

**WESTERN SPRINGS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 101**

**JUNE 24, 2019
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Heidi Burtner brought before the Board the topic of McClure dance team and advocated for the support of building this team and finding the right sponsor. Ms. Burtner commented that her vision included a non-competitive dance team that would make the dance team an accessible activity for all McClure students. Ms. Burtner said that the dance team sign up had been posted and garnered 6 signatures, although a few additional students have expressed interest since the end of the school year.

The Board thanked Ms. Burtner for her comments and explained that the Board does not provide responses during the public comment period. The Board expressed its appreciation to Ms. Burtner for her overview and support of the dance team at McClure. The Board will ask the administrative team to consider her request, communicate as appropriate, and share developments with the Board.

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

Julie O'Connor, President, called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:45 p.m., in the McClure Junior High School Library Learning Center, 4225 Wolf Road, Western Springs, Illinois 60558.

Ms. O'Connor led the Board of Education and those in the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. O'Connor acknowledged the presence of Dr. Barnhart as well as many students and their families, and commented that after the student recognitions, there will be a brief recess for photographs of the students being recognized tonight.

On roll call, the following answered present: Meredith Adler, Meghan Cahill, Lisa Garvin, Kate Heit, Brett Lettiere, Julie O'Connor, and Caitlin Sendaydiego.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Garvin moved, seconded by Mrs. Sendaydiego to approve the minutes of the Regular and Closed Minutes from the Meeting of May 20, 2019.

On roll call, the following voted yes: Meredith Adler, Meghan Cahill, Lisa Garvin, Kate Heit, Brett Lettiere, Julie O'Connor, and Caitlin Sendaydiego.

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BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. O'Connor welcomed the students present who are being recognized for their successes in qualifying for the National History Bee and for inclusion in this year's District 101 Writing Anthology. She thanked the students and their families for attending. Ms. O'Connor thanked the administrative team for a successful ending to the 2018 - 2019 school year, even with the required graduation adjustments due to the 8th graders returning late from the Washington D.C. trip. Ms. O'Connor commented that it all worked out and graduation was a wonderful event.

Ms. O'Connor acknowledged that Mr. Todd McLawhorn, a dedicated D101 Board member for eight years whose service was completed at the end of April, had recently passed away. Ms. O'Connor noted that Todd had committed much time and talent to improving District 101 for students and staff and that the celebration of his life was a beautiful, fitting, and well-attended event. Ms. O'Connor shared that Todd will be missed by all of us.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Kindergarten Enrollment

Dr. Barnhart reported that kindergarten enrollment for the 2019 - 2020 school year had increased slightly since last month with 38 students at Field Park, 55 at Forest Hills and 67 at Laidlaw.

Principal Rachel Corrough sent a letter to parents of Forest Hills incoming kindergarteners informing them that the plan, at present, is to hold two kindergarten sections that will include two full-time veteran teaching assistants in the classroom with FH kindergarten teacher Angela Barritt. In the letter Principal Corrough also communicated that the District is prepared to add a third kindergarten section if numbers dictate that necessity moving forward.

Budget Update

Dr. Barnhart reported that the State education budget was approved with significant financial support and increases; however, D101 will not receive any of this increase as D101 is 92% funded from local (Western Springs) sources.

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Additionally, Dr. Barnhart commented that our fiscal year 2019 budget, which ends on June 30, 2019, is currently trending to come in between 1 - 2% below the budget presented and approved in September 2018.

Student Recognitions

Dr. Barnhart welcomed the students and families in attendance and shared that June is the last month of the Board hosting students for their outstanding academic and extracurricular accomplishments. Mrs. Lynn Rees was introduced to present the students who advanced to this year's National History Bee and Bowl.

Mrs. Rees shared that 9 of the 11 qualifying McClure students participated in the National History Bee and Bowl with 1600 students from across the United States. Mrs. Rees introduced the participating 6th - 8th graders, recognizing their individual levels of achievement and awards and congratulated the entire team for placing 24th in the nation. Mrs. Rees confided that the team was really proud of the fact that the McClure team was the only team to defeat the team who won the entire tournament. She concluded her remarks with sincere thanks to the families who helped the team prepare, transported them to competitions, and witnessed round after round of competition! She also thanked the Board for its long and continued support of the History Bee teams.

Dr. Barnhart commented that the recently graduated 8th graders have been strong leaders for this team and it certainly looks like incoming 7th- and 8th graders are prepared to assume this leadership role next year, as well. Dr. Barnhart thanked Mrs. Rees for all her hard work with the team.

Dr. Barnhart asked Field Park Principal Ashley Burger to introduce the second set of students being recognized tonight for their writing pieces being included as part of the Writing Anthology. Mrs. Burger explained that the Writing Anthology judges read each piece without knowledge of the author. Over 208 submissions were received this year. Mrs. Burger introduced each student, cited the piece for which they had won an award/recognition, and those in attendance were recognized by the Board and those gathered.

Ms. O'Connor thanked everyone for coming and commented that the work in the Writing Anthology is amazing, congratulated the History Bee students and thanked all the students for representing themselves and the District so well.

Ms. O'Connor also acknowledged that tonight would be the last Board meeting for Brad Promisel, as he is retiring as Principal of Field Park at month's end. Ms. O'Connor shared that the Board wishes him well as he moves into retirement. Mr. Promisel received a standing ovation from the Board members and all in attendance.

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ACTION ITEMS

Employment of Non-Certified Staff

Mrs. Garvin made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Sendaydiego, to approve the hiring of the following non-certified staff for the 2019 - 2020 school year: Marcia Bonanno, Kelly Fuhr, Kelly Lansing and Sarah Reynolds.

On roll call, the following voted yes: Meredith Adler, Meghan Cahill, Lisa Garvin, Kate Heit, Brett Lettiere, Julie O'Connor, and Caitlin Sendaydiego.

Employment of Certified Staff

Mrs. Sendaydiego made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Adler, to approve the hiring of the following certified staff for the 2019 - 2020 school year: Denise Consorti, 6/7th Grade Science Teacher at McClure; Mark Harris, 6/7th Grade Math Teacher and Math Interventionist at McClure; and Mark Yena, Physical Education/Health Teacher at McClure.

On roll call, the following voted yes: Meredith Adler, Meghan Cahill, Lisa Garvin, Kate Heit, Brett Lettiere, Julie O'Connor, and Caitlin Sendaydiego.

Approve Transportation Contract Amount for 2019 - 2020

Dr. Barnhart commented that the contract before the Board included a 4% increase over the previous year. However, Dr. Barnhart confirmed that nearby districts with similar bus route sizes were all incurring that same level of increase in bus transportation costs. Ms. O'Connor made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Garvin to approve the transportation contract with First Student for 2019 - 2020.

On roll call, the following voted yes: Meredith Adler, Meghan Cahill, Lisa Garvin, Kate Heit, Brett Lettiere, Julie O'Connor, and Caitlin Sendaydiego.

Approve TTO Pro-Rata Share

The Board discussed that it was a legal responsibility of the District to pay the TTO Pro-Rata Share invoice of over \$76,000 and acknowledged it was frustrating to be partially funding a lawsuit to which the District had, and has, no say in.

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Mrs. Sendaydiego made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Heit, to approve TTO Pro-Rata Share invoice.

On roll call, the following voted yes: Meredith Adler, Meghan Cahill, Lisa Garvin, Kate Heit, Brett Lettiere, Julie O'Connor, and Caitlin Sendaydiego.

Approve Evening Custodial Contracts 2019 - 2020

Dr. Barnhart commented that this would be the District's third year of partially outsourcing our evening custodial services and that the contract before the Board included a 1% renewal increase with Uni-Max. Dr. Barnhart reminded the Board that last year, this provider was the low-bidder of five responding custodial service groups.

Mrs. Garvin made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Heit to approve the Evening Custodial Contract for 2019 - 2020. On roll call, the following voted yes: Meredith Adler, Meghan Cahill, Lisa Garvin, Kate Heit, Brett Lettiere, Julie O'Connor, and Caitlin Sendaydiego.

Approve Tech Loan

Dr. Barnhart shared that the District had explored leasing new technology equipment for the District; however, financially it made the most sense to purchase the individual equipment for both staff and students, combine that purchase with necessary back-end technology needs, including updated Wifi access points, and include a new STEAM elective program out of Northwestern University for the 2019 - 2020 school year. After extensive legal review, it is proposed that the District approve a loan in the amount of \$500,000 from Heartland Bank.

Mrs. Sendaydiego made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Heit, to approve the Tech Loan.

On roll call, the following voted yes: Meredith Adler, Meghan Cahill, Lisa Garvin, Kate Heit, Brett Lettiere, Julie O'Connor, and Caitlin Sendaydiego

Approve CLIC Renewal for 2019 - 2020

Dr. Barnhart noted that the renewal for CLIC services included a 6% decrease in premiums for the next year. Ms. O'Connor made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Sendaydiego, to approve the CLIC Renewal contract.

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On roll call, the following voted yes: Meredith Adler, Meghan Cahill, Lisa Garvin, Kate Heit, Brett Lettiere, Julie O'Connor, and Caitlin Sendaydiego.

Approve DuPage/West Cook Intergovernmental Agreement

The Board acknowledged that minor changes, as recommended by LADSE, were incorporated into this agreement. Mrs. Garvin made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cahill, to approve the DuPage/West Cook Intergovernmental Agreement.

On roll call, the following voted yes: Meredith Adler, Meghan Cahill, Lisa Garvin, Kate Heit, Brett Lettiere, Julie O'Connor, and Caitlin Sendaydiego.

Authorize Preparation of Tentative Budget for Display in August

Ms. O'Connor made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Sendaydiego, to approve the preparation of a tentative budget for display in August 2019. All voted yes.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS

Education Committee

Mr. Lettiere, Education Committee Chair, no report.

Building Committee

Mrs. Adler, Building Committee Chair, reported that the McClure teacher lounge asbestos abatement would be completed within the week and that roof repairs were also being completed. Mrs. Adler commented that the Renovation For Innovation (R4I) efforts are well underway and that DLA was in the process of revising plans, with a focus to rebid the Field Park library renovation project in the fall.

Finance Committee

Mrs. Sendaydiego reported for the Finance Committee bills were as expected. Payments included the final Right At School lunch aides expenses, and included an annual pre-payment to LADSE. Mrs. Sendaydiego commented that she has been reading many positive online comments about people looking to come to Western Springs specifically for the special services we provide to students.

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Mrs. Sendaydiego moved to approve June 2019 expenditures and liabilities in the total amount of \$1,669,605.48 and Ms. O'Connor seconded the motion. On roll call, the following voted yes: Meredith Adler, Meghan Cahill, Lisa Garvin, Kate Heit, Brett Lettiere, Julie O'Connor, and Caitlin Sendaydiego

Mrs. Sendaydiego commented that the fund balance at the end of May is \$12,244,291.57, which is, as expected, approximately \$100,000 less than where we were last year at this time.

Policy/Legislative Committee

Mrs. Heit, Policy/Legislative Committee Chair, had no report.

Communications Committee

Mrs. Garvin, Communications Chair, reported that the newsletter was close to completion and that she would be reaching out to her committee for final comments before sending to the printer.

Educational Foundation

Ms. Cahill, Board liaison for the Western Springs Foundation for Educational Excellence (WSFEE), had no report.

CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. O'Connor noted there was no correspondence.

ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

At 7:32p.m., Ms. O'Connor requested a motion to adjourn to Closed Session for approximately 20 minutes to discuss personnel and legal matters. The Board will return to Open Session following Closed Session. Ms. Garvin made a motion and Mr. Lettiere seconded, to adjourn to Closed Session. On roll call, the following voted yes: Meredith Adler, Meghan Cahill, Lisa Garvin, Kate Heit, Brett Lettiere, Julie O'Connor, and Caitlin Sendaydiego.

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RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

At 7:40 p.m., Mrs. Sendaydiego moved to return to Regular Session. Mrs. Heit seconded the motion. On roll call, the following voted yes: Meredith Adler, Meghan Cahill, Lisa Garvin, Kate Heit, Brett Lettiere, Julie O'Connor, and Caitlin Sendaydiego.

OTHER

Board Self-Assessment

Ms. O'Connor led a brief discussion of this topic with the full Board. She included that Board planning, processes, and work focus are all areas for consideration in the Board's work on assessing and improving its work. While normally a summer topic of discussion for the Board, given the Board's recent membership turnover, we might be best served revisiting this topic some time around December. A short discussion followed, including the possibility of holding an in-depth session on financial responsibilities of the Board members.

Newsletter Discussion

Mrs. Garvin briefly overviewed a proposed process for bringing the Communications Committee together for final review of the newsletter draft prior to sending it for final printing and distribution to the community. A short discussion followed.

Student & District Performance Date - Update & Discussion

Drs. Barnhart and Coffey reviewed a myriad of student performance data with the Board, including Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) preliminary results, Cognitive Growth Index (CGI) MAP results for the 2018-19 school year, Student Climate Survey results, and Pay For Performance results over time. An interactive discussion ensued.

Aegis Update

Dr. Barnhart updated the Board on our continuing informal partnership with Aegis. He talked through our experiences thus far with false-positive results, communication efforts between Aegis and D101, and general plans moving forward. A short conversation followed, with an overall feeling that continuing the partnership provides another layer of support and security, but that cost/benefit must be taken into consideration before moving forward in any substantive manner.

ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING

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At 8:59 p.m., Mrs. Heit moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Cahill seconded the motion, and all voted yes.



Brian T. Barnhart, Ph.D.
Board of Education Secretary



Julie O'Connor
Board of Education President