WEST CHICAGO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 33
Dr. Charles W. Johns, Superintendent
April 4, 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, April 4, 2019 beginning at 7:01 p.m.

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

Additions/Changes to Agenda
Gil Wagner added E. Letter to State Representatives to item IX. Discussion of New/Ongoing Business with Possible Action.

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. Gil Wagner reflected on Shared Agreement #1. *Make decisions according to what is best for ALL District 33 students.* "I feel that is the most important thing, next to hiring a Superintendent, is making sure all decisions are best for every student in the district. This board has done a good job of that in the past 8 years while I've been on the board. We've always tried to put the best interest of the students first."

Recognition/Showcase/Presentation
Recognition – #D33Pride Awards
Gina Steinbrecher, Community Relations Specialist, presented the #D33Pride Awards to Jen Ptak, Parent at Indian Knoll, and Megan Czervionke, Art Teacher at Turner School for going above and beyond. #D33 Pride Awards are given to individuals or organizations that have made a significant impact on students, staff and families of District 33. These awards provide the opportunity to honor those who have "gone above and beyond" to support and enhance the work of promoting excellence in education.

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. Turner School was highlighted at this board meeting. Meeting Strategic Goal 1: Student Growth and Achievement: 90% of first Grade students met or exceeded their MAP Math scores from Fall to Winter. Kinder AIMSWEB scores for both English and Spanish speakers grew by 40% from Fall to Winter. Building wide Winter Reading scores had 61% of all students meeting or exceeding their growth goal. The attendance for the first 2 quarters of this school year are much better than the first 2 quarters of last school year. There have been 565 fewer absences this year, which is a 34% reduction! After School Clubs are in full swing at Turner. In a typical week, there are 10 after school clubs with approximately 165 students participating! Clubs engage students academically, physically, and socially/emotionally.
Meeting Strategic Goal 3: Family and Community Engagement: On Seesaw, staff has posted 12,540 items, 1027 comments and has had 4,101 parent visits and 5,540 likes. PTO Family Picnic where cultural diversity was celebrated through potluck. Fall Festival w/ Dia de los Muertos Theme, highlighted practices in Latin America. Box Tops for Education, raising money for the Tiger Token Store. Spring Family Fitness Challenge where students will participate with their families in fitness activities.

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 2 payment of Evidence Base Funding since the last meeting in the amount of $2,144,240.54. Total for the year received is $17,163,152.26.

2019-2020 School Calendar
The Board of Education approved a tentative 2019-2020 school calendar. Dates that are not expected to change are the following.
The First days of School:
1st - 8th Grades - September 3, 2019
Kindergarten - September 4, 2019
Preschool - September 10, 2019
Winter Break:
Mon, Dec 23, 2019 - Fri, Jan 3, 2020
Spring Break:
Mon, March 30 - Fri, April 3, 2020
Last Day of School (If NO Emergency Days Used)
Kindergarten through 7th Grades - Wed, June 10, 2020 (Half Day of School)
A complete calendar is expected to be approved at the next Board of Education meeting on April 25, 2019.

New Board Member Orientation
The Board of Education discussed their New Board Member Orientation packet to be distributed to new board members and put on the Board of Education page of District 33's website.

Letter to State Representatives
Dave Barclay, on behalf of the Board of Education, wrote a letter to our State Representatives:
Thank you for your service and for your commitment to education in Illinois. The Board of Education for West Chicago Elementary School District 33 requests that you vote NO on the upcoming Physical Education mandate (SB 1189 and HB 2234). We also do not support the 5-Hour Clock Day Minimum bill (SB 28) as it currently stands. We also have comments on school district consolidation (SB 1138 and HB 3053)
Physical Education (SB 1189 and HB 2234)
We urge you to vote NO on this bill.

Our district recognizes the importance of healthy lifestyles. We support a variety of programs to promote physical education – running clubs at our schools, a "Walk with the Mayor" program for families, and nutritional education as part of our "WEGO for Kids" initiative. PE is important to us.
We do not have the physical resources to support this mandate. We use our gyms as cafeterias. We would have to lengthen the school day and add an additional gym or multi-purpose room to each of our 6 elementary schools. Also, this bill would require the addition of 5 to 6 PE teachers.
5-Hour Clock Day Minimum (SB 28)
We urge you to amend this bill to include the provision for waivers that existed prior to the Evidence Based Funding bill. As it now stands, this bill would be costly for us and does not increase the quality of education.
Our district has longer school days than is mandated. In the past we applied for a waiver to substitute some of this additional time for 2 school days. Under this bill we would have to extend our school year 2 additional days. We have also implemented school improvement days as 2 full-days versus 4 half-days to better meet the needs of our community. Currently we apply for a waiver on school improvement days. This waiver capability is eliminated in this bill.
School District Consolidation (SB 1838 and HB 3053)
Our district has been involved in 2 consolidation studies/efforts in the past 20 years. Neither proved fruitful.
Our board supports the goals to reduce expenses, simplify, and lower property tax burdens, but our experience is that consoliding districts results in money flowing from wealthier districts to poorer districts. It creates winners and losers. While this is advantageous for districts like ours which have fewer financial resources than our neighboring districts, it is not a process which will succeed.
It is our belief that more effort must be expended on the equitable funding of school districts with less reliance on property taxes before consolidation efforts like these will prove fruitful. We applaud the move toward evidence-based funding, but there is still a big inequity gap which must be addressed.
Thank you for considering our concerns. We would love to have you come visit us anytime your schedule permits. If there is any other information we can provide, please let us know.
Sincerely,
Gil Wagner, School Board President
For and on behalf of West Chicago District #33 Board of Education

Action Items
The Board of Education took action on the following items:
Approved the Personnel Report
2 CLASSIFIED; Francisca Ojeda - Utility Custodian (Floater) at Currier/Gary effective 3/25/2019, Evelyn Aguilar - Lunchroom Supervisor at Wegner effective 4/1/2019;
4 RESIGNATIONS: Christine Osterman - .36 Psychologist at ELC effective 6/12/2019, Majd Alwan - ELS Paraprofessional at Wegner effective 3/22/2019, Maureen Tully - ELA Teacher at LMS effective 6/12/2019 and Emily Phamornsuwana - SEL Teacher at IK effective 6/12/2019.
Approved Interim Superintendent Contract
The Board of Education approved Kristina Davis' Interim Superintendent Contract for the 2019-2020 school year.
Approve 2019-2020 Custodial Supplies Bid
The Board of Education awarded the custodial supplies bid to the following vendors: Chemcraft $868.20, ProSource $20,139.75, Valdes Enterprises $12,320.75 and Warehouse Direct $45,893.00.
Approve Summer Facilities Projects Bid 2019
The Board awarded this summer's facilities projects to Arcon and Associates and asbestos abatement to United Analytical Services.
Approve Continuous Employment of Administrative Staff
The Board of Education approved the continuous employment of 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 at St. Michael's.

Approve Administrative Compensation

The Board of Education approve the 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 will receive, up to a 6% salary increase (per the salary matrix guidelines).

Approved Exempt Staff Compensation

The Board of Education approved continuous employment and a 4% salary increase to exempt staff for the 2019-2020 school year.

Approved Continuous Employment of Certified Staff

The Board of Education approved the continuous employment of certified personnel.

Approved RIF/Non-Renewal/Dismissal of Certified/Administrative Staff

The Board of Education approved the following: Honorable Dismissal of Jody Bovey, Mary Zimmerman and Wendy Perry. Non RIF of Lauren Finaldi Green and Margret McEvoy and the Non-Renewal of Jeanne Tunzi.

Information Items

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

- Most current posting of available job positions in School District 33;
- No Board outreach.
- Received Indian Knoll Principal's newsletter;
- No Parking Lot items were discussed.

Report of District Committee Meetings

- Open Comments – Brenda Vishanoff expressed thankfulness for Dave Barclay and Gil Wagner time on the board as this is their last meeting.

Review of Upcoming Meetings/Events

The Board of Education members reviewed upcoming meetings and events.

Please Note the next Board of Education meeting will be on:
April 25, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
Educational Service Center

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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