

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
525 SUNSET RIDGE ROAD
NORTHFIELD, ILLINOIS 60093
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
November 16, 2021
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. Alpert Knight, Ms. Joseph, Mr. Zeidler,
Mr. Welch, Mr. Spaan, Mr. Dotzler

Absent: None

Also Present: Dr. Stange, Mr. Beerheide, Dr. Sukenik, Mr. Dreher
Mrs. Styczen, Mrs. Dunham, Mrs. Gray, Sunset Ridge
School News Crew (WSRS) and Learning Center Advisory
Board (SLAB) students and their parents.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mr. Zeidler moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Mr. Dotzler 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 two Learning Center Clubs at Sunset Ridge School (WSRS and SLAB) presented to the Board. They shared the types of activities they participate in and what they learn from their work.

NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Audience Comments

Mr. Subeck read a comment from parent Tom Whittaker regarding ALICE security protocol and comment from student Ana Wormley regarding the face covering policy. Dr. Stange read a comment from parent Rose Wormley regarding the recent vote to require vaccination for participation in overnight trips and a comment from parent Bridgit Kennedy regarding the public comment process.

4.2 Board Open Discussion

Ms. Alpert Knight and Mr. Welch both encouraged the public to make public comments in person versus submitting them in writing. Mr. Welch inquired about an option for parents to travel and room with unvaccinated students for the Disney trip. Dr. Stange noted that individuals with this circumstance should contact Dr. Sukenik for more information. Ms. Joseph and Mr. Welch shared their individual perspectives regarding the

appropriateness of detailed programming discussions at governance level. Mr. Spaan requested that the district adhere to the published rules for public comment submissions.

COMMUNICATIONS:

5.1 Freedom of Information Act Requests

Dr. Stange reported on two FOIA requests. All requested records were supplied in both cases.

5.2 Services for Philip Jones

Dr. Stange shared the information from the funeral services for former District 29 Board member Philip Jones.

5.3 Township Vaccination Clinic Notice

Dr. Stange shared the information regarding the Township vaccination clinic for students 5-11 year-olds.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT:**

6.1 Update: 2021-2022 Enrollment Report

Dr. Stange summarized the most recent enrollment data. He then discussed the potential benefits and challenges regarding the organization of the large 2021-2022 1st grade section into either 3 or 4 sections for the 2022-2023 school year. Board members shared their opinions regarding the two options. Dr. Stange noted that the District would continue to monitor the enrollment of this class and make a recommendation regarding the number of sections for next year after the winter break.

6.2 Update: 2021-2022 Personnel Report

Dr. Stange summarized the recommended personnel actions including the resignation of two staff members and the retirement of another. He also noted a record number of resignations in public schools across the nation this year. Finally, he thanked all teachers and staff for all efforts despite continued trying times.

6.3 Special Education Annual Data Reports

Dr. Stange summarized the results of reports related to special education in District 29. The first, from the Illinois State Board of Education, noted that the District was in full compliance with special education identification and placement mandates. The second, from TrueNorth special education cooperative, noted that students with disabilities in District 29 are less likely to be outplaced and more likely to be included with their typically developing peers than student across the state and those in the TrueNorth cooperative area.

6.4 School and Department Reports

Dr. Sukenik reviewed the enrollment for the Disney trip (14 parents + 62 students) and Washington, D.C. trip (43 students). She discussed curriculum adjustments based on recent data, including 5th and 6th grade

positive shuffles. She noted that the level of commitment to student connections and relationships is very high and critical to student development. Dr. Stange and Mr. Dreher discussed requests to rent the District facilities, however, the Board expressed general agreement on delaying any rental at this time.

6.5 Strategic Planning Update

Dr. Stange reviewed progress on the Portrait Design phase of the strategic planning process noting the third “Portrait of a Graduate” meeting was scheduled for November 17th. Board members noted that they were generally pleased with progress to date and customizations, coming to agreement on competencies and exploring visuals.

6.6 Discussion and Possible Approval: Security Consultant Services

After a brief discussion and recommendation from Dr. Stange, Mr. Welch motioned to approve the contract with National Security Services for the completion of a security audit as presented, and Ms. Alpert Knight 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

6.7 Discussion: 2022-2023 District Calendar

Dr. Stange reviewed the parameters and timeline for establishing the 2022-2023 District 29 Calendar. He then provided two options for consideration (Monday start, Wednesday start). He noted the expectation to approve a calendar at the January 2022 Board meeting.

6.8 Discussion: Parent-Teacher Conferences Survey Results

Dr. Stange reviewed the results of the parent-teacher conference survey noting that Teachers heavily preferred to use video for conferences, while parents were split between video and in-person conferences. He recommended working with the staff on options to offer parents their preference.

REPORTS:

7.1 Return to School Task Force

Dr. Stange reviewed the most recent COVID-19 metrics noting a low and stable Test Positivity Rate and high numbers of Cases Per 100,000 Residents. He also noted that 22 Middlefork students and 28 Sunset Ridge School students have participated in the Test to-Stay protocol since the start of the school year. The next meeting is scheduled for December 13, 2021 at 3:45 p.m.

7.2a Post Issuance Tax Compliance Report

Mr. Beerheide shared the post issuance tax compliance report.

7.2b Discussion and Possible Approval: 2021 Levy

After a brief discussion and recommendation from Mr. Beerheide, Mr. Spaan motioned to approve the 2021 Levy as presented, and Mr. Dotzler 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

7.2c Discussion and Possible Approval: Natural Gas Contract and Parameter Resolution

After a brief discussion and recommendation from Mr. Beerheide, Mr. Spaan motioned to approve the Natural Gas Parameter Resolution as presented, and Mr. Dotzler 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

The next meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

7.3 Education Committee

Ms. Joseph reviewed Education Committee presented on Multi-Tiered Systems of Support provided by Dr. Sukenik. The next meeting is scheduled for December 14, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

7.4 Policy Committee

Dr. Stange noted that several District policies will be considered for revision at the next Policy Committee meeting which is scheduled for December 8, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

8.1 IASB

Mr. Dotzler led a discussion of the 2021 IASB position statements. In sum, 23 resolution changes were proposed, 10 resolutions were recommended for adoption, and 3 resolutions were nominated for discussion to oppose IASB recommendation:

1. #2 Student Safety and Protection Plan (IASB supports, D29 supports)
2. #9 Health and Sex Education Curriculum (IASB supports, D29 supports)
3. #11 Clean Energy Infrastructure Federal Funding (IASB does not support, D29 does support).

8.2 PTO

There was no report.

8.3 TrueNorth

There was no report.

8.4 Northfield Park District/Village of Northfield

Mr. Zeidler noted that the District began quarterly meetings with village/park/school officials together. He commented on the enthusiasm about the new Clarkson Park and the Northfield Centennial celebration. He noted a discussion about traffic and options for engineering evaluation.

7.5e Foundation Fund

There was no report.

CLOSED SESSION: At 9:33 p.m. it was moved by Mr. Welch and seconded by Mr. Dotzler that the Board enter into closed session to discuss the closed session minutes of the October 12, 2021 meeting; 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 10:39 p.m., the following recommendations were made:

11.1 Approval: Closed Session Minutes – October 12, 2021

Mr. Welch moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Dotzler 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. Spaan 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. Dotzler and seconded by Mr. Zeidler to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 p.m. All were in favor.



President, Board of Education



Secretary, Board of Education

Approved 14 December, 2021
