

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 64
Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting held at 7:00 p.m.
May 13, 2021
VIRTUAL MEETING DUE TO COVID-19
Alternate Remote Attendance at Emerson School (MPR)**

Board President Pearl called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Board members in attendance via remote participation were Carol Sales, Phyllis Lubinski, Rebecca Little, Dr. Nicole Woitowich, Tom Sotos, and Gareth Kennedy. Superintendent Dr. Eric Olson attended in person at Emerson School. Also attending remotely were: Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Dr. Joel T. Martin; Director of Innovation and Instructional Technology Mary Jane Warden; and Board Legal Counsel Tony Loizzi.

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 reports for this meeting are also available on the website or through the District 64 Educational Service Center, 164 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, IL 60068.

BOARD RECESSES & ADJOURNS TO CLOSED MEETING

At 6:31 p.m. it was moved by Board member Sotos and seconded by Board member Sales to adjourn to closed session to discuss collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees [5ILCS 120/2(c)(2)].

The votes to adjourn to the closed meeting were cast as follows:

Ayes: Sales, Lubinski, Little, Kennedy, Woitowich, Sotos, Pearl

Nays: None

Present: None

Absent: None

The motion carried.

BOARD ADJOURNS FROM CLOSED MEETING & RESUMES REGULAR MEETING

The Board adjourned from the closed meeting and resumed the regular meeting at 7:03 p.m. In addition to those listed above, also attending remotely were: Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning Dr. Lori Lopez; Chief School Business Official Luann Kolstad; Director of Student Services Dr. Lea Anne Frost; Interim Director of Facility Management Jason Borst; Public Information Coordinator Peter Gill (attending but not participating); and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Natasha Nedeljkovic. No member of the public was physically present at the alternate remote location, and approximately 15 people attended virtually.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board member Waitowich led the pledge.

OPENING REMARKS FROM PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

Dr. Pearl noted that there seemed to be a slow return to “normalcy”. She said she had attended a basketball ball game at Emerson along with Board member Lubinski and there was a collective feeling of normal times returned. She stated that the Field Elementary School will host their V-show at the Pickwick theater this year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comments were invited through a posted email address on the District’s website and in the Board report; none were received. No members of the public were present at the alternate remote location to submit comments.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

No changes were made to the agenda.

STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITION

Dr. Olson introduced English Language Arts Curriculum Specialist Meghan Keefer who spoke about the District-level winners of the annual Young Authors creative writing competition. Students were selected from a pool of outstanding school winners at every grade level; they wrote and illustrated an original short story independently at home. This year saw 283 submissions for the competition! Ms. Keefer introduced each winner and gave a brief summary of their winning story.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Dr. Olson noted that the metrics looked very good at the moment. He said the Center for Disease Control (CDC) had issued new guidance on mask requirements but the District would have to wait for the Illinois Department of Health (IDPH) to issue their guidance. He said that the anticipation was for remote learning to be available next year for students with a medical condition only, but guidance from the State was yet to come. He also announced that the District would host a vaccine clinic for students 12 years and older, communication would go out to parents by the end of the week. Board President Pearl announced the possibility of the Board returning to in-person meetings and asked the members to weigh in; members voiced their approval for a return to in-person meetings, with some stressing that they would like live streaming of the meetings in some format. Dr. Olson noted that masks were still mandated in schools unless new guidance was issued. The Board will be in person for the June 3 meeting.

RECOGNITION OF TENURED TEACHERS

Dr. Joel Martin recognized the teachers who had completed the four-year process to obtain tenure with the District and were no longer considered “probationary.” He read the names of the teachers recognized for this achievement and congratulated them.

PT3 UPDATE

Director of Student Services Dr. Lea Anne Frost updated the Board on the committee's work thus far this year, noting that the two subgroups had focused on specific areas. She said the committee was addressing parents' needs and was moving in the right direction. She then introduced a parent representative, Mrs. Laudadio, who had been on the committee for two years. Mrs. Laudadio noted that the group she was part of had done a lot of work on information for the website and thought that this would be helpful to parents with children with IEPs. She said splitting the committee into two subgroups had been a great idea. The staff representative, Ms. Fernandez, was detained and could not make the meeting but Dr. Frost read a statement Ms. Fernandez had forwarded instead. Board member Kennedy asked Mrs. Laudadio if the committee members were happy with the current structure and if they needed further resources. Mrs. Laudadio responded that members seemed happy this year with where the group was headed and with the plans for next year. Board president Pearl asked if the posted video vignettes on the website were unique to District 64. Dr. Frost responded that she had looked at other websites and could not find them, but noted the convenience for parents and availability to view at any time. She mentioned that the group will discuss new activities for the following year in September and that the work could be tied to items listed in the new strategic plan. Board member Sales inquired about information shared with incoming parents. Dr. Frost stated that parents get information once they register their students. Board member Kennedy asked whether the group had discussed the previous audit findings. Mrs. Laudadio noted that the group had spent the better part of last year combing through the audit findings. Board member Sales stated that she was still hearing from disgruntled parents and asked whether the complaints were being addressed in any manner. Dr. Olson stressed that the work of the group is focused on all parents and all staff, not on specific individuals. He stressed that the group had benefited from working in this manner. Board member Lubinski asked how information was disseminated and Dr. Frost noted that the department used a variety of methods including posting on the website, the weekly e-news, principals' newsletters, and other available methods.

DISCUSSION OF FIVE-YEAR MASTER FACILITY PLAN

Chief School Business Official (CSBO) Luann Kolstad was joined by Studio GC architects Amy Pozezinski, Marisa Urbina, and Rick Petricek to talk about the five-year facility plan. She gave a brief overview of what the District had accomplished in the previous five years when the focus had been on "safe, warm, and dry". The District had spent approximately \$37,000,000 on HVAC repairs, roofs, and other needs. Secure vestibules had been installed at all schools except Jefferson School that still needed a lot of work and a secure vestibule. CSBO Kolstad also noted Emerson Middle School needed further work, the office needed to be completely secured among other projects. She stated that tonight's presentation focused on the next 5 years and future projects. Ms. Pozezinski explained that Studio GC had broken down their assessments into 3 colored areas: red labeled projects should be addressed in the next 5 years; blue-colored projects were less critical and could be covered through the Operations and Maintenance fund; grey-colored projects were items that were reaching the end of their useful life. Ms. Pozezinski then talked in detail about the presentation and the items listed. Dr. Olson stressed that this was only a presentation and the Board was not voting on anything tonight. This was in effect an informational presentation for the Board to know what the next 5 years would look like in terms of needed projects. Dr. Olson also confirmed that the Board would vote to approve any project in the future.

DISCUSSION OF POLICY 4:180 PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS; MANAGEMENT; AND RECOVERY AND POLICY 2:230 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS & PETITIONS TO THE BOARD

Board counsel Loizzi pointed out that it was best practice to have an initial meeting to discuss any new policy, any changes or revisions to a policy, and then have a subsequent meeting to vote to approve. The process is also laid out in the Board's 2:240 *Board Policy Development*. Board member Kennedy stated that he felt the Board wasn't discussing things enough or endorsing changes in open sessions this past year. He didn't disagree with the decisions taken but felt an open discussion would have helped parents better understand the decisions taken. He had also wanted a vote to take place tonight. President Pearl explained that some new members had not felt comfortable taking a vote without a prior discussion to better understand the policy and its ramifications. A few Board members confirmed this position. Board members then discussed proposed changes to policy 4:180 to increase the Board's involvement in the decision-making during a pandemic. The Board agreed to add a vote to approve the changes to the policy at the June 3 special meeting.

The Board then discussed revisions to policy 2:230, mainly to shorten and amend the paragraph read by the Board president prior to public comments. Members were supportive of the requested changes, and a vote will be also added for the June 3 special meeting.

APPROVAL OF EMERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dr. Olson introduced Mr. Louis Kotvis and explained the interview process and how qualified Mr. Kotvis had appeared, having been in the role before but also having held other positions in the education field. Mr. Kotvis stated that he was excited to join the team and was looking forward to the work ahead.

ACTION ITEM 21-05-1

It was moved by Board member Little and seconded by Board member Kennedy that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge-Niles, Illinois approve the appointment of Louis Kotvis as the Assistant Principal at Emerson Middle School effective July 27, 2021.

The votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Voitowich, Lubinski, Sotos, Pearl, Little, Sales, Kennedy

Nays: None

Present: None

Absent: None

The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDED PERSONNEL REPORT

It was noted that the Board is relying upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and administration in their professional judgment as to the hiring of these individuals per Policy 2:130.

Louis Kotvis - Employ as Assistant Principal at Emerson Middle School effective July 27, 2021 - \$90,000.

Julie Zielinski - Retire as District Occupational Therapist effective June 11, 2021.

ACTION ITEM 21-05-1

It was moved by Board member Kennedy and seconded by Board member Lubinski that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, approve the Personnel Report dated May 13, 2021, 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: Kennedy, Pearl, Sales, Sotos, Little, Lubinski, Woitowich

Nays: None

Present: None

Absent: None

The motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Bills, Payroll, and Benefits

Bills

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Fund Total</u>
10 - Education Fund	\$ 426,202.10
20 - Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$ 282,912.21
30 - Debt Services	\$ 18,434.05
40 - Transportation Fund	\$ 179,670.80
50 - Retirement (IMRF/SS/MEDICARE)	\$ -
60 - Capital Projects	\$ 50,600.00
61 - Capital Projects-2017 Debt Certificates	\$ -
80 - Tort Immunity Fund	\$ 312.50
90 - Fire Prevention and Safety Fund	\$ -
<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$ 958,131.66</u>

Payroll & Benefits

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Fund Total</u>
10 - Education Fund	\$48,885,173.88
20 - Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$ 5,350,493.13
30 - Debt Services Fund	\$ 2,380,037.29
40 - Transportation Fund	\$ 1,486,424.15
50 - IMRF/FICA Fund	\$ 840,054.17
51 - SS/Medicare	\$ 951,508.47

60 - Capital Projects Fund	\$ 5,355,750.45
61 - Cap Projects Fund - 2017 Debt Certs	\$ 0.00
70 - Working Cash Fund	\$ 0.00
80 - Tort Immunity Fund	\$ 501,780.50
	<u>Total: \$66,751,222.04</u>

The Accounts Payable detailed list can be viewed on the District 64 website's business services page at www.d64.org.

- Approval of Financial Update for the Period Ending March 31, 2021
- Approval of Amended Intergovernmental Agreement for Shared Vision/O&M Services
- Destruction of Audio Closed Recordings (none)

ACTION ITEM 21-05-2

It was moved by Board member Woitowich and seconded by Board member Little that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, approve the Consent Agenda for May 13, 2021, which includes: Bills, Payroll, and Benefits; Approval of Financial Update for the Period Ending March 31, 2021; Approval of Amended Intergovernmental Agreement for Shared Vision/O&M Services; and the Destruction of Audio Closed Recordings (none).

The votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Sotos, Sales, Kennedy, Lubinski, Pearl, Woitowich, Little

Nays: None

Present: None

Absent: None

The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board member Little moved and Board member Pearl seconded the motion. Board member Sotos noted that the new members could only vote to approve the organizational meeting minutes. Board members Little and Pearl rescinded their motions.

ACTION ITEM 21-05-3

It was moved by Board member Little and seconded by Board member Sales that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, approve the minutes from the Special Meeting on April 29, 2021.

The votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Little, Sales, Pearl, Sotos

Nays: None

Present: Kennedy

Absent: Lubinski, Woitowich

The motion carried.

ACTION ITEM 21-05-3-a

It was moved by Board member Little and seconded by Board member Sales that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, approve the minutes from the Organizational Meeting on April 29, 2021.

The votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Sotos, Kennedy, Lubinski, Pearl, Woitowich, Little, Sales

Nays: None

Present: None

Absent: None

The motion carried.

OTHER DISCUSSION & ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Dr. Olson noted the two upcoming board meetings on June 3 and June 24. The June 3 special meeting will focus on full-day Kindergarten options, the June 24 meeting is the last regular meeting of this school year. He stated that he had discussed with Board president Pearl the possibility of a special meeting in July that would focus on IASB training for the new Board. President Pearl said she would ask members for their availability to determine a date in June or July. Dr. Olson stated that he would give a more in-depth update on current enrollment numbers for next year at the June 24 meeting, as it was too soon in the process to get an accurate idea.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:35 p.m. it was moved by Board member Kennedy and seconded by Board member Little to adjourn.

The votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Little, Sotos, Woitowich, Lubinski, Kennedy, Pearl, Sales

Nays: None

Present: None

Absent: None

The motion carried.

Signed Date: June 24, 2021.

President

Secretary