WEST CHICAGO ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL DISTRICT 33
Dr. Charles W. Johns, Superintendent
October 4, 2018 Board Briefs

Gil Wagner, Board President
Karina Villa, Board Vice-President
Phebe Balzer, Board Secretary

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, October 4, 2018 beginning at 7:03 p.m.

Board members in attendance: Phebe Balzer, Gil Wagner, Dave Barclay, Brenda Vishanoff and Karina Villa.

Additions/Changes to Agenda
Dr. Charles Johns added, Recognition of a Staff Member, to Recognitions/Showcase/Presentation.

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. In the absence of Chad McLean, Gil Wagner read his reflection on *#1 Make decisions according to what is best for ALL District 33 students*. "This is our collective challenge as a school board. The scope is broad and many individuals are affected in different ways by our decisions. All the other shared agreements address how we build our personal relationships that contribute to meeting this agreement."

Recognition/Showcase/Presentation
Master Board Members - Recognition
Dr. Charles Johns recognized three board members, Brenda Vishanoff, Karina Villa and Phebe Balzer, who accomplished the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) Master Board Member program. The Illinois Association of School Boards recognizes board members through the Master Board Member program for the time and effort they devote to IASB leadership activities and service to the public education community.

Kristina Davis - Recognition
Dr. Charles Johns recognized Ms. Kristina Davis for receiving the Heritage Vanguard Award by the DuPage Mexican Cultural Center. Dr. Johns gave the following speech.

"It isn't very often that an Assistant Superintendent gets the recognition that she so deeply deserves. But tonight, I would like us to honor the commitment to District 33 shown by Ms. Kristina Davis. There is no question that the work of an Assistant Superintendent is often taken for granted, and so I'm about to do something that I know is the very last thing this she would like me to do. I'm going to make sure she's recognized for dedication to the staff, students and community of our district. Her dedication to District 33 can be seen in the implementation of some of the most incredible programming seen anywhere, both locally and across the country. As a result, she was recently recognized by the **DuPage Mexican Cultural Center with the Heritage Vanguard Award** for her work with District 33 in showcasing, celebrating, and fostering pride in the Mexican heritage and culture of students and helping to advance the success of Latino students. District 33 was the first school district in Illinois to implement LIA, which in large part can be attributed to the tireless efforts of Kristina's dedication to both cultural identity and educational equity for our students. She did this out of her quest to what's best for our students, their families and our community. She has put herself out in our community time and time again. She takes the time to listen to families, teachers, and most importantly students to drive opportunities that match their interests and needs. She has provided students a healthy outlet by which to express their cultural identity through the Mariachi group and the Ballet Folklórico. And this, translates not only to a sense of ownership and pride, but it also shows academic growth. Seeing the pride in our students as they perform, not only for our communities, but for our neighboring communities and districts is amazing. You've seen the videos of these programs and their impacts on entire families.

Kristina serves as a conduit from the governance team to the classroom. Her work, from a curricular standpoint, is often times difficult and requires the full effect of her leadership, and her efforts sometimes even thankless, but none of this has ever stopped her from giving teachers the gift of time by sacrificing her own. I know that I would be lost without her support and tirelessness. And never once, did she expect to be acknowledged for these efforts that went well above and beyond the curricular parameters of her job description with our District.

So please join with me, and our students who have enjoyed the fruits of Ms. Davis' efforts and congratulate her on the recognition as a true Heritage Vanguard leader."

ELC Home Visits – Showcase

Mrs. Sandy Warner, Principal of the Early Learning Center, shared with the Board, stories of the teacher's home visits at the beginning of the school year. The ELC staff visited all families before school so they could begin to develop relationships with the students and families. This was a huge success for students on the first day of school.

Arcon - Presentation

Representatives from Arcon presented a video on the completion of this 2018 summer's projects including what was budgeted and the final cost. The presentation also included a 1st look into the upcoming 2019 summer facilities projects including an estimate of the total cost.

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.
Project HOPE and Preschool are being highlighted at this board meeting:

Project HOPE
The Birth to Three Program had a busy summer. Three staff became certified Infant Massage Therapists. Staff attended an intense 3-day training, completed several in home practicum sessions and led a group to earn their certification. This is just one strategy the program can use to support parents in the earliest and most stressful days of parenthood. Staff will provide individual support to families on these techniques and group classes throughout the school year. One staff member became certified as an Ages and Stages trainer. This ensures all 0-3 staff complete developmental screenings with the highest level of accuracy. All children in the 0-3 program are screened every 6 months and the program provides free developmental screenings to anyone up to age 3 in the community.
72% of our families chose to continue summer visits. Most of these visits involved the whole family including elementary and middle school siblings. Home visits took place in the home, area parks, splash pads and the libraries. Over 400 home visits were completed during the summer. Project HOPE hosted 2 Read Under the Trees events at Reed Keppler Park. Around 100 people attended the two events. All children enjoyed leaving with a book! 170 parents, toddlers and school-aged children enjoyed a day of fun in the sun at Turtle Splash.

Preschool
The preschool teachers and staff completed home visits for their students prior to the students' first day of school. 319 out of 335 families (95%) received a home visit. 301 out of 335 families (89%) attended an orientation/slow start prior to the first day of school. Many families attended a Welcome Back Picnic prior to the start of school. All three of the above points contributed to the smoothest start of school that was ever had. Feedback from both parents and staff has been extremely positive. The preschool staff is participating in an ISBE pilot on Social/Emotional Learning. The pilot is entitled The Pyramid Model.

Discussion of New / Ongoing Business with Possible Action
Presentation follow-up
McAuley School - Dr. Johns reported that the tree that was endangering McAuley School was removed and that Mr. Haffner will be meeting with community member to discuss McAuley School.

Facilities/Finance Update
John Haffner, Executive Director of Business and Operations reported since the last board meeting, we received from the state, $1,072,120 for a total of $4,288,481 which is on time and the correct amount.

Seeding of Health Savings Accounts
Mr. Haffner reviewed past practice of seeding health savings accounts. Administration is asking the Board to consider seeding the HSA accounts at the current level of $675 for single coverage and $1,350 for family coverage for a period of two years per participating employee.

Blue Cross Blue Shield Renewal
Administration is asking the Board of Education to approve the Blue Cross Blue Shield renewal of health and dental insurance for the 2019 calendar year. The renewal this year is actually a decrease from last year of 0.1%.

Board of Education Self Evaluation
The Board discussed possible dates to schedule their Self Evaluation.

Appoint SASED Board of Control Representative
The board appointed Gil Wagner as the SASED Board of Control representative to replace Karina Villa who resigned as District 33's representative. Brenda Vishanoff was appointed as the alternate representative.

Action Items
The Board of Education took action on the following items:
-Approved the Personnel report:
1 Certified: Elizabeth Chipchak, Psychologist at Turner;
1 Classified: Socorro Burciaga, Translator, effective 10/1/18;
3 Resignations: Muriel Miller, Paraprofessional at ELC effective June 1, 2018 – Yasmeen Ali, Computer Aide Advanced effective 9/18/18 and Aubrey Wimmer, Reading Aide at Currier effective 9/28/18.
- Approved policy sub-committee minutes of September 17, 2018.
- Approved extra duty assignments.

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 historical report on enrollment and staffing;
- Board outreach activities included Karina Villa attending Wegner's Curriculum night.
- Open Comments – Gil Wagner thanked John Haffner, Fred Cadena and the Facilities Committee for their work which resulted an amazing transformation of the buildings. Mr. Wagner also congratulated Ms. Kristina Davis on her Heritage Vanguard Award.

Report of District Committee Meetings

LEND – No report.

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,

Charles Johns

Dr. Charles W. Johns
Superintendent of Schools

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