

August 17, 2020

The Board of Education, Community High School District 99, met in regular session at 6:38 p.m. on Monday, August 17, 2020 at South High School.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, the following Board members answered present: Nancy Kupka, President; Mike Davenport, Vice President; and Members Sherell Fuller, Daniel Nicholas, Terry Pavesich, Rick Pavinato and Joanna Vazquez Drexler.

Also present were Hank Thiele, Superintendent; Mark Staehlin, District Controller; Janice Schwarze; North High Principal; Ed Schwartz, South High Principal; and Juli Gniadek, Secretary.

There were no visitors.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Pavesich moved and Member Davenport seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the July 20, 2020 Business Meeting, the July 27, 2020 Special Workshop Meeting and the August 3, 2020 Workshop Meeting with Action Items.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Pavesich, Davenport, Fuller, Nicholas, Pavinato, Vazquez Drexler and Kupka voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

2. RECEPTION OF VISITORS – PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

3. RETURN TO SCHOOL

Dr. Thiele stated the District received new information from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) on Wednesday, August 12, which necessitated the District starting the school year on August 17 Fully Remote. He explained how specific new guidelines make it impossible to hold in-person instruction under the District's current plan and that activities and athletics would continue, as they involve a unique cohort of students. He noted specific metrics are to be released this week.

The Board discussed the new guidelines and whether in-person learning is at all possible under them. Dr. Thiele stated at the September 14 Board Meeting he would present administration's recommendation for going forward. The Board expressed their confidence in the Administrative Team and its appreciation for the Team's transparency.

4. 2020-2021 DISTRICT GOALS

Dr. Thiele shared up until now focus has been on the goal of getting students back to school in a healthy and safe way. He stated now administration will begin to look at long-term goals. Dr. Thiele noted professional development, curriculum development and equity work are ongoing. The Board was asked to advise Dr. Thiele of anything it would like administration to investigate or focus on this year.

5. CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING

Dr. Thiele stated for the 21st consecutive year Mark Staehlin and his team were recognized for Excellence in Financial Reporting. He also shared that Mark Staehlin received the Monarch Award, which recognizes the top CSBO in Illinois.

The Board recognized Mark Staehlin and Jeree Etheridge, Business Manager, for their work.

6. 2020-2021 TENTATIVE BUDGET

Mark Staehlin presented the Tentative Budget for 2020-2021. He noted the anticipated decrease in revenues is attributable to losses in income from food service; registration fees, due to the increased number of fee waivers; and interest. Mr. Staehlin stated increases in expenses include salaries; purchased services, which includes the cost of additional nurses; supplies related to COVID, some of which will be reimbursed by the State; and tuition for outplaced students. The Revenue projections, according to Mr. Staehlin, include the proceeds from the proposed Working Cash Bond Funds.

Mr. Staehlin noted there would be a 20% savings on busing costs when the District is Fully Remote. He shared last year First Student agreed to 40% of their fee to keep drivers in place. He stated, this year, since unemployment benefits are running out, First Student needs 80% to keep their drivers available to the District.

Mr. Staehlin shared the food service program is operating at the lowest level possible to continue to provide meals to the free/reduced lunch students and that last spring all students could receive free meals.

According to Mr. Staehlin, the proposed \$10M in Working Cash Bonds will provide a safety net for the District, will not cause an increase in taxes, will be paid off in seven years, and will stabilize the District's funds.

Dr. Thiele stated Mr. Staehlin, in 26 years, has never brought a negative budget to the Board and the \$2.7M deficit allows the District to continue to increase services to meet the needs of the community and support students. He noted, because of the District's sound fiscal management in the past, the District is in the unique position to access the Working Cash Bond Funds in this emergency.

Mark Staehlin noted Revenues and Expenditures are approximately equal, and the debt service and health account transfers of \$2M, which are paid out of operating funds, something many districts do not do, account for the loss. Mr. Staehlin stated in September he will be presenting the 5-year projections and the goal will be to recover the bond money during that time.

The Tentative Budget, if approved by the Board, will be put into the State's format and be on display for 30 days; it will be offered to the libraries, posted online, available at the ASC and the attendance centers and posted in the newspapers; and, on September 21 the Board will be asked for formal approval, per Mark Staehlin.

7. MASTER FACILITY PLAN PROGRESS

Dr. Thiele reported at South High the auditorium is coming along and steel is up for the Commons and grand staircase. He shared at North High the new gym, library and culinary arts areas are complete.

Dr. Thiele stated the contingency is at \$3.7M and the plan is to use these funds to update all classrooms and hallways not updated as part of the Master Facility Plan. He noted contractor allowances may be added to the contingency as projects are completed.

Member Pavinato previously suggested recognizing the schools' neighbors that were inconvenienced by the construction. Dr. Thiele showed the Board an engraved hammer and gift box that would be given to each of the neighbors, along with a car wash gift card and a personal note.

8. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS

Dr. Thiele reported the District had Freedom of Information Act requests this month and they are posted on the District's website.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

Mark Staehlin reported two checks were added to the financial pages after they were originally posted to pay for the four activity buses.

Member Pavesich moved and Member Pavinato seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, which includes: A. Personnel Report - Leave of Absence-Certified; Transfer of Position-Classified; Appointments-Certified; Appointments-Classified; B. Personnel Report - Resignations-Classified; and C. Financial Pages.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Pavesich, Pavinato, Vazquez Drexler, Davenport, Fuller, Nicholas and Kupka voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

10. APPROVAL OF THE 2020-2021 TENTATIVE BUDGET

Member Fuller moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion for the Board of Education to accept the Tentative Budget for 2020-21 for display purposes and establish 6:45 p.m., September 21, 2020, for the Public Hearing to be held at South High School, 1436 Norfolk Street, Downers Grove, Illinois.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Fuller, Vazquez Drexler, Davenport, Nicholas, Pavesich, Pavinato and Kupka voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

11. OLD BUSINESS - SECOND READING AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES

Dr. Thiele stated Member Davenport had questions on some policies and responses were provided to him and the rest of the Board.

- 2.125 Board Member Compensation; Expenses
- 2.160 Board Attorney

- 2.220 School Board Meeting Procedures
- 4.180 Pandemic Preparedness; Management; and Recovery
- 5.35 Compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act
- 5.60 Expenses
- 7.70 Attendance and Truancy
- 7.90 Release During School Hours
- 7.190 Student Behavior
- 7.340 Student Records
- 7.345 Use of Educational Technologies; Student Data Privacy and Security
- 8.10 Connection with the Community
- 8.30 Visitors to and Conduct on School Property
- 8.110 Public Suggestions and Concerns

Member Pavesich moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the policies as presented.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Pavesich, Vazquez Drexler, Davenport, Fuller, Nicholas, Pavinato and Kupka voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried

12. NEW BUSINESS

None.

13. RECEPTION OF VISITORS – PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

14. REPORT ON LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION NETWORK OF DUPAGE (LEND)

No report.

15. REPORT ON SCHOOL ASSOCIATION FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION IN DUPAGE COUNTY (SASED)

No report.

16. REPORT ON DISTRICT 99 EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Member Pavesich reported the Foundation is in the process of approving their by-laws and is also working on how to have Pizza Wars in February.

Dr. Thiele reported the Foundation is continuing to collect for families in need and donations can be made at the Foundation's website d99ef.org. Dr. Thiele shared the principals identify families in need and distribute the funds.

17. REPORT ON ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS (IASB)

Member Davenport reported the Triple I Conference in November has been cancelled.

18. UPCOMING BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

President Kupka announced the following meeting dates:

September 14, 2020 Workshop Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

September 21, 2020 Regular Business Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

19. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business or discussion, Member Davenport moved and Member Nicholas seconded the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Upon the unanimous voice vote of the seven members in attendance, the President declared the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.



Nancy Kupka, President



Juli Gniadek, Secretary