

Palos Heights School District 128
Minutes of Board of Education Meeting
February 14, 2018

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Palos Heights School District 128 was held on Wednesday, February 14, 2018 at the Dr. Edward T. Rancic Administrative Center, 12809 S. McVicker, Palos Heights, Illinois.

Dr. Lynch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the pledge to the flag.

Roll Call

Present: Lyons, Lachowicz, Restivo, Lynch, Grady

Absent: Facko, Touhy

Visitors

Mary Lynn Duffy, Lynn Adamonis, Jill Curtin, Rich Facko, Laurie McLaughlin, Neal McLaughlin

Dr. Lynch spoke on behalf of the whole Board with thanks to the superintendent, principals, teachers and staff for the excellent job they did with the situation at Navajo. Dr. Green joined in acknowledging Lynn Adamonis, Mary Lynn Duffy, and Kevin Kirk for all of their efforts in making the transitions to house the Navajo students temporarily at the other buildings.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Green gave the Board an update on the Navajo fire. Parents and District staff have been kept up to date on the progress being made at Navajo. Dr. Green has been working with the Fire Department, insurance company and the restoration company. Our Technology Director, Mark Hupp, has been instrumental in working with Apple and the Dukane Company, makers of the iPad carts. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

Mrs. Touhy arrived at 7:05 p.m.

Dr. Facko arrived at 7:18 p.m.

Dr. Green reviewed several Board policies that need Board approval. Any changes to the PRESS policies (to which we subscribe) are very minor.

The Finance Committee did not meet prior to the February Board meeting. The Board discussed the District's finances with regard to the recent news of changes in the State budget.

Dr. Green requested the Board authorize the superintendent to begin the Tentative Budget for the 2018-2019 school year. This action is suggested by financial advisors as procedure to start working on the FY19 budget.

Dr. Green announced two teachers are recommended for tenure, Betsy Holman, 4th grade and Stacey Darwent, 5th grade.

Dr. Green discussed 2016 and 2017 Illinois Science Assessment Results. The May, 2016 tests results were just received, along with the May, 2017 test results.

Dr. Green reviewed the issue of non-resident enrollment in view of the anticipated closing of Incarnation School in our district in Palos Heights and asked the Board for direction. After some discussion, the Board agreed the current stance of not accepting registration of non-resident students will be continued.

Dr. Green explained the need, upon request by the attorney, for Board approval of the Resolution to Update PTAB/Attorney Firm Name Change.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

It was moved by Mr. Grady and seconded by Dr. Lynch that the Board approves the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on January 10, 2018; the February, 2018 bills payable and gross January, 2018 payroll, TRS and IMRF Fund in the amount of \$613,837.62 (copy of same to be appended to and become a part of the minutes of this meeting); reviews and approves the activity accounts of the District’s schools; authorizes the superintendent to begin the tentative budget for the 2018-2019 school year; approves the recommendation for tenure for Betsy Holman and Stacey Darwent; approves the Resolution Authorizing Intervention in Property Tax Assessment Proceedings (PTAB) and approves Board policies 6.130, 7.20, 7.727.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Restivo, Touhy, Lynch, Lachowicz, Facko, Lyons, Grady

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

New Business

Dr. Green announced MAP scores will be coming out Friday, February 16, 2018.

Dr. Green will add an article on vaping and e-cigarettes to the bi-monthly newsletter. The Board also discussed some other ways to inform parents regarding this issue. Jill Curtin, PFA President, stated the PFA would be interested in sponsoring informational programs.

Mrs. Lyons initiated discussion on notification to the Board regarding out of school suspensions. She requested the Board be informed when an out of school suspension occurs. After Board discussion, it was decided that the superintendent and superintendent’s assistant will be notified by the principal of the school; and either/or will inform the Board via e mail communication.

Mrs. Restivo announced the PFA is offering \$200 early registration incentives such as gift cards and a raffle drawing for a TV. Jill Curtin

Jill Curtin stated PFA will donate whatever is needed at Navajo that insurance doesn't

pay for. PFA will give teachers “Welcome Back” starter boxes when classes resume at Navajo.

Regarding the Navajo cleanup, Dr. Green has had discussions with the restoration company about classroom library books. The discussion was about cleaning vs. purchasing new books, whichever may be less expensive.

Old Business

None.

Audience Participation

Neal McLaughlin addressed the Board regarding sprinkler systems in the schools in light of the recent fire at Navajo.

Closed Session

it was moved by Mr. Grady and seconded by Dr. Lynch that the Board enters into Closed Session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee; collective negotiating matters or deliberations concerning salary schedules for classes of employees; student disciplinary issues.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Grady, Lyons, Lachowicz, Facko, Touhy, Lynch, Restivo

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The Board entered into Closed Session at 8:18 p.m.

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 9:20 p.m.

The Board needs a quorum and a meeting date to approve the performance contractor, and a meeting date was discussed. It was suggested that we do it at 5:45 p.m. on Feb. 22, prior to the Town Hall Meeting at Navajo. Board members will check calendars and let Dr. Green know.

The Board directed Dr. Green to go out for estimates on installing sprinkler systems at all of our buildings before we make any financial decisions to install. Our buildings were built prior to the sprinkler systems being required.

The Board directed Dr. Lynch to ask Dr. Green to appoint a 2nd person that could fill in for Mr. Hupp in the case of another emergency (like the fire at Navajo). This person would inform all of the parents of the district at the same time and inform the Board of Education prior to the parents knowing, so there are no surprises. A new program being considered would allow all administrators to do this easily.

Although the Board knows the Safety and Security document is in review, the Board would like to see where we are in the review at this time.

Dr. Lynch motioned to approve and open the closed session minutes of January 10, 2018, seconded by Mr. Grady and approved by unanimous consent.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Touhy and seconded by Mrs. Lyons to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by unanimous consent. The Board President, Dr. Lynch, declared the meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

President

Secretary