

BOARD NOTES:

January 14, 2020, Regular Board Meeting:

Spotlight on Students: Representatives from Sunset Ridge School's Empathy Ambassadors described their work to create a kinder, more empathetic school climate district-wide. Formed in response to student observations that efforts towards more compassionate daily interactions could be improved, this student-led group strives to build relationships across all grade levels through creative group projects, student gatherings, and small but impactful acts of kindness. Superintendent Dr. Ed Stange thanked the representatives for their dedication to improving the District's culture, and expressed his admiration for their selfless efforts.

Consent Agenda: The Board approved the Consent Agenda, which included the minutes from the December 10th Regular Board Meeting and the monthly bills and salaries.

Communications: Dr. Stange shared the Winnetka Current article detailing the District's year in review.

Board Policy Revisions:

The Board Deleted these policies:

288 (FOIA) (absorbed into Board Policy 347)

520.23 (Tutoring) (absorbed into Board Policy 515)

The Board had a third reading of and approved these policies:

200.01 (Powers and Duties of the School Board)

The Board had a second reading of and approved these policies:

347 (FOIA)

350 (Policy Implementation)

357 (Acting Administrator)

400 (Operational Services and Objectives)

516 (Personal Technology and Social Media: Usage and Conduct)

515 (Ethical Conduct and Conflicts of Interest)

705.06 (Attendance and Truancy)

705.07 (Resident Students)

705.08 (Advanced Tuition)

705.18 (Health Examinations)

Audience Comments: Community member and District parent Ms. Patricia Gainsburg presented a proposed plan to install a vegetable garden at Middlefork School.

New Business: Board member Mr. Rory Welch proposed the formation of a new Board Policy Review Sub-Committee, comprised of four Board members and Dr. Stange, that would examine policies up for review outside of the regular Board meetings. After the committee had completed their review, they would then offer the policies as a Consent Agenda for approval by the full Board, with the option to pull out any policies that required further discussion. These Policy review meetings would be posted as open meetings. The Board agreed to try this approach as a way to streamline the regular Board meetings. Additionally, the Board discussed their upcoming Board Self-Evaluation on January 30th.

Finance and Facilities: Board member Mr. Scott Subeck reported that the committee discussed future capital improvement and regular maintenance projects, and forming a budget plan to accommodate them. The Board agreed that doing regular maintenance on the District's buildings was the desired approach, rather than waiting

for something to break and having to cover unexpected expenses. Administration agreed to provide a 5-year plan containing expected maintenance expenses. The next meeting is April 14, 2020, at 6pm.

Education Committee: The next meeting is February 11, 2020, at 6pm.

IASB: No report.

PTO: Board member Mrs. Anne Peterson reported that they voted to fund all of the requests made through their PTO Gifts program, which included a new digital keyboard for SRS, a new Eagle Mascot costume, Middlefork 60th anniversary t-shirts, funding to complete the MF tile wall, Waffle Blocks and a carrying wagon for the MF Kindergarten playground, and a Big Block set for the MF 1st-3rd grade playground, all totaling over \$10,500. Mrs. Peterson expressed the Board's gratitude for the support that the PTO provides to the District.

NSSD: Board member Mr. Bill Hayes reported that February 1st is the deadline for member districts to submit their requests for service. Mr. Hayes will not only sit on the newly formed sub-committee working towards updating the co-op's financial model, but will also attend The National School Board Association's Equity Symposium in DC next month. Director of Student Services Ms. Emily Dunham added that the District is partnering with NSSD to audit our educational practices, targeting our Strategic Plan goals.

Northfield Park District: No report.

Village of Northfield: Board member Mrs. Nancy Detlefsen reported that the Village has finished their 2040 Comprehensive Plan, with it set to be approved at the next meeting.

Foundation Fund: Board member Ms. Amanda Alpert Knight reported that the District received a payment from the Foundation related to the fundraising effort for the new Sunset Ridge building.

Administrative Reports:

Dr. Stange: There were two FOIAs, one requesting information regarding disciplinary actions resulting in expulsions, suspensions, or transfers, and the other requesting the information on the District's liability insurance policy. Enrollment remains static. All staffing positions for the 2019-2020 school year have been filled. Director of Technology Mrs. Sheri Styczen detailed the District's efforts towards network security by hiring a data security consultant company.

Dr. Greene: Kindergarten registration starts next week. They are looking forward to Pajama Day and the Kindergarten Winter Sing towards the end of the month. They are using painter's tape down the middle of the hallway in order to more easily delineate where students are supposed to walk during passing periods.

Dr. Sukenik: The January SELPAC meeting will focus on reflecting on what they've covered so far and planning for the future. Service Leagues will meet on Friday. Many classes have interesting field trips coming up. Sunset Ridge is looking forward to hosting two prestigious events, the Girls JV Basketball Tournament and the Solo and Ensemble music event.

Recommendations: The Board approved the Closed Session Minutes from December 10, 2019. The Board also approved the employment of Ms. Amy Oyes (Sunset Ridge Teaching Assistant), Ms. Joy Kunny (Middlefork Teaching Assistant), and Mr. Jason Meger (Sunset Ridge PE Teaching Assistant).

Official meeting minutes will be posted on the website following their approval at the February 11, 2020, Regular Board meeting.