WEST CHICAGO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 33
Dr. Charles W. Johns, Superintendent
February 7, 2019 Board Briefs

Gil Wagner, Board President
Phebe Balzer, Board Secretary
Christian Rivera, Board Member

Dave Barclay, Board Member
Kalpesh Dave, Board Member
Chad McLean, Board Member
Brenda Vishanoff, Board Member

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Thursday, January 7, 2019 beginning at 7:01 p.m.

Board members in attendance: Phebe Balzer, Gil Wagner, Dave Barclay, Chad McLean, Kalpesh Dave and Brenda Vishanoff.

Appoint New Board Member
Mrs. Phebe Balzer administered the oath of office to Mr. Christian Rivera to serve as a board member until April, 2021, filling the unexpired term of Karina Villa who resigned on January 7, 2019. The Board voted Mrs. Brenda Vishanoff to fill the vacant Vice President role.

Additions/Changes to Agenda
Dr. Charles Johns moved VI. Recognition/Showcase/Presentation # B2. American Reading Company to X. Discussion of New / Ongoing Business with Possible Action as discussion item #C with the following discussion items to follow.

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 agreements is to help maintain a positive environment in which to conduct board work. Chad McLean reflected on Shared Agreement #5. Commit to shared leadership. "This shared agreement is needed to represent all school district constituents equally. This board must work together, using our individual diversity to strike the best balance for all D33 community members, students, staff and administration. Each board member needs to show leadership by contributing to make the best possible board decisions. I am glad to welcome Christian Rivera to the board. I am looking forward to Christian's contribution to our shared leadership."

Recognition/Showcase/Presentation

Showcase – Currier School Math Games

Mr. Mark Truckenbrod, Principal of Currier School, Ms. Whitnie Del Toro, Gifted Teacher at Currier School and two 5th grade students, taught board members math games using a deck of cards. Their mission is to extend the curriculum into the homes of families by teaching their parents, siblings and friends these Eureka Math Card Games.

Presentation – Financial Big Picture

Mr. John Haffner, Executive Director of Business and Operations, presented the district's current financial status. With keeping the four goals of our strategic plan in mind, Mr. Haffner covered the following: Operating Fund Balance (Reserves), Long Term Facilities Plan, Property Tax Rate, Property Tax Relief Grant, Property Tax Abatement, Debt, Union Contracts, 5 Year Budget Projections, Evidence Based Funding and Adequacy.

E.T.A.W.C. Statement

Julie King, Vice President of ETAWC, welcomed Christian Rivera to the Board of Education and congratulated Brenda Vishanoff in her new role as Vice President of the Board of Education.

Public Comment

There was no public comment at this meeting.

Superintendent News

The Superintendent News is to update the board and community on some of the many programs and activities occurring in the schools and the departments that are determined to help us accomplish the goals of the District Strategic Plan. Currier School was highlighted at this board meeting:

At Currier's Family Reading Night, 55 families participated. Families were able to take books to enhance their family libraries at home. During Math Night, over 100 family members and students attended. In addition to sharing fun and education, math computation games to be played at home, Tom Boyk, lead teacher for technology, provided parents with support in logging into and familiarizing themselves with Freckle.

Currier continues to work toward restorative practices that help students learn the social skills to navigate challenging circumstances. Our motto is, "Get Curious, Not Furious".

We target the motivation for behaviors through a reflective process, then conference, together, with both the victim and the accused. After reviewing their reflections, we make calls home to review with family, explaining the reflection sheet and that their child will take it home for a final review between the child and caregiver. It is our belief that this approach to discipline fosters a sense of responsibility for our entire community of learners, developing empathy and compassion for making better choices in the future.

During January and February, Mr. Truckenbrod will be visiting 4th and 5th grade Health/SEL classes to review cyber bullying and the challenges of social media among students in schools.

Currier's Point of Pride is very excited with the progress that they are making with our most challenged attendance concerns. It is their hope to see this momentum continue, and gets better at meeting the needs of families. Currier is hosting monthly attendance assemblies that will recognize perfect attendance for the month as well as the top grade level, to raise awareness of the importance of being at school.

Discussion of New / Ongoing Business with Possible Action

Presentation follow-up

There was no presentation follow ups.

Facilities/Finance Update

John Haffner, Executive Director of Business and Operations reported since the last board meeting, we received $162,096 for the Pre-School Expansion Grant, $279,921 in Special Education Transportation, $310,433 in regular Transportation and $1,072,120 in Evidence Base Funding.

Presentation – American Reading Company (ARC)

Kristina Davis, Assistant Superintendent for Learning, presented to the board considerations to keep in mind before voting on adopting this K-8 reading resource at the February 21, 2019 board meeting.

Second Reading of Policies
The Board of Education conducted a second reading and approved the following School Board Policies: 2.80 - Board member oath and conduct, 2.120 - Board member development, 4.130 - Free and reduced-price food services, 4.170 – Safety, 5.30 - Hiring process and criteria, 5.60 – Expenses, 5.100 - Staff development program, 5.220 - Substitute teachers, 6.60 - Curriculum content, 7.70- Attendance and truancy, 7.100 - Health, eye, and dental examinations; immunizations; and exclusion of students, 7.190 - Student behavior, 7.250 - Student support services, 7.260 - Exemption from physical education, 7.290 - Suicide and depression awareness and prevention and 7.305 - Student athlete concussions and head injuries.

Authorize disposal of unneeded equipment/materials
The Board approved the disposal of unneeded equipment and/or materials that are inoperable or too costly to repair.

Property Tax Relief Grant
Mr. John Haffner explained to the Board that District33 did not qualify for a Property Tax Relief Grant from the State for this year. A decision on this particular abatement for this year must be made no later than the February 21, 2019 board meeting. Mr. Haffner continued to explain that any decision on current or future Property Tax Abatements will affect future administrations and BOEs. Dollars abated will lower property tax rates now but must continue to be abated each year going forward otherwise a "spike" in taxes and tax rate will occur once the abatement stops.
Administration is also asking the BOE to develop a long term philosophy (10 years or more), similar to the Long Term Facilities Plan, regarding any future Property Tax Abatements.

Department of Learning Job Descriptions & Title Changes
Ms. Kristina Davis explained how changing the title of Director of Second Language to Director of Teaching and Learning, and the title of Coordinator of Teaching &Learning to Coordinator of Second Language Learners would create a succession pathway for in-district administrators and fulfill Strategic Plan Goal # - Student Growth and Achievement and Goal #2 – Retain High Quality.

LMS Exploratories
Lea DeLuca, LMS Principal and Maggie Lay, LMS Assistant Principal explained the proposed exploratories of the master schedule change for 2019-2020 school year. The Board will vote on this at the February 21, 2019 board meeting.

Action Items
The Board of Education took action on the following items:

- *Approved the Personnel report:*
  4 Classified: Maria Herrera, ELS Paraprofessional at ELC effective 1/16/2019 - Daisy Castro, Utility Custodian at IK effective 1/14/2019 - Christina Cortez, Translator district wide, effective 1/29/2019 and Ana Aviles, Clerical Aide/Lunchroom Supervisor at Wegner effective 1/29/2019.
  1 Resignations: Irma Cabral, Utility Custodian effective 1/25/19.
  2 Retirements: Debra Cicchetti, ELS Paraprofessional at Pioneer effective 1/9/2019 and Deb Kowske, PreK Teacher at ELC effective 2021-2022 SY.
  1 Leave: Belen Chavez, ELS Paraprofessional at IK effective 1/9/19 - 2/1/19.

- *Approved Enrollment/Staffing Guidelines for 2019-2020 school year*
  The Board of Education approved the staffing and enrollment guidelines for the 2019-2020 school year.

- *Approve 2019-2020 District 33 Board of Education Meeting Dates*
  The Board of Education approved the Board of Education meeting dates for the 2019-2020 school year.

Information Items

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

- Most current posting of available job positions in School District 33;
- Received a summary of building activities to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's birthday;
- No Board outreach.
- Received Indian Knoll Principal's newsletter;
- No Parking Lot items were discussed.

Report of District Committee Meetings

- SASED Board of Control & Governing Board – Gil Wagner attended both meetings where they discussed their budgets.
- LEND – Dr. Charles Johns attend the January 25, 2019 LEND meeting where they met new local county legislators including our past board member, State Representative Karina Villa. Our county will be well representation in Education.
- Leman Academic Leadership Council – No report due to the presentations at this meeting.
- Open Comments – Brenda Vishanoff started a discussion on how to prepare new board members for serving on the board. Gil Wagner proposed moving the April 18, 2019 to April 25, 2019 to seat the new board members after the April 2, 2019 elections. Dr. Johns questioned if any board member would be absent at the February 21, 2019 meeting and if so, are they able to call in.

Review of 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,

Dr. Charles W. Johns
Superintendent of Schools

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