

BOARD NOTES:

September 11, 2018, Regular Board Meeting:

Consent Agenda: The Board approved the Consent Agenda, which included minutes from the August 14th Regular Board Meeting and the monthly bills and salaries.

Communications: Superintendent Dr. Ed Stange shared notes from Mrs. Dodi Bailen (20 years), Mrs. Lynn Horne (20 years), Mrs. Heather Johnson (20 years), and Mrs. Lisa Mattera (30 years) thanking the Board for the recognition of their employment anniversaries. He also shared that Sunset Ridge School has been accepted into the EPA's Green Power Partnership in acknowledgement of its use of renewable energy. Lastly, Dr. Stange was proud to announce that not only were both Middlefork (ranked 3rd) and Sunset Ridge (ranked 7th) listed in Chicago Magazine's annual ranking of area schools, with District 29 coming in as the only district with all of its schools included in the top 10, but also Niche listed District 29 as first on the list of best places to teach! Dr. Stange expressed his gratitude towards the teachers, staff, families, and community that allow District 29 to thrive in such a way.

Capital Improvement Update:

Middlefork School: The Middlefork Capital Improvement Team continues to discuss the latest drawings and finishes in preparation for the project to go out to bid by December. They also discussed the possibility that plumbing inspectors may require renovations that are technically above and beyond the required scope of the project. In anticipation of that, the construction team will be meeting with inspectors in order to clarify the expected parameters of the renovations.

Sunset Ridge School: Several trees are scheduled to be replaced, and two areas were identified as needing slight modifications to ground cover in order to improve water flow from rooftop downspouts. This will all take place in the fall planting season.

Strategic Planning: Dr. Stange reviewed the Strategic Plan "performance indicators," asking the Board and the public to offer feedback on ways to measure the success of the plan's stated goals.

Old Business: The Board had a first reading of Board Policy 415, regarding the District's ability to incur debt and obligations toward bond issuance. After the policy is approved, it will henceforth be known as Board Policy 440.

Board Open Discussion: Dr. Stange thanked the Board and the PTO for the lunch reception to welcome the district staff back to school in August. He remarked on what a special occasion it is and how wonderful it is to start the year on such a positive note.

Finance and Facilities: The Board opened a public hearing, as required by law, in order to approve the final FY 2019 budget. After no public comments were offered, the hearing was closed and the budget was approved. The Board also reviewed the FY 2019 Compensation Reports, which will be posted on the website, as required by law as well. Additionally, the Board approved Ms. Colleen Faber as the North Suburban Benefit Cooperative Alternate Representative, and approved a Resolution to increase the medical spending account limit, which is a voluntary benefit to our employees and of no cost to the District. The next meeting is October 9, 2018, at 6pm.

Education Committee: Board member Ms. Amanda Alpert Knight reported that Dr. Stange had provided a deep dive into District data, which includes PARCC, MAP, IL 5 Essentials, and parent survey results. The next meeting is November 13, 2018, at 6pm.

IASB: Ms. Alpert Knight reported on the newly signed bill SB2428 that would allow students to accumulate a school lunch debt of \$500, after which schools would have to go through a state reimbursement and withholding process to attempt to recoup the money owed. Chief School Business Official Mr. Tom Beerheide added he is taking a wait-and-see approach, as the likelihood that the state would start to reimburse this expense to schools is slim. Mr. Beerheide mentioned that Governor Rauner vetoed the bill that would have set a statewide minimum teacher salary, adding that District 29's starting salary is above the proposed threshold anyway.

PTO: Board member Mrs. Jill Mirkovic reported that the PTO held their first meeting, at which they set 3 specific goals to guide the year: 1. Maintain a responsible budget; 2. Improve relationships between stakeholders; and 3. Be flexible, inclusive, and have fun! The next meeting is October 9, 2018, at 9am.

NSSD: Board member Mr. Bill Hayes reported that the co-op is in the process of finding a new business manager after the resignation of their current one, they are rolling out a new software integration system, and have begun their new partnership with Northfield Community Nursery School.

Northfield Park District: Board member Mrs. Nancy Detlefsen reported that the Panthers basketball league is looking into using the SRS gym for games and practices. Pickleball courts have been added to the park district and are getting lots of use, so much so that foot traffic on the blacktop during school hours has become an issue. They are working to educate players on appropriate paths to take to and from the courts. The new lighting in the lower parking lot has been installed, with the park district maintaining that the responsibility lies with the school district to replace the upper lot lighting should we desire to. Lastly, summer camp was yet again a great success. Looking toward next summer, they are anxious to know the extent of the Middlefork renovations in order to make accommodations if needed for next summer.

Village of Northfield: No report.

Foundation Fund: No report.

Administrative Report: Dr. Stange reported that Middlefork enrollment stands at 193 and Sunset Ridge at 278. Class sizes continue to be low. He informed the Board that there are still a few openings for teaching assistants, but that so far, the teachers are managing nicely. Dr. Stange also reviewed the Residency Verification Protocol that the District has in place in order to assure that all of our students are legal residents and that taxpayer funds are being spent responsibly, and the Board agreed that having such a protocol in place is necessary and should be followed.

Recommendations: The Board approved the Closed Session minutes from August 14, 2018, and the destruction of Closed Session verbatim tapes dating from September 2016 to February 2017. Additionally, the Board approved the employment of Middlefork teaching assistants George Gemeinhardt, Pam Levitt, Sara Tivers, and Traci Weiss; and Sunset Ridge teaching assistants Christine Becker, Matt Bell, Sandra Greenblat, Michele Maisel, and Heidi Pins; and a Maternity Leave Request. Accepted was the resignation of Gregg Etter.

Official meeting minutes will be posted on the website following their approval at the October 9, 2018, Regular Board meeting.