

BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT 27
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Public Hearing of 08/06/20 The Public Hearing/Regular Meeting Minutes of August 6, 2020 of the Board of Education, School District 27 was called to order virtually at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call On call of the roll, the following members were present:

Present: Mrs. Helen Melnick, president
 Mr. Alex Frum, vice president
 Mrs. Laurie Garber-Amram
 Mrs. Martha Carlos
 Mrs. Melissa Copeland
 Mr. Ed Feld
 Mr. Brian Paich

Staff: Dr. David Kroeze, superintendent
 Dr. Kimberly Arakelian, assistant superintendent
 Dr. Theresa Fournier, assistant superintendent
 Dr. Katharine Olson, assistant superintendent

Absent: None

President Melnick called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Feld reported on the July 20, 2020 NSSD Leadership Council Meeting. NSSD will be receiving no funding through the CARES ACT for PPE. The Cares Act comes out of Title I Funding and NSSD does not receive Title I Funds. NSSD also discussed the plan for the reopening of schools. NSSD will begin remote learning between August 20, 2020 and September 4, 2020. On September 8th, a hybrid program will be put in place.

Community Comments

Mrs. Melnick stated that questions had been submitted prior to the meeting. Dr. Kroeze stated that the questions that have already come in have been placed in the parent document and the responses will be put on the FAQ section on the District website. We will also make a personal contact with those that have asked a question. Dr. Fournier has the questions, and will read them aloud indicating who has submitted. We will get them on the FAQ tomorrow. We add to the FAQ every day and put new additions in red.

Dr. Fournier stated the first question was from Laura Schwartzwald asking what percentage of students are remote only. Laura Schwartzwald also asked what percentage of teachers are remote only vs. support staff remote only. Another question also by Laura Schwartzwald asking why is or isn't the District putting up plastic/plexiglass shields at student workstations as they have done for

the office staff, and if this is due to a lack of funding, the PTA may be a willing partner for a fundraiser. Laura Schwartzwald also asked why the district is allowing people in the classroom with a mask exemption? Why can't the accommodation be a remote option as the CDC recommends wearing a mask. Other districts have engaged legal counsel to address this as the safety of other people in the building would be compromised if all persons are not in masks.

Dr. Fournier stated a question was submitted by Kim Zlatin. She would like more clarification on why we are not utilizing classrooms for lunch. Is it a staffing or supervision issue? This is one area that gives me pause and I know it has been the feedback I have received from other parents. While on paper we are following guidelines, it is also bringing together a group of up to 50 kids who aren't wearing masks for what is considered a prolonged period of time greater than 15 minutes in an enclosed area. Information is constantly changing on guidelines, so I feel that this is an unnecessary exposure risk to our children with an expanded group of kids outside of their class. What are our barriers to having lunch in the classroom and giving the kids movement breaks in a safer environment where they don't have their masks off with up to 49 other children?

Dr. Fournier stated that there was a question in the Q & A this evening from Todd Sampson. It seems like the majority of the school districts around us are starting the school year with 100% virtual learning and are currently focused on getting that plan up and running. What plans are in place in the event that our District needs to quickly pivot to 100% virtual? I am concerned that with the focus on in-person for District 27 we will fall behind other districts which are more focused on virtual in the event that we have to make that change.

Staff

The Staff provided an update on the planning for the start of school. Dr. Kroeze began by stating that all of the A-B schedules went out to the families on August 5th. They were well received by the families. He added that the Central Office felt it would be very helpful to the parents to present webinars for the parents next week to show what a day would look like, what a schedule would look like, and how the synchronous teaching will be accomplished. There will be four sessions next week, two on the 12th of August and two on the 13th of August. They will be targeted to specific audiences. On Wednesday, August 12th at 5:00 p.m., the webinar will be for the parents of children in kindergarten and first grade, and there will be a second webinar at 6:30 p.m. for the parents of students in 2nd grade through 5th grade. On Thursday, August 13th, at 5:00 p.m., the webinar will be for the parents of the sixth through eighth grade students, and at 6:30 p.m., the webinar will be for the parents of students who will be attending remotely.

Dr. Olson presented an update on the Curriculum and Professional Development. She began by updating the Board on the Summer Curriculum work. Four key highlights for summer projects were vertical articulation, curriculum prioritization, rethinking the routines and materials in the classroom, planning for the execution of lessons at the beginning of the school year. A year-long look was taken at the curriculum overall. Prioritized where we might be able to compact and potentially eliminate lessons. This model would be exactly the same if we go to 100% remote, or if we are teaching 50% or more students remotely every day.

Dr. Olson reported that the District has assigned a Coordinator for the remote learning students. We felt it would be highly beneficial for these students to be assigned to a staff member in addition

to their classroom teacher and a social worker. The Coordinator will be Mrs. Helene Spak. There are at this point approximately 180 students who have signed up for remote learning, which is approximately 13%. In grade levels it is about 11% to 15%.

Dr. Fournier reported to the Board that they would be approving 11 new employees this evening, four teachers, five instructional assistants, a Director of Communications, and a school nurse. We still need to hire five more instructional assistants. We did launch a round-up trying to recruit substitute teachers and volunteers. She added that New Teacher Academy begins the week of August 12 with a greater emphasis on Technology. A majority of the New Teacher Academy will be with the new teachers working with their mentors, working on curriculum and setting up for the new school year. There will be a total of nine new teachers this year. An average of students learning will be 11-15% and 3.8% of teachers will be teaching remotely, and 1.5% of staff will be working remotely.

Dr. Arakelian provided general updates on safety protocols, facilities, transportation and finance. The District is following IDPH, ISBE and CDC guidelines. We anticipate receiving updates to the IDPH and CDC guidelines at which time our guidelines will be adjusted. The kindergarten classes will be hosted by the Northbrook Park District Leisure Center for the 2020-2021 school year. The approval is on the Consent Agenda this evening. Illinois School Code requires that the District is in compliance. A Health/Life Safety inspection must be completed as well as a write-off from our architect. Dr. Arakelian wanted to publicly thank the Village of Northbrook. They have offered to let us use the Grainger facility to store District 27 equipment and materials that we needed to move out in order to adhere to the 6-foot physical distancing guidelines. They are providing this facility located at 1657 Shermer Road in Northbrook at no cost to the District.

Consent Agenda

Mrs. Melnick called for Review of the Consent Agenda items.

No. 18895 Approval of Hire of the Director of Communications

Mr. Paich moved and Mr. Frum seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the hire of Tarah O'Connell as the Director of Communications.

Name	Position	Location	Start Date	Salary
Tarah O'Connell	Director of Communications	District	8/12/2020	\$80K pro-rated

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Carlos, Mrs. Copeland Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

No. 18896**Approval of Hire of 3rd Grade Teacher .5 Reading L/A**

Mr. Paich moved and Mr. Frum seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the hire of a 3rd Grade Teacher .5 Reading/LA.

Name	Position	Location	Start Date	Salary
Alexandra Pena	3 rd Grade Teacher .5 Reading/LA	Shabonee	8/17/2020	MA Step 1

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Carlos, Mrs. Copeland Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

No. 18897**Approval of Hire of 5th Grade Teacher .5 Reading L/A**

Mr. Paich moved and Mr. Frum seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the hire of a 3rd Grade Teacher .5 Reading/LA.

Name	Position	Location	Start Date	Salary
Amy Sacia	5 th Grade Teacher .5 Reading/LA	Shabonee	8/17/2020	BA Step 10

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Carlos, Mrs. Copeland Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

No. 18898**Approval of Hire of Spanish Teacher**

Mr. Paich moved and Mr. Frum seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the hire of a Spanish Teacher.

Name	Position	Location	Start Date	Salary
Maria Munoz	Spanish Teacher	Wood Oaks	8/17/2020	MA Step 5

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Carlos, Mrs. Copeland Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

No. 18899 Approval of Hire of Math/Science Teacher

Mr. Paich moved and Mr. Frum seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the hire of a Math/Science Teacher

Name	Position	Location	Start Date	Salary
Jennifer Long	Math/Science Teacher	Wood Oaks	8/17/2020	MA Step 9

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Carlos, Mrs. Copeland Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

No. 18900 Approval of Hire Instructional Assistant

Mr. Paich moved and Mr. Frum seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the hire of an Instructional Assistant

Name	Position	Location	Start Date	Salary
Austin Ihde	Instructional Assistant	Wood Oaks	8/17/2020	\$18.66 hr

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Carlos, Mrs. Copeland Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

No. 18901 Approval of Hire Instructional Assistant

Mr. Paich moved and Mr. Frum seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the hire of an Instructional Assistant

Name	Position	Location	Start Date	Salary
Kiera Abramson	Instructional Assistant	Hickory Point	8/17/2020	\$17.84 hr

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Carlos, Mrs. Copeland Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

No. 18902 Approval of Hire Instructional Assistant

Mr. Paich moved and Mr. Frum seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the hire of an Instructional Assistant

Name	Position	Location	Start Date	Salary
Una Ikanovic	Instructional Assistant	Hickory Point	8/17/2020	\$18.94 hr

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Carlos, Mrs. Copeland Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

No. 18903 Approval of Hire Instructional Assistant

Mr. Paich moved and Mr. Frum seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the hire of an Instructional Assistant

Name	Position	Location	Start Date	Salary
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Jennifer Massarelli	Instructional Assistant	Hickory Point	8/17/2020	\$19.80 hr
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On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Carlos, Mrs. Copeland Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

No. 18904 Approval of Hire Instructional Assistant

Mr. Paich moved and Mr. Frum seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the hire of an Instructional Assistant

Name	Position	Location	Start Date	Salary
Michelle Miller	Instructional Assistant	Hickory Point	8/17/2020	\$21.98 hr

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Carlos, Mrs. Copeland Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

No. 18905 Acceptance of Letter of Intent to Retire from Buffie Bolger

Mr. Paich moved and Mr. Frum seconded the motion that the Board of Education accept the letter of Intent to Retire from Beth-Lynn (Buffie) Bolger at the end of the 2020-2021 school year.

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Carlos, Mrs. Copeland Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

No. 18906 Approval of Hire of a School Nurse

Mr. Paich moved and Mr. Frum seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the hire of a School Nurse.

Name	Position	Location	Start Date	Salary
Kelly Curin	School Nurse	Hickory Point	8/12/2020	\$29.00 hr.

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Carlos, Mrs. Copeland Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

No. 18907 Approval of Revised Board of Education Policies

Mr. Paich moved and Mr. Frum seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Revised Board of Education Policies:

- Policy 4:170 – Operational Services: Safety and Security
- Policy 4:180 – Operational Services: Pandemic Preparedness; Management: and Recovery
- Policy 5:185 – General Personnel: Family and Medical Leave
- Administrative Procedure 6:20-AP: Administrative Procedure – Remote and/or Blended Remote Learning Day Plan(s)
- Policy 6:235 – Instruction: Acceptable Use Policy

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Carlos, Mrs. Copeland Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

No. 18908 Approval of the Amended Consolidated District Plan and Title I Grant

Mr. Paich moved and Mr. Frum seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Amended Consolidated District Plan and Title I Grant.

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Carlos, Mrs. Copeland Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

No. 18909 Approval of Temporary Facility (Leisure Center)

Mr. Paich moved and Mr. Frum seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Temporary Facility (Leisure Center).

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Carlos, Mrs. Copeland Mr. Feld, Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None

Good and Welfare

None

Closed Session

No. 18910 Board Adjourns to Closed Session

At 7:33 p.m. Mr. Feld moved and Mr. Paich seconded the motion that the Board of Education move into Closed Session for the purpose of security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property. Also to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation of specific employees of the public body, and the lease of real property for the use by the public body. Action will not be taken

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Carlos, Mrs. Copeland Mr. Feld,
Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

No. 18911 Board Returns from Closed Session

At 8:55 p.m., Mrs. Garber-Amram moved and Mr. Paich seconded the motion that the Board of Education returns from Closed Session.

On roll call vote, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mrs. Melnick, Mrs. Garber-Amram, Mrs. Carlos, Mrs. Copeland Mr. Feld,
Mr. Frum and Mr. Paich

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

Adjournment There being no further business to come before the Board at this time Mrs. Garber-Amram moved and Mr. Paich seconded the motion that the meeting is adjourned.

The motion was unanimously approved, and President Melnick called the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

CERTIFIED TO BE CORRECT:

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

MINUTES APPROVED ON 9/17/20