

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
525 SUNSET RIDGE ROAD
NORTHFIELD, ILLINOIS 60093
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MARCH 12, 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: Ms. Alpert Knight, Mr. Hayes, Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan,
Mr. Subeck, Mrs. Detlefsen, Mrs. Mirkovic

Absent: None

Also Present: Dr. Stange, Mr. Beerheide, Mr. Dreher, Dr. Greene,
Dr. Sukenik, Mrs. Styczen, Ms. Dunham, Mrs. Damon,
Ms. Wendt, Ms. Davis, 1st Grade Explorer's Club Students
and their Families

**SPOTLIGHT ON
STUDENTS:**

2.1 1ST Grade Explorer's Club Students

Students participating in Middlefork's 1st grade Explorers Club came to tell the Board about what they have been working on at Middlefork. Dr. Greene described the grade-wide project as a student-led group research assignment that culminates in an Explorers Club Museum exhibit at 1st grade portfolio night in April, adding that it has been a part of Middlefork's curriculum for the better part of 30 years. Dr. Stange commented that Explorers Club is an early manifestation of the District's commitment to student-driven, one-child-at-a-time methods, and commended the students on their passionate approach to their projects.

CONSENT AGENDA:

3.1 Minutes of the Board Meeting – February 12, 2019

3.2 Bills and Salaries

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

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

Absent: None

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Dr. Stange shared a Winnetka Current article describing the Go Green IL winter meeting that the District hosted at Sunset Ridge School, and alerted the Board to the ongoing art exhibit at Village Hall that is currently displaying artwork by Middlefork students..

OLD BUSINESS:

5.1 Capital Improvement Update

Dr. Stange shared that one bathroom at Middlefork will be renovated over spring break to serve as an example for the plumbing inspector to confirm that our approach meets requirements. Dr. Stange was happy to report that the roof HVAC units and screening plans were approved by Northfield's Architectural Committee, and the PTO is able to donate \$25,000 to the project as a result of their successful benefit fundraising.

NEW BUSINESS:

6.1 Audience Comments

Board member Mrs. Jill Mirkovic relayed a message from community member Ms. Sarah Crawford requesting that the District consider purchasing a handicap accessible lunch table. Dr. Stange read a communication on behalf of community member Mr. Charlie Pick encouraging the District to continue efforts to teach tolerance and requesting the District to clarify how its SEL curriculum is addressing the issue.

6.2 Board Open Discussion

The Board discussed the work of the Social Justice Committee. Dr. Stange and Sunset Ridge Principal Dr. Sukenik each described their reflections on the recent survey given to Sunset Ridge students regarding forming a Gender Sexuality Alliance, commenting that much was learned from the experience that would better inform practices going forward. Dr. Sukenik described part of the work of the committee as giving teachers, students, and parents better tools with which to tackle hard topics such as racism, classism, ableism, gender identity, and other complex issues that students are wrestling with every day. She informed the board that she is working with professionals to design and implement staff education, and plans to form a parent advisory committee for the Social Justice Committee. In regards to the results of the GSA survey, Dr. Sukenik reported that there was notable student interest in forming such a club. This would most likely take place next year in the form of an Inclusion Club focusing on inclusion and tolerance of marginalized groups.

6.3 Discussion and Possible Approval: Pepper Construction AIA

After a brief discussion regarding the terms of the agreement, Mr. Subeck moved to approve Pepper Construction AIA related to the planned capital improvement work at Middlefork School. Mrs. Mirkovic seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

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

Absent: None

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

REPORTS:

7.1 Finance & Facilities Committee

7.1a Next Meeting: April 9, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

7.2 Education Committee

7.2a Next Meeting: April 9, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

7.3 External Relations

7.3a IASB

Ms. Alpert Knight reported that there are new IL State Board of Education officers. Dr. Stange reported that legislation out of Springfield has determined that districts should have 176 school days, a day being 5.5 hours of clocked direct teacher contact, allowing "banked" time for early release days. He noted that our approved 2019/20 calendar remains unaffected, as it is already in compliance.

7.3b PTO

Mrs. Mirkovic reported that they had a very successful benefit, raising over \$70,000, which allows them to donate \$25,000 to the Middlefork Capital Improvement project. They are also trying a phone-in option for meetings, which would make it easier to have a quorum when needed.

7.3c NSSED

Mr. Hayes reported that they have met with all their participating districts in order to align their services with district needs. Their clean audit was completed, they are rolling out a new communication platform, and the Dan Habib presentation was a great success.

7.3d Northfield Park District

Mrs. Detlefsen reported that the NFPD are preparing for summer camp. Additionally, they received a \$1M grant that will go towards renovations at Clarkson Park, including a permanent band shell, new playground equipment and poured rubber surface, new pavilion, a splash pad, and the formation of two ice rinks, all to be completed by the spring of 2020.

7.3e Village of Northfield

Mr. Subeck reported on the art exhibit at Village Hall, and the progress of the proposed subdivision on Willow Road, Walden Lane.

7.3f Foundation Fund

Mrs. Peterson reported that they are working on a mailer to the whole community that would detail the new Sunset Ridge building's awards and accomplishments, and explain how the donations were spent.

7.4 Administrative Reports

7.4a Freedom of Information Act Requests

Dr. Stange reported on two (2) FOIA requests, one related to applications for charter school permits and the other related to contracts for custodial/maintenance services.

7.4b Enrollment Update

Dr. Stange provided an updated on the 2019-2020 projected enrollment noting that the current Kindergarten enrollment was still below 40 students. Given this level of confirm registration, he recommended that the District proceed with plans for a two (2) section Kindergarten for 2019-2020.

7.4c 2019-2020 Staffing Projections

As a result of the projected two (2) section Kindergarten class noted in the enrollment update, Dr. Stange noted his recommendation to proceed with the Honorable Dismissal (i.e., Reduction In Force) of staff to accommodate a two (2) section Kindergarten. It was noted that should the Kindergarten enrollment increase beyond 45 students, that the District would consider implementing a three (3) section Kindergarten.

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 and Possible Approval: Reappointment of Asst. Township Treasurer

After a brief discussion regarding the duties of the Assistant Township Treasurer, Ms. Alpert Knigh moved to approve the appointment of Mr. Thomas Beerheide as the Assistant Township Treasurer. Mr. Subeck seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

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

Absent: None

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

7.4f Parent Communication

Dr. Stange reiterated the learning opportunity that occurred after the GSA survey was given, pledging to better foster the District's "learning community" through improved communication.

CLOSED SESSION: At 8:01 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 February 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: Ms. Alpert Knight, Mr. Hayes, Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan,
Mr. Subeck, Mrs. Detlefsen, Mrs. Mirkovic
Absent: None
Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING:

Upon resumption of the open meeting at 9:12 p.m., the following recommendations were made:

10.1 Approval: Closed Session Minutes – February 12, 2019

Mrs. Detlefsen moved to approve the closed session minutes from January 22, 2019. Mrs. Peterson seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

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

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

10.2 Acceptance: Resignation of Shelby Cavnar

Mrs. Peterson moved to accept the resignation of Shelby Cavnar. Ms. Alpert Knight seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

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

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

10.3 Approval: Resolution for Honorable Dismissal of Keetra Tipton

Mrs. Detlefsen moved to approve the resolution related to the honorable dismissal of Keetra Tipton. Mr. Hayes seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

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

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

10.4 Approval: Resolution for Honorable Dismissal of Anna Murphy

Mrs. Detlefsen moved to approve the resolution related to the honorable dismissal of Anna Murphy. Mr. Hayes seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

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

Absent: None

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

DELEGATIONS/PETITIONS: No delegations or petitions were presented.

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Mr. Hayes seconded by Mrs. Mirkovic to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. All were in favor.



President, Board of Education



Secretary, Board of Education

Approved 9 APR, 2019
