Board of Education Meeting Minutes for April 8, 2019

Call to Order

Board President Vince Engstrom called the meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Benjamin Middle School multipurpose room, 28W300 St. Charles Road, West Chicago, Illinois 60185.

Roll Call

In attendance were Members Jack Buscemi, Dennis Peterson, Anna Taylor (arrived at 7:02 p.m.), Lisa Willuweit, Jodi Krause (arrived at 7:04 p.m.), Tammy Mastroianni and Vince Engstrom; Superintendent Dr. Philip Ehrhardt; Business Manager, Shelley Clark; Laura Pfennstiel, Evergreen Elementary School Principal; Mike Fitzgerald, Benjamin Middle School Principal; Recorder Jennifer Szabo, and members of the staff and community whose signatures are filed with these minutes.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board President Engstrom led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approve Agenda

Member Mastroianni moved and Member Willuweit seconded to approve the agenda as presented. On a roll call vote, Members Buscemi, Peterson, Willuweit, Mastroianni, and Engstrom – aye. Member Krause and Taylor – absent. Motion carried.

Board Salute

The Board extended a special salute to the Foundation Trivia Night Volunteers. The volunteers have received a thank you letter for their hard work to plan, organize, and conduct Trivia Night. Approximately $9,000 was raised from Trivia Night to help fund the teacher grants which will benefit our students.

The board also extended a special Board salute to “Newsies” Production Volunteers for making the production such a success. Melissa LaMantia, Danielle DeChristopher, and April Tepe were recognized for their efforts and leadership.

Carrie Williams, Kimpha Keoborakot and Dan Baker were recognized for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Grant that awarded $1,500 to the 4th grade at Evergreen Elementary School for the fall 2019 Morton Arboretum field trip bus transportation and admission fees.
Approve Draft of Minutes

Regular Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2019

Member Taylor moved and Member Krause seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes as presented. On a roll call vote, Members Buscemi, Krause, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, Mastroianni, and Engstrom – aye. Motion carried.

Executive Session Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2019

Member Buscemi moved and Member Taylor seconded to approve the Executive Session Minutes as presented. On a roll call vote, Members Buscemi, Krause, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, Mastroianni, and Engstrom – aye. Motion carried.

Superintendent’s Report

Student Art Work – Stephanie Asenova from Evergreen Elementary School presented and explained her artwork.

Evergreen Student Performance “On the Radio” - Ruth Morgano led the students in performing excerpts for the “On the Radio” production, which they performed on March 21.

4.0 GPA Students – Mike Fitzgerald assisted Board President Engstrom in presenting middle school students with Certificates of Achievement.

Student Assessment Study – A committee of teachers and principals reviewed, analyzed and heard presentations from three assessment firms. The purpose of the committee is to compare their assessment programs including STAR, MAP, and i-ready. Allison Agres and Jessica Erickson reported the data and recommended to continue with STAR and reevaluate in 2021 when the state assessment is scheduled to have an adaptive component.

2019 Summer Technology Projects – Greg Martin elaborated on the list of projects to be completed by this summer. Greg highlighted the $60,000 savings for license and updating servers and the E-rate funding of $40,000 if approved.

2018 Tax Levy Rates and Tax Extensions Report - Dr. Clark presented and explained the comparison of the 2017 and 2018 Tax Levy Rates and Tax Extensions. The first draft of the budget was presented based on the April 8, 2019 Finance Committee Meeting.

FOIA Request – A request under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/ was received on March 27, 2019 from Olivia Deloin, Researcher, NBC5 Investigation requesting documents showing which school buildings in the district have a storm shelter that meets the minimum requirements of the ICC/NSSA Standard for the Design and Construction of Storm Shelters (IFCC-500). The district compiled with the request.

A request under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/ was received on April 3, 2019 from Janie Jordan, Data Research Partners LLC requesting a copy of a listing of all Benjamin School District 25’s employee’s first and last names, e-mail address, title/position, and primary campus/department location. The district compiled with the request.

President's Report

Board Planning Calendars for April and May - Board President Engstrom reviewed the planning calendars and timelines noting the May 13 meeting is rescheduled for April 29, 2019.

Citizens' Desire to Address the Board on Agenda Items

There was no one in the audience who desired to address the Board.

Board Reports and Requests

Report: SASED – Member Buscemi – Member Buscemi reported the new business manager was hired and there are a few resignations so hiring will be taking place.

Student Data Sharing with District 94 Board, TBD – Nothing to report
Notice: Joint Board of Education Meeting, rescheduled for Monday, April 22, 2019. Wegner Middle School, 6:00 p.m. – Board members Mastroianni, Taylor, Buscemi, Willuweit, Engstrom; Dr. Erhardt and Dr. Woell will attend on behalf of the district.

Notice: Evergreen’s National Blue Ribbon Parade, April 24, 2019, 10:10 a.m., Evergreen Elementary School - The parade will begin at 10:10 a.m. in the Evergreen Parking Lot. The Carol Stream Fire Department will lead the parade along with the Mayor of Carol Stream, Superintendent Dr. Ehrhardt, Board Members, and the West Chicago High School Drum Line. Students will follow in grade levels, wearing special shirts and waving blue ribbon pom poms. The Carol Stream Police Department will be helping us stay safe by blocking off/diverting traffic during our event. Members Engstrom and Mastroianni will attend the parade on behalf of the district.

Notice: West Chicago Intergovernmental Council Meeting, rescheduled for TBD – Nothing to report.

Notice: Carol Stream Intergovernmental Meeting, rescheduled for April 25, 2019 – Member Engstrom and Dr. Ehrhardt will attend the meeting on behalf of the board.

Celebration Dinner for Dr. Clark, May 29, 2019, ZaZa’s Restaurant, St. Charles – The board will celebrate Dr. Clarks retirement at ZaZa’s on May 29.

Swing for STEAM Golf Outing, June 8, 2019, Klein Creek, 1:00 p.m. golf, 6:00 p.m. dinner – Dr. Ehrhardt shared the information on the outing with board members.

Board Retreat July 22, 2019, 6:30 p.m. – Dr. Ehrhardt reminded the members of the board retreat.

30th Annual Law Seminar, September 28, 2019, Hyatt Lodge at McDonald’s Campus – Dr. Ehrhardt shared the seminar with board members, and Member Peterson will drive board members and Dr. Woell to the seminar.

Financial Report

Year-to-Date Financial Statements and Treasurer’s Report for the Month Ending March 31, 2019
Accounts Payable: 03/15/19 -04/08/19 = $713,287.32
Payroll: 03/01/19 = $175,496.96; 03/15/19 = $180,204.90

Member Taylor moved and Member Buscemi seconded to approve the Financial Report as presented. On a roll call vote, Members Buscemi, Krause, Mastroianni, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, and Engstrom - aye. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda


Personnel Employment - Melissa Day, Teacher Assistant, Evergreen Elementary School Library Media Center starting April 1, 2019 to June 10, 2019 at $12.17/hourly. Melissa will replace Mrs. Hansen and volunteers.

First Reading of Board Policies: 2:20, Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification; 2:40, Board Member Qualifications; 2:50, Board Member Term of Office; 2:60, Board Member Removal from

Member Krause moved and Member Taylor seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. On a roll call vote, Members Buscemi, Krause, Mastroianni, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, and Engstrom – aye. Motion carried.

**Action Items**

Comprehensive Safety and Crisis Plan Revisions – Mike Fitzgerald and Dr. Ehrhardt met with a group of first responders to review and improve the plan. Mike explained the updated plan and pointed out the changes which have been made. Member Willuweit motioned to approve the revised Comprehensive Safety and Crisis Plan as presented. On a roll call vote, Members Buscemi, Krause, Mastroianni, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, and Engstrom – aye. Motion carried.

Naming of SASED Board Representative – Member Jack Buscemi has served on both of the SASED board positions for many years and wishes to continue. Dr. Ehrhardt shared Member Buscemi’s knowledge is invaluable as he represents our school district. Member Dennis Peterson has agreed to continue as the alternate. Member Taylor moved and Member Krause seconed to approve the resolutions for Jack Buscemi to serve as the SASED Board of Control and Governing Board and Dennis Peterson to serve as an alternate. On a roll call vote, Members Buscemi, Krause, Mastroianni, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, and Engstrom – aye. Motion carried.
Technology Information Coordinator Revocation of Prior Resignation – Dr. Ehrhardt explained Greg Martin has performed well with the combination of working 25% on-site and 75% off-site since November of this school year. Dr. Ehrhardt recommend continuing his contract from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 to give Jim Woell time to assess the effectiveness of the combination work structure. Dr. Woell would assess the combination work structure in January or February 2020 to make a recommendation to the school board. Dr. Woell agrees with this recommendation. Based on the discussion at the executive session, it appears that some of the board members would like to consider continuing this combination work structure. Dr. Ehrhardt conferred with Justin Petrarca, legal counsel to review Greg’s contract to determine what changes would need to be made. Attached are his recommended revisions made to the contract. If the board decides to continue Greg Martin’s services from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, Justin indicated that the board would need to allow Greg to revoke his prior resignation. Attached is Greg’s letter asking the board to do so, per Justin’s instructions. Member Peterson motioned to allow the Technology Information Technology Coordinator, Greg Martin to revoke his prior employment resignation notice. On a roll call vote, Members Buscemi, Mastroianni, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, and Engstrom – aye. Member Krause – nay. Motion carried.

Employment Contract for Technology Information Coordinator until June 30, 2020 – Member Peterson moved and Member Buscemi seconded to approve Greg Martin’s re-employment contract from July 1, 2019 until June 30, 2020 at a salary of $76,191 (2.5% increase). On a roll call vote Members Buscemi, Mastroianni, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, and Engstrom – aye. Member Krause – nay. Motion carried.

Staff Compensation for 2019-2020 School Year – Dr. Ehrhardt described the proposal which outlines the teachers’ annual salary increase according to the Collective Bargaining Agreement. The proposal also includes providing a 2.5% increase for administrators/management, support staff, substitute teachers, and contracted consultant’s services positions. Member Taylor moved and Member Peterson seconded to approve compensation by 2.5% for administrators/management, support staff, substitute teachers, and contracted consultant service positions for the 2019-2020 school year and re-evaluate at the April 29 board meeting. On a roll call vote Members Buscemi, Mastroianni, Krause, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, and Engstrom – aye. Motion carried.

Pearson Envision Math for 5th Grade – Mike Fitzgerald explained this would allow us a continuation of curriculum for 5th grade all the way through high school Algebra. The cost would be $5,702.11 split into two equal payments on July 2, 201 and July 2, 2020. The purchase includes a 6-year digital license and a consumable per student each year for six years. Member Taylor motioned and Member Krause second to approve the six-year digital license and consumable student books for six years for a cost of $5,702.00 for the Pearson Envision 5th Grade math. On a roll call vote Members Buscemi, Mastroianni, Krause, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, and Engstrom – aye. Motion carried.

Citizens’ Desire to Address the Board on Non-Agenda Discussion Items

There was no one in the audience who desired to address the Board on Non-Agenda Discussion Items.

Discussion Items

There was no one in the audience who desired to address the Board on Discussion Items.
Adjournment

Unanimously adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Jennifer Szabo, Board Recorder

[Signature]
President, Board of Education

[Signature]
Secretary, Board of Education