

BOARD NOTES:

January 22, 2019, Regular Board Meeting:

Consent Agenda: The Board approved the Consent Agenda, which included minutes from the December 11th Regular Board Meeting, the minutes from December 17th Special Board Meeting, and the monthly bills and salaries.

Communications: Board member Mr. Adelbert Spaan thanked Superintendent Dr. Ed Stange for writing his “Year in Review” article published in the Winnetka Current.

Capital Improvement Update:

Middlefork School: Dr. Stange reported that the Middlefork Capital Improvement Team met to review all of the bids received in response to this summer’s renovation project. Fortunately, the total bid amount came in approximately \$160,000 below the \$2M overall budget, allowing the Board to consider a few alternate projects. Dr. Stange explained that a few of the alternates (replacing the Speech office door, door frame, and window) actually fall under the District’s Life Safety Fund, which, by law, covers expenses in response to the results of our 10 Year Safety Survey Report conducted in 2017. Additionally, a district family has generously offered to donate all necessary replacement plumbing fixtures, and Director of Buildings and Grounds Mr. Corey Dreher believed he can upgrade the intercom system for significantly less than installing the new system that was bid for. After a discussion of the Board’s priorities regarding if/how to spend the remaining funds, it was decided that the corridor flooring would be replaced and the vestibule entrance would receive a full security upgrade. Other alternate projects, such as building out the coat rack alcoves to include dividers and cubbies, could be attempted should donated funds be received.

Sunset Ridge School: Dr. Stange reported that the plumbing stacks had been rerouted over winter break, which completes all construction work on the building. The only project that remains is the leveling of the outdoor basketball court to improve drainage, which will take place when warmer weather resumes.

Board Open Discussion: Dr. Stange noted Winnetka School District’s upcoming referendum, and Board member Mrs. Anne Peterson confirmed the date/time of next week’s Board/Staff get-together.

Finance and Facilities: Board member Mr. Scott Subeck reported that the committee had reviewed the Middlefork capital improvement bids. The Board then approved bids covering demolition, masonry, steel, carpentry, millwork and casing, roofing, aluminum and glass, drywall and ceilings, painting, flooring, plumbing, HVAC, and electrical. The Board also approved alternate bids covering the security renovation of the front entrance/vestibule, and the replacement of the lobby and corridor flooring. The Board also approved the use of Life Safety Funds to replace 10 non-fire rated wood framed doors, and add self-closing devices and tempered glass to several classroom doors, all at Middlefork School. Dr. Stange noted that these repairs are in response to our latest 10 Year Safety Survey Report, as noted above. Finally, the committee recommended that Chief School Business Official Mr. Tom Beerheide be designated to begin the 2019-2020 budget development process, which the Board approved. The next meeting is April 9, 2019, at 6pm.

Education Committee: Board member Ms. Amanda Alpert Knight reminded the Board that the February 12th meeting has been cancelled. The next meeting is May 14, 2019, at 6pm.

IASB: Ms. Alpert Knight reported that Illinois has a new governor in JB Pritzker, new committee assignments are being made, and a new Education Secretary will most likely be appointed. Dr. Stange reported that he attended a meeting with Governor Pritzker and area superintendents at which the governor informed the group that they should be prepared for a gas tax and legalized marijuana.

PTO: Dr. Stange reported that invitations have been sent out for the winter benefit, “The Wonka Ball.” They are hoping to get at least 200 confirmed RSVPs so that they can have access to an upgraded bar area.

NSSSED: Board member Mr. Bill Hayes reported on their search for a new Chief School Business Official and new North Shore Academy Principal. They are also looking to secure commitments for all potential service and program usage for the 2019-2020 school year by February 1st, which allows them to plan for personnel and resources to meet those needs.

Northfield Park District: See following report.

Village of Northfield: Mr. Subeck reported that the Planning and Zoning Committee is considering a change in the local noise ordinance at their February 4th meeting. The Park District is particularly interested in this change, as it affects their ability to host park events. The Board discussed protecting the District’s interests regarding school/sports events on school property.

Foundation Fund: No report.

Administrative Reports: Dr. Stange reported that enrollment holds steady. The District received two FOIA requests this month, one from SmartProcure requesting purchasing records, and the other from the IL Retired Teachers Association asking for names of any teachers in the district that are retiring in 2019, of which there are none at this time. Dr. Stange reminded the Board that Kindergarten registration begins on January 23rd, which can have an impact on next year’s staffing numbers. He noted that there is a large 8th grade class graduating out this year and a small one coming in next year. After briefly discussing the moving of fall conferences from November to October, the Board approved the 2019-2020 school calendar, which will be posted on the website.

Recommendations: The Board approved the Closed Session minutes from December 11th and December 17th, 2018. Accepted was the resignation of Mr. Matthew Bell, Technology Assistant, and approved was the employment of Ms. Jacqueline Kotula as his replacement.

Official meeting minutes will be posted on the website following their approval at the February 12, 2020 Regular Board meeting.