

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 27  
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Regular Meeting of 11/05/20      The regular meeting of November 5, 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

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 Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Communications

Search Firms Presentations

Presentations were made by the Search Firms that are interested in providing the Superintendent Search.

The following firms made presentations:

- Ray and Associates
  - Mr. Michael Collins, President
  - Ms. Molly Schwarzhoff, Executive Vice President
  - Mr. Craig Morris, Regional Search Associate
- Hazard, Young, Attea Associates
  - Dr. Max McGee, President
  - Dr. Ken Arndt, Consultant
  - Dr. Sharon Frys, Consultant
- School Exec Connect
  - Dr. Linda Yonke, Senior Associate

The Northbrook School District 27 Board of Education will decide amongst themselves which firm will seek out the most qualified superintendent for the District.

## Community Comments

None

## Communications

### Staff

Dr. Olson and Mrs. O'Connell reported on the Preliminary Parent/Staff Survey Results. The purpose of the survey was to gather feedback from parents and staff on their first seven weeks of school. The survey focused on information gathering regarding people's expectations, rather than a gauge on satisfaction. It also sought to understand areas where we could improve over hybrid model and practices. The survey topics included:

- Synchronous Learning
- Social-Emotional Well-Being
- Technology
- Communication
- Professional Development
- Safety
- Areas for Improvement

There were 782 responses (60%) from the parents. Parent key takeaways include:

- This school year has been in line with their expectations or better
- Their child's social-emotional well-being is in line with their expectations, and less than 15% of parents indicated a high level of stress related to remote learning.

There were 115 responses (80%) from the teachers. Key teacher takeaways include:

- A reasonable level of comfort with synchronous instruction
- Three-quarters of the teachers indicated the amount of planning time required for synchronous instruction is overwhelming and contributed to high stress levels.
- The teachers also feel well supported, but ongoing support by parents and administration will continue to be needed throughout the year.
- The teachers also have concerns about safety as positivity rates increase.

There were 43 responses (52%) from the support staff. Key support staff takeaways include:

- They feel comfortable supporting synchronous instruction and feel supported by the administration.
- They feel their stress level is manageable and like teachers, have concerns about their safety.

The Administration is submitting a waiver to add four WFS (Full Day School Improvement) days for staff. They will continue to evaluate the data, review the comments, identify sub-themes and determine possible action plans moving forward.

Dr. Kroeze provided the Board of Education with an update on the Cook County, Northfield Township, and surrounding area COVID-19 metrics. Dr. Kroeze reported that the mitigation measures in District 27 schools continue to work well. Although statewide cases continue to increase, Northfield Township is not yet in a moderate or substantial level of transmission. Dr. Kroeze advised he will continue to monitor the metrics in conjunction with surrounding superintendents and the Cook County Department of Public Health.

Consent Agenda

None

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Second Read of the 2021-2022 School Calendar

Dr. Kroeze stated that the Administration met with the Faculty Association regarding the calendar. The parent/teacher conferences have been moved down a week to October 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. October 11<sup>th</sup> will remain on the calendar as a holiday as it is a federal holiday.

Good and Welfare

None

Closed Session

None

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

The motion was unanimously approved, and President Melnick called the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

CERTIFIED TO BE CORRECT:

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY

**MINUTES APPROVED ON 12/17/20**