

**Palos Heights School District 128
Minutes of Board of Education Meeting
February 10, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Palos Heights School District 128 was held on Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at the Dr. Edward T. Rancic Administrative Center, 12809 S. McVicker, Palos Heights, Illinois.

Mrs. Yerkes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the pledge to the flag.

Roll Call

Present: Touhy, Weiss, Bylut, Lachowicz, Yerkes

Absent: Haberkorn, Lynch

Visitors

Sharon Herman, Kevin Kirk, Cathy Leslie, Mary Lynn Duffy, Lynn Adamonis, Kathy Muloski, Ann Marie Gleason, Jessica Ryan, Stacey Darwent, Andrew Janotta, Ryan Mahoney, Alex Gniedziejko, Rich & Ginny Spink, Julie Matula, Megan Klucharik, Nicole Smagacz, Kristen Ortman, Betsy Noort, Terry Ellison, Sally Gaw, Brigid Loughran, Gina Livers, Noora Diab, Brigitte Sullivan, Vanessa Palcu, Allison Hinker, Amy Agema, D. Cacor, Jennifer Georgios, Erica Germany, Lisa Freimuth, Norine Walrath, Kim Kurtz, Patti Alligood, Beth Strooboscher, Sharon Tellefsen, Marcella Castor, Kendall Bruton, Nancy Bruton, Deborah Swanson, Vivian Smuksta, Elizabeth Foertsch, Steve Foertsch, Rose Cinkus, Iris Torres-Rodriguez, Lisa Duignan, Elizabeth Holman, Amy Lyons

Audience Participation

Kathy Muloski addressed the Board regarding the lack of a teacher aide in the Navajo Library. Julie Matula read a letter to the Board on behalf of the staff of Chippewa and Indian Hill. The staff would like to voice their concerns regarding the recent decision whether or not to retain two media specialist positions for Indian Hill, Chippewa and Navajo Schools. Beth Strooboscher spoke to the Board asking them and Dr. Green to reconsider eliminating the positions of our elementary school librarians and computer instructors.

**Palos Heights School District 128
Minutes of Public Hearing for the Bond Issuance Notification
Act BINA Hearing Concerning the Intent of the Board
to Sell Not to Exceed \$4,200,000 of Working Cash
Bonds of the District**

The public hearing for the Palos Heights School District 128 Bond Issuance Notification Act BINA Hearing Concerning the Intent of the Board to Sell Not to Exceed \$4,200,000 of Working Cash Bonds of the District was held on Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at the Dr. Edward T. Rancic Administrative Center, 12809 S. McVicker, Palos Heights, Illinois.

BINA Hearing

It was moved by Mrs. Lachowicz and seconded by Mrs. Yerkes that the Board adjourns into a public hearing for Bond Issuance Notification Act BINA Hearing Concerning the Intent of the Board to Sell Not to Exceed \$4,200,000 of Working Cash Bonds of the District.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Lachowicz, Bylut, Weiss, Yerkes, Touhy,

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

Mrs. Yerkes entertained comments, questions, or objections from the Board to the proposed bond issuance. Mrs. Yerkes entertained comments, questions, or objections from the public to the proposed bond issuance. There were no questions or objections from Board members or the public to the proposed bond issuance as presented.

It was moved by Mrs. Weiss and seconded by Mrs. Yerkes that the Board returns to the regular Board meeting.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Touhy, Yerkes, Weiss, Bylut, Lachowicz

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The Board adjourned to the regular meeting.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Green recognized the Independence GeoBee contest winners and the Navajo GeoBee contest winners. Principal Kevin Kirk thanked sponsor Gayle Greenwald and spoke about the contest. He congratulated the Independence students, and they were awarded certificates on behalf of the Board of Education. Principal Lynn Adamonis spoke about the Navajo contest and congratulated the Navajo students, and they were also awarded certificates on behalf of the Board.

Dr. Green reported a committee comprised of teachers, administrators, Mark Hupp, Technology Director and Edwin Zavala, Assistant Tech Director met to review the School Insight/Teacher Ease student management system. As the district transitions to all grade levels using standards-based grading, we will need an online grading system. Our current student management system, PowerSchool, does not have this capability. It is the recommendation of the committee and Dr. Green that the District switch to this system.

Dr. Green discussed the Board's practice of non-resident attendance. She received a call from a homeowner on the other side of our eastern boundary street requesting the opportunity to have his child attend District 128. The Board decided to continue past practice to not make any exceptions due to close proximity of a home.

Dr. Green gave the Board an update on the transportation issue and made a recommendation. It is the recommendation of the committee that the Board makes a

change in how we bus our students to and from school. This new proposal has just one bus going into each quadrant (area around IJHS; area around Navajo; area around Indian Hill; and area around Chippewa. Because the Chippewa area has the largest number of riders, and Indian Hill the smallest, we may have the Indian Hill quadrant bus pick up some streets in the Chippewa quadrant as well. The bus in each area will pick up all students in grades 1 - 8 in that area. There will be a separate kindergarten bus. This plan allows us to go from 13 routes down to 5. We anticipate savings to be \$125,000-\$150,000. This plan allows us to provide transportation within our budget and shift savings into the education fund where we have the most direct impact on student learning. The Board thanked the committee for their work on the transportation issues.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

It was moved by Mrs. Lachowicz and seconded by Mrs. Yerkes that the Board approves the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on January 13, 2016; the February, 2016 bills payable and gross January, 2016 payroll, TRS and IMRF Fund in the amount of \$649,334.10 (copy of same to be appended to and become a part of the minutes of this meeting); reviews and approves the activity accounts of the District's schools; Approves the purchase of School Insight/Teacher Ease student management system; approves the recommendation for tenure for Maria Curtin, Michael Mulholland, Joseph Dinolfo, Noora Diab, and Amanda Lelo; accepts the resignations of Brianna Gloude, PreK-K teacher, and Eva Weiss, 5th grade teacher; approves the transportation plan as presented; and approves the contract for Curt Poepfel for employment after his retirement.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Yerkes, Weiss, Bylut, Touhy, Lachowicz

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

New Business

Dr. Green will arrange for the Policy Committee, Mrs. Lachowicz, Mrs. Bylut and Dr. Green, to meet to review policies that will bring the District's policy manual up to date.

Audience Participation

Jennifer Georgios spoke to the Board regarding the impact on students the proposed changes to the libraries will have. Sherry Tellefsen read a letter drafted by the Navajo staff regarding their concerns about the changes that will take place in the schools' libraries.

Closed Session

it was moved by Mrs. Weiss and seconded by Mrs. Lachowicz that the Board enters into Closed Session to discuss the appointment, employment or dismissal of employees and negotiations.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Yerkes, Lachowicz, Touhy, Weiss, Bylut

Nays: None

Motion carried.

The Board entered into Closed Session at 8:30 p.m.

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 9:00 p.m.

Motion to approve and open the closed session minutes of January 13, 2016 was made by Mrs. Lachowicz, seconded by Mrs. Yerkes and approved by unanimous consent.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Weiss and seconded by Mrs. Touhy to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by unanimous consent. The Board President, Mrs. Deb Yerkes, declared the meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

President

Secretary