



SUNSET RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 29

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Cultivating an inclusive learning community that engages the hearts and minds one child at a time.

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 15, 2022

MINUTES

ROLL CALL: (7:103 p.m.)

Mr. Subeck called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and upon roll call, the following were present:

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

Absent: Mr. Spaan

Also Present: Dr. Stange, Dr. Sukenik, Ms. Kiedaisch, Mr. Beerheide,
Mr. Dreher, Ms. Evans, Ms. Styczen, Student
Representatives of the Civics In Action Club, Mr. Kinnich,
Ms. Shankar, Ms. Buzza, Ms. Oliver, Members of the
Northfield School Board Caucus

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mr. Dotzler motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented, including the October 11, 2022 Board Meeting minutes, bills and salaries and vendor checks. Ms. Joseph seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Mr. Spaan

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENTS

Dr. Sukenik introduced the Civics In Action (CIA) extra-curricular club as an aggregate collaborative of multiple student clubs devoted to developing informed citizens engaged in service to the school and larger community. Representatives of the Student Ambassadors Club, Middlefork Dedicated Dolphins, Green Club, and Bold & Crispy clubs shared their efforts and experiences in building an inclusive and empathetic learning community and serving others. Board members asked the students questions about their experiences. Students discussed how they learn leadership skills, connect with their peers, and engage in meaningful activities that help others in need. The Board and Dr. Stange thanked the students for their selfless acts in service to others.

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COMMUNICATIONS:

Dr. Stange shared three communications. The first was a handout from the District's security consultant highlighting the responsibility of all members of the community in preventing school violence. The second was a memo from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) noting the 2021-2022 ISBE Designations of both Middlefork and Sunset Ridge as "Exemplary" schools. He noted that this designation was reserved for the highest performing 10% of schools in the state of Illinois. The third communication was a memo highlighting the recent Sunset Ridge School class of 1968 reunion, where former students provided a plaque rededicating their class gift (an eagle which hangs in the Sunset Ridge School commons).

NEW BUSINESS:

5.1 Audience Comments

There were no audience comments.

5.2 Board Open Discussion

There was no Board open discussion.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

6.1 Freedom of Information Act Requests

Dr. Stange reported that the District had not received any FOIA requests since last month.

6.2 2022-2023 Enrollment Report

Dr. Stange reviewed the most recent enrollment data, which was unchanged since October 2022. He also provided and reviewed the independent demographer's enrollment projections report. He noted that if the projections are accurate, and the District adheres to its historic class size unofficial "guidelines" of under 22 (K-3), under 23 (4/5), and under 24 (6-8), the current facilities should be able to satisfy enrollment needs into the near future. He noted that the administration is working on temporary "stop gap" options in case actual enrollment exceeds the projections. The Board requested data on the District 29 class size history by grade and year for the past decade. Dr. Stange noted that he would aggregate that data and report it back to the Board at the December 2022 Board meeting.

6.3 2021-2022 Personnel Report

Dr. Stange shared the personnel report recommendations including currently posted vacancies.

6.4 Discussion: Draft 2023-2024 District 29 Calendar

Dr. Stange shared a first draft of the proposed 2023-2024 District 29 School Calendar. He noted the general Illinois State Board of Education School Calendar Guidelines, the school calendar requirements per the 2019-2024 District 29 Collective Bargaining Agreement, and the important tentative school calendar dates provided by New Trier High

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School. The proposed 2023-2024 District 29 School Calendar offers a first day of student attendance as Wednesday, August 23, 2023 and a last day of school (pending no emergency days used) of Tuesday, June 4, 2024. Winter and spring breaks were proposed to align with New Trier High School. Dr. Stange noted that the District historically plans to approve the calendar for the upcoming school year by the January meeting.

6.5 School and Department Reports

Mrs. Kiedaisch noted that the team has been actively recruiting and interviewing potential candidates to fill the unexpected 1st grade teacher vacancy and hopes to bring a recommendation for Board approval at the December meeting. Ms. Evans shared her efforts to improve professional development opportunities with the student services department related to the District's Strategic Plan goals. She also thanked the team for stepping up to meet emerging staffing needs as the District continues to struggle with the substitute teacher shortage. Dr. Sukenik also thanked all of the staff for their flexibility and fanatical commitment in stepping in to cover absences. Mr. Beerheide shared that tax bills just became available and are due by September 30, 2022. He also noted that he will be screening candidates for the Buildings & Grounds position. Ms. Joseph suggested exploring opportunities to relieve the pressure on staff related to absences through incentives and/or other creative approaches.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

7.1a Discussion: Post-Issuance Tax Compliance Report

Dr. Stange shared a copy of the mandatory post-issuance tax compliance report related to the financing of the new Sunset Ridge School construction projection.

7.1b Discussion and Possible Approval: 2022 Tentative Levy

Mr. Subeck summarized Mr. Beerheide's recommendations for the 2022 Levy, which included a request for the maximum property tax proceeds allowed under Illinois law (5% plus new construction). Mr. Welch shared his opposition to requesting the maximum amount allowed by law, noting that he perceived this to be an excessive and unnecessary burden on tax payers. He recommended a slightly low levy request and consideration of an increased request in the future if needed. Mr. Ziedler shared that while he respected Mr. Welch's perspective on the proposed 2022 Levy, he disagreed with the perception that the requested levy was excessive, noting that the historic decision to request the maximum levy allowed under the law by former District 29 Boards was what allowed the District to build the new Sunset Ridge School without a tax referendum. Ms. Alpert Knight motioned to approve the 2022 Tentative Levy as presented. Ms. Joseph seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

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

Nay: Mr. Welch

Absent: Mr. Spaan

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

7.2 Education Committee

Ms. Joseph summarized the Education Meeting presentation and thanked the administration and staff for the comprehensive report and their work on the District’s Strategic Plan goals. Ms. Alpert Knight and Mr. Subeck reinforced this message.

7.3 Policy Committee

Mr. Dotzler presented the recommended new District 29 Board Policy 481 (Video Camera Surveillance). Ms. Alpert Knight motioned to approve the policy 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

Nay: None

Absent: Mr. Spaan

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

Dr. Stange noted that the new IASB PRESS recommended policy revisions document was recently released, suggesting the possibility of updating approximately 40 District 29 policies in the near future.

**EXTERNAL RELATIONS
REPORTS:**

8.1 IASB

Mr. Dotzler summarized the upcoming IASB Board Resolutions Committee recommendations. He noted that he would vote in favor of the recommendations at the upcoming meeting.

8.2 PTO

There was no report.

8.3 TrueNorth

Dr. Stange noted that True North is expected to be billing member districts for upcoming facilities needs. Mr. Beerheide noted that this could result in significant payments to True North from District 29.

8.4 Northfield Park District/Village of Northfield

Dr. Stange congratulated Mr. Bill Byron for his recent appointment as the Superintendent of the Northfield Park District and thanked George Alexoff for his service and partnership.

8.5 Foundation Fund

There was no report.

CLOSED SESSION:

At 8:21 p.m. it was motioned by Mr. Dotzler and seconded by Ms. Alpert Knight that the Board enter into closed session to discuss the closed session minutes of the October 2022 meeting; to consider information regarding the employment, compensation, discipline, or dismissal of specific employees; to discuss matters related to safety and security; to discuss the placement of individuals in special education programs or matters related to individual students; to discuss potential litigation; to discuss the sale or lease of District property; and to discuss collective bargaining. The Board voted as follows:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Mr. Spaan

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

**RESUMPTION OF
OPEN MEETING:**

Upon resumption of the open meeting at 9:27 p.m., the following
recommendations were made:

11.1 Approval: Closed Session Minutes – October 11, 2022

Mr. Welch moved to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Alpert Knight
seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Mr. Spaan

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

11.2 Approval: Personnel Report Recommendations

Mr. Welch motioned to approve the personnel report recommendations as
presented. Mr. Dotzler seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

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

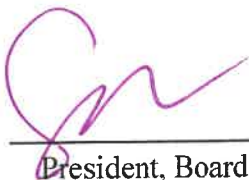
Nay: None

Absent: Mr. Spaan

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED

ADJOURNMENT:

It was motioned by Mr. Zeidler and seconded by Mr. Welch to adjourn the
meeting at 9:28 p.m. All were in favor.



President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education

Approved  2022
