

June 16, 2016

PRESS RELEASE

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District 157-C June 15, 2016 Board of Education Meeting Recap

The regular Frankfort School District 157-C Board of Education meeting of June 15 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.

Correspondence included a thank you note from Jacqueline Michuda, the recipient of the Verlydia and Alvin Harnack Memorial Scholarship, and thank you notes from Becky Cleveland, Nancy Neuzil and Gail Durocher for recognition of their years of service to the District.

The Board approved the Open and Closed Session minutes of the regular meeting of May 18, 2016.

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

Grand Prairie Elementary School Assistant Principal Sean Rhoads, Chelsea Intermediate School Principal Dr. Sharon Paver-Nepote and Hickory Creek Middle School Principal Will Seidelmann reported on their professional development plans taking place through summer and into the new school year. At Grand Prairie, the school will focus on English Language Arts, Math and instructional delivery to build growth of mindset vs. fixed mindset. For Chelsea, Dr. Paver-Nepote reported that teachers are being trained in the new science curriculum that will be hands-on and keep the students highly engaged. The new curriculum will support the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) initiative. Already this year students created straw rockets, participated in a skimmer boat challenge and made jet toys featuring STEM. She also reported that a new after-school extra-curricular program focusing on STEM will be implemented by teacher sponsors. Mr. Seidelmann reported that professional development started the day after Memorial Day led by Teacher Leaders and a consultant. He stated, "I am excited with the new math schedule that was adopted to add resources and go to 65 minutes of instructional time from 43 minutes." He reported that new science resources will be into the teachers' hands for summer and then they will work with consultants throughout the year.

In her report, Director of Curriculum & Instruction Janet McClarence provided a chart of all the professional development that is planned for the district this summer and for the 2016-17 school year, along with the cost and the funding source to pay for the professional development. She went into detail regarding this plan for the three schools and the district as a whole.

Director of Special Services Jen Bajda reported that the Special Education staff has embraced the trainings for their programs. She reported that curriculum is being modified for Special Education on an ongoing basis, trainings are being conducted that are area-specific and co-teaching models are being researched. Ms.

Bajda also reported on Extended School Year (ESY) for students who need time with a teacher to maintain their skills over summer. Some 26 students will attend ESY this year and the classes will be held at Grand Prairie.

Director of Technology Jake Nelson reported that good progress is being made on the summer technology schedule. He reported that the technology team is working on the removal of the old switch hardware at Hickory Creek Middle School for the old computer labs. He also reported that the team is working on the installation of a new version of Scholastic Manager and Fast Math programs at Grand Prairie Elementary School.

Superintendent Dr. Maura Zinni provided a reminder for the Education Foundation that golfers and sponsors are welcome to their upcoming July 11 golf outing at Prestwick Country Club. The cost per player is \$155, which includes 18 holes of golf with cart, a forecaddie per foursome, a boxed lunch and dinner. It will be a four-player scramble with registration and access to practice facilities at 10:30 a.m. and shotgun start at 12:00 noon. Those not wishing to golf can attend dinner at 5:00 p.m. for a cost of \$35 per person. More information is with Jennifer Dore at yunks2@msn.com or 815-557-1909.

The Board heard a report from Board Secretary Edie Adamski on the Lincoln-Way Area Special Education District 843 Advisory Committee meeting of May 10, 2016 and the Governing Board meeting of May 24, 2016.

In the Superintendent's report, Dr. Zinni provided the Board with a staffing report that will be continually updated throughout the summer as the principals and directors fill open positions. She reported that the district's leadership retreat was held on June 15 with a consultant. It was geared to injecting life into professional learning communities with schedules that allow for common planning time. She also commented on the recognition program held prior to the Board meeting where the Board recognized nearly 300 students who qualified to participate at the State level. Dr. Zinni stated, "What we saw tonight was a marvelous tribute to our district. We want these kids to feel special for their accomplishments." Principal Will Seidelmann reported that plans are in the works to hold a similar assembly on a quarterly basis so that parents, community, Board members and student peers can recognize every student participating during that quarter. He said that these types of programs show just how many students are really involved in getting more than just what happens in the classroom. Board President Gina Briese thanked the administrators and teachers, stating, "Thanks for a successful year. Have a nice June and July."

Assistant Superintendent Curt Saindon provided the Board with the Treasurer's Report. The total fund balance reserves increased in May by \$3.22M (from \$28,748,461 at the end of April to \$31,965,961 at the end of May.) This increase in reserves is expected and is primarily due to the receipt of over \$4.5M in advanced tax receipts from Will County. Expenses for the month were also slightly below budgeted levels, coming in at about \$1.75M, and accounting for some of this positive variance. Board Bills for the meeting were \$3,040,932.93. The

District had an \$810K contractual pre-payment to Aramark and \$315K in bond interest payments that elevated June's bills over normal levels.

There were two Freedom of Information items and they are being responded to in a timely manner.

In discussion, Superintendent Dr. Zinni proposed that the District move up the start time/end times at each of the three schools by 10 minutes. This change would help reduce the number of Chelsea students who are picked up early to attend 4:00 p.m. after-school commitments. With this minor increase, there would be little to no changes in bus pick up times in the morning because students are picked up at their bus stops and dropped off at school well before school starts. Therefore, the impact for bus rides will not be noticed. The only change would be for walkers and car riders. However, similar to the bus riders, the majority of the students come early because there is built-in supervision for students due to the early arrival of bus riders. The students' school day would not be impacted and instructional time would remain the same. The Board reached consensus that the new time change be put into effect for the upcoming school year. The District will do an extensive communication effort to share the new start times with families and staff throughout the summer. Dr. Zinni reported that from the feedback that has been received from families and staff, the new start times would be welcomed. The start and end times would be as follows: Hickory Creek - 7:45 a.m. and 2:10 p.m., Grand Prairie - 8:25 a.m. and 2:50 p.m., and Chelsea - 9:05 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

In discussion, Superintendent Dr. Zinni reported that she is facilitating the process of updating all of the job descriptions. The first phase of this review and approval includes the Education Support Personnel (basically all the non-certified positions). The second phase will include the Certified Personnel (basically all the teachers and administrators). Board Members received a hard copy of the proposed job descriptions. Per school code, Board action is required to approve job descriptions when any changes or additions occur.

In discussion, Assistant Superintendent Curt Saindon provided information to the Board regarding the need to replace 2,000 square feet of failed roofing at Grand Prairie Elementary School.

In discussion, Assistant Superintendent Curt Saindon provided information to the Board regarding the need for mechanical upgrades/boiler replacement at Chelsea Intermediate School.

In discussion, Dr. Zinni led the discussion and gathered feedback from the Board regarding health cost sharing plans. Beginning July 1, 2016, all certified staff including teachers and administrators, with the exception of one administrator currently under a multi-year contract, will be contributing to their health care benefit provided by the District. Certified employees will pay 10% of the health benefit cost for single coverage or 25% of the cost for spouse and/or family health coverage. The Board discussed implementing a similar plan for all Education Support Personnel, in an effort to align all employees to the same health benefit cost sharing plan.

The Board took action to approve the employment of Kathy Devine as a Full-Time Educational Interpreter at an annual salary of \$43,098.21 for the 2016-2017 school year, 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 Elizabeth Calombaris as a Full-Time Library Clerk at Chelsea Intermediate School at an hourly rate of \$13.03 for the 2016-2017 school year, 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 Deanna Santoro as a One-Year, Full-Time Fifth Grade Teacher at Chelsea Intermediate School at an annual salary of \$47,007.00 for the 2016-2017 school year, 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 re-employment of Amy Venable as a Full-Time Fourth Grade Teacher at Chelsea Intermediate School at an annual salary of \$55,346.63 for the 2016-2017 school year, 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 Alexis Brown as a One-Year, Full-Time Third Grade Teacher at Chelsea Intermediate School at an annual salary of \$45,826.00 for the 2016-2017 school year, 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 Maureen O'Brien as a Full-Time Fifth Grade Teacher at Chelsea Intermediate School at an annual salary of \$52,777.00 for the 2016-2017 school year, 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 Nicole Stauffacher as a Full-Time Third Grade Teacher at Chelsea Intermediate School at an annual salary of \$53,977.00 for the 2016-2017 school year, 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 Colleen Jenkins as a Full-Time Fifth Grade Teacher at Chelsea Intermediate School at an annual salary of \$52,177.00 for the 2016-2017 school year, 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 an increase for Shannon Shanahan from .10 to .25 Full-Time equivalent (FTE) Orchestra Teacher at Chelsea Intermediate School, due to the high number of students selecting to participate in the orchestra program. Shannon will be serving as the Orchestra Director and the additional contractual time will be for Orchestra sectionals.

The Board took action to approve the Administrative contracts for FY 2016-2017.

The Board took action to approve a Non-Renewal of Educational Support Personnel as presented.

The Board took action to approve the compensation for Education Support Personnel for FY 2016-2017 as presented.

The Board took action to approve the leave of absence request from Sarah Margalus beginning January 17, 2017 through the remainder of the school year.

The Board took action to approve District and out of District staff to service students for Extended School Year which will be held from July 11 through August 11, 2016.

The Board took action to approve the employment of Austin Ziman and Michael Meade as summer help to replace two former summer employees who will not be returning this year.

The Board took action to adopt the Annual Salary and Hourly Wage Ranges, as applicable, for each of the sub groups identified with an annual review of the South Suburban Chicagoland education job market, as well as the relevant Employer Cost Index (the overall rate at which salaries rise in our area) and the Consumer Price Index (the overall rate of inflation in our area) for Chicagoland area each year.

The Board approved the payment of bills as presented.

The Board took action to approve the partial repayment of the outstanding inter-fund loan from the Capital Projects Fund to the Working Cash Fund in the amount of \$400,000. Additionally, the Board approved the Resolution reaffirming the outstanding, year-end balance of the inter-fund loan from the Working Cash Fund to the Capital Projects Fund at \$1,225,000, and reaffirming the Board's desire to repay this loan as soon as possible when monies become available in the Capital Projects Fund.

The Board approved Resolutions Authorizing the Prompt Payment of Bills, as well as Employee Salaries, Recurring Benefits and Contractual Obligations for the time period from June 15, 2016 through August 17, 2016.

The Board reviewed and approved the FY 2016-2017 Tentative Budget as presented, as well as the Notice of Public Hearing, and directed the District Office to publish said notice in a newspaper of general circulation as soon as possible after the June 15 Board Meeting. The tentative budget will remain on public display for at least 30 days prior to final approval as required by law. Furthermore, the Board directed the Administration to complete a final budget in anticipation of the public hearing on August 17, and in anticipation of subsequent Board approval of the final budget at the August 17 Regular Board Meeting in accordance with

State statute. Finally, after approval of the final budget, the Board directed the Administration to file said final budget with the appropriate local, state and federal agencies, as required by State law and the District's existing bond covenants.

The Board took action to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

The Board approved contracting with Riddiford Roofing to replace approximately 2,000 square feet of failed roofing at Grand Prairie Elementary School and repair/replace four curb rails as outlined, at a cost of \$48,382 based on the results of confidential price quotes received for this work. Funding for this project will come from existing Operations and Maintenance Fund reserves and will be completed this summer.

The Board approved contracting with Pro Temp of Illinois, Inc. from Burr Ridge, IL to replace the old, outdated, inefficient boilers at Chelsea Intermediate School with new energy efficient, modulating boilers for a cost of \$262,507.20 (including Alternate 1A to provide a performance bond on the work) based on the results of the sealed bid for such work and the recommendation of our architect (FGM). Funding for this project will come from existing Operations and Maintenance Fund reserves.

The Board approved the policy of Wages for Employment on Public Works and publishing a copy in a newspaper of general circulation as required by law. The Regional Office of Education will publish this policy on behalf of local districts. Each local district must first approve the publication of this policy.

The Board approved a Policy of the Community Consolidated School District 157-C, Will County, Illinois Ascertaining the Prevailing Rate of Wages for Laborers, Workmen and Mechanics Employed on Public Works of Said School District.

The Board adopted a resolution regarding the reappointment of Curt Saindon as School Treasurer for fiscal year 2016-2017 and authorized the Board President and Secretary to sign same.

The Board approved the reappointment of Char Ruhbeck as Recording Secretary to the Board of Education for the 2016-2017 term.

The Board approved the following depositories for District funds: Illinois School District Liquid Asset Fund (ISDLAF), Harris Bank – Frankfort, First Midwest Bank – Joliet, Fifth/Third Bank – Mokena, Illinois Funds (US Bank - Springfield), First American Bank - Metro Southwest, N.A. – Joliet, NBD Bank – Joliet, PMA Financial Network, Inc. - Aurora, Federated Investors - Boston, MA, First National Bank – Frankfort, First National Bank of Illinois – Mokena, Marquette Bank - New Lenox, Old Plank Trail Bank – Frankfort, Homestar Bank – Mokena, and First Merit Bank – Frankfort. According to the Illinois School Code, the Board of Education must designate the District depositories for the fiscal year.

The Board approved publishing legal notices with 21st Century Media, Frankfort Station, Tribune Group, or the Southtown Star Publication newspapers.

The Board went into Closed Session at 8:42 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 adjourned the Closed Session meeting at 9:40 p.m.

After Closed Session, the Board took action to approve a four year contract for Superintendent of Schools Dr. Maura Zinni.

The Board adjourned the regular meeting at 9:43 p.m.

There will be no Board of Education meeting held in July. The next regular District 157-C Board of Education meeting will be held on August 17, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Grand Prairie Elementary School, 10480 West Nebraska Street, in Frankfort, Illinois.