Board of Education Meeting Minutes for December 10, 2018

Call to Order

Board President Vince Engstrom called the meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:01 p.m. in the Benjamin Middle School multi-purpose room, 28W300 St. Charles Road, West Chicago, Illinois 60185.

Roll Call

In attendance were Members Jack Buscemi, Jodi Krause, Tammy Mastroianni, Dennis Peterson, Anna Taylor, Lisa Willuweit, and Vince Engstrom; Superintendent Dr. Philip Ehrhardt; Dr. Shelley Clark, Business Manager; Laura Pfananstiel, 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 Krause moved and Member Taylor seconded to approve the agenda as presented. On a roll call vote, Members Buscemi, Krause, Mastroianni, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, and Engstrom – aye. Motion carried.

Board Salute

The board extended a special salute to Karen Heidenreich. Karen is a hallway helper for second grade students and is consistently available to tutor students. She has been helping for four years.

The board extended a special salute to Doug Meffley. Mr. Meffley is a representative from the Veterans Honor Flight program. Melissa LaMantia and Betty Nordgren presented him a check for $401 from Operation Bengals Care Fundraiser.

Approve Draft of Minutes

Regular Meeting Minutes of November 12, 2018 – Member Taylor moved and Member Willuweit seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes as presented. On a roll call vote, Members Buscemi, Krause, Mastroianni, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, and Engstrom – aye. Motion carried.
Special Session Minutes of December 3, 2018 – Member Buscemi moved and Member Mastroianni seconded to approve the Special Session Minutes as presented. On a roll call vote, Members, Buscemi, Krause, Mastroianni, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, and Engstrom – aye. Motion carried.

Superintendent’s Report

Board Recognition Follow-up – The board was presented with a mosaic picture on behalf of the district for Board Recognition and will be displayed in the boardroom. Angela Anthony created the picture.

Benjamin Middle School 4.0 GPA Student Recognition – The Board recognized 52 Benjamin Middle School students who achieved a 4.0 grade point average the first trimester, presenting them with a Certification of Achievement.

Final District Scorecard Reports for 2017-2018 - Dr. Clark reported on the final updates for Goal III regarding utility costs, and three budget indicators.

President’s Report

Board Planning Calendars for December and January - Board President Engstrom reviewed the planning calendars and timelines. He also reminded the board of the Special Board Meetings on December 12, 13, 18 and 20.

Staff Holiday Breakfast, December 21, 2018, 6:35 a.m. - Board President Engstrom reminded members to be at Benjamin Middle School in the multipurpose room by 6:15 a.m. on December 21 to serve breakfast to the staff. The time change is ten minutes earlier so that the High School Choir can eat at the breakfast. Members voiced the items they wish to bring. Dr. Ehrhardt indicated that the West Chicago Community High School Choir would eat breakfast and perform.

Identify Tentative Date for Summer Board Retreat - The Board selected July 22, 2019, 6:30 p.m. as a tentative date for the Board Retreat.

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 reported the new director of SASED has started. Roofs are being replaced and the parking lot repaving is being bid.

Report: Triple I Joint Annual Conference – Board members reported on the conference. Members shared that it was a great turn out and Members Engstrom, Taylor, Krause, Drs. Ehrhardt and Clark did a great job on the panel answering questions.

Notice: Joint Board of Education Meeting, District 33 host, January 28, 2019 – The meeting will be held at Leman Middle School at 6:00 p.m. Peg Agnos, Executive Director and Jen Figurelli, Assistant Director will be speaking at the meeting.

Notice: West Chicago Intergovernmental Council Meeting, January 29, 2019, City Hall – Member Willuweit and Dr. Ehrhardt will attend the meeting.
Notice: Carol Stream Intergovernmental Meeting, January 30, 2019, Village Hall – Member Engstrom and Dr. Ehrhardt will attend the meeting.

Financial Report

Dr. Clark presented the year-to-date financial statements/Treasurer’s Report for the month ending November 30, 2018 along with accounts payable and payroll.

Year-to-Date Financial Statements and Treasurer’s Report for the Month Ending November 30, 2018

Accounts Payable: 11/05/18 – 10/10/18 = $468,166.09

Payroll: 11/01/18 = $186,108.52; 11/15/18 = $217,683.30; 11/30/18 = $176,553.24

Member Willuweit 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: Resignation - Donna Maday, Evergreen Teacher Assistant

Action Items

Certificate of 2018 Tax Levy, Truth in Taxation Resolution, and Resolution to Levy Special Taxes (In Correlation with 2017 Tax Levy) - Dr. Clark explained the 2018 tax levy approval process. The Certificate of 2018 Tax Levy, Truth in Taxation Resolution, and Resolution for Special Taxes were provided to the Board. The Certificate of Tax Levy will be filed with the DuPage County Clerk following Board approval.

Member Krause moved and Member Willuweit seconded to approve the Certificate of 2018 Tax Levy, Truth in Taxation Resolution, and Resolution to Levy in Special Taxes (In Correlation with 2017 Tax Levy) as presented. On a roll call vote, Members Buscemi, Krause, Mastroianni, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, and Engstrom – aye. Motion carried.

Resolutions Authorizing Intervention in Proceeding Before the State Property Tax Appeal Board for 2017 and 2018 – The resolution authorizes the districts legal firm to intervene on the district’s behalf before the State Property Tax Appeal Board for 2017-2018.

Member Taylor and Member Buscemi seconded to approve the Resolutions Authorizing Intervention in Proceeding Before the State Property Tax Appeal Board for 2017 and 2018 as presented. On a roll call vote, Members Buscemi, Krause, Mastroianni, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, and Engstrom – aye. Motion carried.

Awarding of Bid for Replacement of HVAC Unit, Benjamin Middle School Large Gym - On November 28, five bids were received for the project. The board discussed the results summary and recommendation. The estimate from Green Associates who uses 20/10 Engineering Group was $101,000. The lowest bid came in at $152,700 from Mechanical Concepts of Illinois. Consequently, the difference in the estimate and the lowest bids is $51,700 (exceeding estimate by 50%). Dr. Ehrhardt voiced his dissatisfaction with the significant discrepancy in the estimate and bids to George Reigle and Andrew McCall who attended the bid opening. The discrepancy was due to assumptions on the electrical and
structural work. Due to the poor experience with 20/10 Engineering Group for the LED lighting replacement project and the HVAC bid Dr. Ehrhardt informed Green Associates that using 20/10 for future projects is not in the district’s best interest so it was requested to replace 20/10 with another engineering firm.

Dr. Ehrhardt shared that it is prudent that we move forward with this project since the funds are available and rebidding it will not be beneficial. George and Andrew fielded questions from the board members.

Member Buscemi moved and Member Taylor seconded to approve the Awarding of Bid for Replacement of HVAC Unit, Benjamin Middle School Large Gym for the amount of $152,700 from Mechanical Concepts of Illinois. On a roll call vote, Members Buscemi, Krause, Mastroianni, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, and Engstrom – aye. Motion carried.

Review Executive Session Minutes for Public Release: - Dr. Ehrhardt reviewed the Executive Session minutes from the January 8, 2018, February 12, 2018, April 9, 2018 and May 14, 2018 meetings and recommend that they be released for public inspection.

Member Mastroianni moved and Member Buscemi seconded to approve the release of the Executive Session meeting minutes of January 8, 2018, February 12, 2018, April 9, 2018 and May 14, 2018. On a roll call vote, Members Buscemi, Krause, Mastroianni, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, and Engstrom – aye. Motion carried.

Review Audio Recordings 18 Months Old for Destruction – The audio recordings of the Executive Session of the March 13, 2017 and April 10, 2017 are 18 months old and by law can be deleted.

Member Krause moved and Member Willuweit seconded to approve the destruction of the audio recordings of the March 13, 2017 and April 10, 2017 Executive Sessions. On a roll call vote, Members Buscemi, Krause, Mastroianni, 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

Members discussed the recent snow day and how it impacted operations. Dr. Ehrhardt shared the preliminary plan on E-learning and the plan to house all students in one school if the other one does not have power.

Executive Session

The appointment, Employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal or Board of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1)

Return to Open Session
Action on Items Rising as a Result of Executive Session

No action was taken.

Adjournment

Member Krause motioned and Member Mastroianni seconded to go adjourn the meeting. Unanimously adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Jennifer Szabo, Board Recorder

[Signature]
President, Board of Education

[Signature]
Secretary, Board of Education