

September 21, 2020

The Board of Education, Community High School District 99, met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, September 21, 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 Daniel Nicholas, Terry Pavesich, Rick Pavinato and Joanna Vazquez Drexler. Member Sherell Fuller was absent.

Also present were Hank Thiele, Superintendent; 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 twenty visitors. A copy of the Visitor Roster is attached.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Pavesich moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the August 17, 2020 Business Meeting, the September 14, 2020 Workshop Meeting and the September 14, 2020 Closed Meeting.

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

2. RECEPTION OF VISITORS – PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

3. INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Sam Bull, North High Student Board Member, and Zoe Boyd, South High Student Board Member, introduced themselves to the Board. Board members welcomed the students.

4. RETURN TO IN-PERSON LEARNING

Dr. Thiele explained administration is working on a pathway that is the same for bringing students back in both the Moderate and Minimal Transmission Levels. He stated some at-risk students would continue to learn in-person even in the Substantial Transmission Level. Dr. Thiele introduced the Modified Hybrid Schedule, which allows for students to see every teacher regularly; involves instruction for In-Person and Remote Learners at the same time; involves a combination of interactive and independent learning; keeps Monday as a Fully Remote day for all learners; limits cohorts to 50 people; and has students attending in-person two days per week for ½ days. Dr. Thiele explained the new schedule will begin on October 19, run for two weeks, and be followed by a fully remote week; this pattern would be repeated up to Winter Break. He shared administration is working on a plan to possibly bring 9th graders in for In-Person Learning the week of October 5.

Dr. Thiele stated a survey will be going out to all students asking if they plan to continue Fully Remote or plan to return to In-Person Learning. He shared professional development will be provided to staff,

voice amplification devices are being provided to every teacher and the District is looking at acquiring earbuds with microphones for all students.

Student Board Member Zoe Boyd inquired about bus safety and Dr. Thiele explained each student will have to have a self-certification slip, wear a mask and face shield, and there will be a bus monitor on every bus.

The Board expressed their appreciation for the work administration has done to bring students back for In-Person Learning.

5. 2020-2021 CONCUSSION OVERSIGHT TEAM

Dr. Thiele stated approval of the Concussion Oversight Team, as required by Board policy, is in the Consent Agenda and the names appear in the Board packet.

6. 2020-2021 GRANT ALLOCATIONS

Dr. Thiele shared this information, prepared by Gina Ziccardi, is presented to the Board every year and shows total allocations received thru grants. He stated the Board would be approving and acknowledging they have seen the information this evening.

7. BOARD POLICIES 2.260 (REVISED) AND 2.265 (NEW)

Dr. Thiele stated Board policy 2.260 used to cover all grievances, including Title IX; Board policy 2.265 separates out Title IX. He noted the policies are at the recommendation of legal and stated administration is asking the Board to waive First Reading and approve these policies, as the new law went into effect over the summer. He shared the Board will receive more information on Title IX in October.

8. AMENDED 2020-2021 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Dr. Thiele stated changes to the calendar need to come before the Board for approval and administration is recommending moving Parent Teacher Conferences from the week of October 19 to the week of October 12. He shared Conferences will be virtual.

9. ADMINISTRATOR/TEACHER SALARY AND BENEFIT REPORT

Dr. Thiele stated every year the report is updated on the website and administration is required to inform the Board of this.

10. REPLACEMENT OF ASC CONDENSING UNIT

Dr. Thiele shared the condensing unit at the ASC is 28 years old and has reached the end of its life. Dr. Thiele stated administration is recommending the Board, under Action Items, approve the lowest acceptable bid for this work.

11. MASTER FACILITY PLAN PROGRESS

Dr. Thiele stated almost everything has been bid out and the contingency is \$3.258M, with additional funds possibly going into the contingency from contractor allowances. He noted owner costs are up because lead paint and asbestos were found.

12. 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.

13. FIVE-YEAR FINANCIAL PROJECTION

The last quarter of last year, according to Mr. Staehlin, put the District in a negative position, with a loss of approximately \$1M last year. Mr. Staehlin reviewed the assumptions and key variables used when preparing the five-year projections. He noted three TIFs will be expiring between now and the 2026-2027 school year which will result in additional annual revenue of \$96,000 in 2020-2022; \$1.0M in 2022-2023; and \$.45M in 2026-2027. He stated for 2020-2021 revenues are projected to be up by 1.6% and expenses are anticipated to increase by 3.0%. Mr. Staehlin shared in 2020-2021 the District is projected to lose \$2.3M and in 2022-2023 \$3.0M. He stated administration is recommending to the Board to issue Working Cash Bonds to bolster the District's reserves and have funds available for the next couple of years when there is a great deal of uncertainty in the State of Illinois and at the national level.

14. BOND PARAMETERS RESOLUTION

Mark Staehlin stated administration is recommending the issuance of \$10.3M Working Cash Fund Bonds to support the District's operating fund, noting the District's reserves have fallen below 3% due to changes in the economy caused by the COVID 19 Pandemic. He shared Working Cash Bonds are issued to ensure the District has funds available at all times to meet the needs of expenditures, with the proceeds being deposited in the Working Cash Fund at closing. Mr. Staehlin stated the resolution is a parameters resolution and allows the bonds to be sold within certain parameters specified and allows the Board President and him to approve the final sale of the bonds, as long as the parameters in the resolution are met. Mr. Staehlin listed the parameters for the bonds including: a \$10.3M maximum bond issuance; maximum annual principal of \$2.5M; the annual Debt Service will not be extended beyond the 2028 levy; the bonds will be sold no later than March 21, 2021; and they will have a maximum interest rate of 5%. He noted a competitive bid process will be used, with terms sheets being sent to banks. Mr. Staehlin explained the issuance is a part of the Debt Service Extension Base and therefore taxpayers' tax level will remain the same; they will not see a reduction in taxes. He shared this amounts to approximately \$30 on a \$300,000 home.

15. 2020-2021 TENTATIVE BUDGET

Mr. Staehlin stated the Tentative Budget was approved by the Board on August 17, 2020 and has been on display for more than 30 days. He reviewed the information presented at the August meeting, noting most revenues will drop, except for an increase in federal aid for COVID relief, and increases in expenses are tied to the pandemic. Mr. Staehlin stated, if the District does issue the bonds, a Working

Cash Fund will be established, which will be part of the Operating Fund, and if the bonds are not issued the District will be about \$2M short by the end of the year.

16. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2020-2021 TENTATIVE BUDGET

President Kupka opened the Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget.

Mr. Scott O'Connell, representing Downers Grove Watch, questioned the accounting practices of the District, the accuracy of the prepared Tentative Budget and the need for the issuance of the Working Cash Bond Funds. He urged the Board to vote no on the Tentative Budget, to remove the bond sale and to re-categorize the Life Safety Fund assets and expenses.

President Kupka stated the District has external auditors that audit our records annually and there are never any substantive findings. The Board affirmed their confidence in Mr. Staehlin and the accounting practices of the District. Dr. Thiele stated the District is an excellent steward of taxpayers money and urged any community member that has questions or concerns regarding the District's finances to contact him.

Member Davenport moved and Member Pavesich seconded the motion for the Board of Education to close the Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget.

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

17. CONSENT AGENDA

President Kupka thanked the Clinnin's for their donation of the cello.

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: Contract Adjustment-Certified; Appointments-Classified; B. Personnel Report: Resignations-Classified, C. Financial Pages; D. 2020-2021 Concussion Oversight Team; E. Amended 2020-2021 School Calendar; and F. Acceptance of Donation - Kevin and Gina Clinnin.

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

18. APPROVAL OF THE 2020-2021 BUDGET

Member Davenport moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the 2020-2021 Budget as presented.

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

19. AWARD OF BID - ASC CONDENSING UNIT

Member Davenport moved and Member Pavesich seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the lowest acceptable bid and award Mechanical Concepts of Illinois a contract in the amount of \$53,650.00 for the Condensing Unit Replacement at the ASC.

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

20. APPROVAL OF THE 2020-2021 GRANTS

Member Davenport moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve the 2020-2021 Grants as presented.

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

21. APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICIES 2.260 AND 2.265

Member Davenport moved and Member Vazquez Drexler seconded the motion for the Board of Education to approve Board policy 2.260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure* and Board policy 2.265, *Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure*.

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

22. RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$10,300,000 TAXABLE GENERAL OBLIGATION LIMITED SCHOOL BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING THE WORKING CASH FUND, PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY OF A DIRECT ANNUAL TAX TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ON SAID BONDS, AND AUTHORIZING THE PROPOSED SALE OF SAID BONDS THROUGH A PRIVATE PLACEMENT OR A PUBLIC UNDERWRITING WITH RAYMOND JAMES.

The President announced that the next item for consideration was the issuance of not to exceed \$10,300,000 general obligation limited bonds to be issued by the District pursuant to Article 20 of the School Code for the purpose of increasing the District's working cash fund, and that the Board of Education would consider the adoption of a resolution providing for the issue of said bonds and the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest thereon.

Member Davenport moved and Member Pavesich seconded the motion that the Board of Education to approve the resolution providing for the issue of not to exceed \$10,300,000 Taxable General Obligation Limited School Bonds of Community High School District Number 99, DuPage County, Illinois, for the purpose of increasing the Working Cash Fund of said School District, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the proposed sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof/Resolution providing for the issue of not to exceed \$10,300,000 Taxable General Obligation Limited School Bonds for the purpose of increasing the Working Cash Fund, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the proposed sale of said bonds through a private placement or a public underwriting with Raymond James.

After a full and complete discussion of said resolution, the President directed the Secretary to call the roll for a vote upon the motion to adopt said resolution.

Upon the Secretary's roll call, Members Davenport, Pavesich, Pavinato, Vazquez Drexler, Nicholas and Kupka voted AYE. The President declared the motion carried and directed the Secretary to record the same in full in the records of the Board of Education of Community High School District Number 99, DuPage County, Illinois.

23. OLD BUSINESS

None.

24. NEW BUSINESS

None.

25. RECEPTION OF VISITORS – PUBLIC COMMENT

Carrie Swenson, David Fisher and Lynn Golminas, parents of District 99 students, addressed the Board advocating for In-Person Learning.

Dr. Thiele read comments submitted on line via the Public Comment form from: Sandi Boll Freeberry, who advocated for more rigor, support and student engagement; and Frank DiVitale, who supports continuing with Fully Remote Learning.

President Kupka expressed her personal opinion that in-person education is best, but keeping students safe is the most important thing and observing safety protocols is the best way to do that.

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

Member Nicholas asked Board members not receiving emails from LEND to notify him.

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

Member Vazquez Drexler thanked the District 99 Education Foundation, on behalf of SASED, for the face shields. She reported SASED's current target date to open is October 6 in a hybrid model, PPE kits have been prepared for staff and assistive devices are being given to students and staff as soon as possible.

28. REPORT ON DISTRICT 99 EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Member Pavesich reported the Foundation is creating a short form for mini-grants; is still accepting funds for COVID families in crisis; is working on having Pizza Wars remotely, possibly using a coupon book; and approved their mission, vision, goals and by-laws.

Dr. Thiele shared d99ef.org is the Foundation's website.

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

Member Davenport reported the Triple I conference is cancelled; the Delegate Assembly will be meeting virtually, with two discussions scheduled in October and the Delegate Assembly in November.

30. UPCOMING BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

President Kupka announced the following meeting dates:

October 5, 2020 Workshop Meeting – 6:30 p.m.


October 19, 2020 Regular Business Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

31. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business or discussion, Member Pavesich moved and Member Davenport seconded the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Upon the unanimous voice vote of the six members in attendance, the President declared the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:39 p.m.



Nancy Kupka, President



Juli Gniadek, Secretary

Community

HIGH SCHOOL District 99

BOARD OF EDUCATION

SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

VISITOR ROSTER

#	Wants to Speak	Action	General	Name
1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		X	DAVID Fisher
2	<input type="checkbox"/>		X	Amelia Carlson
3	<input type="checkbox"/>		X	Madelone Schallmoser
4	<input type="checkbox"/>		X	Olivia Shirk
5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		X	CAROL SWENSON
6	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			Emma Swenson
7	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		X	Lynn Golminias
8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		X	Robert Bentu
9	<input type="checkbox"/>		X	Lana Patton
10	<input type="checkbox"/>		X	Howard Patton
11	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		X	Ellen Kowara
12	<input type="checkbox"/>			
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Community

HIGH SCHOOL District 99

BOARD OF EDUCATION

SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

VISITOR ROSTER

#	Wants to Speak	Action	General	Name
1	<input type="checkbox"/>			
2	<input type="checkbox"/>			
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11	<input type="checkbox"/>			
12	<input type="checkbox"/>		X	Sharon Bowers
13	<input type="checkbox"/>		X	Kelly Mccaig
14	<input type="checkbox"/>		X	Maria Wagner
15	<input type="checkbox"/>		X	David Leatherwood
16	<input type="checkbox"/>		X	Beth Bakker
17	<input type="checkbox"/>			Daniel Benton
18	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X		Scott O'Connell
19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		X	Kate Benton
20	<input type="checkbox"/>		X	Laura Hois