

BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 64
Minutes of the Special Board of Education Meeting held at 6:00 p.m.
August 7, 2018
Jefferson School - Multipurpose Room
8200 N. Greendale Avenue, Niles, IL 60714

Board President Anthony Borrelli called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Other Board members in attendance were Larry Ryles, Rick Biagi, and Eastman Tiu; Board member Eggemann arrived immediately after the roll call. Board members Fred Sanchez and Tom Sotos were absent. Also present were: Superintendent Laurie Heinz; Chief School Business Official Luann Kolstad; Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Joel Martin; Director of Student Services Lea Anne Frost; Director of Facility Management Ron DeGeorge; Public Information Coordinator Bernadette Tramm; and one member of the public.

Board of Education meetings are videotaped and may be viewed in their full length from the District's website at: <http://www.d64.org>. The agenda and all reports for this meeting are also available on the website, or through the District 64 Educational Service Center, 164 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge.

Board President Borrelli reported on the steps taken in consulting with the Board to call the special meeting at the request of administration.

BOARD RECESSES AND ADJOURNS TO CLOSED SESSION

At 6:01 p.m., it was moved by Board President Borrelli and seconded by Board member Ryles to adjourn to closed session to discuss 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 or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act [5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1); 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 finding shall be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)].

Board members, Dr. Heinz and Dr. Frost discussed what information can be shared publicly while going into closed session under a litigation exemption particularly as it may relate to potential student due process matters.

The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Ryles, Borrelli, Biagi, Eggemann, Tiu

NAYS: None.

PRESENT: None.

ABSENT: Sanchez, Sotos

The motion carried.

The Board adjourned from closed session at approximately 6:45 p.m. and took a short recess before reconvening the special meeting at 6:49 p.m. In addition to those mentioned above, also present were five members of the public.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board member Ryles led the Pledge.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Board President Borrelli invited public comments on items not on the agenda; none were received.

APPOINTMENT OF EMERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL

Dr. Heinz reported that she had selected Mrs. Samantha Alaimo to become Emerson's first Associate Principal. She thanked the Board for approving the addition of an additional administrator for the building, and noted that Mrs. Alaimo will be a dynamic partner with Principal Jim Morrison and Assistant Principal Tim Benka to help lead a school that continues to grow with enrollment now approaching 900 students. She reviewed the multi-step screening and interview process of selecting Mrs. Alaimo from an initial pool of 101 applicants. Dr. Heinz reported that Mrs. Alaimo has taught at Emerson as a sixth grade language arts and math teacher for the Channels of Challenge program for the past two years, and had previously taught for five years at a grades 6-8 STEM school within the Chicago Public Schools. Dr. Heinz noted that Mrs. Alaimo's teaching experience will be invaluable in evaluating and working with staff to support students, and that she truly understands how to challenge and empower this age group as learners and engaged young citizens. Dr. Heinz reported that Mrs. Alaimo also serves on the Middle School Review committee and on the Language Arts pilot committee as an early adopter, and that she has a strong background in using data to ensure students receive the supports they need. She noted that Mrs. Alaimo is very versed in positive behavior intervention systems that complement the restorative practices District 64 will be implementing more widely this year.

ACTION ITEM 18-08-1

It was moved by Board member Eggemann and seconded by Board member Biagi that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge-Niles, Illinois approve the appointment of Samantha Alaimo as the Associate Principal of Emerson Middle School effective July 26, 2018, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent and not upon the Board's direct knowledge regarding the individual selected for appointment, at an annual salary of \$82,000.

In response to Board member questions, Dr. Heinz and Mrs. Alaimo provided more information on her experiences in working to meet the needs of all students through a multi-tiered system of supports, and her familiarity with the goals of social emotional learning and D64's curriculum as well as positive behavior practices such as restorative justice, which will be launched at District 64 middle schools this year.

The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Tiu, Eggemann, Biagi, Borrelli, Ryles

NAYS: None.

PRESENT: None.

ABSENT: Sotos, Sanchez

The motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION AND APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDED PERSONNEL REPORT

Assistant Superintendent Martin noted that a revised report had been provided, and thanked the Board for meeting to approve the many personnel changes taking place during the final lead-up to the start of school on August 20. Assistant Superintendent Martin, Dr. Heinz and CSBO Kolstad responded to Board member questions about the timing of resignations, the pace of hiring at this time of year, and the need for formal Board approval of hiring. Dr. Heinz noted that new staff would be invited to an upcoming meeting to meet the Board.

ACTION ITEM 18-08-2

It was moved by Board member Eggemann and seconded by Board member Tiu that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, approve the Personnel Report, noting that the Personnel Report is based on the recommendation of the Superintendent and not upon the Board's direct knowledge regarding any of the specific individuals selected for employment.

The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Ryles, Borrelli, Biagi, Eggemann, Tiu

NAYS: None.

PRESENT: None.

ABSENT: Sanchez, Sotos

The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Heinz briefly noted that Emmy award winner Jack Gallagher would be presenting a relatable and inspiring message around his theme, “A Different Kind of Cool,” which focuses on the acceptance of all children, at the first Parent University on August 16 and as the keynote speaker to staff at the August 17 Institute Day. Board President Borrelli invited members to submit suggestions for upcoming meeting agendas to him and Dr. Heinz.

At 7:18 p.m., it was moved by Board member Tiu and seconded by Board member Eggemann to adjourn.

The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Ryles, Borrelli, Biagi, Eggemann, Tiu

NAYS: None.

PRESENT: None.

ABSENT: Sanchez, Sotos

The motion carried.

President

Secretary