WEST CHICAGO ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL DISTRICT 33
Dr. Charles W. Johns, Superintendent
March 21, 2019 Board Briefs

Gil Wagner, Board President
Phebe Balzer, Board Secretary
Brenda Vishanoff, Board Member

Dave Barclay, Board Member
Kalpesh Dave, Board Member
Chad McLean, Board Member
Christian Rivera, Board Member

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Thursday, March 21, 2019 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

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

Changes to Agenda
Dr. Charles Johns, Superintendent, added a discussion item, Student Discipline Issue, to XVII. Closed Session. Phebe Balzer added, IASB Legislative Update, to XII. Discussion of New/Ongoing Business with Possible Action as item #J.

Public Hearing to Consider Waiver Application
The Board of Education held a public hearing for the purpose of requesting a waiver in order for the school district to hold 2 full day school improvement days during the school year. Dr. Charles Johns, Superintendent, gave a description of the waiver proposal. There were no oral or written comments pertaining to the waiver request, and no one spoke against the waiver request. The public hearing was concluded.

Approve Authorization for Submission of Waiver Application
The Board of Education approved submission of the application to request a waiver in order for West Chicago Elementary School District 33 to hold 2 full day school improvement days during the school year.

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. Dave Barclay shared this statement," In a few weeks my time on the on the board will come to an end. This experience has been very rewarding to me personally. A strong public education system is, in my opinion, one of the most important functions in our democracy. Equal educational opportunity for everyone is the most powerful and most cost-effective way to improve our country and our community. And, we have an obligation to provide the next generation with the tools and information they need to blossom, compete, thrive, and enjoy life in our society.

Our shared agreements have been a very useful guide to keep us on track in our mission. I would like to share three points which I view as very important to our boards' ongoing success. I am sure you will recognize these in our shared agreements.
Most importantly, our first question for each business item or decision should always be "What is best for the kids?" It is hard to go far wrong when we keep this foremost in our thoughts. Second, we should seek to listen and understand all points of view on an issue. When we do this, we make better decisions. I have always considered a split 4-3 vote by the board to be failure to find the best solution. It is a symptom that more information is needed or a better approach exists.
Finally, we should trust and empower our staff to do their jobs. As a board we need to set direction, insist on high goals, and provide necessary oversight. A board should avoid unnecessarily challenging implementation details. Frequently second-guessing decisions can lead to paths which the board will like rather than those which will best serve our students.
I have enjoyed my time on the board and I have learned a great deal from all of you serving with me. I am confident our district and our community will continue to grow and excel under your leadership."

Recognition/Showcase/Presentation
Presentation – Climate Survey Results
Beth Walrath, Director of Assessments & Accountability, presented the 18-19 district results of the CSCI Survey. This is the second year, staff, students, and parents completed the CSCI survey. Positive indicators changed slightly and last year's top three are still in the top six of indicators this year. Last year's and this year's 3 lowest ranked indicators remained the same. Reviewing the current survey for insights and information on the consistent lowest rated indicators will be an important part of selecting drivers and SIP SMART goals for the 2019-2020 school year.

Presentation – Assessment Changes for 2019-2020 School Year
Beth Walrath explained that the Assessments the District used routinely, will be changing because of updates to curriculum and changes in assessment availability. AIMSweb 1.0 is being discontinued by Pearson as of June 30, 2019. FAST (Formative Assessment System for Teachers) by FastBridge Learning was selected to replace AIMSweb because it would meet the needs of our MTSS process district wide. IRLA (Independent Reading Level Assessment) & ENIL (Evaluación del nivel Independiente de lectura) resources from the American Reading Company, will replace Fountas & Pinnell's reading assessment.

E.T.A.W.C. Statement
There was no ETAWC statement at this meeting.

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. Indian Knoll School was highlighted at this board meeting.
Students and staff have been celebrating great achievement after the Winter MAP assessments! From a baseline of 65% from the 2017-2018 school year, 71.5% of students in grades 1-5 met their expected growth targets in Math! From a baseline of 37% from the 2017-2018 school year, 44.1% of students are at or above the 50th percentile in Reading in grades 1-5 on the MAP assessment! Students and staff continue to set academic goals together, create plans for reaching these goals, and practice growth mindset strategies together to believe in the power of YET!

Consent Agenda
The Board of Education conducted the following business on a consent agenda as follows:
- Approved the regular board meeting minutes of February 21, 2019 and March 11, 2019 as presented;
- Approved the list of bills dated February 14, 2019, through March 13, 2019, in the amount of $ 1,783,415.92;
- Approved payrolls February 15, 2019 in the amount of $1,604,895.76 and February 28, 2019 in the amount of $1,584,854.32;
- Approved imprest account February 14, 2019 to March 13, 2019 in the amount of $1,345.00;
- Approved the personnel report:

6 Classified: William Shipp, Head Custodian (Floating) effective 3/11/2019 - Hiren Soni, Computer Aide Advanced at LMS effective 3/14/2019 - Kayla Grych Miranda, ELS Paraprofessional at Turner effective 3/14/2019 - Lesbia Molina, ELS Paraprofessional (Reading Assistant) at Currier effective 3/14/2019 - Sandra Garcia, ELS Paraprofessional at Turner effective 3/14/2019 and Reyna Pena Correa, Utility Custodian at IK/Tuner effective 3/25/2019;
1 Transfer: Jose Toxtle from Utility Custodian to Head Custodian at Gary effective 3/11/2019;
6 Resignations: Fabio Lorenzana, Head Custodian at Currier effective 3/25/2019 - Susan Ramel, Music Teacher at LMS effective 6/12/2019 - Susan Kos, Social Worker at ELC effective 6/12/2019 - Rita Butler, Science Teacher at LMS effective 6/12/2019 - Michelle Spatafora, Preschool Teacher in Winfield effective 6/12/2019 and Elizabeth Perez, Psychologist at Pioneer effective 6/12/2019;

- Approved the disposition of audio tapes of the Board of Education closed session meetings of September 7, 2017 (regular) and September 20, 2017 (regular) which are 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 February 28, 2019 along with the financial charts.
- The Board received a summary of each school's monthly activity account as of February 28, 2019.

Discussion of New /Ongoing Business with Possible Action

- *Presentation(s) Follow-Up*
  No presentation follow up at this meeting.
- *Custodial Supplies Bid 19-20*
  Mr. John Haffner reviewed 7 custodial supply bids for the 2019-2020 school year. The Board will vote to award bids on April 4, 2019.
- *Summer Facilities Projects Bid Recommendations 2019*
  John Haffner reviewed the bid recommendations from Arcon and Associates for summer 2019 facilities projects, and from United Analytical Services for asbestos abatement. The Board will vote to award bids on April 4, 2019.
- *Continuous employment of administrative staff*
  John Haffner distributed handouts to the Board and explained information regarding spending and revenue decisions compared to similar school districts.
  The Board will vote on April 4, 2019 to extend continuous employment to the following Administrative Staff for the 2019-2020 school year: Fred Cadena, Director of Facilities and Grounds - Lori Coomes-Barry, Coordinator of Student Services - Josephina Frankovich, Coordinator of Partnerships - John Haffner, Executive Director of Business & Operations - Marjory Lewe-Brady, Director of Partnerships - Katherine Niedorowski, Full Service Community School Coordinator - Suzanne Nissen, Director of Student Services - Sarah Norton, Full Service Community School Coordinator - Angelica Romano, Executive Director of Human Resources - Gina Steinbrecher, Community Relations Specialist - Ciara Thomas, Full Service Community School Coordinator - David Venchus, Director of Technology - Elizabeth Walrath, Director of Assessment & Accountability - Karen Apostoli, Principal Wegner - Lea DeLuca, Principal LMS - Stephanie Drake, Principal Gary - John Rodriguez, Principal Turner - Jennifer Tapia, Principal Indian Knoll - Gloria Trejo, Principal Pioneer - Mark Truckenbrod, Principal Currier - Sandra Warner, Principal ELC - Kellie Barros, Assistant Principal Currier - Jacqueline Campos, Assistant Principal Indian Knoll - Amie Correa, Assistant Principal LMS - Kevin Bulava, Assistant Principal LMS - Margaret Lay, Assistant Principal LMS - Mary Kassir, Assistant Principal Pioneer - Brian Marroquin, Assistant Principal Turner - Heather Santiemmo, Assistant Principal Winfield - Jamee Kenney, Assistant Principal Wegner - Antonio Diaz, Dean of Students LMS - David Serpas, Dean of Students LMS and Katey Baldassano 60% - Supervisor Birth - 3 St. Michael's.
- *Administration Compensation*
  Administration is requesting that the Board of Education continue with its long term salary matrix plan started in 2017-18 which would bring Administrator salaries up to market level over a period of time. For the 2019-20 school year, Administration is requesting up to a 6% salary increase (per the salary matrix guidelines).
- *Exempt Staff Compensation*
  Administration is recommending to the Board of Education, to extend continuous employment to exempt staff for the 2019-2020 year with a 4% salary increase.

- *Siemer Direct Assistance to Funding*
  WeGo Together is requesting a checking account for Direct Assistant funding of $16,000 from, a Siemer Grant. The funding is to provide crisis support to families who are at risk for homelessness or are currently homeless. The Board approved this request.
- *Revised 2018-2019 School Calendar*
  The Board approved the final amended 2018-2019 school calendar, which reflects one (4) emergency days used, resulting in the last day of student attendance for kindergarten through 7th grade to be Wednesday, June 12, 2019, 8th grade, Friday, June 7, 2019 and preschool Tuesday, June 11, 2019.
- *Research Proposal*
  The Board approved a research proposal submitted by Jennifer Shepherd, ESL Teacher at Wegner. The study offers the opportunity to learn a great deal about English Learner needs and effective programming. Research would be conducted under the supervision of Concordia University's Institutional Review Board, Professor Veronica Richard, and Beth Walrath, Director of Assessment and Accountability. Research findings will be shared with the Department for Learning.
- *IASB Legislative Update*
  Phebe Balzer reviewed IASB's recommendation to oppose a number of bills that include costly mandates on school districts and/or usurp a school board's local authority and decrease flexibility for boards to make decisions. The Board will write a letter to our State Representatives regarding, reverting back to a prescriptive five-clock hour minimum school day, consolidating school districts and the proposed requirement that at least 150 minutes of P.E. be provided weekly for each elementary school pupil.

Action Items

The Board of Education took action on the following items:

- Approved the staffing needs for the 19-20 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;
- Short term maternity leave report;
- Student attendance report for March 2019, noting the District's percent of attendance to be at 96.38% which does not include special education out-of-district attendance figures;
- Student suspension report of February 2019, indicating 14 out of school, 1 in school suspensions, 12 students in LMS Pause Room and 0 bus suspensions;
- Truancy referral report of February 2019 indicating 750 students nearing 5% days absent and 423 students at 10% or more days absent;
- Freedom of information report, noting that there was 5 request since the last board meeting;
- Special education student report indicating 43 students placed out of district as of March 12, 2019;
- No Board outreach;
- No school newsletters;
- No Parking Lot items discussed.

Report of District Committee Meetings

- PTO Council – No report.
- Foundation for Educational Excellence – Chad McLean reported that the Foundation approved a Teacher Mini Grant, discussed their fundraiser that was held at Augustino's and future fundraising opportunities. Their new website is just about ready to be launched.
- SASED Board of Control – No report;
- Open comments –Brenda Vishanoff requested the board receive a copy of the New Board Member Orientation packed and to add New Board Member Orientation to the April 4, 2019 Board of Education Agenda.

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

mf