

December 4, 2017

The Board of Education, Community High School District 99, met in special session at 6:31 p.m. on Monday, December 4, 2017 at South High School.

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

Also present were Henry Thiele, Superintendent; Pete Theis, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Juli Gniadek, Secretary.

1. CLOSED SESSION

Member Pavesich moved and Member Nicholas seconded the motion that the meeting be adjourned to closed session for the purpose of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the District or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. *5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)*, as amended by *P.A. 93-0057*.

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

2. 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; Terry Pavesich, Vice President; and Members Mike Davenport, Sherell Fuller, Daniel Nicholas, Rick Pavinato and Don Renner.

Also present were Henry Thiele, Superintendent; Pete Theis, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Gina Ziccardi, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning; Scott Wuggazer, Assistant Superintendent for Special Services; Mark Staehlin, District Controller; Jill Browning, Communications Director; Jim Kolodziej, Director of Physical Plant and Operations; Ed Schwartz, South High Principal; Janice Schwarze, North High Principal; Student Board Members Simone Black and Prevail Bonga; and Juli Gniadek, Secretary.

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

3. STUDENT PERSPECTIVES

North High Direct Action Club members Chris Espinoza, Ansareen Hassan and William Norek shared Direct Action is a community based service club and its members volunteer to help wherever needed in the community. Specifically, the students spoke about the Giving Tree project and how classes, teams and individuals come together to provide gifts for less fortunate children.

The Board commended and thanked the Club for its service to the community.

4. STUDENT BOARD MEMBER QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

North High Student Board Member Bonga shared the North High Cross Country Team came in fourth at Nationals and the school is very proud.

5. NATIONAL MERIT SEMI-FINALIST AND COMMENDED STUDENTS

Edward Schwartz and Janice Schwarze introduced the National Merit Commended and Semi-Finalist students. The students received certificates from the Board and were congratulated by Board Members and those in attendance. A brief reception followed.

6. 2018-2019 CURRICULUM PROPOSALS

Gina Ziccardi shared there is a course at South High called “Advanced Individual Skill Sports” whose focus is more gymnastics and tumbling. She stated administration was recommending changing the name of the course to “Gymnastics, Tumbling and Fitness” to more accurately reflect the course content.

South High Fine Arts Department Chair Glenn Williams introduced the proposed new Fine Arts course “Rock Band.” Mr. Williams stated the course is a way to connect with students who are not in band, choir or orchestra; is open to all grades; has no prerequisites; and interested students would be placed in the course after an interview and audition process.

7. 2018-2019 STAFFING RATIO

Pete Theis stated administration was recommending continuing with a 21.8:1 staffing ratio for 2018-2019, the same ratio used for the past seven years, resulting in 225.6 FTE above the line, .4 less than this year. He explained projected enrollment is based on a demographic study by Dr. Robert Kasarda performed last December. Mr. Theis shared the Board would take action on the staffing ratio at the January 29 Board meeting and on “below the line” programs on February 26.

8. MASTER FACILITY PLAN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

Henry Thiele reviewed the evolution of the Master Facility Plan and the various methods, including meetings, mailings, a mail in survey and a phone poll, used to inform and receive input from the community. He stated the Board had directed the District to gather input from the community on the Master Facility Plan and commended the Board for seeking involvement and feedback from the community.

Paul Hanley, George K. Baum Senior Vice President, provided detailed analysis of the mail in survey results. He summarized the non-scientific mail in survey data as follows: respondents gave the District very good marks; residents need more information about the Master Facility Plan; and there is strong support for the \$81.6 million proposal and moderate support for the \$136.6 million proposal.

Jim Hobart, Public Opinion Strategies, provided detailed analysis of the scientific phone poll survey of 300 likely voters. He summarized the scientific phone poll data as follows: support for the \$136.6

million and \$81.6 million proposal are almost equal; support is driven by Democrats and parents; and classroom updates, improved security and improved access are the priorities.

Dr. Thiele stated his recommendation to the Board, and the recommendation of the Citizen Task Force, was to place the \$136.6 million ballot question on the March ballot. He stated, at the December 18 Board meeting, the Board would take action on having a ballot question for the issuance of \$136.6 million bonds on the March 2018 ballot.

Board members shared their opinions on the \$81.6 million versus the \$136.6 million ballot question and praised District administration for their efforts to inform and engage the community on this topic.

9. RECEPTION OF VISITORS – PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no visitors.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Member Pavesich moved and Member Davenport seconded a 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 9:22 p.m.

Nancy Kupka, President

Juli Gniadek, Secretary



BOARD OF EDUCATION

DECEMBER 4, 2017

VISITOR ROSTER

NAME

William Norek
ANSAREEU HASSAN
Christopher Espinoza
John & Alice Cagney
Barb & Joe DeBartis
Linda Durrig
Mary Mard
Walt Arzand
STEVE & CHRISTINE SABA
Olivia Di Iorio
Miles Christensen
Kathy Mc Coy

LWV ✓