

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
525 SUNSET RIDGE ROAD
NORTHFIELD, ILLINOIS 60093
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
APRIL 9, 2019
7:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

ROLL CALL: (7:00 p.m.)

Mr. Spaan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and upon roll call, the following were present:

Present: Mr. Hayes, Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan,
Mr. Subeck, Mrs. Detlefsen, Mrs. Mirkovic

Absent: Ms. Alpert Knight

Also Present: Mr. Welch, Dr. Stange, Mr. Beerheide, Mr. Dreher,
Dr. Greene, Dr. Sukenik, Mrs. Styczen, Ms. Dunham,
Mrs. Gray, Student Clubs Representatives and Their
Families

**SPOTLIGHT ON
STUDENTS:**

2.1 Sunset Ridge Student Clubs

Several students from Sunset Ridge School, across all grade levels, came to let the Board in on the details of the plethora of clubs that are available to students before school and during recess. Participants in Magic Club, D & D Club, Big Books Club, Script Writing Club, Scribbler Siblings, Tech Club, Marvel Club, and Empathy Ambassadors presented the ins-and-outs of their groups, emphasizing the fact that they are all student created and led. Librarian/Media Specialist Ms. Lauren Gray added that she encourages any student who wants to start any type of club to let her know and she would be happy to help her/him/them develop the idea, promote it, and implement it. She explained that it is her priority to champion student voices while ensuring that the Learning Center is used to its full potential. Superintendent Dr. Stange praised the students on their creativity, responsibility, leadership, and passion, thanked them for working to create such a positive and inclusive school climate, and expressed his great appreciation for Ms. Gray's mentorship

CONSENT AGENDA:

3.1 Minutes of the Board Meeting – March 12, 2019

3.2 Bills and Salaries

Mr. Subeck moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Hayes seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Present: Mr. Hayes, Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan,
Mr. Subeck, Mrs. Detlefsen, Mrs. Mirkovic

Absent: Ms. Alpert Knight

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Dr. Stange informed the Board that Sunset Ridge has received, for the second year in a row, the Best Communities for Music Education Award from The NAMM Foundation, and he thanked the music staff for their dedication to our program. Only 13 schools in Illinois were chosen for this award! He also shared that an American flag had been flown in honor of our SRS Fiber Optics robotics team aboard an E-8C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System aircraft during a mission.

OLD BUSINESS:

5.1 ADA Accessible Lunchroom Table

Dr. Stange informed the Board that a handicap accessible lunch table will be purchased for the Sunset Ridge lunchroom.

5.2 Capital Improvement Update

Middlefork School: The renovation of one bathroom at Middlefork was completed during spring break and now awaits final approval by a plumbing inspector, which will be the go-ahead for the rest of the bathroom renovations to take place this summer. It was also discovered that the flush valves on all of the toilets will need to be replaced, as they are old and will not match the replacement fixtures.

Sunset Ridge School: The District was recently informed by the Village that one of the water service vaults located underneath the driveway does not meet the required 5-foot depth that was outlined in the original architectural drawings. This is because old plumbing from the original building was found to be in the way, so most likely a “field decision” was made to modify the plans. After Dr. Stange described meetings to discuss this situation with the architects, contractors, and excavators, the Board discussed options moving forward, instructing Dr. Stange to gather more information.

5.2a Discussion and Possible Approval: Asbestos Abatement Bid

After a brief discussion regarding the bids for Asbestos Abatement at Middlefork School, Mrs. Peterson moved to approve bid from Superb Environmental, Inc.. Mr. Subeck seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Mr. Hayes, Mrs. Peterson,
Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck, Mrs. Detlefsen, Mrs. Mirkovic

Absent: Ms. Alpert Knight

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

5.3 Strategic Plan Update

Sunset Ridge Principal Dr. Ivy Sukenik gave a brief presentation on the new Athletics Committee tasked with evaluating our athletic program and making recommendations where appropriate. This committee included administrators, teachers, and parents who met over the course of the year to review each section of the existing District 29 athletics guidelines. Based on those recommendations and discussions, draft adjustments were made and shared, and a parent survey sent out to gather feedback. The committee continues to fine tune the guidelines with the goal of supporting a robust athletics program that also reinforces the District's commitment to social and emotional learning opportunities.

NEW BUSINESS:

6.1 Audience Comments

Board member Mrs. Anne Peterson read a communication on behalf of community member Ms. Jamie Cherry asking the Board to consider replacing the yellow temporary speed bump at Sunset Ridge with a permanent, more gradual speed hump.

6.2 Board Open Discussion

The board discussed the pros and cons of replacing the speed bump. Dr. Stange let the Board know that the previous weekend's 8th grade Washington DC trip was a resounding success, with Board members adding that they had received great feedback from parents whose children had attended. Dr. Stange also presented the agenda for the April 30th Special Board Meeting to seat new members, a reminder of Board committee positions, and a tentative Board meeting calendar.

REPORTS:

7.1 Finance & Facilities Committee

7.1a Discussion and Possible Approval: 2019-2020 Smith Maintenance Contract Renewal

After a brief discussion regarding the District's maintenance services, Mrs. Detlefsen moved to approve contract renewal with Smith Maintenance. Mrs. Mirkovic seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Mr. Hayes, Mrs. Peterson,
Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck, Mrs. Detlefsen, Mrs. Mirkovic

Absent: Ms. Alpert Knight

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

7.1c Discussion and Possible Approval: Call One Contract Renewal

After a brief discussion regarding the District's need for copper line telephone service as a backup to network-based services, Mr. Hayes moved to approve contract renewal with Call One. Mrs. Mirkovic seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Mr. Hayes, Mrs. Peterson,

Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck, Mrs. Detlefsen, Mrs. Mirkovic

Absent: Ms. Alpert Knight

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

7.1d Next Meeting: July 16, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

7.2 Education Committee

The Board discussed the recommendation to begin the May Education Committee meeting 30 minutes earlier than planned. The May Education Committee meeting will, therefore, be held from 5:30p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on May 14, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

7.3 External Relations

7.3a IASB

Dr. Stange reported that a bill is working its way through that would mandate an increase in PE minutes for 1st through 8th grades. This could significantly impact the District's scheduling, as some other activity would need to be sacrificed in order to meet the mandated minutes.

7.3b PTO

Mrs. Mirkovic reported that the portal to order school supply kits had opened. The famed author Kwame Alexander is scheduled to visit Sunset Ridge on Wednesday, April 10th, thanks to PTO funding. They are still looking for a Nominating Chair, House and Grounds Chair, and a President Elect.

7.3c NSSED

Mr. Hayes reported that they had hired a new Business Official and North Shore Academy Principal. In creating their 2019/2020 budget, they realized there was a shortfall which is expected to be covered by a combination of staff reductions, tuition and membership fee increase, and possible use of fund balance. Dr. Stange noted that as more children are integrated into classrooms across the service area, there appears to be a shortage of NSSED specific classrooms that meet the needs of our youngest pre-K students. Dr. Stange is working with NSSED to find a solution that is not burdensome to those families.

7.3d Northfield Park District

Dr. Stange thanked the Park District for their donation of a gently used John Deere riding snow blower.

7.3e Village of Northfield

Mrs. Detlefsen reported that their 2040 Comprehensive Plan community engagement meeting was well attended and produced many creative ideas for village development. Those plans and ideas will then be presented to the Village Trustees, followed by more community engagement opportunities.

7.3f Foundation Fund

There was no report.

7.4 Administrative Reports

7.4a Freedom of Information Act Requests

Dr. Stange reported that he received one FOIA request from NBC5 regarding school storm shelters.

7.4b Enrollment Update

Dr. Stange reported that 43 Kindergarteners are registered for next year, which will likely increase to at least 47. This indicates that in all likelihood there will be 3 Kindergarten sections.

7.4c 2019-2020 Staffing Projections

Dr. Sukenik is preparing for next year's staffing requirements by advertising an open Spanish Teacher position.

7.4d Update: 2018-2019 Washington, D.C. Trip

Dr. Stange provided an updated on the current enrollment and itinerary for the 2018-2019 8th-grade trip to Washington, D.C. He noted the participation rate was 68%, which was consistent with the historical trend relative to student participation in the trip.

7.4e Discussion School Reports

Dr. Stange proposed that Administrative Reports include a briefing from each school's principal, an idea that the Board was very receptive to. Those reports are as follows:

Middlefork School: Dr. Mary Frances Greene reported that IAR state testing is going well so far, even with the addition of one extra test resulting from Middlefork being chosen as a field test school. State mandated sexual abuse education will be starting soon, as will Bike Safety Week. Class placement work for next year has begun. Dr. Greene is meeting with parents who have children in the incoming 3rd grade class to address concerns regarding the imbalance of boys to girls.

Sunset Ridge: Dr. Sukenik reported that IAR state testing is going well and thanked Director of Technology Mrs. Sheri Styczen for a smooth implementation. The Creator of the "We All Live Here" project visited the school to discuss ways to engage in an exercise on inclusivity that culminates in a permanent art installation. He proposed a magnetic poetry wall on the green roof patio that would be an opportunity to foster school community and student ownership. The Robotics team is heading to the world championship for the second year in a row on April 28th! Newberry

Medal author Kwame Alexander is visiting the school on April 10th.

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CLOSED SESSION: At 8:19 p.m. it was moved by Mrs. Peterson and seconded by Mrs. Detlefsen that the Board enter into closed session to discuss the closed session minutes from March 12, 2019; 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. Hayes, Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan,
Mr. Subeck, Mrs. Detlefsen, Mrs. Mirkovic
Absent: Ms. Alpert Knight
Nay: None
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING:

Upon resumption of the open meeting at 9:28 p.m., the following recommendations were made:

10.1 Approval: Closed Session Minutes – March 12, 2019

Mrs. Detlefsen moved to approve the closed session minutes from March 12, 2019. Mrs. Peterson seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Mr. Hayes, Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck,
Mrs. Detlefsen, Mrs. Mirkovic
Absent: Ms. Alpert Knight
Nay: None
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

10.2 Acceptance: Resignation of George Gemeinhardt

Mrs. Mirkovic moved to accept the resignation of George Gemeinhardt.

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

Aye: Mr. Hayes, Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck,
Mrs. Detlefsen, Mrs. Mirkovic
Absent: Ms. Alpert Knight,
Nay: None
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

10.3 Approval: Administrative Contract Renewal for Emily Dunham

Mrs. Detlefsen moved to approve the contract renewal for Ms. Emily Dunham. Mr. Hayes seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Mr. Hayes, Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan, Mr. Subeck,
Mrs. Detlefsen, Mrs. Mirkovic
Absent: Ms. Alpert Knight,
Nay: None
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

DELEGATIONS/PETITIONS: No delegations or petitions were presented.

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Mrs. Mirkovic seconded by Mrs. Detlefsen to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 p.m. All were in favor.



President, Board of Education



Secretary, Board of Education

Approved 14 May, 2019
