in June.

Finance: No report.

Negotiations: No report.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH JUNE 7, 2012 AS RECORDS DAY/ESTABLISH LAST DAY OF STUDENT ATTENDANCE

As no emergency days have been used at this time for the 2011/2012 school year, and with language in the teachers' contract, the calendar will be amended to establish a Records Day for teachers and the final day of attendance for students.

Mr. Bednar moved and Mr. DeCoursey seconded the motion to establish June 7, 2012 as a Records Day for teachers and establish Wednesday, June 6 as the last day of student attendance.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Bednar, Mrs. Botwinski, Mr. DeCoursey, Mr. Hess, Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Zimmerman

NAYS: None

APPROVAL OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS PARK DISTRICT INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

As the district's current intergovernmental agreement with Arlington Heights Park District is expiring, Ms. Mathis, Business Manager, has been working with the park district to develop an updated agreement. Such an agreement is mutually beneficial. Changes made include the park district paying a portion of the district utilities, covering any destruction of property, and updating the termination clause.

Mrs. Zimmerman moved and Mrs. Peters seconded the motion to approve the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement between Prospect Heights School District 23 and the Arlington Heights Park District as presented.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Bednar, Mrs. Botwinski, Mr. DeCoursey, Mr. Hess,
Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Zimmerman

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE DISSOLUTION OF THE SCHOOL WIND
CONSORTIUM (SWC)

The School Wind Consortium, which started with the intent of developing and having part ownership in a wind farm, is no longer viable. Instead, the same districts, District 300, District 20 and District 23 will enter into an intergovernmental agreement to purchase electrical energy at a lower cost. Before that can be done, the consortium needs to be dissolved.

Mr. Bednar moved and Mrs. Zimmerman seconded the motion to approve the Resolution to Dissolve the School Wind Consortium Joint Action Renewable Energy Agency as presented.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Bednar, Mrs. Botwinski, Mr. DeCoursey, Mr. Hess,
Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Zimmerman

NAYS: None

APPROVAL OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR
ELECTRIC ENERGY PURCHASE

Ms. Mathis explained that the advantage of entering into this Intergovernmental Agreement is that, as a small district, the district can get take advantage of volume pricing to purchase electric energy, by combining with the two other districts.

Mr. DeCoursey moved and Mrs. Zimmerman seconded the motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement regarding the purchase of electricity between Community Unit School District 300, Keeneyville School District 20 and Prospect Heights School District 23 as presented.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Bednar, Mrs. Botwinski, Mr. DeCoursey, Mr. Hess,
Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Zimmerman

NAYS: None

MIDDLE SCHOOL EXPLORATORY PROGRAMMING

Mr. Steve Lee, MacArthur Principal, presented a PowerPoint to demonstrate changes Administration is recommending for the Exploratory Program. The District has the opportunity to incorporate a Family and Consumer Science Program with some of the technology and staffing changes being made for the 2012-2013 school year. As the district is moving from the Illinois State Standards to the Common Core Standards, a program like this incorporates the college and career readiness standards. The Family and Consumer Sciences Program includes career education, life, personal, and financial skills, preparing students to make healthy life choices, and is intended to help students function in a technology-laden world. The program aligns with skills that the high schools desire for incoming freshman.

The intent is to begin this program with the 2012/2013 school year. The computer skills currently being taught will be imbedded in the new program. Parents will be given information about the program, stressing that this is an enhancement of the computer class, putting the skills learned in the various computer programs to practical use. The curriculum will be project-based.

The Board asked that once the program has been developed and implemented a report be made back to them on how the program is going.

Mrs. Peters moved and Mr. DeCoursey seconded the motion to approve a Family and Consumer Science Program to replace the Computer class at MacArthur Middle School starting in the 2012-13 school year.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Bednar, Mrs. Botwinski, Mr. DeCoursey, Mr. Hess,
Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Zimmerman

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION FOR THE NON-REEMPLOYMENT OF CERTAIN PROBATIONARY TEACHERS

Mrs. Peters moved and Mr. DeCoursey seconded the motion to approve the Resolution for the Non-Reemployment of Certain Probationary Teachers as presented.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Bednar, Mrs. Botwinski, Mr. DeCoursey, Mr. Hess,
Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Zimmerman

NAYS: None

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND VISITOR PARTICIPATION

No one addressed the Board.

OLD BUSINESS

INFOSNAP UPDATE

Dr. Wilson gave a brief update on the Infosnap Student Registration Program that went live today. Letters are going out to parents who will begin registering their children electronically on Monday.

NEW BUSINESS

DISTRICT 214 JOINT BOARD MEETING, MAY 8, 2012

Dr. Guarrine asked which Board members plan to attend the Joint District Board Meeting hosted by District 214 on Tuesday, May 8. If more than two members attend a Secretary pro tem must be appointed for the meeting. Three Board members committed to attending: Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Peters, and Mrs. Botwinski.

Mrs. Peters moved and Mrs. Olsen seconded the motion that Mrs. Botwinski be appointed as Secretary pro tem for the May 8, 2012 Joint Board meeting held at Township High School District 214.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Bednar, Mrs. Botwinski, Mr. DeCoursey, Mr. Hess,
Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Zimmerman

NAYS: None

CONSOLIDATION OF ROSS AND SULLIVAN SCHOOLS

Mrs. Peters asked to address the remarks made by Mrs. Darla Stavros during the audience recognition portion of the meeting regarding the possible consolidation of Ross and Sullivan Schools. With the recent resignation of a principal, this would be the time to consider the issue. From parent comments made to her, Mrs. Peters said that such a move would be unifying from the parents' point of view. It would mean one less transition from one principal to another, though Mrs. Peters agrees that if a consolidation of the schools were to be made, it would require the hiring of an assistant principal.

Dr. Guarrine stated that from the administrative side, a consolidation of Ross and Sullivan is not beneficial. If the buildings were to be combined, the principal

would be managing approximately 600 students and about 75 staff members. With all the Special Education meetings, staff evaluations, parent meetings and other responsibilities, it would be overwhelming. It would require hiring an assistant principal, so cost savings would be negligible, and turnover for the assistant principal position would be high. There would no educational benefits gained for students by such a change.

The Board members discussed the issue, with various members offering comments. Mrs. Olsen stated that from a management position, it would be too much for one principal to handle 75 direct reports, including evaluations. It was also stated that there is no educational benefit to such a move and that the building is not physically conducive to a consolidation. Mr. DeCoursey stated that such a move would lead to less attention and support for teachers, making their jobs more difficult.

The discussion led to ways to address the issue to the public in order to get closure and move on. A question/answer page on the district website was suggested. Mrs. Zimmerman stated that there don't seem to be any hard complaints, with no specific questions or facts in favor of consolidation. She suggested that if a parent approaches a Board member with a question they could be referred to administration. Dr. Guarrine stated that he would be happy to talk to any parent with concerns.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. DeCoursey moved and Mr. Bednar seconded the motion to adjourn to Executive Session for purposes of discussing personnel and the Superintendent's evaluation.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Bednar, Mrs. Botwinski, Mr. DeCoursey, Mr. Hess,
Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Zimmerman

NAYS: None

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 8:50 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to open session at 9:55 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Mr. Bednar, Mrs. Botwinski, Mr. DeCoursey, Mr. Hess,
Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Zimmerman

ABSENT: None

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Peters moved and Mr. Bednar seconded the motion to adjourn at 9:55 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Mr. Bednar, Mrs. Botwinski, Mr. DeCoursey, Mr. Hess,
Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Peters, Mrs. Zimmerman

NAYS: None

President

Secretary