

January 25, 2021

The Board of Education, Community High School District 99, met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, January 25, 2021. Pursuant to Public Act 101-0640, the Board President determined that an in-person meeting or a meeting conducted under the Open Meetings Act is not practical or prudent because of the disaster.

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 and Rick Pavinato. Members Sherell Fuller and Joanna Vazquez Drexler 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; Jim Kolodziej, Director of Physical Plant and Operations; Janice Schwarze, North High Principal; Ed Schwartz, South High Principal; Student Board Members Zoe Boyd and Sam Bull; and Juli Gniadek, Secretary.

The following was physically present at the Administrative Service Center: Hank Thiele, Superintendent.

There were no visitors.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Member Pavinato moved and Member Pavesich seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the December 14, 2020 Business Meeting; the January 11, 2021 Workshop Meeting; the January 11, 2021 Closed Meeting; and the January 16, 2021 Special Meeting with Action Item.

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

2. **RECEPTION OF VISITORS – PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

3. **RETURN TO IN-PERSON LEARNING**

Dr. Thiele stated, as long as we remain in Tier 2, meetings will continue to be virtual, as meetings can not have more than 10 people in attendance; the virtual format allows space for visitors.

Dr. Thiele stated the District was in-person last week, there is a snow day tomorrow, and the rest of the week will be in-person. He shared Activities and Athletics are up and running and the IHSA is meeting on Wednesday.

Discussion was held on whether the Board wanted to establish a weekly meeting to discuss the metrics and in-person learning. The consensus of the Board was not to meet weekly, but rather to call a Special Meeting if the metrics are in the 9-9.5% range.

4. SALIVA TESTING

Ms. Ziccardi shared the District is collaborating with Safeguard Surveillance for saliva screening for viral load. She noted the screening does not replace any of the current safety measures, such as masks and social distancing. Mr. Wuggazer stated the testing would be used for early identification of asymptomatic students and to make recommendations to the family. He shared students will bring the samples to school, the District will deliver the samples to the lab; the results will be provided to the school within 24 hours; and all tests will be sent anonymously to the lab. The screening will be done weekly, will be mandatory for students and optional for staff, is planned for the remainder of the year and will likely begin mid-late February, explained Mr. Wuggazer. Gina Ziccardi shared the cost of \$11/student/week, or a total of \$500,000-\$600,000, will be covered by the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER II). Dr. Thiele shared a student with an increased COVID viral load will be excluded for a quarantine period and will be encouraged to get a PCR test.

Dr. Thiele stated this is an Action Item later in the meeting and the Administration is asking the Board to approve it.

5. VACCINES

Dr. Thiele stated the DuPage County Health Department asked high school superintendents to work with their partner districts to create a system for administering vaccines and District 99 is working to get school and local government employees vaccinated. He shared the District has a sight plan and is working to get a third party vendor to administer the vaccine.

Hank Thiele stated administration is asking the Board for approval to enter into an agreement with a third party vendor, pending sign-off from the Board's attorney, to provide vaccinations.

6. COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

John Epperson, Partner at Miller, Cooper & Co., Ltd., shared the District had one very minor control deficiency, the Data Collection Form was submitted four days late to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse. He reported there were no uncorrected misstatements or any material corrected misstatements found during the course of the audit and the District received the International Association of School Business Officials (IASBO) Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting.

Mr. Epperson stated the District was provided an unmodified audit report, the highest level of assurance an auditor can provide, stating they did not find any material misstatements as they audited the financials and they were fairly stated in all material respects.

7. QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Staehlin drew the Board's attention to the Bond Proceeds line item in the Revenues. He noted Revenues in many areas are less than budgeted and the District has not received reimbursement for the

meals we provided to the community. On the Expenditure side, Mark Staehlin reported Purchased Services are down primarily due to not running buses, but those will go up second semester due to the double bus run under the new hybrid schedule; Capital Outlay is up due to additional technology for remote learning and Tuition is down because fewer high-risk students are out-placed. Mr. Staehlin noted the \$10M in bonds issued in October provide the District protection on the reserve level and can be used for learning recovery.

8. LITIGATION AGAINST JUUL LABORATORIES

Dr. Thiele stated he discussed the litigation with the Board in Closed Session earlier. He noted the District has invested time and resources into the vaping epidemic. He shared the lawsuit is contingency fee based, with no up-front cost to the District.

Dr. Thiele stated this is an Action Item later in the meeting and administration is recommending the Board take Action to join a class action lawsuit against Juul laboratories.

9. T99 BUILD OUT

Dr. Thiele inquired if the Board had any additional questions regarding the T99 Build out since the presentation to the Board at its last meeting. The Board had no questions.

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

10. 2021 SUMMER SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Thiele stated these recommendations were shared with the Board at the last meeting and the Board would be taking Action on them later in the meeting. He asked if the Board had any questions. The Board had no questions.

11. 2021 SUMMER SCHOOL AND SUMMER CALENDAR

Dr. Thiele stated the calendar was similar to the last 4 or 5 years and administration was recommending keeping the same calendar for this summer. The Board had no questions.

12. MASTER FACILITY PLAN PROGRESS

Dr. Thiele displayed a picture of the North High Commons and South High auditorium, noting there are 360° views online.

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

Member Pavinato moved and Member Pavesich seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the Consent Agenda which includes: A. Personnel Report - Appointment-Administration; Appointments-Certified; Leave of Absence-Certified; Leave of Absence-Classified; Appointments-Classified; B. Personnel Report - Retirements-Certified; Resignations-Classified; C. Personnel Report - Termination-Classified; D. Financial Pages; E. Amended 2020-2021 District Calendar; F. 2021 Summer Sports Camp Fees; and G. Review of Closed Session Minutes and Verbatim Recordings. Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Pavinato, Pavesich, Vazquez Drexler, Davenport, Fuller, Nicholas and Kupka voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

Dr. Thiele introduced Courtney DeMent, the new North High principal, who had just been approved by the Board. Ms. DeMent thanked the Board and shared she is excited and looking forward to working in District 99. The Board welcomed Ms. DeMent. Dr. Thiele stated the Board also approved Kristin Bormann as the new CSSS Department Chair at South High, replacing Dr. Vince Walsh-Rock, who is retiring.

15. APPROVAL OF THE SALIVA TESTING CONTRACT

Member Vazquez Drexler moved and Member Nicholas seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve entering into a contract with Safeguard Surveillance, LLC for an amount no greater than \$600,000 to provide saliva surveillance screening through the end of the school year, and that the administration be approved to sign and otherwise execute any related documents pertaining to the contract, including authorizing administration to make payments in accordance with the contract.

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

16. APPROVAL OF VACCINATION SERVICES CONTRACT

Member Pavesich moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion for the Board of Education to authorize administration to enter into an agreement with a Third Party Vendor, with approval of Board counsel and provided in advance to Board Members, to provide a COVID 19 vaccination program to District 99 employees at a total cost of less than \$50,000.

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

17. APPROVAL OF THE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Member Nicholas moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 as presented.

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

18. AUTHORIZING COMMENCEMENT OF VAPING LITIGATION

Member Pavesich moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the Resolution Authorizing Commencement of Vaping Litigation and the Attorney-Client Fee Contract.

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

19. APPROVAL OF THE 2021 SUMMER SCHOOL RECOMMENDATIONS

Member Nicholas moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the 2021 Summer School Recommendations as presented.

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

20. APPROVAL OF THE 2021 SUMMER SCHOOL AND SUMMER CALENDAR

Member Pavesich moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the 2021 Summer School and Summer Calendar 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.

21. APPROVAL TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE T99 BUILD OUT

Member Pavesich moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the Administration to move forward with the preparation and release of bids for the proposed build out of the District's T99 facility located at 4232 Venard Road in Downers Grove.

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

22. OLD BUSINESS

None.

23. NEW BUSINESS

None.

24. RECEPTION OF VISITORS – PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Thiele stated four comments were received online, three encouraging full day student attendance and one inquiring if District 99 will be rebating taxes.

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

Member Nicholas asked if any Board members are not receiving the LEND emails to contact him and he would forward them. Dr. Thiele reported LEND's last meeting was with local legislators.

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

Member Vazquez Drexler reported SASED staff would be distributed across fourteen member districts to receive vaccines. She noted Sunrise Transportation would like a one-year extension on their contract and SASED was seeking feedback from member districts on the extension. Dr. Thiele shared Mark Staehlin responded regarding the Sunrise contract and District 99 is responsible for including two SASED members on the District's vaccination list.

27. REPORT ON DISTRICT 99 EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Member Pavesich reported February is Pizza Wars month, since an in person event is not possible, and the Foundation is urging the community to support past Pizza Wars vendors. She shared Pizza Wars is the Foundation's major fundraiser and the Foundation would welcome donations at D99ef.org. Member Pavesich noted the Foundation's COVID Family Relief Fund is also still accepting donations.

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

Member Davenport reported the next DuPage Division meeting is March 20 at 10:00 a.m. and urged Board members to sign up.

29. UPCOMING BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

President Kupka announced the following meeting dates:

February 1, 2021	Workshop Meeting – 6:30 p.m. - Cancelled
February 22, 2021	Regular Business Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

Dr. Thiele stated administration was recommending cancelling the February 1 meeting, as there is nothing on the agenda. The consensus of the Board was to cancel the February 1 Board Workshop.

30. CLOSED SESSION

Member Pavesich moved and Member Fuller seconded the motion that the meeting be adjourned to Closed Session for the purpose of collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. *5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)*.

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

President Kupka announced the Board would not be taking any Action after coming out of Closed Session.

The meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 8:04 p.m.

31. RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION

The meeting was reconvened in Open Session with the following members of the Board of Education in attendance: Nancy Kupka, President; Mike Davenport, Vice President; and Members Sherell Fuller, Dan Nicholas, Terry Pavesich, Rick Pavinato and Joanna Vazquez Drexler.

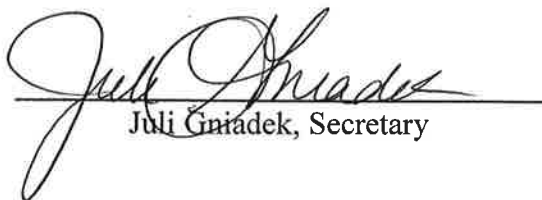
Also present were Hank Thiele, Superintendent; Rob Lang, Assistant Superintendent for Staff Services; Mark Staehlin, District Controller; Jeree Ehtridge, Business Manager; and Juli Gniadek, Secretary.

32. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business or discussion, Member Pavesich 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 8:15 p.m.



Nancy Kupka, President



Juli Gniadek, Secretary

**Public Comments Submitted via Google Form
January 25, 2021 Board Meeting**

Mary Spano	Hello. What are the plans to get students back in school full days? What needs to happen to make this possible?
Kathy Martin	<p>With the metrics trending favorably for Covid and other schools returning to more in person time, what are the plans for bringing the students back to more in person time than the current modified hybrid schedule? For example, one district gave seniors the option to do all of their classes in person. I know my children have said hardly any one is physically in their classes when they go, so I think there's room to improve getting more in person time with teachers. Think of options to try, use agile methodology to try and adapt, see what works. Staying stagnant in this model is not addressing the need for students to learn in person. We all see the recommendations from leading health authorities that students aren't getting sick from being in school, and being in person is key to maintaining mental health. Therefore, my expectation of the board is that you are preparing to slowly bring more and more students back in person. I look forward to hearing about options you are considering, leveraging the options we see other districts already trying. Thank you.</p>
Heather Kelly	Will D99 be considering a rebate as Naperville 203 has done? https://www.dailyherald.com/news/20210122/naperville-district-203-to-rebate-taxpayers-10-million-in-surplus-funds?fbclid=IwAR1eWsgRkAv-48uwBLWYmFZZCt0vqxov42851VbE4kU8aFI-QMIQsEZCQ
Paula Duellman	In person learning is crucial to my child. The two weeks she has been in person have made an enormous impact on her mental and physical well being. In the fall she was becoming very depressed and disengaged with both school and social areas of life. Connecting in person with her teachers and peers again has really helped her to refocus on her goals and herself. Physically the lack of in person school has also taken a toll. Inactivity, lack of motivation to get up, and over access to food all day while being home has caused weight gain issues for many children and adults alike. Please take mental and physical health concerns seriously and move to have our children in school EVERY week and full time by the end of February.