

**Palos Heights School District 128  
Minutes of Board of Education Meeting  
April 9, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of Palos Heights School District 128 was held on Wednesday, April 9, 2014 at the Dr. Edward T. Rancic Administrative Center, 12809 S. McVicker, Palos Heights, Illinois.

Board President, Deb Yerkes, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the pledge to the flag.

Roll Call

Present: Yerkes, Lahart, Bylut, Joseph Haberkorn, Lachowicz

Absent: Josh Haberkorn, Lynch

In the absence of the Board secretary, Dr. Lynch, Mrs. Yerkes appointed Jennifer Bylut as Secretary Pro Tem for this meeting.

**Visitors**

Cathy Leslie, Paul McDermott, Mary Lynn Duffy, Sharon Herman, Brian Skibinski, Gayle Greenwald, Kim Kurtz, Heather Meskimen, Carolyn Rolla, Kim Anoman, Walt Kunkel, Karen Wright

**Audience Participation**

Karen Wright addressed the Board regarding communication from the Board to parents and the community.

**Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Casey introduced Kim Anoman, new Business Manager hired to replace Walt Kunkel. Mr. Kunkel will retire on June 30, and Mrs. Anoman will begin her new position as of July 1, 2014. Dr. Casey welcomed Kim and thanked the superintendent in Kim's current School District 126, Craig Gwaltney, and Business Manager Steve Gress who have been very generous with Kim's time to make the transition to District 128 smoother.

Dr. Casey introduced Brian Skibinski, the District's Chief Information Officer. Brian, along with teachers Kim Kurtz and Heather Meskimen, presented the "state of technology" in the district. Brian reviewed the equipment and computers currently in use in the schools, the improvements to district infrastructure over the past year, and the hiring of David Kraatz, Assistant Technology Director. The teachers provided insight with student presentations into how the 21<sup>st</sup> century technology is providing new learning skills to our students.

Dr. Casey reported to the Board on the progress of the Teacher Evaluation Committee. The committee, comprised of all administrators and teachers from each school, is looking at our teacher evaluation instrument and the deadline of 2016-17 to incorporate

student growth data into our teacher evaluations.

Dr. Casey acknowledged Heather Meskimen, who is one of 32 finalists for the Golden Apple Award. Dr. Casey thanked Dr. McDermott for nominating Mrs. Meskimen for this honor. Dr. Casey and Board congratulated Mrs. Meskimen.

### **Approval of Consent Agenda Items**

It was moved by Mr. Haberkorn and seconded by Mrs. Lahart that the Board approves the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on March 12, 2014 as presented; the April, 2014 bills payable and gross March, 2014 payroll, TRS and IMRF Fund in the amount of \$603,430.08 (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 tenure for Sally Gaw; approves the resolution for the recognition of employees for Maureen Faletti for 20 years of service, Judy Borosky for 15 years of service, Carrie Duran and Kristen Ortman for 5 years of service; approves the resolution recognizing Teacher Appreciation Week; approves the employment of Stacey Darwent, 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher replacing Betsy Noort who is replacing retiring Lori Gasik in Media, Eva Weiss, 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher replacing retiring Diane Ramsay, and Elizabeth Holman, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher being hired due to increased enrollment in 4<sup>th</sup> grade for the 2014-15 school year; approves the Tax Rate Objection Resolution authorizing our attorney, John Izzo of Sraga Hauser, to fight the tax rate objection filed against the District; approves the Resolution for the Transfer of Funds from the Operations and Maintenance Fund into the Education Fund in the amount of \$100,000; approves the costs of replacing 5 univents at Independence Jr. High School; approves the amended school calendar for the 2013-2014 school year; and approves the FMLA request from Heather Meskimen for the birth of her second child.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Bylut, Lachowicz, Haberkorn, Yerkes, Lahart

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

### **New Business**

The Board discussed the second reading of the Board Policy Manual.

### **Old Business**

Mrs. Lachowicz announced the SCOPE dinner meeting to be held on Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup> has been cancelled.

### **Audience Participation**

None.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mrs.

Lahart and seconded by Mrs. Lachowicz. Motion carried by unanimous consent. The Board President, Mrs. Yerkes, declared the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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President

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Secretary