

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
525 SUNSET RIDGE ROAD
NORTHFIELD, ILLINOIS 60093
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
July 26, 2017
7:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

ROLL CALL: (7:03 p.m.)

Mr. Spaan called the meeting to order at 7:44 p.m. and upon roll call, the following were present:

Present: Ms. Alpert-Knight, Mrs. Detlefsen, Mr. Hayes,
Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan,

Absent: Mrs. Mirkovic, Mr. Subeck

Also Present: Mr. Beerheide, Dr. Sukenik, Dr. Greene, Dr.
Stange, Mr. Pick

CONSENT AGENDA:

2.1 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting – June 6, 2017

2.2 Bills and Salaries

Mr. Hayes moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Alpert-Knight seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Ms. Alpert-Knight, Mrs. Detlefsen, Mr. Hayes,
Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan,

Absent: Mrs. Mirkovic, Mr. Subeck

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

COMMUNICATIONS:

3.1 Communications

Mr. Spaan shared thank you notes from both Mrs. Pick, Mrs. Polak, Mrs. Murphy, and Mrs. Gillings.

OLD BUSINESS:

4.1 Capital Improvement Update

Dr. Stange reported that the demolition of the old Sunset Ridge School will begin on Friday, July 28th, and would most likely be a 2-3week process. In the new building, progress continues on the parking lot, landscaping, and solar panel installation, as well as interior finishes. Dr. Stange is fully confident that the new building will be ready for students on the first day of school, and he assured the Board that “Plan B’s” have been established to safely manage any unforeseen setback regarding pick-up or drop-off. He plans on communicating with SRS parents about this topic specifically as opening day nears. Administration will be moving into the building on August 7th, and teachers and staff will follow on August 23rd. Dr. Stange reviewed the project’s contingency expenses and affirmed that the contingency fund remains adequate. The Board discussed outside party facility rental opportunities, and agreed to wait a year before pursuing any agreements in order to “work out the kinks” of the new building first. The Board also discussed the potential Middlefork School capital improvements and what the timing of those might be.

OLD BUSINESS:

4.2 Walden Road Development

Dr. Stange updated the Board on his response to the Village of Northfield regarding the proposed subdivision on Willow Road between Bracken Lane and Wagner Road, which illustrated the District's right, per village ordinance, to collect a monetary impact fee from the developers should the subdivision be approved.

4.3 Third Reading and Possible Approval: Board Policy 715.04-Suspension

Mrs. Peterson moved to approve the revised Board policy with the with minor modification. Ms. Detlefsen seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Ms. Alpert-Knight, Mrs. Detlefsen, Mr. Hayes,
Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan,
Absent: Mrs. Mirkovic, Mr. Subeck
Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

4.4 Third Reading and Possible Approval: Board Policy 715.05-Exclusion

Mrs. Peterson moved to approve the revised Board policy with the with minor modification. Ms. Alpert-Knight seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Ms. Alpert-Knight, Mrs. Detlefsen, Mr. Hayes,
Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan,
Absent: Mrs. Mirkovic, Mr. Subeck
Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

NEW BUSINESS:

5.1 Audience Comments

Community member Mr. Charlie Pick offered his thoughts to the Board on how best negotiate contingency expenses.

5.2 Board Open Discussion

There was no Board open discussion.

REPORTS:

6.1 Finance & Facilities Committee

Board member Mr. Bill Hayes reported that the committee discussed the Sunset Ridge and potential Middlefork capital improvement projects, and reviewed the FY 2016/17 pre-audit, the 2017/18 budget/levy calendar, and the 2017/18 tentative budget. The board then approved the 2017/18 Tentative Budget. The next meeting is October 10, 2017.

6.2 Education Committee

Board member Ms. Amanda Alpert Knight reported that she and Dr. Mary Frances Green are fleshing out the meeting topics for the year. The next meeting is November 14, 2017.

6.3 External Relations

6.3a IASB

Ms. Alpert Knight reported that Governor Rauner has called an emergency meeting regarding school funding, and that we are watching and waiting anxiously for signs of a property tax freeze. Dr. Stange expressed worry over this possibility, as our District is different in that it doesn't receive significant federal funding like most other districts. Approximately 80% of our income comes from property taxes, and a freeze would not allow us to keep up with typical rising costs in supplies and salaries.

6.3b PTO

There was no report.

6.3c NSSED

Mr. Hayes reported that the co-op plans to build partnerships with nursery schools, including Northfield Community, in order to provide supports for pre-school students in need.

6.3d Northfield Park District

There was no report.

6.3e Village of Northfield

There was no report.

6.3f Foundation Fund

Board member Mrs. Anne Peterson reported that the Foundation is planning a preview event for the major contributors, volunteers, and past and present Board members to thank them for their support of the Sunset Ridge School capital project. To date they have raised \$959,000 to help finance crucial enhancements to the building.

6.4 Administrative Reports

6.4a Freedom of Information Act Requests

6.4a1 Request from IRT Association and Dr. Stange's Response

Dr. Stange reviewed three FOIA requests and the associated District responses.

6.4b 2017-2018 Enrollment Projections

Dr. Stange reported that Kindergarten enrollment is at 46 incoming students. He was excited to add that the District will be welcoming 7 new students to Middlefiork and 11 to Sunset Ridge. Dr. Stange stated that the District is fully staffed and ready to start the new school year.

6.4c 2017-2018 Staffing Update

Dr. Stange reported that the District is fully staffed for the 2017-2018 school year with certified teachers. He noted that the District continues to interview for a number of teaching assistant positions.

CLOSED SESSION:

At 8:43 p.m. it was moved by Ms. Alpert-Knight and seconded by Mr. Hayes that the Board enter into closed session to discuss the closed session minutes from June 6, 2017, to consider information regarding the employment, compensation, discipline, or dismissal of specific employees or legal counsel; 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: Ms. Alpert-Knight, Mrs. Detlefsen, Mr. Hayes,
Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan,
Absent: Mrs. Mirkovic, Mr. Subeck
Nay: None
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING:

Upon resumption of the open meeting at 8:59 p.m., the following recommendations were made.

9.1 Approval: Closed Session Minutes – June 6, 2017

Mrs. Detlefsen moved to approve the closed session minutes from June 6, 2017. Mr. Hayes seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Ms. Alpert-Knight, Mrs. Detlefsen, Mr. Hayes,
Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan,
Absent: Mrs. Mirkovic, Mr. Subeck
Nay: None
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

9.2 Approval: Natalie Doebler (Middlefork Kindergarten Teacher)

Mrs. Peterson moved to approve employment of Natalie Doebler. Mrs. Detlefsen seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Ms. Alpert-Knight, Mrs. Detlefsen, Mr. Hayes,
Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan,

Absent: Mrs. Mirkovic, Mr. Subeck

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

9.3 Approval: Employment of Teaching Assistants

Mr. Hayes moved to approve employment of teaching assistants as presented. Ms. Alpert-Knight seconded the motion. The Board voted as follows:

Aye: Ms. Alpert-Knight, Mrs. Detlefsen, Mr. Hayes,
Mrs. Peterson, Mr. Spaan,

Absent: Mrs. Mirkovic, Mr. Subeck

Nay: None

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

DELEGATIONS/PETITIONS: No delegations or petitions were presented.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Mrs. Peterson and seconded by Ms. Alpert-Knight to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. All were in favor.

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education

Approved _____, 2017