Board of Education Meeting Minutes October 9, 2018

Call to Order

Board President Vince Engstrom called the meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Administration Service Center boardroom, 28W250 St. Charles Road, West Chicago, Illinois 60185.

Roll Call

In attendance were Members Jodi Krause, Jack Buscemi (arrived at 7:17 p.m.), Dennis Peterson, Anna Taylor, Lisa Willuweit, and Vince Engstrom; Tammy Mastroianni - absent; Superintendent Dr. Philip Ehrhardt; Business Manager, Dr. Shelley Clark, Evergreen Elementary School Principal, Laura Pfanenstiel; Benjamin Middle School Principal, Mike Fitzgerald; Recorder Jennifer Szabo, and members of the staff and community whose signatures are filed with these minutes.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Engstrom led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approve Agenda

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

Board Salutes

2018 National Blue Ribbon Schools Selection – Evergreen Elementary School - U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos today recognized 349 schools as National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2018. The recognition is based on a school’s overall academic performance.

“‘I’m pleased to celebrate with you as your school is named a National Blue Ribbon School,’ said U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos in a video message to the honorees. ‘We recognize and honor your important work in preparing students for successful careers and meaningful lives. Congratulations on your students’ accomplishments and for your extraordinary commitment to meeting their unique needs.”
The coveted National Blue Ribbon Schools award affirms the hard work of educators, families and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging and engaging content.

Now in its 36th year, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has bestowed recognition on more than 8,800 schools. On November 7-8, the Secretary and Department of Education will celebrate with 300 public and 49 private school honorees at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. Laura Pfamenstiel, Principal; Allison Agres, Assistant to the Principal; and Dr. Ehrhardt, superintendent, will attend.

The Notification Letter, Exemplary High Performing Schools in Illinois, Map of Recognized Schools by State, and the Evergreen Elementary School Profile was presented to the board.

Dr. Ehrhardt shared with the board that Benjamin Middle School will apply in 2019 for the award.

Approve Drafts of Minutes

Approve Draft of Regular Meeting Minutes of September 10, 2018 - Member Taylor moved and Member Krause seconded to approve the minutes as presented. On a roll call vote, Members, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, Krause, Buscemi and Engstrom – aye. Member Mastroianni – absent. Motion carried.

Superintendents Report

Acknowledge Newly Tenured Teachers – The board recognized Betty Nordengren as a newly tenured teacher.

School Improvement Plans – Principals Laura Pfamenstiel and Mike Fitzgerald highlighted their School Improvement Plans based on identified strengths and improvement areas. School Improvement plans are utilized to guide efforts for continuous improvement. Mrs. Pfamenstiel shared a video highlighting Evergreen Schools, can do attitude using growth mindset. Mr. Fitzgerald highlighted the following: Ten Marks math program is going out of business; the band program is growing due to increase of student signing up for band; and ALICE safety training was reviewed.

2018 PARCC Results – The finalized spring 2018 results along with analysis of the date was reported and explained by Principals Laura Pfanenstiel and Mike Fitzgerald. The 2018 PARCC assessment is the final one since the new state assessment has been awarded by ISBE.

New State Assessment – Dr. Ehrhardt reported the announcement of the awarding of the new state assignment by ISBE. The new vendor is Data Recognition Corporation with quicker return of results. It is reported that the PARCC content foundation will be built upon and there will be a computer adaptive assessment by 2021.

New State Report Card and Designators - The new state report card will be released on October 31. Dr. Ehrhardt presented the designations that will be used and explained that developing a District Dashboard based on the District Scorecard Report so other performance measures are reported is being processed.
175th Founding of Benjamin School District 25 – Dr. Ehrhardt and the board discussed the planning of the celebration to take place in 2019. Members Anna Taylor and Jodi Krause will serve on the planning team.

Presidents Report

Board Planning Calendars for October and November – President Engstrom reviewed the timelines with the school board.

2018 Joint Annual Conference Registration, Leadership: Sharing the Vision – President Engstrom confirmed the logistics for Members Engstrom, Krause, Mastroianni, Peterson, Taylor, and Willuweit. Drs. Ehrhardt and Clark will attend the conference on November 17, Sheraton Grand Chicago. Member Peterson will drive and the board will meet at the Ad Center at 7:00 a.m. The conference will begin with the LEND breakfast, lunch provided by Green Associates and dinner hosted by Lee Petrowski.

Joint Boards of Education Meeting – The annual meeting will be held, January 28, 2019, at District 33.

Superintendent Search Update – Board President Engstrom reviewed the superintendent search survey results.

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 two renovated spaces in the district office are now up and running. Executive Director Michael Volpe is retiring.

Notice: Foundation Fall Festival – Benjamin Middle School, Sunday, October 21, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Member Willuweit reported there will be no parade this year but a gift bag of candy will be handed out at the conclusion of the festival.

Notice: West Chicago Intergovernmental Meeting – West Chicago District 33, October 29, 2018. Member Willuweit and Dr. Ehrhardt will represent the board at the meeting.

Notice: Carol Stream Intergovernmental Meeting – Fountain View, October 30, 2018, 7:00 p.m. Member Krause and Dr. Ehrhardt will represent the board at the meeting.

Holiday Breakfast – Dr. Ehrhardt shared with the board that the holiday breakfast will be on December 21, 2018 at the Benjamin Middle School multi-purpose room. Serving will begin at 6:45 a.m.

Financial Report

Year-To-Date Financial Statements and Treasurer’s Report For The Months Ended September 30, 2018
Accounts Payable: 09/12/18 – 10/05/18 = $2,353,259.48
Payroll: 09/14/18 = $179,609.30

Member Taylor motioned and Member Krause seconded to approve the Financial Report as presented. On a roll call vote, Members Krause, Buscemi, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit and Engstrom – Aye. Member Mastroianni – Absent. Motioned carried.

Consent Agenda

Personnel: Employment for Andrew Hunter, Physical Education Teacher Assistant, Benjamin Middle School at $12.17 hourly rate.

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

Action Items

Appoint IASB Joint Annual Conference Delegate – Member Willuweit motioned and Member Buscemi seconded to appoint Board President Engstrom as Conference Delegate for the Association’s Delegate Assembly at the Annual Conference. On a roll call vote, Members Krause, Buscemi, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, and Engstrom – aye. Member Mastroianni – absent. Motion carried.

Approval Request for Petting Zoo, Pony Rides, and Bouncy Rentals at Foundation Festival – The district’s insurance carrier requires the School Board to approve the petting zoo, pony rides, and bouncy rentals for the Foundations Fall Festival so these activities are covered by the district’s insurance for secondary coverage. Member Taylor moved and Member Willuweit seconded to approve the petting zoo, pony rides, and bouncy rentals for the Foundation’s Fall Festival to be held on October 21, 2018 at Benjamin Middle School.

Transfer from Working Cash Fund to Capital Project Fund – Dr. Clark asked the board to approve the transfer of $1,000,000.00 to pay for a portion of the 2018 summer projects. Member Taylor moved and Member Buscemi seconded to approve the resolution to transfer $1,000,000.00 from the Working Cash Fund to the Capital Project Fund to pay for a portion of the 2018 summer projects. On a roll call vote, Members Krause, Buscemi, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, and Engstrom – aye. Member Mastroianni – absent. Motion carried.

Authorize Benjamin Middle School Large Gym HVAC Project – The most cost effective option is to replace the 27-year-old heating unit with a heating and air-condition roof top unit. Member Willuweit motioned and Member Krause seconded to authorize the Benjamin Middle School Large Gym HVAC project to replace the existing unit with a new heating and air-condition unit. On a roll call vote, Members Krause, Buscemi, Peterson, Taylor, Willuweit, and Engstrom – aye. Member Mastroianni – absent. 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 were no discussion items.

Adjournment

The meeting unanimously adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Jennifer Szabo, Board Recorder

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education