

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
525 SUNSET RIDGE ROAD
NORTHFIELD, ILLINOIS 60093
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
JANUARY 11, 2022
7:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

ROLL CALL: (7:02 p.m.)

Mr. Subeck called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and upon roll call, the following were present:

Present: Mr. Subeck, Ms. Joseph, Mr. Zeidler, Mr. Welch, Mr. Spaan

Absent: Ms. Alpert Knight, Mr. Dotzler

Also Present: Dr. Stange, Mr. Beerheide, Dr. Sukenik, Mr. Dreher
Mrs. Styczen, Mrs. Dunham, Mrs. Tremont, Mrs.
Stonequist, Mrs. Johnston, Ms. Golub and members of the
Sunset Ridge School Student Leadership Team and their
parents, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson.

AUDIO PARTICIPATION:

Mr. Welch moved to approve the participation via telephone by Ms. Alpert Knight and Mr. Dotzler, both who were absent due to illness. Mr. Spaan seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Mr. Welch, Ms. Joseph, Mr. Zeidler, Mr. Subeck, Mr. Spaan

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

CONSENT AGENDA:

Ms. Joseph moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, including the December 14th Regular Board Meeting minutes, monthly bills and salaries and vendor checks, and second reading of policy revisions. Mr. Zeidler seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

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

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENTS:

Members of the Sunset Ridge School Student Leadership Teams (Student Council and Empathy Ambassadors) shared their work in building positive school culture and community services. Board members asked students about their project and Dr. Stange thanked them for their service to the District and their community.

NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Audience Comments

Community member Mrs. Johnson provided a live public comment, sharing concerns regarding the restrictiveness of the District's COVID-19 testing and mitigation protocols, and adherence to IDPH/CDC recommended practices.

Community member Mr. Beil provided a live public comment, sharing his disappointment with the cancellation of the New Trier Township basketball tournament in light of the recent COVID-19 surge.

Mr. Subeck read a public comment submitted via email urging the District to increase COVID-19 testing and mitigation protocols in light of the recent surge in cases.

4.2 Board Open Discussion

Mr. Welch inquired about the District's COVID-19 testing protocols. Mr. Subeck requested that the subject be deferred and discussed under the School and Department Reports section on the agenda.

COMMUNICATIONS:

5.1 Freedom of Information Act Requests

Dr. Stange reported that there were no FOIA requests since the December Board meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

6.1 Update: 2021-2022 Enrollment Report

Dr. Stange summarized the most recent enrollment data, noting that the administration continues to closely monitor the 2021-2022 1st grade class.

6.2 Update: 2021-2022 Personnel Report

Dr. Stange summarized the recommended personnel actions including the recommendation to employ a student services teacher and accept the resignation of the Director of Student Services.

6.3 School and Department Reports

Dr. Stange reported that the Northwestern COVID site was, in his opinion, the best source of local COVID-19 metrics. He noted a slight decrease in the Test Positivity Rate since returning to school but that the District saw many staff and student positive cases over the winter break. He noted that approximately 80% of students are fully vaccinated (eligible for and received). He noted that 20% of students that are unvaccinated accounted for 40% of the recent cases (remaining 60% of positive cases were associated with vaccinated students). He shared a variety of options to ensure that the test-to-stay will be available to all students. He noted that testing through the Shield program (even if desired) was not feasible for the staff to implement.

Mrs. Kiedaisch and Dr. Sukenik shared that daily operations and staffing challenges were all-consuming, exacerbated by a shortage of substitutes and positive staff cases. They praised the efforts of the nurses and the entire staff in showing tremendous flexibility and perseverance through challenging times. They noted that the remote teacher (Ms Arenson)

continues to manage the increasing workload with approximately two dozen students per day in remote learning due to quarantine.

6.4 Strategic Planning Update

Dr. Stange reviewed progress on the Portrait Design phase of the strategic planning process noting that Battelle for Kids shared a draft of the Portrait document with the Leadership team. Ms. Joseph thanked the portrait design team for their efforts. Dr. Stange noted that the Strategic Design Team is still accepting interested participants.

6.5 Discussion: 2022-2023 District Calendar

Ms. Joseph moved to approve the 2022-2023 District Calendar as presented. Ms. Alpert Knight seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

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

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

REPORTS:

7.1 Return to School Task Force Report

Mr. Subeck noted that the next meeting is scheduled for February 7, 2022 at 3:45 p.m.

7.2a Finance Committee Report

Mr. Welch reported on the January 11, 2022 Finance and Facilities Committee meeting.

Mr. Spaan motioned to approve the annual Budget Designation and Ms. Joseph seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

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

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

Mr. Beerheide shared the January 2022 Financial Report.

7.2c Education Committee

Mr. Subeck noted that the next meeting is scheduled for February 15, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

7.2d Policy Committee

Mr. Subeck noted that the next meeting is scheduled for March 8 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

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8.1 IASB

There was no report.

8.2 PTO

There was no report.

8.3 TrueNorth

There was no report.

8.4 Northfield Park District/Village of Northfield

There was no report.

7.5e Foundation Fund

There was no report.

CLOSED SESSION: At 8:17 p.m. it was moved by Mr. Welch and seconded by Mr. Spaan that the Board enter into closed session to discuss the closed session minutes of the November 16, 2021 meeting; to consider the release of the closed session minutes and destruction of the verbatim record, to consider information regarding employment, compensation discipline, or dismissal of specific employees; 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. Subeck, Mr. Spaan

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

**RESUMPTION OF
OPEN MEETING:**

Upon resumption of the open meeting at 9:22 p.m., the following recommendations were made: *

11.1 Approval: Closed Session Minutes – January 11, 2022

Mr. Spaan moved to approve the minutes 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. Subeck, Mr. Spaan

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

11.2 Approval: Release of Closed Session Minutes and Destruction of the Verbatim Record

Mr. Welch moved to approve the recommendation to not release any closed session minutes and to destroy the eligible verbatim records.. Mr. Zeidler seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

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

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

11.2 Approval: Personnel Recommendations

Mr. Welch moved to approve the personnel recommendations 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. Subeck, Mr. Spaan

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Mr. Welch and seconded by Mr. Zeidler to adjourn the meeting at 9:24 p.m. All were in favor.



President, Board of Education



Secretary, Board of Education

Approved February 15th, 2022

