

February 28, 2022

The Board of Education, Community High School District 99, met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, February 28, 2022 at the Administrative Service Center.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, the following Board members answered present: Nancy Kupka, President; Mike Davenport, Vice President; and Members Christopher Espinoza, Jennie Hagstrom, Terry Pavesich and Joanna Vazquez Drexler. Member Sherell Fuller arrived at 6:36 p.m.

Also present were Hank Thiele, Superintendent; Gina Ziccardi, Associate Superintendent for Student Learning; Rob Lang, Assistant Superintendent for Staff Services; Scott Wuggazer, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services; Jeree Ehtridge, Assistant Controller; Jill Browning, Director of Communications; Courtney DeMent, North High Principal; Ed Schwartz, South High Principal; Student Board Members Jade Toledano and Scarlet O'Hara; and Juli Gniadek, Secretary.

There were eight visitors. A copy of the Visitor Roster is attached.

1. STUDENT BOARD MEMBER QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Student Board members shared the accomplishments of their school's respective winter sports season and noted spring sports are starting. South High Student Board Member Scarlett O'Hara also made mention of the spring musical, Respect Week and the Paws and Relax event. Jade Toledano, North High Student Board Member, shared information on Scholastic Art Awards and National Merit Finalists, and urged students who are struggling to reach out to their alpha teams.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Pavesich moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the January 24, 2022 Business Meeting; the January 24, 2022 Closed Meeting; and the February 14, 2022 Special Meeting with Action Item.

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

3. RECEPTION OF VISITORS – PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

4. RETURN TO IN-PERSON LEARNING

Dr. Thiele shared the new CDC COVID guidelines, which no longer require masks on school buses or physical distancing. He reviewed the District 99 COVID protocols, which include staying home when sick and the wearing of masks in the health offices. Hank Thiele stated mask wearing is a choice at all times and everyone's choice should be respected.

5. ARP ESSER (III) - RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION PLAN UPDATE

Gina Ziccardi reported on changes to the ARP ESSER Return to In-Person Instruction Plan, which now includes no mask requirement, except in the health office; no requirement to wear masks on school buses or in school vehicles; and increased Bilingual Spanish support. She stated the updated Plan is available on the website as well as a form for making comments on the Plan.

6. ARP ESSER (III) - USE OF FUNDS UPDATE

Ms. Ziccardi stated there are no changes to the ARP ESSER Use of Funds and the information is on the website, with a form for making comments.

7. HYBRID BLOCK SCHEDULE UPDATE

Dr. Thiele shared in February he held “Ask Me Anything” sessions for students at both buildings during lunch hours to address their questions. Gina Ziccardi updated the Board on the various committees and “solve fors,” including late arrival/early release, 8th hour varsity athletic release and executive functioning lessons that will fit in Access periods.

Hank Thiele advised the Board a third party program evaluation of the hybrid block schedule, led by Meg Ormiston and funded by Wight and Company, will be conducted over two years. He shared the study will include the impact of building changes from the Master Facility Plan and full lunch periods on student success; input from stakeholders; and data.

Dr. Thiele asked Board members to forward any questions they may have about the hybrid block schedule to either Ms. Ziccardi or himself and noted at next week’s Board meeting updates on the Access period will be provided.

8. STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Jill Browning provided a summary of the development of the Strategic Plan since the Board approved moving forward with creating a plan in August, noting that the Board, Superintendent, students, staff and the community were solicited for input and feedback. Ms. Browning shared the eleven member Core Planning Team would be meeting again on March 10, the Board would be presented a draft of the Plan on March 21 and the Board would be asked to approve the Plan on April 18.

9. PROPOSED STUDENT FEES FOR 2022-2023

Jeree Ethridge stated no increase in curricular or extracurricular fees is recommended for next year. She did state that, based on the increased number of families that qualify for reduced price meals, the recommendation is to offer a 50% reduction in both curricular and extracurricular fess for those families qualifying for reduced price meals.

Dr. Thiele stated this is an Action Item later in the meeting.

10. SUMMER 2022 SPORTS CAMP FEES

Ms. Ethridge stated the Athletic Directors are recommending a \$10 increase in fees this summer to offset the operating costs of the programs. She shared program fees would be between \$80 and \$150, depending on the duration of the program.

Dr. Thiele stated this is an Action Item later in the meeting.

11. TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT

Jeree Ethridge shared First Student is requesting a 10% increase in all route rates for 2022-2023, which translates to increased wages and the guarantee of a five hour work day for drivers. She noted the requested increase is at or below increases proposed by other bus companies and stated Administration supports the increase requested by First Student.

Dr. Thiele stated this is an Action Item later in the meeting.

12. BOARD REPRESENTATION ON THE PARENT TEACHER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Scott Wuggazer shared the Parent Teacher Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, May 4 at 6:00 p.m. and will look at the Consolidated District Plan, discipline and special education at that time. He asked for two Board members to volunteer to attend the meeting. Members Hagstrom and Vazquez Drexler volunteered.

13. 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.

14. CONSENT AGENDA

President Kupka and the Board acknowledged the generous donation from the Foundation.

Member Pavesich moved and Member Davenport seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the Consent Agenda as presented which includes: A. Personnel Report - Appointments-Administrator; Appointment-Certified; Appointments-Classified; B. Personnel Report - Retirements-Certified; Retirements-Classified; Resignations-Certified; Resignations-Classified; C. Financial Pages; D. Educational Tour; E. Acceptance of Donation - District 99 Education Foundation.

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

15. APPROVAL OF STUDENT FEES FOR 2022-2023

Member Davenport moved and Member Fuller seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the Student Fees for 2022-2023 as presented.

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

16. APPROVAL OF SUMMER 2022 SPORTS CAMP FEES

Member Davenport moved and Member Pavesich seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the Summer 2022 Sports Camp Fees as presented.

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

17. APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENT TO EXTENSION OF PUPIL SERVICES AGREEMENT PROPOSED BY FIRST STUDENT, INC.

Member Fuller moved and Member Davenport seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the Amendment to Extension of Pupil Services Agreement proposed by First Student, Inc. for the 2022-2023 school year and authorize the Administration to execute all necessary documents to continue the contract.

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

18. OLD BUSINESS

None.

19. NEW BUSINESS

None.

20. RECEPTION OF VISITORS – PUBLIC COMMENT

Carrie Swenson, Noel Manley, Marcella Cheaure, Kevin Kuster, Beth Bakker and Laura Hois addressed the Board about Board member ethics, threats against Board members, parental authority, CRT, masks and staff treatment of unmasked students, the Open Meetings Act and the Strategic Plan.

An online Public Comment form was available the day of the meeting. The comment received is included in the Minutes.

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

Member Hagstrom reported on the progress of several bills including those related to the substitute teacher shortage, employee sexual misconduct, mental health days, teacher evaluation and the Open Meetings Act.

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

Member Vazquez Drexler reported a 3.5% tuition increase was approved; due to the fragility of students, masks are strongly recommended during close contact situations; and KN95 and N95 masks will be given out upon request

23. REPORT ON DISTRICT 99 EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Member Pavesich reported the Foundation is working on webinars for parents and students in the fall.

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

No report.

25. UPCOMING BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

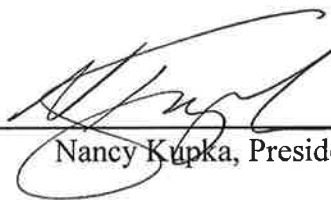
President Kupka announced the following meeting dates.

March 7, 2022 Workshop Meeting – 6:30 p.m. – ASC

March 21, 2022 Regular Business Meeting – 6:30 p.m. – ASC

26. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business or discussion, Member Espinoza moved and Member Fuller 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 7:52 p.m.



Nancy Kupka, President



Juli Gniadek, Secretary

Community HIGH SCHOOL District 99

BOARD OF EDUCATION

FEBRUARY 28, 2022

VISITOR ROSTER

NAME

Noc 1 Manley
Jake Giblin
KEVIN KUSTEN
Carrie Swenson
Marcia Cheauré
Aura His
Beth Baker
Fra Spriet

Public Comments Submitted via Google Form
February 28, 2022 Board Meeting

2.28.22- Public Comment- D99 School Board Meeting
Job Description for the New Principal
By Rich Brennan -Downers Grove Taxpayer
Adopted From Dennis Prager – Prager U
Important Changes coming:

First- This School will no longer honor race or ethnicity. The only identity this school will recognize is your individual identity- your character, your scholarship, your humanity. The only national identity this school will recognize is American. This is an American Public School, and American Public Schools were created to make better Americans. If you wish to affirm here an ethnic or racial identity—or a national identity other than American, you will have to attend another school. This includes after-school clubs. I will not allow clubs that divide students based on identities such as race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or whatever else may become vogue in our society. Those clubs cultivate narcissism, an unhealthy preoccupation with self-while the purpose of education is to get you to think beyond yourself.

Second- It makes no difference if English is your native language. The goal in terms of language is that graduates leave this school speaking and writing English as fluently as possible. The English language has united us for over 200 years and it will unite us at this school. It would be dereliction of duty to not prepare you to successfully compete in the job market. Students will be taught excellent English language skills. We will learn other languages here-It's deplorable that most Americans only speak English—but if you want classes taught in a non-English language, find another school.

Third-Because learning is a sacred endeavor, everything in this school will reflect learning's elevated status. There will be a dress code in this school. Teachers will be addressed by their title, not by their first names.

Fourth- No obscene language will be tolerated anywhere on school property. By obscene, I mean the words banned on radio and TV, plus epithets such as the b-word even when addressed by one girl to another, or the N-word, even when used by one black student to another. It is my intent that by the time students leave this school they will be among the few to distinguish between the elevated and the degraded, the holy and the obscene.

Fifth- We will end all self-esteem programs. In this school self-esteem will be attained in only one way—the only way self-esteem can be attained---by earning it. One immediate consequence- Graduating classes will have only valedictorian, not eight.

Sixth- and last, reorient the school toward academics and away from politics and propaganda. No more time will be devoted to racism, sexism, Islamophobia, homophobia, global warming, tobacco, or gender identity. No more classes will be devoted to condom-wearing and teaching that sexual relations is no more than a health issue. And there will be no more attempts to convince students that non-whites, non- heterosexuals and non-Christians are victims. This school will have failed if any graduates feel they are not extraordinarily lucky to be alive and lucky to be an American.

RB 2/28/22

Rich Brennan