

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Avoca Schools

November 19, 2009

The Board of Education met in regular session on November 19, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. in the Marie Murphy School Community Room, 2921 Illinois Road, Wilmette, Illinois. The President called the meeting to order and asked the Board Recorder to call the roll. The following members were present:

William Bazianos
Jeffrey Greengoss, President
Michael Knippen
Rosanne Ullman, Vice President
Sherry Wallingford
Rick Zelinsky

Absent:

Henry Kingwill

Also Present:

Kat Cetrone, Video Recorder
Beth Dever, Business Manager
Cindy Devin, Pupil Services Director
Kevin Jauch, Principal/Avoca West Elementary School
Madeleine McCloskey, Board Recorder
Dr. Joseph Porto, Superintendent/Secretary
Dr. Deanna Reed, Asst. Supt./Principal, Marie Murphy School

Visitors:

Dana Allen, Teacher, Marie Murphy
David Cain, Auditor, Milburn Cain & Co.
David Pollak, Student, Marie Murphy
Girls' JV Volleyball Team Participants and Family Members

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Coach Dana Allen gave a brief summary of the Marie Murphy School Girls' Junior Varsity Volleyball Team's successful season as co-winners of the North Shore Independent Conference title. Student David Pollak's short video highlighting portions of the varsity and junior varsity teams' season was played for the Board. Following a presentation of certificates of recognition, a short break was called, and refreshments were provided for the volleyball team members and their families.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Wallingford moved that

THE BOARD APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

- REGULAR MINUTES OF OCTOBER 22, 2009, AND COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 2, 2009
- OCTOBER FINANCIAL STATEMENT WITH A TOTAL FUND BALANCE OF \$5,261,180.27, AND EXPENDITURES INCLUDING OCTOBER PAYROLL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$703,107.48, OCTOBER FIXED CHARGES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,861.08, NOVEMBER EDUCATION FUND EXPENDITURES IN THE AMOUNT

OF \$148,918.94, NOVEMBER OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE FUND EXPENDITURES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$73,645.49, AND NOVEMBER TRANSPORTATION FUND EXPENDITURES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,322.46

- NOVEMBER PERSONNEL REPORT
- OCTOBER ENROLLMENT REPORT

Mr. Bazianos seconded the motion. Upon roll call, members voted as follows: Ms. Lillman, aye; Mr. Bazianos, aye; Mr. Zelinsky, aye; Ms. Wallingford, aye; Mr. Knippen, aye, except abstaining from the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of November 2, 2009; and Mr. Greengoss, aye, except abstaining from the regular meeting minutes of October 22, 2009 . The motion was carried. Mr. Greengoss will audit the books for the month of December.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Review 2009 Audit

Mr. David Cain, representative from the District's auditing firm of Milburn Cain & Co., was on hand to give an overview of the audit for FY09. He offered recommendations regarding reporting post-employment benefits (OPEB) and hiring an actuary firm to calculate the unfunded actuarial accrued liability, the required footnote disclosures, and the required supplementary schedule. It was decided that the Board Finance Committee would begin holding annual preliminary meetings with the auditor in April or May, prior to the start of each audit.

H1N1 Update

Dr. Porto indicated that the planning session he, Dr. Reed and Mr. Jauch attended with officials from the Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) on November 16 went very well and that feedback from parents regarding Dr. Porto's e-mails on the matter was positive. As of that night's Board meeting, it was reported that 26% of Avoca West parents and 38% of Marie Murphy parents had turned in their preferences on whether or not to have their children vaccinated on December 4 at Avoca West. The deadline for handing in preferences was November 23. Dr. Porto said both types of vaccine will be available that day and would be dispensed according to an individual's need to be determined by CCDPH personnel. Principal Jauch indicated he was arranging to have extra building security on December 4. Dr. Porto pointed out that the CCDPH had reserved the right to change the date if the vaccine was not available on December 4, but the vaccinating session would definitely take place during the first or second week of December. Board members complimented the administrators for doing an outstanding job of coordinating this important event.

Proposed 2010-2011 School Calendar

Dr. Porto reviewed two options for the 2010-2011 school calendar for Board consideration. He indicated that the teachers preferred option two that starts with an Institute Day on Tuesday, August 24, a Contract Day on Wednesday, August 25, and a half-day of student attendance on Thursday, August 26. Winter and spring breaks follow New Trier High School's calendar in both options. Barring the need to call any emergency days, the last day of student attendance would be Thursday, June 9, 2011, if option two is selected. Following some discussion, the Board agreed that option two was the better choice. The 2010-2011 school calendar will be officially adopted at the December 17 Board meeting.

First Reading of Proposed Revised/New Board Policies

The Board had been provided with hard copies of proposed changes to 37 Board policies in advance of that night's meeting. Mr. Knippen explained that the Ad Hoc Board Policy Committee, consisting of Dr. Porto, Mr. Zelinsky and himself, had conducted a thorough review of the proposed policies that were mostly mandated changes, and that the committee was recommending Board approval of these policy changes at the December 17 Board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of 2009 Audit

The topic had been discussed in detail earlier in the meeting, and the Board was now being asked to vote on the matter.

Mr. Knippen moved that

THE BOARD APPROVE THE 2009 AUDIT, AS PRESENTED.

Mr. Zelinsky seconded the motion. Upon roll call, members voted as follows: Mr. Bazianos, aye; Mr. Zelinsky, aye; Ms. Wallingford, aye; Mr. Knippen, aye; Mr. Greengoss, aye; and Ms. Ullman, aye. The motion was carried.

Adoption of Tentative 2009 Tax Levy Resolution

The Board will hold its annual tax levy public hearing on December 17 to formally adopt this year's levy. Business Manager Beth Dever provided the Board with a schedule showing the proposed 2009 levy, our agency tax rate report, and a summary of the District's tax rates since 1981. Mrs. Dever was recommending increasing the 2008 operating levy by 4.35%.

Ms. Wallingford moved that

THE BOARD ADOPT THE RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE 2009 TAX LEVY, AS PRESENTED.

Mr. Knippen seconded the motion. Upon roll call, members voted as follows: Mr. Zelinsky, aye; Ms. Wallingford, aye; Mr. Knippen, aye; Mr. Greengoss, aye; Ms. Ullman, aye; and Mr. Bazianos, aye. The motion was carried.

Approval of Memorandum of Agreement for CCDPH School Vaccination Program

Dr. Porto indicated that, in order to participate in the Cook County Department of Public Health's (CCDPH) school vaccination program scheduled for December 4 at Avoca West Elementary School, the Board was required to formally approve a Memorandum of Agreement with the CCDPH.

Ms. Ullman moved that

THE BOARD APPROVE THE COOK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT FOR ITS SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAM, AS PRESENTED.

Mr. Bazianos seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote, with all members voting aye, the motion was carried.

Approval of Repeal of Policy 7:330 – Student Use of Buildings – Equal Access

The Board's Ad Hoc Policy Committee recommended a repeal of Board Policy 7:330 (Student Use of Buildings – Equal Access), because it was written for the high school level and was not appropriate for a K-8 school district.

Mr. Zelinsky moved that

THE BOARD APPROVE THE REPEAL OF BOARD POLICY 7:330 – STUDENT USE OF BUILDINGS – EQUAL ACCESS, AS PRESENTED.

Ms. Ullman seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote, with all members voting aye, the motion was carried.

Approval of Destruction of Closed Session Audio Tape Recordings

According to Board Policy 2:220 (School Board Meeting Procedure), an audio tape recording of a closed session may be destroyed after 18 months. The administration recommended Board approval of the destruction of six closed session tapes.

Mr. Knippen moved that

THE BOARD APPROVE THE DESTRUCTION OF SIX AUDIO TAPE RECORDINGS OF CLOSED SESSION BOARD MEETINGS THAT PREDATE JUNE 2008, AS PER THE ATTACHED LIST.

Mr. Bazianos seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote, with all members voting aye, the motion was carried.

Approval of Intervening in Two PTABs

Business Manager Beth Dever reminded the Board that, although the Board recently approved a "blanket" resolution for Property Tax Appeal Board (PTAB) matters, the law firm of Robbins, Schwartz, Nicholas, Lifton and Taylor, Ltd. would only intervene in PTAB matters authorized by the District. The Board was now being asked to approve intervening in two residential PTAB's.

Mr. Bazianos moved that

THE BOARD APPROVE INTERVENING IN THE TWO ATTACHED PTABS AND APPOINT THE LAW FIRM OF ROBBINS, SCHWARTZ, NICHOLAS, LIFTON & TAYLOR, LTD. TO INTERVENE ON THE DISTRICT'S BEHALF ON PENDING 2007 PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT APPEALS BY WILLIAM KAGAN FOR HIS RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 13 WOODLEY ROAD, WINNETKA, IL., AND BRIAN PORTER FOR HIS RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 17 INDIAN HILL ROAD, WINNETKA, IL.

Ms. Ullman seconded the motion. Upon roll call, members voted as follows: Ms. Wallingford, aye; Mr. Knippen, aye; Mr. Greengoss, aye; Ms. Ullman, aye; Mr. Bazianos, aye; and Mr. Zelinsky, aye. The motion was carried.

Approval of State Library Grant

Dr. Porto indicated that the Board annually approves the Illinois Library Grant application and that the Board was now being asked to vote on the application.

Mr. Knippen moved that

THE BOARD APPROVE THE ILLINOIS LIBRARY GRANT APPLICATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$511.50 FOR THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR, AS PRESENTED.

Mr. Zelinsky seconded the motion. Upon roll call, members voted as follows: Mr. Knippen, aye; Mr. Greengoss, aye; Ms. Ullman, aye; Mr. Bazianos, aye; Mr. Zelinsky, aye; and Ms. Wallingford, aye. The motion was carried.

Ms. Wallingford moved that the meeting adjourn, and Mr. Bazianos seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote, with all members voting aye, the motion was carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

President

Secretary