

BOARD NOTES:

February 12, 2019, Regular Board Meeting:

Spotlight on Students: Representatives from Sunset Ridge School's band, orchestra, and choir presented pieces that they had performed at the previous weekend's solo and ensemble competition. Sunset Ridge Principal Dr. Ivy Sukenik was proud to describe the District's high achieving music program, mentioning that many more students than expected participated in the competition. Superintendent Dr. Ed Stange commended the students on their consistent hard work towards perfecting their musical ability, and assured them that their commitment would benefit them academically, socially, and emotionally for years to come.

Consent Agenda: The Board approved the Consent Agenda, which included minutes from the January 22nd Regular Board Meeting and the monthly bills and salaries.

Capital Improvement Update: The Board approved a bid related to the installation of hardware on the main Middlefork entrance doors to afford handicapped accessibility, as part of the Middlefork renovation project that will take place this summer. Dr. Stange reported that he had received confirmation of the donation of 20 plumbing fixtures from Sloane that will also be used in the renovation, and expressed his appreciation for such a generous contribution.

Board Open Discussion: The Board discussed the rescheduling of the Board/Staff get-together that was canceled due to the recent cold temperatures.

Finance and Facilities: The next meeting is April 9, 2019, at 6pm.

Education Committee: The next meeting is May 14, 2019, at 6pm.

IASB: Board member Ms. Amanda Alpert Knight reported that they are watching the progress of HB 310, which would prohibit school boards from granting post-retirement bonuses. Dr. Stange reported that IASB has recently become more invested in supporting the full funding of students covered under IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), as grants filed under this program have typically gone severely underfunded.

PTO: Board member Mrs. Jill Mirkovic reported that the PTO distributed information on how their budget is typically spent in a year, and they are preparing for their benefit.

NSSED: Board member Mr. Bill Hayes reported that their CSBO search is ongoing. Dr. Stange reported that the co-op approached the District regarding the use of Sunset Ridge's auditorium for a presentation, and he was happy to accommodate them.

Northfield Park District: No report.

Village of Northfield: Board member Mr. Scott Subeck reported that the Planning and Zoning meeting addressing the local noise ordinance went well and that the District will not be affected by any potential changes.

Foundation Fund: Board member Mrs. Anne Peterson reported that they are exploring ways to stay relevant and increase name recognition. They are considering a mailing that would detail the new Sunset Ridge building's awards and accomplishments, and explain how the donations were spent.

Administrative Report: The Board discussed the intricacies of Kindergarten enrollment and how it can affect staffing plans for the entire Middlefork building. Middlefork Principal Dr. Mary Frances Greene gave the Board a general overview of enrollment progress. The Board also heard from Dr. Sukenik on the impact of potential staffing changes at Sunset Ridge due to next year's small 8th grade class. Dr. Stange reported on the survey results regarding the trial E-Learning day, pointing out that over 90% of those who answered the survey were pleased with how it was implemented. He did point out, however, that there is a House Bill up for consideration that would define a school day as a minimum of 5 hours class time, which would make the e-learning option moot for the future. Dr. Stange thanked the staff for putting together the e-learning program on such short notice.

Recommendations: The Board approved the Closed Session minutes from January 22, 2019. The Board approved the release of the Closed Session minutes of June 6, 2017, July 11, 2017, and August 15, 2017, to be posted on the website, as required by law if they do not contain any confidential information. Also approved was the destruction of Closed Session verbatim tapes from March through August 2017. Finally, the Board approved a Request for Retirement from Sunset Ridge Art Teacher Mrs. Lynn Horne, to take place at the end of 2022/23 school year.

Official meeting minutes will be posted on the website following their approval at the March 12, 2019 Regular Board meeting.