



BOARD OF EDUCATION Minutes

March 22, 2018

The Board of Education met in regular session on March 22, 2018 at 6:31 p.m. in the Joseph M. Porto Community Room at Marie Murphy School, 2921 Illinois Road, Wilmette, Illinois. The President called the meeting to order and asked the Board Recorder to call the roll.

The following members were present:

Louise Dechovitz, Vice President
Joel Raynes
Sheryl Swibel
Jamie Taylor
Rick Zelinsky, President

Absent:

Dan Garbis
Gil Gibori

Also Present:

Debbie Cotter, Videographer
Beth Dever, Chief School Business Official
Suzanne Harris, Board Recorder
Dr. Kevin Jauch, Superintendent/Board Secretary
Matthew Palcer, Marie Murphy Principal
Terry Sofianos, Director of Pupil Services
Jennie Winters, Curriculum and Instruction Coordinator

Visitors:

Jane Bailey
Beth Haugeberg
Kelli Lane

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Raynes moved that:

THE BOARD APPROVES THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

◆ **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES- February 12, 2018
- BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES- February 22, 2018
- BOARD OF EDUCATION CLOSED SESSION MEETING MINUTES- February 22, 2018
- COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES-March 5, 2018

◆ **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

● FEBRUARY TOTAL FUND BALANCE OF	\$	11,329,480.88
● FEBRUARY PAYROLL	\$	893,757.77
● FEBRUARY FIXED CHARGES	\$	160,984.13
● MARCH EDUCATION FUND	\$	143,214.00
● MARCH O&M FUND	\$	58,798.12
● MARCH TRANSPORTATION FUND	\$	20,103.14

◆ **MARCH PERSONNEL REPORT**

◆ **FEBRUARY ENROLLMENT REPORT**

Ms. Taylor seconded the motion. Upon roll call, members voted as follows: Ms. Taylor, aye; Ms. Swibel, aye; Mr. Raynes, aye; Mr. Zelinsky, aye; and Ms. Dechovitz, aye. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Working Cash Bond Issuance

Chief School Business Official, Beth Dever, introduced Tammie Beckwith Schallamo from PMA Securities, Inc., who is assisting the district with the working cash bond sale process.

Ms. Dever reviewed important dates pertaining to the bond issuance. During the month of March, Ms. Dever has been working with PMA to draft the Preliminary Official Statement (POS). The Finance Committee has had an opportunity to review the first draft of the POS and it is currently being reviewed by legal counsel. The district should receive a second draft of the POS by March 30th. A final POS will be distributed to investors on April 4th. The bond sale date is set for April 11, 2018 and the closing will be on May 2, 2018.

The district participated in a rating and due diligence call on March 14, 2018 with S&P Global. The district was notified that they received a long-term rating of AAA/Stable. This rating indicates Avoca's financial security, which makes the bonds more appealing to investors, and may result in better interest rates at the time of the sale. This rating reflects the Board's strong financial commitment to the district and the work of the administration for all they have achieved in the past and plan to do moving forward. Ms. Dever was commended for her professional and thorough presentation to S&P.

Ms. Schallamo also reviewed the parameter and escrow resolutions with the Board, which will be approved during this meeting. Since the February Board meeting, the parameters resolution was updated to include \$250,000 of taxable bonds to mitigate the risk of penalty for using the tax exempt proceeds to raze Avoca Center in the event the Board decides to sell that property in the future. The escrow resolution was updated to reference that Amalgamated Bank will handle the transaction.

B. Technology Research and Device Update (SP 1c.)

District Technology Coordinator, Beth Haugeberg, gave the Board a report on the work of the Research and Device Team (R&D Team) regarding the student device refresh and pilot recommendation for the 2018-2019 school year. The R&D Team recommends piloting iPads in 7th grade for the 2018-2019 school year. This will render a significant cost savings for the devices, licensing and accessories for student refresh. The R&D Team estimates the cost for 2018-2019 will be \$38,395 as opposed to average expenditure of \$91,560 for updating the current student device refresh plan. The R&D Team favors iPads for many reasons including the iPads' long life cycle, residual value, compatibility, device features and faculty and students familiarity. The pilot will allow students in 7th Grade to use their iPads for 2 full years, and the R&D Team hopes this will give them an opportunity to monitor the pilot and see how the device works for students across grade levels. If the pilot is deemed successful, students will begin to receive iPads at 6th grade and will retain possession of the same device through 8th grade. The former laptop devices will be used at lower grade levels or be added to carts for use on special projects in middle school.

Ms. Taylor inquired as to whether or not there would be a loss of programming switching to an iPad. Ms. Haugeberg reported that there is a particular 6th grade science unit that may be affected, but that overall programs could be supported with the right amount of inquiry into the capability of the devices. The implementation will be a learning process for everyone.

Mr. Zelinsky requested future updates regarding the transition and implementation of the device refresh.

District Technology Integration Specialist, Kelli Lane, added that part of the refresh relates to the Technology Innovation Leading Team's work to provide professional development to ensure optimal use of the devices. A three-part training is being developed and will be carried out before the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year.

C. Technology Innovation Leading Team (TILT) and Professional Development System Update (SP 1c.)

District Technology Integration Specialist, Kelli Lane, gave the Board a report regarding the TILT and Professional Development System. TILT has been working during the 2017-2018 on several goals to enhance curriculum with the integration of innovative technology. TILT specifically is working to develop a technology Professional Development University (PDU) based off of the requests and interests of faculty. The PDU will focus on learning outcomes for students rather than the specific device or technology used. This PDU will also provide a ground-up basis for use of technology that will allow for more targeted and affective use of time for site visits or external professional development. TILT hopes that the result will be a system for piloting and implementing new technologies, ideas and instructional practices. As TILT has been working through the steps of the process for developing the PDU, a goal to create a technology scope and sequence for students has emerged. Ms. Lane believes that circling TILT goals toward student learning will naturally inspire teachers to embrace the concepts.

Mr. Zelinsky inquired as to whether there is any common core equivalent to set the framework for a technology scope and sequence or if it is something that needs to be developed from scratch. Ms. Lane responded that the International Society for Technology Education has recently developed standards that cover broad topics for technology education. Ms. Lane is part of a township professional learning community that has worked to develop a leveled scope and sequence organized in grade bands which sets standards to create a skill set consistent for students in New Trier Township in technology. Ms. Lane is presenting these concepts at the March 23, 2018 teacher institute day.

D. 2018-2019 Staffing Plan

Superintendent, Kevin Jauch, presented the Board with a revised staffing plan for the 2018-2019 school year. The staffing plan outlines the allotted instructional personnel and their full-time equivalency per grade level and at each school. Dr. Jauch indicated that at this time, he has removed orchestra and band from this staffing plan so the Board can discuss these at the Committee of the Whole meeting on April 5th. Dr. Jauch also noted that the FTE for English Language instruction has been reduced to 4.5 FTE. This number addresses the current need and the assumption of services needed for the incoming Kindergarten class. Dr. Jauch stated that upon completion of the EL screening for the kindergartners that number may need to be adjusted. Also, due to current enrollment numbers for first grade and kindergarten, there will only be three sections in both of those grade levels. This would be subject to change if there is an influx of enrollment in either grade level that would require greater FTE. The Board agreed to adjust this number if necessary based on the needs of the cohort of children rather than an enrollment number. Due to these reductions in FTE, staffing has been impacted. It is necessary for the district to act on a reduction in force (RIF). The instructional staff impacted by the RIF will be notified of their honorable dismissals and reassignments through Board resolution and service of a notice within 45 days of the end of the current school year. Staff members impacted are non-tenured, part-time certified staff members, all of which have been made aware of the situation. The Board will be asked to approve the 2018-2019 staffing plan and RIF resolutions during this meeting.

E. Avoca Center Update

Superintendent, Kevin Jauch, gave the Board an update regarding the recent opportunities and discussions pertaining to Avoca Center. Dr. Jauch indicated that he met with the director of Sports Made Personal (SMP) at their facility. SMP has been in discussion with Avoca regarding the lease of the Avoca Center property as well as the additional Avoca Park fields for use in their programming. SMP appears to be a successful, stable organization. Dr. Jauch noted that the program participants and staff appeared to be engaged and happy. Dr. Jauch's impression after the tour is that SMP would potentially be a good partner for Avoca.

Dr. Jauch also met with a local private school interested in building recreational amenities on the Avoca Center parcel. This organization has specified that they will remain anonymous until further notice. The administration and Board of this organization are taking this opportunity seriously. Dr. Jauch has informed them that before moving forward with any type of development on Avoca land, the Avoca Center building would need to be razed. This

organization is working with well-known and respected land planners for their current property and will likely bring them in to develop the recreational amenities. At this time, the big picture includes six to eight tennis courts, an artificial turf soccer/football field and a track around that field. Once they decide that this is a viable option for them, they would be interested in moving quickly, which works well for both organizations. They are currently in process of figuring out who they need to talk to in order to raise the appropriate funds for the effort and measure the value of the endeavor to their constituencies. Dr. Jauch reiterated that no decision has been made at this time regarding Avoca Center, but a decision will be made sometime in 2018. The information presented appears to be two options for potential partnerships that would be beneficial for the district.

Dr. Jauch also spoke with Jerry James of Edward James Builders. Dr. Jauch had approached Mr. James with an offer to potentially raze Avoca Center at cost or for no cost in lieu of impact fees from the planned unit development he is proposing in the Avoca District. While Mr. James was not particularly interested in providing that service for Avoca, he did acquire a demolition estimate for Avoca Center from a reputable organization that he uses. He also arranged for an environmental consultant to visit Avoca Center and will be providing the district with a report/quote to update the Avoca Center asbestos management plan. Dr. Jauch concluded that Mr. James could be a good resource and a positive, professional relationship has been established with Edward James Builders, which could benefit the district in the future. Mr. James also suggested developing the property for a senior living facility.

Dr. Jauch also commented regarding the Friends of Avoca Park (FAP) organization. FAP set up a table at the PTC Fun Fair to inform the community, collect signatures and addresses to push out information in regards to preserving the Avoca Center parcel as green space.

Dr. Jauch met with the Avoca Center Committee on March 16th in regards to the news discussed above and to discuss the parameters of a land lease.

Ms. Taylor inquired as to whether or not Dr. Jauch intends to include the Avoca Center Committee in future discussions with potential partnership organizations. Dr. Jauch indicated that in the event these discussions continue and take form of more viable, concrete options, he will involve the committee.

Ms. Dechovitz commended Dr. Jauch on the amount of work and consideration he is giving to this matter.

Ms. Swibel inquired as to the artificial turf and how that may impact water drainage. Dr. Jauch indicated that if that becomes a real consideration the developers will consult with the Village of Wilmette to determine what needs to be done to ensure this aspect of development is handled appropriately.

F. One Hope United Lease Extension Request

Chief School Business Official, Beth Dever, presented the Board with the Second Extension of Facilities Use Agreement for current Avoca Center tenant, One Hope United (OHU). Due to the renovation of their new Wilmette location, OHU will not be able to vacate Avoca Center by the end of March, as set forth in the first extension of the agreement. The new extension will terminate on May 31, 2018. The Board will be asked to approve the Second Extension of Facilities Use Agreement during this meeting.

G. Strategic Plan Update

Dr. Jauch highlighted several areas of progress regarding the current strategic plan. Dr. Jauch mentioned the progress regarding the Technology Strategic Plan, and the impressive amount of progress made and presented to the Board for the 2017-2018 school year.

Dr. Jauch informed the Board that the English Language Arts (ELA) committee and the ad hoc groups have been meeting and will conduct interviews with instructional staff to assess the current reality of ELA across grade levels and subject areas in April.

The MTSS committee has developed a comprehensive intervention manual that outlines the current practices at Avoca and continues to look into potential new interventions to bolster student learning at all levels.

Staff will soon be developing continuous improvement goals for cohorts of students and reflecting on goals for next year. The Administration will be reflecting and reviewing the use of time, space, and personnel to make adjustments to optimize each resource. Dr. Jauch noted that the financial aspect of this review will be tied into the

bond issuance and facilities plan.

H. IASA BOE Self Evaluation Topics

Board President, Rick Zelinsky, engaged the Board in a discussion regarding the upcoming Board of Education Self Evaluation which is set for April 27, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. During the month of March, the Board received a survey from the Illinois State Board Association Field Service Officer, Dee Molinare, who will be facilitating the evaluation. Based off of the topics covered in the survey, the Board agrees that it was a very comprehensive survey that covered both topics that the Board feels comfortable with and those that represent areas for improvement. Mr. Zelinsky indicated once the data collected from the survey has been shared and an agenda for the meeting has been presented, he will take the initiative of narrowing the topics to those that would be beneficial for the Board to focus on during the meeting. The Board also discussed the location of the meeting, which will be held off of the Avoca campus but is still to be determined.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Ms. Swibel commended the administration and staff for the stellar way the March 14th student walk-out and Hearts Across Avoca were handled and is proud of the students for their behavior and participation in this meaningful event.

ACTION ITEMS

A. APPROVAL OF 2018-2019 STAFFING PLAN

Ms. Taylor moved that:

THE BOARD APPROVE THE 2018-2019 STAFFING PLAN AS PRESENTED.

Ms. Swibel seconded the motion. Upon roll call, members voted as follows: Ms. Swibel, aye; Mr. Raynes, aye; Mr. Zelinsky, aye; Ms. Dechovitz, aye; and Ms. Taylor, aye. Motion carried.

B. APPROVAL OF SUMMER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY HOURS

Ms. Swibel moved that:

THE BOARD APPROVE THE SUMMER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY HOURS AS PRESENTED.

Ms. Dechovitz seconded the motion. Upon roll call, members voted as follows: Mr. Raynes, aye; Mr. Zelinsky, aye; Ms. Dechovitz, aye; Ms. Taylor, aye; and Ms. Swibel, aye. Motion carried.

C. RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$8,700,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION LIMITED TAX SCHOOL BONDS, SERIES 2018, FOR THE PURPOSES OF INCREASING THE WORKING CASH FUND OF THE DISTRICT AND REFUNDING OUTSTANDING BONDS OF THE DISTRICT, PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY OF A DIRECT ANNUAL TAX TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ON SAID BONDS, AND AUTHORIZING THE PROPOSED SALE OF SAID BONDS TO THE PURCHASER OR PURCHASERS THEREOF

Mr. Raynes moved that:

THE BOARD APPROVE THE RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$8,700,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION LIMITED TAX SCHOOL BONDS, SERIES 2018, FOR THE PURPOSES OF INCREASING THE WORKING CASH FUND OF THE DISTRICT AND REFUNDING OUTSTANDING BONDS OF THE DISTRICT, PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY OF A DIRECT ANNUAL TAX TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ON SAID BONDS, AND AUTHORIZING THE PROPOSED SALE OF SAID BONDS TO THE PURCHASER OR PURCHASERS THEREOF.

Ms. Taylor seconded the motion. Upon roll call, members voted as follows: Mr. Zelinsky, aye; Ms. Dechovitz, aye; Ms. Taylor, aye; Ms. Swibel, aye and Mr. Raynes, aye. Motion carried.

D. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE EXECUTION OF AN ESCROW AGREEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUE OF TAXABLE GENERAL OBLIGATION LIMITED TAX SCHOOL BONDS, SERIES 2018, OF THE DISTRICT

Ms. Dechovitz moved that:

THE BOARD APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE EXECUTION OF AN ESCROW AGREEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUE OF TAXABLE GENERAL OBLIGATION LIMITED TAX SCHOOL BONDS, SERIES 2018, OF THE DISTRICT.

Mr. Raynes seconded the motion. Upon roll call, members voted as follows: Ms. Dechovitz, aye; Ms. Taylor, aye; Ms. Swibel, aye; Mr. Raynes, aye; and Mr. Zelinsky, aye. Motion carried.

E. RESOLUTIONS AUTHORIZING THE HONORABLE DISMISSALS AND REASSIGNMENTS OF PART-TIME, NON-TENURED TEACHERS

Ms. Taylor moved that:

THE BOARD APPROVE THE RESOLUTIONS AUTHORIZING THE HONORABLE DISMISSALS AND REASSIGNMENTS OF PART-TIME, NON-TENURED TEACHERS.

Mr. Raynes seconded the motion. Upon roll call, members voted as follows: Ms. Taylor, aye; Ms. Swibel, aye; Mr. Raynes, aye; Mr. Zelinsky, aye; and Ms. Dechovitz, aye. Motion carried.

F. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HONORABLE DISMISSAL OF PART-TIME, NON-TENURED TEACHER

Mr. Raynes moved that:

THE BOARD APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HONORABLE DISMISSAL OF PART-TIME, NON-TENURED TEACHER.

Ms. Swibel seconded the motion. Upon roll call, members voted as follows: Ms. Swibel, aye; Mr. Raynes, aye; Mr. Zelinsky, aye; Ms. Dechovitz, aye; and Ms. Taylor, aye. Motion carried.

G. APPROVAL OF ONE HOPE UNITED EXTENSION OF FACILITY USE AGREEMENT

Mr. Raynes moved that:

THE BOARD APPROVE THE ONE HOPE UNITED EXTENSION OF FACILITY USE AGREEMENT AS PRESENTED.

Ms. Dechovitz seconded the motion. Upon roll call, members voted as follows: Mr. Raynes, aye; Mr. Zelinsky, aye; Ms. Dechovitz, aye; Ms. Taylor, aye; and Ms. Swibel, aye. Motion carried.

H. APPROVAL OF AMENDED 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR TO REFLECT EMERGENCY CLOSURE DAY

Ms. Dechovitz moved that:

THE BOARD APPROVE THE AMENDED 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR TO REFLECT EMERGENCY CLOSURE DAY AS PRESENTED.

Ms. Taylor seconded the motion. Upon roll call, members voted as follows: Mr. Raynes, aye; Mr. Zelinsky, aye; Ms. Dechovitz, aye; Ms. Taylor, aye; and Ms. Swibel, aye. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

Ms. Taylor moved that the Board move into Closed Session for the purpose of:

THE PLACEMENT OF INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS. 5ILCS 120/2(C)(10); and

THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, DISCIPLINE, PERFORMANCE, OR DISMISSAL OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES OF THE PUBLIC BODY OR LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE PUBLIC BODY, INCLUDING HEARING TESTIMONY ON A COMPLAINT LODGED AGAINST AN EMPLOYEE OF THE PUBLIC BODY OR AGAINST LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE PUBLIC BODY TO DETERMINE ITS VALIDITY. 5 ILCS 120/2(C)(1).

Mr. Raynes seconded the motion. Upon roll call, members voted as follows: Mr. Zelinsky, aye; Ms. Dechovitz, aye; Ms. Taylor, aye; and Ms. Swibel, aye; and Mr. Raynes, aye. Motion carried.

The Board moved into closed session at 8:03 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 8:50 p.m.

Mr. Raynes moved that the Board return into open session, and Ms. Swibel seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote, with all members voting aye, the motion was carried.

MEETING ADJOURNS

Ms. Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting, and Mr. Raynes seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote, with all members voting aye, the motion was carried. The Board meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Board President, Rick Zelinsky

Secretary, Kevin Jauch, Ed.D.