

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Administration Building 7:00 p.m.– 8:35 p.m. March 21, 2018

Members Present:

Kristin Violante, Presiding Officer

Jon Buralli

Vipul Dedhia

Mary Lenzen

Michael Rak

Absent:

David Negron

Mark Mirabile

ROLL CALL AND VISITORS

Present with Superintendent Dave Palzet were staff members Erika Sawosko, Catherine Chang, Jennifer Ban, Debbie Lubeck, Kathleen Tomei, Griffin Sonntag, Melissa Halusek, Rikki Steinmetz and Karyn Lisowski; and resident Kristen Cizek.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Grade Six Battle of the Books winners, whose work was highlighted on the display boards, led the pledge of allegiance. Also on display were projects done by Lucy Arroyo's first grade class.

ACTION NO. 21

Consent Agenda

Motion by Rak, seconded by Dedhia, that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda consisting of: regular meeting minutes of February 21, 2018; closed session meeting minutes of February 21, 2018; payment of February payroll/March warrants; FY19 Parent/Student Handbook as amended; Governance and Planning (sec.1) Board Policies; Pleasant Dale Park District Before and After School Program Intergovernmental Agreement; FY19 Preliminary Staffing Recommendation, and March 2018 Personnel Report consisting of the retirement of Pamela Mattice, ESL teacher, effective the end of the 2017-18 school year; resignation of Renee Cafcules, middle school instructional aide, effective march 20, 2018, Stephen Braband, Innovative Teaching Coach, effective the end of the 2017-18 school year, and Meg Knapik, assistant principal, effective June 30, 2017; honorable dismissal of teachers; and reemployment of certified personnel. Motion carried by a roll call vote of 5 ayes (Buralli, Dedhia, Lenzen, Rak, Violante) absent – Mirabile, Negron.

RECOGNITION OF STAFF MEMBER

The Board recognized second grade teacher Melissa Halusek as a Golden Apple Award Finalist. Mrs. Halusek is a second-grade teacher at Pleasantdale Elementary School and has been with the district for 17 years. During her time in the district, Mrs. Halusek has served on numerous committees including Lead Teacher, PBSS/MTSS, Science Committee, Math Committee, Math Coordinator, Curriculum Council Delegate, Reading Cafe Team and Strategic Planning Committee. She has supported students through Rainbows for All Children Support Group, Eagles Nest conflict resolution team, Volleyball Club and Cheerleading Club. In addition, she creates a warm and nurturing classroom environment where each child is recognized for their unique talents and growth opportunities. She engages in ongoing professional development opportunities including Metro Chicago Math Initiative (MCMi) training through West40 Intermediate Service Center. Golden Apple finalists must be nominated by a community member or colleague, and this year's field included over 650 nominees. Nominees are required to complete essay questions and provide references. The Golden Apple selection committee then chooses 30 finalists who participate in a site visit and interviews. Congratulations, Mrs. Halusek!

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Strategic Blueprint Update

Superintendent Dave Palzet along with principals Kathleen Tomei (PES) and Griffin Sonntag (PMS) reviewed the progress that has been made toward accomplishing the action steps laid out in the district's Strategic Blueprint. The district follows a philosophy of cascading goals, so the goals laid out in the Strategic Blueprint become the building goals which then become staff goals. The presentation also included a review of the recommended action steps for next school year. The action steps fall into three broad categories: Building Learning Capacity, Building Learning Environments, and Building Human Capital. These action steps will help our district realize the mission, belief statements, and portrait of a graduate that were created by our Future Planning Committee. Board Vice President Violante and Board member Rak both thanked Superintendent Palzet and administration for the great work they are doing on implementing the strategic blueprint for the district.

Professional Learning Update

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Dr. Jennifer Ban, provided the Board an update on the district's professional learning plan, which was implemented this school year. Professional learning falls under the Strategic Blueprint goal of building human capital, which focuses on engaging our teachers in relevant, timely, pertinent, and personalized professional development. This school year the district has worked to achieve that goal by thoughtfully transforming our professional development offerings to have the greatest impact on our Pleasantdale staff and students. Teachers have participated in professional learning in the areas of math, writing, technology, and instructional coaching. These professional learning experiences will be extended into the summer through our professional learning academies. Board Vice President Violante questioned how the district would measure the effectiveness of the professional development. Superintendent Palzet stated that through our assessments, conversations with staff, and satisfaction surveys would be used to monitor the effectiveness.

NEXT AGENDA

Items submitted for the April agenda include: Middle School Math Resource Adoption; Discuss Summer Construction Projects; Approve Strategic Blueprint Action Steps; Review School Board (sec. 2) Board policies; Review of Service Provider Bids/Contracts.

ACTION NO. 22

Closed Session

Motion by Buralli, seconded by Lenzen, that the Board of Education go into closed session at 8:00 p.m. to discuss student disciplinary cases; appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees to the District; and Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular District has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the District finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the findings shall be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes; Motion carried by a roll call vote of 5 ayes (Buralli, Dedhia, Lenzen, Rak, Violante) absent – Mirabile, Negron.

The Board came out of closed session at 8:34 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Rak, seconded by Dedhia, that the regular meeting adjourns at 8:35 p.m. Voice vote. Motion carried.