

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
525 SUNSET RIDGE ROAD  
NORTHFIELD, ILLINOIS 60093  
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
June 8, 2021  
7:00 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

**ROLL CALL: (5:31 p.m.)**

Ms. Alpert Knight called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. and upon roll call, the following were present:

Present: Mr. Welch, Ms. Alpert Knight, Ms. Joseph, Mr. Zeidler,  
Mr. Dotzler, Mr. Spaan

Absent: Mr. Subeck

Also Present: Dr. Stange, Mr. Beerheide, Dr. Sukenik, Mrs. Dunham,  
Mrs. Kiedaisch, Mrs. Styczen, Mr. Dreher

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Mr. Spaan moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Mr. Zeidler seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Mr. Welch, Ms. Alpert Knight, Ms. Joseph, Mr. Zeidler,  
Mr. Dotzler, Mr. Spaan

Absent: Mr. Subeck

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Superintendent Dr. Ed Stange reported that there were two FOIA requests. Both requested were fulfilled.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT:**

**4.1 Discussion and Possible Approval: Strategic Planning Contract  
(Battelle for Kids)**

Dr. Stange provided an update regarding negotiations with Battelle For Kids for their work facilitating strategic planning in the And reviewed the revised scope received from Battelle. He noted that the proposal included 6 phases, options for virtual (\$60K) versus in-person (\$70K), and the potential to reduce the scope of last phases (\$47K). General agreement on the reduced scope, flexibility. Will start after summer to give all a much needed break.

Mr. Dotzler moved to approve the contract as presented. Mr. Zeidler seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Mr. Welch, Ms. Alpert Knight, Ms. Joseph, Mr.  
Zeidler, Mr. Dotzler, Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck

Absent: None

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

**4.2 Discussion: Preview of Summer 2021 Task Force Meetings and Agenda Items**

Dr. Stange reviewed the proposed plan for the Task Force during the summer of 2021 which included four meetings to review the five “Pillars” of the District’s COVID-19 recovery Plan (Health & Safety, Social-Emotional Wellness, Academic Supports, Professional Development, Communication). He noted the priorities as 1) health & safety, 2) support psychological needs, 3) on-going learning, 4) adequate staff resources, 5) on-going communication. General agreement on priorities (although all pillars must be addressed at the same time) was evident. Suggestions to use the website for some content, and to outline the impact were articulated.

**4.3 2021-2022 Enrollment and Staffing Updates**

Dr. Stange reviewed the enrollment data noting that 40-child incoming Kindergarten class was expected to be housed in 3 sections. He also noted that the 60-child 1st grade continues to be the largest class in many years and will require long-term staffing consideration.

He noted that the District continues to interview for the Middlefork School Nurse position as well as the part-time Junior High Science teacher position.

**4.4 School Updates**

Mrs. Keidasch noted her appreciation for the support throughout the year from BoE, parents, and administration. She reflected on a great sendoff for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade graduation, including Northfield fire and police. She reviewed a Kindergarten welcome event in the building, and commented that a small number of parents expressed interest in kindergarten half-day start-off.

Dr. Sukenik noted a successful 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation despite the threat of rain. She noted an upcoming school tour of Sunset Ridge for incoming 4<sup>th</sup> grade families (since parents have never seen school). She commented that recruiting for science role has been challenging. She discussed professional development services from Doug Bolton & Laura Levine on bridge training as foundation for engagement with teachers across grades and topics, in preparation for strategic planning days. She reviewed the new Learning Communities approach to improve professional development, focussing on Response-To-Intervention, mental health, cross-curricular connections, student motivation (all teacher-led). She, and Dr. Stange, also discussed the Districts professional development work relative to equity and social justice.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**5.1 Audience Comments**

There were no audience comments.

**5.2 Board Open Discussion**

Mr. Zeidler noted the next newsletter to come out end of July, noting a focus on a year-in-review/pandemic-in-review, areas of improvement, graduation, retirements, new board members. May include strategic plan callout.

Mr. Spaan noted an interest in an update on the environmental aspects of SRS (how solar is going, learning wall, etc). Dr. Stange noted the administrative team has innovative plans for revising the wall, to be presented soon.

Ms. Alpert-Knight requested to avoid scheduling school board meetings on the last day of school.

**REPORTS:**

**6.1 Return to School Task Force**

The next meeting is scheduled for June 21, 2021.

**6.2 Finance and Facilities Committee**

The next meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2021.

**6.3 Education Committee**

The next meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2021.

**6.4 Policy Committee**

The next meeting is scheduled for September 8, 2021.

**6.5 External Relations**

**6.5a IASB**

There was no report.

**6.5b PTO**

There was no report.

**6.5c True North/NSSD**

Mr. Spaan noted the NSSD update included in the Board packet and the rebranding efforts under the new name “True North”.

**6.5d Northfield Park District**

Mr. Welch reported that the splash pad was open and the grand re-opening is scheduled for June 23, 2021.

**6.5e Village of Northfield**

There was no report.

**6.5f Foundation Fund**

Ms. Alpert Knight reported a new meeting coming up.

**CLOSED SESSION:** At 6:34 p.m. it was moved by Ms. Alpert Knight and seconded by Mr. Spaan that the Board enter into closed session to discuss the closed session minutes of the May 11, 2021 meeting; to discuss the release of closed session minutes; to consider information regarding employment, compensation discipline, or dismissal of specific employees or legal counsel; to discuss the placement of individuals in special education programs or matters related to individual students; to discuss potential litigation; and to discuss collective bargaining. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Mr. Welch, Ms. Alpert Knight, Ms. Joseph, Mr. Zeidler,  
Mr. Dotzler, Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck  
Absent: None  
Nay: None  
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

**RESUMPTION OF  
OPEN MEETING:**

Upon resumption of the open meeting at 8:33 p.m., the following recommendations were made:

**9.1 Approval: Closed Session Minutes – May 11, 2021**

Ms. Alpert Knight moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Welch seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Mr. Welch, Ms. Alpert Knight, Ms. Joseph, Mr. Zeidler,  
Mr. Dotzler, Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck  
Absent: None  
Nay: None  
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

**9.2 Resignation of Michelle Gidron (Teaching Assistant)**

Ms. Alpert Knight moved to approve the resignation as presented. Ms. Joseph seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Mr. Welch, Ms. Alpert Knight, Ms. Joseph, Mr. Zeidler,  
Mr. Dotzler, Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck  
Absent: None  
Nay: None  
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

**9.3 FMLA Request (Employee D)**

Ms. Alpert Knight moved to approve the request as presented. Ms. Joseph seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Mr. Welch, Ms. Alpert Knight, Ms. Joseph, Mr. Zeidler,  
Mr. Dotzler, Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck  
Absent: None  
Nay: None  
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

**9.4 2021-2022 Administrator and 12-Month Staff Salary Increases**

Ms. Alpert Knight moved to approve the requests as presented. Mr. Spaan seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Mr. Welch, Ms. Alpert Knight, Ms. Joseph, Mr. Zeidler,  
Mr. Dotzler, Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck

Absent: None

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

**9.5 2021-2022 Teaching Assistant Salary Schedule**

Mr. Zeidler moved to approve the schedule as presented. Mr. Dotzler seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Mr. Welch, Ms. Alpert Knight, Ms. Joseph, Mr. Zeidler,  
Mr. Dotzler, Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck

Absent: None

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

**9.6 Memorandum of Understanding with Sunset Ridge Education Association**

Ms. Alpert Knight moved to approve the MOU as presented. Mr. Spaan seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Mr. Welch, Ms. Alpert Knight, Ms. Joseph, Mr. Zeidler,  
Mr. Dotzler, Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck

Absent: None

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

**ADJOURNMENT:**

It was moved by Mr. Dotzler and seconded by Mr. Welch to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. All were in favor.

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education



Approved July 13, 2021

