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PRESS RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Nancy J. Neuzil, Frankfort School District 157-C Public Relations Coordinator, 815-469-9235, njneuzil@aol.com

District 157-C February 21, 2018 Board of Education Meeting Recap

The regular Frankfort School District 157-C Board of Education meeting of February 22, 2018 was called to order by Board President Gina Briese at 7:00 p.m. The roll call was taken and a quorum was present. The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

There was no correspondence.

The Board approved the Open and Closed Session minutes of the regular meeting of January 17, 2018.

No one signed up to speak during the Public Forum portion of the meeting.

Superintendent Dr. Maura Zinni reported that in years past, the District would submit a multi-year waiver to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) for approval to host school on Veteran's Day and Casimir Pulaski Day. Since 2009, the ISBE no longer requires this waiver. The last waiver Frankfort School District submitted ends after the 2017-2018 school year. Moving forward, the District is only required to hold a public hearing on the topic and only needs to hold future public hearings if the District wishes to make additional changes to the holiday modifications.

At 7:03 p.m., the Board held a Public Hearing regarding the waiver to host school on Veteran's Day and Casimir Pulaski Day.

Following the Public Hearing, the Board took action to continue the holiday modifications to the Illinois School Code as presented. The District will continue to host school days on Veteran's Day and Casimir Pulaski Day in accordance with the rules set forth by the Illinois School Code.

During the Recognition portion of the meeting, the Board recognized Rebecca Schumacher, 6th Grade Teacher at Hickory Creek Middle School, for earning the prestigious title of National Board Certified Teacher through the National Board for Professional Teacher Standards (NBPTS). The Board also recognized Mitch Stein, 7th Grade Teacher, Girls Softball Coach and Track & Field Coach at Hickory Creek Middle School. This year the Illinois Coaches Association honored, for the first time ever, four Junior High/Middle School coaches. Mitch Stein was named a "Coach of the Year" and received this award at a banquet on February 18th. Dr. Zinni thanked both Becky and Mitch for their efforts, stating, "These two folks do a lot more in addition to what they do for us as teachers." Board President Gina Briese agreed, stating, "The Board too appreciates the way you go above and beyond."

Grand Prairie Elementary School Principal Eileen Nelson reported that the February 16 Institute Day provided teachers another opportunity to work closely with both the English Language Arts (ELA) and Math instructional coaches. Staff was given time to work with the coaches to discuss Word Inquiry and review and plan for Eureka math. Staff was also given time to collaborate with Assistant Principal Kirsten Frankovich to discuss and brainstorm ideas for the 2018-2019 school year.

Chelsea Intermediate School Principal Dr. Sharon Paver-Nepote reported that the Chelsea Institute Day was a success with motivational speaker Coach Pat Donahue working with staff regarding developing a growth mindset. The teachers worked on research writing incorporating video and also had collaborative time working

with Eureka Math to tailor instruction. Dr. Paver-Nepote stated, "It was a very productive day and we got a lot of good feedback."

Hickory Creek Middle School Principal Will Seidelmann reported that the encore packets went home with the students including the new option of zero hour class. He also reported that the student trip planned for Washington, D.C. has 97 students signed up to participate. He stated, "All the students are really excited and we are excited to have this opportunity for them."

Director of Special Services Jen Bajda reported that Project B.E.G.I.N, the district's Preschool for All (PFA) program was monitored and the assessors had great things to say about the teachers, para-professionals, procedures and processes for the program. Mrs. Bajda also reported that the district is currently rewriting the grant for this program.

Director of Human Resources Craig Schoppe reported that he has been reviewing the new personnel manual with staff and preparing a staffing update for next year. He also reported that he is submitting reports for all eligible employees to the Internal Revenue Service due to new Affordable Care Act reporting requirements.

Director of Building & Grounds Rodney Davis reported on a number of repairs and improvements that have taken place at all three buildings. He also reported that the team did a great job during the recent snow storm. Dr. Zinni stated, "Rodney did a fabulous job coordinating the snow plowing, staging the crew so that they could come in to plow and still get some sleep."

The Board heard a report from Board Secretary Edie Adamski on the Lincoln-Way Area Special Education District 843 Advisory Committee meeting of January 8, 2018 and the Governing Board meeting of January 23, 2018.

Education Foundation President Carrie Nagle provided an update about her organization to the Board. She reported that 330 guests have purchased tickets to their annual fundraiser, a Casino Night and dinner to be held on March 2. She reported that over \$47,000 in corporate donations have come in to date and that parents and teachers have been very supportive. She stated, "We have seen an incredible amount of generosity and amazing volunteers this year."

In the Superintendent's report, Dr. Zinni reviewed the kindergarten and new student registration process which has been changed to draw counts earlier for planning of classes. This year kindergarten registration will be held on March 5, 2018 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and on March 6, 2018 from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the small gymnasium at Grand Prairie Elementary School, 10480 W. Nebraska Street, Frankfort, IL. All children who will be five years of age on or before September 1, 2018 are eligible for entry into kindergarten in the fall. Parents will need to provide required documentation before registration and payment can be completed online. The district's website, www.fsd157c.org, lists the documents parents should bring for registration. Questions regarding the kindergarten registration process should be directed to the District Office at 815-469-5922. Dr. Zinni also provided a staffing update and reported that the 8th grade graduation date is set for Thursday, May 31, at Lincoln-Way East High School at 7:00 p.m. Lastly, Dr. Zinni reported that there was a great response to the posting for next year's Grand Prairie Assistant Principal position, with 150 candidates.

Director of Business and Operational Services Kate Ambrosini provided the Board with the February 2018 Treasurer's Report and Graphs. The total fund balance decreased by \$1,313,971 (from \$45,681,968 to \$44,367,997) primarily due to reduced revenues. Monthly revenue receipts totaled \$706,307 primarily due to general state aid and categorical payments. Monthly expense disbursements totaled \$2,020,278 primarily due to payroll of \$1,484,459 and accounts payable of \$523,373.

There were two Freedom of Information requests and they were responded to in a timely manner.

In discussion, Director of Curriculum & Instruction Janet McClarence provided information for a new STEM FUSION curriculum proposal. The proposal consists of purchasing one curriculum from Illinois Math and Science Academy (IMSA) for each grade level below 8th and two curricula for 8th grade. The cost of each kit is \$400, plus shipping. Shipping will be dependent on the curriculum and will be approximately \$100. The kits for middle school are packed with enough materials for 30 students. The kits for lower grades are packed with enough materials for 20 students (students will work in groups to utilize the materials). All leftover materials will be kept for the district as they are not returnable. There is no direct cost for teacher training as it is included with the purchase of the kit. Teacher training is provided through IMSA 2018. Board President Gina Briese stated, "This program is exciting and a great addition to our curriculum." Dr. Zinni agreed, stating, "We are thrilled to have this type of option for the students."

In discussion, Director of Technology Jake Nelson provided the Board with the technology needs for Hickory Creek Middle School for the 2018-19 school year. This includes technology in what will be "year two" of the 1:1 laptops for 5th grade. The Board will take action on the technology proposal next month.

In discussion, Director of Business and Operational Services Kate Ambrosini provided the Board with the new three-year capital improvement plan. In a new format, the plan highlights improvements by fiscal year and building, will be updated bi-annually and will provide a consistent historical document for review.

In discussion, Director of Business and Operational Services Kate Ambrosini provided the Board with information on Skyward software enhancements. Mrs. Ambrosini reported that the enhancements will make the district's main financial software more efficient and include training for staff.

In discussion, Director of Business and Operational Services Kate Ambrosini provided information on recertifying compliance on the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) Certification.

In discussion, Director of Business and Operational Services Kate Ambrosini provided the Board with an update on the preliminary revenue projections for the 2018-2019 school year.

In discussion, Superintendent Dr. Maura Zinni provided the Board with information regarding the hiring of the annual seasonal/summer help.

In discussion, Director of Business and Operational Services Kate Ambrosini provided the Board with information on the new proposed Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) Resolution that allows cash in lieu of health benefits to be counted as creditable earnings.

In discussion, the Board held the second reading of the following Board of Education Policies 2:260, Uniform Grievance Procedure; 4:15, Identity Protection; 4:170, Safety; 5:90, Abused and Neglected Child Reporting; 5:160, Abuse of Sick Leave; 5:200, Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal; 5:220, Substitute Teachers; 5:240, Suspension; 5:290, Employment Termination and Suspensions; 6:50, School Wellness; 6:60, Curriculum Content; 6:150, Home and Hospital Instruction; 6:260, Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs; 7:20, Harassment of Students Prohibited; 7:70, Attendance and Truancy; 7:180, Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment; 7:250, Student Support Services; 7:260, Exemption from Physical Education; 7:270, Administering Medicines to Students; and 7:305, Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries.

The Board took action to table Board of Education Policy 7:270, Administering Medicine to Students.

The Board took action to approve all Board of Education policies except 7:270 as presented.

The Board took action to approve the employment of Gary Annicks as a part-time Kindergarten Lunch/Recess Supervisor at Grand Prairie Elementary School at an hourly rate of \$11.50 with a start date of January 29, 2018, contingent upon the receipt and evaluation of employment documentation required by District 157-C and the Illinois State Board of Education.

The Board took action to approve the employment of Victoria Keller as a full-time Long-Term Substitute 4th Grade Classroom Paraprofessional at Chelsea Intermediate School at the daily substitute rate of \$100 with a start date of January 9, 2018 and will tentatively end April 9, 2018 or until the assignment ends, contingent upon the receipt and evaluation of employment documentation required by District 157-C and the Illinois State Board of Education.

The Board took action to approve the employment of Julie Tencza as a full-time Long-Term Substitute Fifth Grade Classroom Teacher at Chelsea Intermediate School at the daily substitute rate of \$100 for the first 10 consecutive days and \$262.04 for the remaining days with a start date of February 20, 2018 and will tentatively end June 4, 2018 or until the assignment ends, contingent upon the receipt and evaluation of employment documentation required by District 157-C and the Illinois State Board of Education.

The Board took action to approve the employment of Maria Lenzi as a full-time ten month School Secretary at Chelsea Intermediate School at an hourly rate of \$16.00 with a start date of February 16, 2018, contingent upon the receipt and evaluation of employment documentation required by District 157-C and the Illinois State Board of Education.

The Board took action to approve the employment of Stephanie Kelch as a full-time Long-Term Substitute Sixth Grade Teacher at Hickory Creek Middle School at the daily long-term substitute rate of \$100 for the first 10 consecutive days and \$262.04 for the remaining days with a start date of February 1, 2018 and will tentatively end April 27, 2018 or until the assignment ends, contingent upon the receipt and evaluation of employment documentation required by District 157-C and the Illinois State Board of Education.

The Board took action to approve the employment of Nadine Kahl as a full-time Long-Term Substitute Seventh Grade Teacher at Hickory Creek Middle School at the daily long-term substitute rate of \$100 for the first 10 consecutive days and \$262.04 for the remaining days with a start date of January 9, 2018 and will tentatively end March 14, 2018 or until the assignment ends, contingent upon the receipt and evaluation of employment documentation required by District 157-C and the Illinois State Board of Education.

The Board took action to approve the employment of Peggy Luther as a part-time Sixth Grade Track and Field Head Coach at Hickory Creek Middle School paid at a stipend rate of \$3,000.00 with a start date of March 1, 2018, contingent upon the receipt and evaluation of employment documentation required by District 157-C and the Illinois State Board of Education.

The Board took action to approve the request from Carrie Sima for an unpaid leave of absence beginning January 10, 2018 and ending April 13, 2018.

The Board took action to approve the Buncee Creative Club for third and fourth grade students at Chelsea Intermediate School. There will be seven sessions, meeting on Wednesdays. The students will meet for 1 hour and

10 minutes. The sessions will begin the week of March 7, 2018 and conclude the week of April 25, 2018. The stipend for the Buncee Creative Club is \$245.00 with minimum participation of 10 students and a maximum of 20.

The Board took action to approve Bill's Landscaping and Lawn Maintenance, Inc. of Frankfort, IL to provide lawn maintenance and landscaping services in 2018, 2019 and 2020 for \$4,900 per month.

The Board took action to approve the payment of bills for January 2018 as presented.

In the Consent Agenda, the Board took action to certify ongoing compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) as required by Federal E-Rate regulations. Furthermore, it is stated that the school district actively maintains current internet filtering software licenses, updates lists of restricted sites, and does actively engage in review and management of computer activity in its schools to help ensure that inappropriate web sites, images or content are not accessible by its students from school district computers. These actions are required by CIPA and are being undertaken to not only comply with Federal and State requirements and regulations, as applicable, but also to protect our students from the damaging effects related to accessing inappropriate web sites, images or content.

In the Consent Agenda, the Board took action to approve the hiring of three total seasonal/summer workers to assist the school district with summer projects and activities. Included in this total would be two Full Time Equivalent positions (FTE's) for the technology department and one FTE to be shared with the curriculum and special services departments. With Board approval the Director of Human Resources will post these positions and work with the Directors to fill them, as needed. The Administration will bring an update back to the Board later this spring for action to fill these positions along with the corresponding hourly wages for each individual seasonal/summer worker.

In the Consent Agenda, the Board took action to approve Sentinel Technologies as the District's E-Rate contractor to replace the switching hardware at Grand Prairie as well as the UPS units at Chelsea. With Board approval the Administration will file the appropriate E-Rate forms and execute the necessary service provider contracts and documentation, with assistance from the District's independent E-Rate consultant, TeleSolutions, as needed. The District will then proceed with the project once E-Rate is approved.

In the Consent Agenda, the Board directed the Administration to proceed with the Empowerment program in order to improve operation of the Skyward software system. These enhancements will increase efficiency, accuracy and accountability in the District's human resources and financial management systems, which aligns with its continuous learning objectives.

The Board went into Closed Session at 8:34 p.m. to discuss appointment, employment compensation, discipline, performance and/or dismissal of specific employees; student discipline; student residency; student issue; reclassification of employees; and pending litigation.

The Board began Closed Session at 8:37 p.m. and adjourned Closed Session at 9:01 p.m.

The Board adjourned the Regular meeting at 9:02 p.m.

The next regular District 157-C Board of Education meeting will be held on March 21, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the District Office Board Room at Grand Prairie Elementary School, 10482 W. Nebraska Street, in Frankfort, Illinois.