

April 19, 2021

The Board of Education, Community High School District 99, met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 19, 2021 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 Dan Nicholas, Terry Pavesich, Rick Pavinato and Joanna Vazquez Drexler. Member Sherell Fuller arrived at 6:31 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; Mark Staehlin, District Controller; Janice Schwarze; North High Principal; Ed Schwartz, South High Principal; Student Board Members Zoe Boyd and Sam Bull; and Juli Gniadek, Secretary.

There were no visitors.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Vazquez Drexler moved and Member Nicholas seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the March 15, 2021 Business Meeting, the April 12, 2021 Workshop Meeting and the April 12, 2021 Closed Meeting.

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

2. RECEPTION OF VISITORS – PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no Public Comments.

3. 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR UPDATE

Dr. Thiele reported the District is following a full in-person plan. He stated a large amount of effort is being used to follow IDPH guidelines for contact tracing. Hank Thiele shared he is on the ISBE superintendent advisory committee for opening of school in the fall and guidance from ISBE for 2021-2022 is anticipated in the next few weeks.

Dr. Thiele reported 200 District 99 students participated in a vaccine clinic at Fenton and other opportunities to vaccinate District 99 students are being investigated.

4. SUPPORT STAFF ASSOCIATION CONTRACT EXTENSION

Dr. Thiele stated the one-year rollover agreement with the Support Staff Association contains no language changes and incorporates a 2.8% increase in salary and benefits, which is within the District's revenue stream. He noted next year there would be a full bargaining process. He stated the Administration recommends approval of the Contract Extension later in the meeting.

5. DRAFT BOARD PROTOCOLS

Dr. Thiele stated there was a slight revision to the Board Protocols since they were presented last week and approval of the Protocols is an Action Item later in the meeting. .

6. SUMMER SCHOOL COSTS/TUITION UPDATE

Dr. Thiele shared the Administration is recommending all in-District Summer School tuition costs, with the exception of Driver Education, be waived this year, with the costs being covered by grant funds. He stated this is an Action Item this evening and the Administration recommends approval.

7. SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL TITLE I SCHOOLWIDE WAIVER

Dr. Thiele shared the goal of Title I funding is to support academically at risk South High students and comes to the Board every year. He stated the Administration recommends approval of this later in the meeting.

8. EDUCATION PATHWAY GRANT/HIREZ PRODUCTIONS CONTRACT

Ms. Ziccardi shared the District was awarded a FY20 and FY21 Education Pathway Grant, totaling approximately \$135,000, by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). She noted the grant is designed to encourage students to go into education. Gina Ziccardi reported the funding has been used to hire a part time Education Pathway Coordinator; develop a mentoring program for District 99 graduates who go into education; plan and offer a free Kindergarten Camp for summer, where students are the teachers and District 99 teachers supervise; and supplemental supplies for related courses.

Gina Ziccardi stated the Administration is asking the Board to approve the contract with HiRez Productions in the amount of \$20,500 to produce a promotional video, to be used for students and the community, that promotes entering the field of education. Dr. Thiele stated this is an Action Item later in the meeting.

9. THIRD QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT

On the Revenue side, the District will be receiving more than \$4M in federal support for COVID related expenses, according to Mark Staehlin. Mr. Staehlin stated Expenses are running better than budget due to Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds and reduced transportation costs. He noted the \$10M in Working Cash maintains the District's reserves at an appropriate level and has allowed the District to pay for Chromebooks outright, instead of signing a new lease.

10. AMENDMENT TO EXTENSION OF PUPIL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH FIRST STUDENT

Mr. Staehlin stated the Amendment includes a 4% increase, which the Administration believes to be fair. He noted District 58 and 68 have signed the Amendment.

11. AMENDMENT TO SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AND TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT WITH SUNRISE SOUTHWEST LLC

Dr. Thiele stated Sunrise is seeking a 5% increase for Special Education transportation services. Mark Staehlin stated 80% of these costs are reimbursed by ISBE and District 58 and 68 have already signed the Amendment. Mr. Staehlin noted this is an Action Item.

Dr. Thiele stated both transportation contracts are Action Items and the Administration recommends accepting the Amendments.

12. RESOLUTION ON 2020 TAX RATES

Mr. Staehlin stated the District originally asked for \$84.5M in total operating funds, the final amount, determined in March, was \$878,000 less, with the final tax rate being 1.6548. Mr. Staehlin shared the revenue stream for the 2021-2022 school year is 3.2%. Of the 856 school districts in Illinois, District 99 has the 20th lowest tax rate, and the 2nd lowest for high school districts in DuPage County, according to data compiled by ISBE and presented by Mark Staehlin.

Dr. Thiele stated this is an Action Item and the Administration recommends the Board approves it.

13. RENEWAL OF FOOD SERVICE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT WITH CHARTWELLS

Dr. Thiele stated this is a renewal reflecting an increase of 2.3%, which is tied to CPI and the Administration is requesting the Board approves the increase.

14. DISTRICT TREASURER'S SERVICES

Dr. Thiele stated this comes to the Board every three years. He noted the Treasurer, Mr. Wagner, keeps an independent set of books to verify the work of District staff. Dr. Thiele stated the Administration is recommending renewing Mr. Wagner's contract for three more years.

15. DISTRICT AUDITOR'S SERVICES

Dr. Thiele stated this comes to the Board annually and the auditor provides a yearly comprehensive independent audit of the District's books and reports to the Board. Mr. Staehlin stated this is the 4th year of a 5-year proposal, and the District is very pleased with the services provided.

Dr. Thiele stated this a Consent Agenda Item and the Administration recommends approval.

16. SOUTH HIGH MARCHING BAND UNIFORM BID

Dr. Thiele shared every ten years a school's band uniforms are replaced and in 2016 uniforms were purchased for North High. Dr. Thiele stated the lowest responsible bidder was Fred J. Miller Co., whose bid was \$104,193.85 and the Administration recommends approval of the bid. Mr. Staehlin noted the uniforms are of very high quality.

17. MASTER FACILITY PLAN PROGRESS

Dr. Thiele stated the MFP is on time and ahead of budget, with a \$1.3M contingency. He shared the buildings are now prioritizing items that were on the original plan, but were held back to ensure the funds would be available. Hank Thiele noted updating hallways is on the list for both schools so there is not major differences between old and new sections of the building.

18. 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.

19. CONSENT AGENDA

Member Davenport moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the Consent Agenda which includes: A. Waiving of First Reading and Approval of Board Policy 3.69, Assistant Controller; B. IMRF Resolution to Allow Benefit Protection Leave; C. Personnel Report - Appointments-Certified; Appointments-Classified; Leave of Absence-Classified; Appointments-Exempt; Appointment-Administration; Compensation; D. Personnel Report - Resignations-Certified; Retirements-Classified; Resignations-Classified; E. Financial Pages; F. South High School Title I Schoolwide Waiver; G. District Auditor Services; H. Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Membership; and I. Resolution of Appointment to DuPage Area Occupational Education System (DAOES) Board of Directors.

Member Pavinato inquired about salary rates shown on Item C of the Consent Agenda. Dr. Lang stated there was a typographical error on the report; Kathleen Guzman should be listed at Step 8.

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

20. APPROVAL OF SUPPORT STAFF ASSOCIATION CONTRACT EXTENSION

Member Davenport moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the one-year financial extension to the Support Staff Association Collective Bargaining Agreement that expires on June 30, 2021.

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

21. APPROVAL OF DRAFT BOARD PROTOCOLS

Member Davenport moved and Member Pavesich seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the Draft Board Protocols as presented.

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

22. APPROVAL OF UPDATED SUMMER SCHOOL COSTS/TUITION

Member Davenport moved and Member Fuller seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the updated Summer School Costs/Tuition as presented.

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

23. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH HiREZ PRODUCTIONS

Member Davenport moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the contract with HiRez Productions in the amount of \$20,500 and that the Administration be approved to sign and otherwise execute any related documents pertaining to this contract.

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

24. APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENT TO EXTENSION OF PUPIL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH FIRST STUDENT

Member Davenport moved and Member Vazquez Drexler 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 2021-22 school year and authorize the Administration to execute all necessary documents to continue this contract.

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

25. APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENT TO SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AND TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT WITH SUNRISE SOUTHWEST LLC

Member Vazquez Drexler moved and Member Davenport seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the Amendment to Special Education Student Transportation Services and Transportation Contract with Sunrise Southwest LLC for the 2021-22 school year and authorize the Administration to execute all necessary documents to continue this contract.

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

26. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION ON 2020 TAX RATES

Member Vazquez Drexler moved and Member Davenport seconded the motion for the Board of Education to adopt the Resolution entitled Resolution Authorizing the DuPage County Clerk to Extend Specific Tax Rates for Tax Year 2020.

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

27. APPROVAL OF RENEWAL OF FOOD SERVICE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT WITH CHARTWELLS

Member Fuller moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion for the Board of Education to authorize continuation of the food service contract with Chartwells for the 2021-22 school year and that the administration be authorized to sign the Contract Renewal Agreement for Food Management Services - Nonprofit Food Service Program.

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

28. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION CONTINUING APPOINTMENT OF SCHOOL TREASURER

Member Vazquez Drexler moved and Member Davenport seconded the motion for Board of Education approve the Resolution entitled "Resolution Continuing Appointment of School Treasurer" in order to continue the appointment of Mr. Eric Wagner, CPA, as District Treasurer for Community High School District 99 for the period of time beginning July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024.

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

29. AWARD OF BID - SHS MARCHING BAND UNIFORM

Member Davenport moved and Member Fuller seconded the motion for the Board of Education to accept the lowest responsible bid from Fred J. Miller Co. in the amount of \$104,193.85 to provide marching band uniforms for South High School, and to also authorize the administration to issue and/or sign any necessary documents to have Fred J. Miller Co. produce the uniforms in accordance with the Request for Bids for Band Uniforms at South High School issued on March 24, 2021.

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

30. APPROVAL OF SUPERINTENDENT'S COMPENSATION

Member Davenport moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the Motion for the Board of Education to approve a 2.8% increase on the base salary of the Superintendent, from \$244,007 to \$250,839, and a \$10,000 403b contribution.

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

31. OLD BUSINESS – POLICY COMMITTEE – SECOND READING

Dr. Thiele stated the policies were brought forward last month by the Policy Committee for First Reading and there have been no questions or concerns raised.

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

- 3.56 Director of Technology and Information Services
- 4.30 Revenue and Investments
- 4.80 Accounting and Audits
- 4.90 School Activity and Fiduciary Funds
- 5.110 School District Recognition
- 6.300 Graduation Requirements
- 6.310 High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students
- 7.100 Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students
- 7.300 Extracurricular Clubs and Organizations & Athletics
- 7.345 Protection of Student Personal Information Online

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

32. NEW BUSINESS

None.

33. RECEPTION OF VISITORS – PUBLIC COMMENT

Laura Hois, North High parent, addressed the Board regarding the ISBE Culturally Responsible Teaching and Learning Standards. She expressed her concern that the standards move the focus from reading, writing and arithmetic to a focus on race and political activism.

Dr. Thiele shared there were two comments submitted on line via the Public Comment form – one person expressed thanks to the District for arranging vaccinations for students and expressed concerns about the 14-day quarantine period. The other individual recommended topics for the North High newspaper and expressed concerns about administrative censorship of the student newspaper.

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

Dr. Thiele reported he completed the LEND survey on behalf of the District.

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

No report.

36. REPORT ON DISTRICT 99 EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Member Pavesich reported Foundation Board Member Maura Bates received an award from the Illinois Chapter of the National School PR Assoc. (INSPRA) for organizing runs/walks that raised almost \$5,000 for COVID-relief for families; the Foundation provided seed money for student projects

for the INCubator class; Pizza Wars raised \$8100 strictly through donations; and next year Pizza Wars is on March 4.

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

No report.

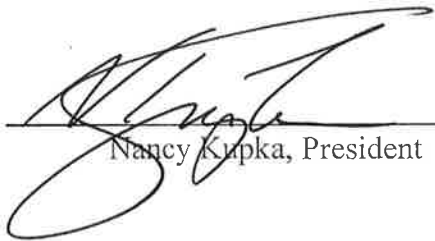
38. UPCOMING BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

President Kupka announced the following meeting dates, noting May 3 is the last meeting for Members Nicholas and Pavinato and the Board will welcome two new Board members, Jennie Hagstrom and Christopher Espinoza.

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| May 3, 2021 | Workshop Meeting – 6:30 p.m. |
| May 3, 2021 | Board Reorganization/Workshop Meeting – 7:00 p.m. |
| May 17, 2021 | Regular Business Meeting – 6:30 p.m. |

39. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business or discussion, Member Pavesich moved and Member Vazquez Drexler 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 7:40 p.m.



Nancy Kupka, President



Juli Gniadek, Secretary

Public Comments Submitted via Google Form
April 19, 2021 Board Meeting

Please read the following statement, excluding for the sake of time, material enclosed in brackets -- [].

Congratulations to Mr Bull on his journalism award.

I submit this remark to ask a question that follows up conversations I had with Superintendent Thiele early last year and several now long-past phone conversations I had with Member Davenport, in both cases on subjects that at least for me link to Mr Bull's membership on this body and his role at the DGN newspaper.

Specifically, if a journalist at either of the high school newspapers were to undertake to investigate and publish any of the following stories, would the school board or school authorities try to censor or stop it from being published?

i) on the unequal funding of K12 education in IL and how the state's heavy reliance on property taxes to pay for education works to the advantage of municipalities such as DG and the quality of its schools and their students but to the great disadvantage of students who live in the school districts of property poor cities and towns. The story might include interviews of various people to ask their awareness of and response to such inequality, and their thoughts on whether and how such inequality should be addressed.

[The story might examine the impact of last year's BLM march in DG, and might investigate what actions if any leaders in the village are taking to deal with this funding inequality as one but certainly not the only manifestation of systemic racism and social class exploitation. It might for example examine the state's recent adjustment to its school funding formula, a change yielding some but not much help to property poor districts, and compare IL's to other states' approach to solving the problem. The investigation might ask why parents are incensed by the retarding effect the pandemic is having on 'normal' education in DG while at the same time they tolerate even worse teaching conditions, pandemic or not, as acceptable for the state's many property poor districts. The story might also investigate the conflict between village residents' cultural commitment to low property taxes AND the resultant tendency of the village's various taxing bodies' to defer maintenance until it can be deferred no longer and put off saving for capital projects until that too can be deferred no longer (the latter being conceptually equivalent to buying a house with little or no money down).]

ii) on how the unequal funding of K12 education thanks to the graduated rate of income taxation at the local level implicit in the state's reliance on property taxes to fund education contributes to budget problems at the state level thanks to the state's constitutional requirement income taxes be collected at a fixed rate. Because the state level of government not the local district has responsibility for paying teacher pensions, the difference in rate of taxation between the local and state levels creates at the state level a funding mismatch resulting in perennial borrowing and/or budget deficits and in property rich municipalities a moral hazard problem because its local school district is not responsible for paying the pension obligations stemming from its salary decisions.

[The story might aptly include investigating why so many DG residents voted NO on last year's ballot measure to change the state's constitution to permit a graduated rate of taxing income.]

David Rose
(cont.)

iii) on how the subject of environmental sustainability that will dominate the life of your student members' generation and all those that follow is not being taught properly in DG high schools, that is, in a way that provides adequate and accurate understanding of the nature of the problem and the scope of possible solutions to be explored. The report would include investigating to what extent students are given the opportunity to examine the key interdisciplinary questions: Is capitalism compatible with environmental sustainability? If not, what is to be done? These questions are logically and historically unavoidable because capitalism has been the predominant economic system during the period of time when so many ecological challenges, [such as climate change, loss in biodiversity, depletion of non-renewable resources, overconsumption of renewable resources, etc.] have become ones his generation will have to face because his parents' and ancestors' generations failed to face them in timely and adequate fashion.

Public Comments Submitted via Google Form

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[Implicit in the list of ecological challenges cited above is the most scientifically sound definition of "environmental sustainability": a) using renewable resources at a rate less than the rate at which they reproduce and b) shifting from using non-renewable resources to using renewable resources. Given humans' current heavy reliance on non-renewable resources, most notably on fossil fuels to amplify the capacity to do work, carrying out that shift is a HUGE and thus far unsolved problem. By definition, it gets solved or civilization as we know it ends. Key questions: Is the supply of non-renewable resources infinite, so that a substitute can always be found, even if the supply of a specific non-renewable resource is not infinite? How much lead time is required to avoid an unhappy ending if the answer to this question is 'no'?

and finally in that vein

iv) on how the village's leaders — at least based on my conversations with them — are among those who do not understand the notion of environmental sustainability. Which is to say, none of these taxing bodies recognize the village's present way of life is environmentally unsustainable, none have taken adequate steps either individually or collectively to address this ominous reality, and because of the village's commitment to pursuing economic growth each in its own way helps make matters worse. Thus, your student members' generation and those following face the daunting prospect of having to figure out how to respond when each new unexpected event — in timing though not likelihood, such as happened with this pandemic — stops life in its tracks and brings about the next stage in the recursive cycle downward in which we now find ourselves.

David Rose
(cont.)

[A recursive cycle downward is a pattern of collapse followed by some but never complete recovery, analogous to a person unable to recover fully at each episode of deteriorating health. As a societal health issue, each stage downward in the cycle will aggravate inequality, forcing those who benefit from the inequality — such as the residents of DG — to have to choose between clinging to their advantages or giving them up. Thus, the recursive cycle will either end badly, that is, in a chaotic descent to the end of 'civilization as we know it,' or — If we are lucky — will lead your student members' generation or some future one to realize living environmentally sustainably must be humans' guiding principle and start working cooperatively and intentionally to make that happen. The story might investigate if removing the teaching failure cited above could help facilitate that realization. Which is to say, if our current political processes and methods of democratic self-governing and educating are not compatible with environmental sustainability, what is to be done?]

Or do the school board and school authorities believe they do not have to worry about censoring or stopping any of these stories because self-censorship and fear of being ostracized likely precludes every student journalist from wanting to write them?

It was commendable that D99 provided opportunities for seniors to register to receive vaccines last week through a clinic at Fenton High School. This opportunity, paired with the recent allowances for students 16 and over to be vaccinated, brings up the question of what impact can we expect to see on the required 14 day contact tracing policy? With very few days left in the academic year, or high school career for our seniors, it is becoming increasingly common to hear a discussion of pulling kids to remote just to be able to attend activities. Essentially, these doctrines have pushed families to place a greater emphasis on activities than in person academic learning. With this in mind, will the board please define how long must **vaccinated** students remain out of school if "contact traced"? If students must quarantine, what is the school doing to try to limit the number of days a vaccinated student must miss school?

Colleen
Halloran