WEST CHICAGO ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL DISTRICT 33
Kristina Davis, Superintendent
February 20, 2020 Board Briefs

Brenda Vishanoff, Board President
Chad McLean, Board Vice President
Rita Balgeman, Board Secretary
Phebe Balzer, Board Treasurer

Kalpesh Dave, Board Member
Christian Rivera, Board Member
Tom Doyle, Board Member

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Thursday, February 20, 2020 beginning at 7:01 p.m.

Board members in attendance: Tom Doyle, Phebe Balzer, Rita Balgeman, Chad McLean and Brenda Vishanoff.

*Kalpesh Dave arrived at 8:02 p.m.

Additions or Changes to the Agenda
Kristina Davis added Future Problem Solvers Regional Competition Information Only as A. on Information items.

Shared Agreements:
1. *Make decisions according to what is best for ALL District 33 students.*
2. *Respect staff and other board members and their opinions.*
3. *Be willing to see things from the eyes of seven (7) people, not just one (1).*
4. *Allow everyone to complete their thoughts.*
5. *Commit to shared leadership.*
6. *Respect confidentiality.*
7. *Adhere to our belief in our students' full potential and successful future.*

Strategic Plan Goals
Goal #1 – Student Growth and Achievement
Goal #2 – High-Quality Staff
Goal #3 – Family and Community Engagement
Goal #4 – Effective and Efficient Use of Resources

Shared Agreements Reflection
At the July 18, 2013 meeting, the Board of Education finalized their "shared agreements" and agreed to begin each regular board meeting by reflecting on one agreement. The Board revised the shared agreements on November 6, 2014. The purpose of the agreement is to help maintain a positive environment in which to conduct board work. Board Member Christian Rivera presented the following statement. First of all, I want to thank you all for doing such great work for our school district. I would like to talk about the shared agreement of be willing to see things from the eyes of seven (7) people, not just one (1). I believe listening to others and having a willingness to see with respect a variety of perspectives on the same topics or discussion items is key for the success of making informed decisions for the benefit of our community. I look forward to upholding this principle as you do during our meetings.

Recognition/Showcase/Presentation
Showcase
The preschool will be showcasing the ARC program and the impact that reading has had on reader engagement and family involvement. Students' love for reading has increased since implementing the American Reading Company. We celebrate the students that have moved from *read to me* to *I Y*, applaud the teachers who recognize their *Super Readers*, and welcome families to ongoing medal ceremonies.

Presentation
Winter Benchmark Data - The Department of Teaching and Learning shared data in Literacy and Math. Guidelines for 20-21 Enrollment and Staffing – Human Resources and Department for Teaching and Learning shared information on enrollment projections and staffing for 2020-2021 school year.

E.T.A.W.C. Statement
No ETAWC statement at this meeting.

Public Comment
No public comment at this meeting.

Superintendent News
The preschool has been focusing heavily on literacy this school year. This year we have fully implemented the **ARC** reading program. We have seen an increase in our vocabulary data, an increase in reader engagement and the children's' love of books, and an increase in parents reading to their children at home. Our literacy goal this year was for 50% of students to have 500 books read to them at home by the end of the year. In October only 6% of students were on track to meet this goal. As of 1/30, we now have 51% of students on track to meet the goal. For those children who are not on track to meet their goal, we have recruited community members as reading buddies. We have also partnered with LMS and Gary to have their students come to read to our students. In addition, our vocabulary goal was for 70% of our children going to Kindergarten to score in the proficient range on the vocabulary assessment. As of our winter benchmarks, we have already met that goal. In addition, we have been receiving professional development and coaching from our ARC Coach and from Erikson Institute. We have also implemented the strategy of Story making which has inspired students to write, tell and act stories.

With the help and support of the **Foundation**, we will be able to continue the ARC book checkout over the summer to all Birth-3 and Preschool families.

We have implemented **APTT** (Academic Parent Teacher Teams) on a program-wide basis this year. We hold 3 group meetings and 2 individual conferences with parents. At the group APTT meetings, we review individual data, classroom data and program expectations around attendance, ARC reading and play. We then provide parents with strategies to use at home to help their children succeed in each of these areas. Parents also set SMART goals that are reviewed at each of the meetings and conferences. Together, teachers and parents are responsible and accountable for the child's success. This process has been successful. After our first group meeting, we immediately saw an increase in the number of books that parents were reading to their children.

We have held 3 **Parent Child Activity Days/Nights** so far this year. Parents and children come to school for 2.5 hours to learn different strategies and to make connections with other parents. The topics that we have covered are the ARC Reading Program, Social Emotional Development/Zones of Regulation, and Positive Behavior/Conscious Discipline. We will be holding 1 more on Building Relationships and Play. At each of these sessions, we have had over 200 families at each event. Many of the attendees have been our fathers. In addition, we hold monthly ARC medal ceremonies. This month we also had over 200 families come and celebrate the reading success of their children.

Preschool continues to have a strong focus on **Social Emotional Learning** for our students. In the coming month's preschool will host a series of professional development days with Kristin Sauers and Pete Hall, who have created a series of trainings highlighting the key work they are doing to help develop and sustain trauma invested environments. These trainings are intended to build off one another and are strategically designed to empower adults and enhance their self-awareness. In these engaging and thought provoking trainings, the preschool team will truly become grounded in developing a common language, a strong education on how stress can impact learning, the importance of creating a culture of safety so all can learn and thrive, learn a multitude of strategies aimed at supporting healthy development for all, and key awareness on how to support adult health and growth.

West Chicago Preschool has been asked to present two sessions at the upcoming early childhood **County Institute Day**. Session one will be led by Heather Santiemmo and focus on the Pyramid Model Implementation, which continues to thrive throughout the preschool. This framework/philosophy supports the promotion of healthy social emotional development. The session highlights nurturing and responsive

relationships, high quality supportive environments, targeted social emotional support and intensive interventions. To date we have 120 participants registered for this popular topic. Heather Santiemmo has presented on this topic with Rob Coroso, Director of the Pyramid Model Consortium, at the Sharing A Vision conference earlier this year. Presentations on the Pyramid Model have also taken place with the Kindergarten teachers at West Chicago and the ROE Early Childhood Collaboration. West Chicago is frequently asked to highlight the implementation of the Pyramid Model both formally and informally. Session two will cover how to data electronically. This session will show how to work smarter not harder, while collecting important data to help drive impactful decisions. Two of the Special Education Facilitators will be presenting on this topic at the ASCD conference in March.

Consent Agenda

The Board of Education conducted the following business on a consent agenda as follows:

- Approved the regular board meeting minutes of January 16, 2020, February 6, 2020 and Special Board meeting minutes of January 16, 2020 and January 30, 2020 as presented;
- Approved the list of bills dated January 10, 2020, through February 13, 2020 in the amount of $2,756,534.94;
- Approved payrolls of January 15, 2020, $$1,685,146.63 and January 31, 2020 $1,690,658.32;
- Approved imprest account January 9, 2020 to February 12, 2020 in the amount of $840.00;
- Approved the personnel report:
  0 Certified:
  1 Classified: Aracely Avila, Translator at Leman Middle School effective 02/03/2020
  0 Transfer:
  3 Resignation: Rylie Orphan, ELS Paraprofessional at Wegner effective 02/14/2020; Nicole Toth, Social Worker at Indian Knoll effective 02/18/2020; Cecilia Patino ESL/Science Teacher at Leman Middle School effective 02/24/2020
  1 Retirement: Michelle Fortman, Secretary to the Superintendent at the ESC effective 02/14/2020

- Approved the disposition of audio tape of the Board of Education regular closed session meetings of August 2, 2018 and August 16, 2018, which is at least 18 months old, which meets the State criteria.

Financial Reports

- The Board of Education reviewed the Treasurers' Report and Budget Report as of January 31, 2020, along with financial charts.
- The Board received a summary of each school's monthly activity account as of January 31, 2020.

Discussion of New /Ongoing Business with Possible Action

- *2nd Reading of Policy Manual for Pending Adoption*
  The Board voted to approve the Policy Manual

Action Items

The Board of Education took action on the following items:

- Approved Property Tax Abatement Resolution.
- Approved the Board Governance documents.
- Approved Ratification of Issuance of Trespass Notice

Information Items

The Board of Education received/reviewed/discussed the following informational items:

- Future Problem Solvers Regional Competition future qualification for State Bowl on April 17 & 18th
- Most current posting of available job positions in School District 33;
- Short term maternity leave report;
- Student Chronic Absenteeism report from January 7, 2020 – February 10, 2020 noting the percent of Elementary students chronically absent is 13.4% and Middle School student chronically absent is 13.4%.
- Student suspension report of January 2020, indicating 8 out of school, 4 in school suspensions, 18 students in LMS Pause Room and 0 bus suspensions;
- Truancy referral report of January 2020 indicating 20 new students referred to the ROE and 12 students continue to be listed on the ROE truancy referral report;
- Freedom of information report, noting that there were 2 request since the last board meeting;
- Special education student report indicating 43 students placed out of district as of February 12, 2020;
- Human Resources provided Projected Enrollment and Staffing numbers for 2020-21
- Received school newsletters;
- No suggested agenda items for the next board meeting;
- No Board outreach discussed;
- Parking lot item – Social and Emotional Teachers and Curriculum.

Report of District Committee Meetings

- Strategic Planning – Agenda and Survey results were attached for viewing. Next meeting, April 22
- PTO Council –
- MTSS – Brenda Vishanoff attended
- Open Comments – No open comments.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

The Board of Education members reviewed upcoming meetings and events.

Adjournment

The above review of action taken by the Board of Education at their regular meeting is provided in an attempt to keep you informed. If you have any questions regarding any of the information provided or wish to discuss any of the items, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Respectfully,

Kristina Davis
Superintendent of Schools

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