

BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 64
Minutes of the Special Board of Education Meeting held at 6:30 p.m.
April 29, 2021
VIRTUAL MEETING DUE TO COVID-19
Alternate Remote Attendance at Emerson School (MPR)

Board President Biagi called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All participants attended remotely unless otherwise noted. Board members in attendance via remote participation were Carol Sales, Fred Sanchez, Rebecca Little, and Larry Ryles. Board member Dr. Denise Pearl attended in person at Emerson School, along with Superintendent Dr. Eric Olson, and Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning Dr. Lori Lopez. Board member Tom Sotos joined the meeting virtually at 6:32 p.m. Also attending remotely were: Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Dr. Joel T. Martin; Chief School Business Official Luann Kolstad; Director of Innovation and Instructional Technology Mary Jane Warden; Board Legal Counsel Steven Richart; 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 3 attended virtually.

Also present in person at Emerson was incoming Board member Phyllis Lubinski; incoming Board member Gareth Kennedy attended the meeting virtually.

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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board member Larry Ryles led the pledge.

OPENING REMARKS FROM PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

President Biagi had no opening remarks.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comments were invited through a posted email address on the District website and in the Board report. Members of the public present at Emerson School were also invited to submit comments. No public comments were received and no one from the public was present at Emerson.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

No changes were made to the agenda.

ACCEPTANCE OF CANVASS OF VOTES FOR ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS FOR APRIL 6, 2021

President Biagi noted all new board member elections were uncontested. The canvassing of the votes showed a 16% voter turnout. The members received the following percentages of votes: Rebecca Little 25.82%; Phyllis Lubinski 25.11%; Nicole C. Woitowich 24.63%; and Gareth Kennedy 24.44%.

ACTION ITEM 21-04-18

It was moved by Board member Pearl and seconded by Board member Little that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, accept the results of the canvass for the election on April 6, 2021 of Board Members from the Cook County Clerk in the form provided to the Board of Education and that the canvassing results be reflected in the minutes of the meeting.

The votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Biagi, Little, Sales, Sotos, Ryles, Pearl, Sanchez

Nays: None

Present: None

Absent: None

The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION ITEM 21-04-19

It was moved by Board member Pearl and seconded by Board member Sanchez that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge –Niles, Illinois, approve the minutes from the Special Meeting on April 1, 2021; the Closed Meeting on April 8, 2021; the Regular Meeting on April 8, 2021; the Closed Meeting on April 26, 2021; and the Special Meeting on April 26, 2021.

The votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Sales, Little, Ryles, Pearl, Sanchez, Biagi, Sotos

Nays: None

Present: None

Absent: None

The motion carried.

RECOGNITION OF RETIRING BOARD MEMBERS

Outgoing Board members took a few minutes to reflect on their time serving on the Board. Member Ryles thanked the staff, teachers, administrators, and custodians for their dedication and work. He noted custodians had a tremendous job this past year and were invaluable to the District. He thanked the PTOs and Special Education parents who had helped turn around the special education program in the District. He called for continuing work on inclusion and for fostering a positive relationship with the police department

at an early age. He asked for the next Board to focus on full-day Kindergarten and the expansion of the preschool program. He stated that eighth-graders from Lincoln and Emerson should be selected to act as advisers to the Board. He called on the new members to do their homework and be a Board member every day. Board member Sanchez expressed his pleasure to serve and said nothing could be done without the District staff, teachers, and the administration. He hoped he had served well. He stated it had been a privilege and an honor to serve alongside the other members. He told the new members to remember that they were doing it for the kids and thanked them for running. Outgoing president Biagi said it had been an honor and a privilege to serve with the current and previous members. He called on the community to stop being divisive and to find a way to have thoughtful and constructive conversations. He hoped the best for the new Board and wished them smooth sailing. Superintendent Olson noted the Board had come a long way the last two years and noted that the members had handled everything admirably, given the challenges from the past year. He thanked all the outgoing Board members, noted member Sanchez' dedication to "getting it right"; said he appreciated the in-depth knowledge and love of all children member Ryles had exhibited, along with the many conversations on leadership they had shared; he thanked president Biagi for the great partnership they shared the last two years, for open discussions and for challenging each other positively. Dr. Olson said president Biagi had shown him the way and had been the perfect partner in his first time as Superintendent. Member Sotos took a moment, as the senior member on the Board, to thank outgoing members for their service and welcome new members. Members Sales and Little also thanked outgoing members for their service.

ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE

At 6:59 p.m. it was moved by Board member Sanchez and seconded by Board member Ryles to adjourn sine die.

The votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Sanchez, Ryles, Pearl, Little, Sales, Biagi

Nays:

Present:

Abstain: Sotos

The motion carried.

Signed Date: May 13, 2021

President

Secretary