

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 208
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
Tuesday, January 12, 2010
Alumni Lounge**

The Tuesday, January 12, 2010, Regular meeting of the Board of Education, Township High School District 208, Cook County, Illinois, was called to order at 7:35 p.m. in the Alumni Lounge, Room 112, of the Riverside Brookfield Township High School building, by Mr. James Marciniak, President.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited.

The Secretary called the roll.

Board members present: Lawrence Herbst
 MariAnn Leibrandt
 Daniel Moon
 Matthew Sinde, Jr.
 Michael Welch
 James Marciniak, President

Board members absent: Sue Kleinmeyer

Also present: Mary Ann Nardi, Secretary and non-member

Administrators present: David J. Bonnette, Interim Superintendent
 Chris Whelton, Business Office Manager
 Tim Scanlon, Interim Principal

Others present: Kelly Sherman and Student Association Members
 Andy Totten, McHugh Construction
 John Beasley, Social Science Department
 Whitney Carlson, Social Science Department
 Eric Din, Student
 Charlie Rock, Student
 Alex Wilson, Student
 Edward Chapp
 Dawn Soprych
 Diane Chaney
 Bob Skolnik, *Landmark*
 RBTV Crew

Communications/Appearances Before the Board

Written communications received since the regular December 8, 2009, Board meeting were routinely shared with members on a weekly basis.

Student Association Report

Student Association representatives reported that a February 3 blood drive, the Turn-About Dance on February 20, and the Match Maker survey are the next activities. Mr. Marciniak thanked the students for their report.

Presentation, Social Science Department, John Beasley, Chair

Social Science Department Chair John Beasley used a PowerPoint presentation to highlight the Social Science Department's programs. Whitney Carlson supplemented his report by introducing three students, Eric Din, Charlie Rock, and Alex Wilson, who spoke about their experiences with their independent study of economics.

Testing Report

Mrs. Linda Gorman highlighted portions of the testing report on 2008-2009 student test results. Dr. Bonnette complimented the staff on their contribution to the successful test results. Mr.

Mr. Scanlon also complimented the staff for identifying student learning gaps and initiating prep programs to guide the students toward successful learning.

Freedom of Information Act Request, Bob Skolnik

Dr. Bonnette reported that Mr. Skolnik requested the report/response to Mr. Buttimer's grievance. Mr. Skolnik received a reply within the required time period.

Monthly Budget Report

The month-end summary financial statements reflecting year-to-date activity were shared with the Board. Mr. Whelton stated that this budget report reflects financial activity for 50 percent of the fiscal year 2009-10. Due to cost reductions, the expenditures at this point of the year are lower than in the past two years.

Board Committee Reports

The Curriculum Committee plans to meet before the end of January. Summer school, textbooks, and various other items will be discussed. Mr. Herbst stated that as construction is winding down, the CORE committee has not met as often. The Auditorium is the present major project. Mr. Sinde stated there were two "hiccups" in the project. The first was the rigging which came in around \$180,000. A consultant was brought in to look at it, and the cost was brought down considerably and kept within budget lines. The second problem occurred when work began on removal of the old lighting trough. Asbestos coated wire was discovered and handled accordingly. On a positive note, upon removal of the trough, the ornate plaster which had been obscured from view for years emerged basically undamaged. The new lighting will highlight the decorative elements of the auditorium's plaster. The Finance Committee reported that no questions were received from the Board members regarding the audit. The committee met a number of times to work on the five year projection which will be presented later in the meeting. Devoting time to critical matters left little time for other items the Finance Committee wants to push forward to the Board and Administration such as the Board's own area of the website. During the next two months the Finance Committee and Administration will be looking at more in depth numbers. The objective is to come together with some conclusive financial goals that will be presented to the Board. There is a need to meet as a committee of the whole to further delve into the financial matters of the District. There will be a LADSE meeting in the near future, and that report will be at the next regular meeting. As a follow up to the Community Legislative Council, Mr. Sinde, Mrs. Leibrandt, and Dr. Bonnette met with Senator Kimberly Lightford to work on legislation. Representative Zalewski put together legislation relative to finance issues with the purpose of receiving some relief at the state level in terms of property tax issues. Representative Zalewski's house bill will be presented in a February legislative session. RB committee members will testify at that session. The Personnel Committee reported that 30 candidates responded to the posting for principal. RB's reputation was a key factor in the large number of applicants. Out of the 30 applicants, HYA presented six candidates. On Friday evening and Saturday, the committee and Dr. Bonnette interviewed the six individuals and narrowed the list to three candidates. Individual interviews will be conducted on three days next week. A decision will be reached by the end of next week. The Policy Committee met on January 5 to review the latest packet of IASB PRESS Plus Policy updates for November and December. Also discussed was the policy on relationships and possible changes to the policy on volunteers. The policies will be presented later in the meeting.

Mr. Marciniak asked for updates on the Ad Hoc Committees. The Health and Safety Committee met last month and is meeting again tomorrow, January 13. The group went over different protocols and various items. Tomorrow they will get involved with some of the other information in the crisis management manual among other things. One outcome of the meeting will be concussion screenings by the trainer for athletes with possible head injuries. The Community Use of School Facilities Committee met last month resulting in a multitude of diverse, positive ideas. Mr. Kosirog presented information from other schools regarding rental rates. Mr. Stanovich and Mr. Duve volunteered their marketing skills to implement the goals of this committee. One goal is to educate the community on the new facility. The next meeting will be on January 14. The Student Conduct Code/Athletic Code Committee met last month. Their comments included: cyber areas; enforce the dress code; define and make information more readable and user friendly; if there is a student code of conduct and a code for everyone else participating in extra curricular activities; define when a student is on the clock and when

clock and when he/she is not on the clock in extra curricular activities; and how are parents made aware of the code. Mr. Scanlon gave the committee members an article which covered issues relating to participation and justifying a 24-7 policy. The next goal will be for the members to condense their area of focus to see what needs to be pushed forward. The next meeting is Thursday, January 14, 2010. Mr. Marciniak suggested that the committees choose a chairman as spokesperson and that a time boundary be set on when this Board expects a report. Dr. Bonnette suggested late February/early March to avoid lingering, to avoid overextending the efforts of community members, and to make some decisions so they will be in place for the coming year. Mr. Herbst commented on the amount of work required in the suggested time frame. It was agreed that two committees have larger charges, and that the April Board meeting will be more realistic.

Visitor Statements

Mr. Edward Chapp asked if there were any available positions on the committees. Mr. Marciniak explained that there was an application and selection window before the committees were established in December. At this point the committees are closed. He encouraged Mr. Chapp to contact Dr. Bonnette with any ideas he would like to submit.

Consent Agenda – Action Items

Mr. Sinde requested that the December 8, 2009, Regular Meeting minutes be removed.

RESOLUTION # 12219

Consent Agenda Items

Approval of Minutes
Payment of Bills

Mr. Welch moved the following:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, Township High School District 208, Cook County, Illinois, hereby takes the following action on the listed Consent Agenda items:

- A. Approves minutes from the meetings held on December 8, 2009, Closed Session, and January 5, 2010, Open and Closed Session.
- B. Approves payment of the bills as presented and listed in Section VII B.

Mr. Herbst seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the following members voted AYE:

Mr. Herbst, Mrs. Leibrandt, Mr. Moon, Mr. Sinde, Mr. Welch, and Mr. Marciniak

and the following voted NAY: None

and the following were ABSENT: Mrs. Kleinmeyer **The motion carried.**

RESOLUTION # 12220

Minutes, December 8, 2009, Open Session

Mr. Welch moved the following:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, Township High School District 208, Cook County, Illinois, hereby takes the following action to approve the minutes from the December 8, 2009, Regular meeting in open session.

Mrs. Leibrandt seconded the motion.

Upon call for discussion, Mr. Sinde requested that his comments regarding verification of certificates for all non-certified, non-teaching staff be included as discussion in Resolution #12213. The minutes will be amended and presented at the February 2010 Board meeting. The motion was withdrawn.

Old Business – Action Items

Curriculum Proposals

Dr. Bonnette summarized the two proposals presented for second reading and recommended adoption.

RESOLUTION # 12221 Curriculum Proposals

Mr. Sinde moved the following:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, Township High School District 208, Cook County, Illinois, approves the curriculum proposals Study Skills Experience and Chamber Orchestra as presented in the January 12, 2010, Board Agenda Packet.

Mrs. Leibrandt seconded the motion.

Upon call for discussion, Mr. Welch asked Mr. Scanlon about the second paragraph of his memo regarding weighted grades. Mr. Scanlon explained that the Leadership Council agreed not to create new courses that have an honors or AP weight until they have studied the whole question of weighted grades. Dr. Bonnette stated that when the Leadership Council has completed its study, it will go to the Curriculum Committee. Mr. Sinde also said that this topic is still in the discussion stage in the Curriculum Committee.

Upon roll call, the following members voted AYE:

Mr. Herbst, Mrs. Leibrandt, Mr. Moon, Mr. Sinde, Mr. Welch, and Mr. Marciniak

and the following voted NAY: None
and the following were ABSENT: Mrs. Kleinmeyer **The motion carried.**

PRESS Plus Policy Updates, September 2009

RESOLUTION # 12222 PRESS Plus Policy Updates, September 2009

Mrs. Leibrandt moved the following:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, Township High School District 208, Cook County, Illinois, approves the PRESS Plus Policy Updates, September 2009, as presented in the January 12, 2010, Board Agenda Packet.

Mr. Moon seconded the motion.

Upon call for discussion, Mr. Welch asked about obtaining hard copies of the policy updates. Dr. Bonnette said the PRESS Plus response forms were recently submitted to IASB. They will create a CD, and then we will put it on the website. Individuals who have a hard copy of the policy book will also be able to receive the updates at that time. Mr. Welch requested that he would like a hard copy of the updates. As we go forward, the updates will be sent to the IASB in a timely manner to ensure the policies on the web site and the hard copy manuals are kept current.

Upon roll call, the following members voted AYE:

Mr. Herbst, Mrs. Leibrandt, Mr. Moon, Mr. Sinde, Mr. Welch, and Mr. Marciniak

and the following voted NAY: None
and the following were ABSENT: Mrs. Kleinmeyer **The motion carried.**

Policy 6:250, Community Resource Persons and Volunteers

RESOLUTION # 12223 Policy 6:250, Community Resource Persons and
Volunteers

Mrs. Leibrandt moved the following:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, Township High School District 208, Cook County, Illinois, approves Policy 6:250, Community Resource Persons and Volunteers, as presented in the January 12, 2010, Board Agenda Packet.

Mr. Herbst seconded the motion.

Upon call for discussion, Mr. Sinde questioned #5 of the policy draft. He stressed that the responsibility needs to be on the volunteer to inform RB if they have had any criminal activity at all, and if they do not inform us, they should be banned for life from volunteer status. Mr. Sinde also commented on #6, volunteer coaches must comply with IHSA rules. He wants to make sure that it includes that they have to be certified. Mrs. Leibrandt commented on #8 regarding an orientation program for volunteers. Since all volunteers do not start at the beginning of the year, she suggested an informational video tape be created at RB for those who begin later in the year. Mrs. Leibrandt also had a suggestion regarding the volunteer agreement. A statement regarding acknowledgement of a background check and a space for signature would be desirable. Mr. Marciniak stated that the agreement is an administrative form and would not be considered part of the policy. It could be an exhibit that could be tweaked to meet our needs. Dr. Bonnette felt a statement that the volunteers have received a copy of the policy, and that they understand it would cover all areas of concern.

and upon roll call, the following members voted AYE:

Mr. Herbst, Mrs. Leibrandt, Mr. Moon, and Mr. Marciniak

and the following voted NAY: Mr. Sinde, Mr. Welch

and the following were ABSENT: Mrs. Kleinmeyer

The motion carried.

School Calendar, 2010-11

Holiday Schedule 2010-11

Dr. Bonnette reported that this is informational right now, and he will meet with the superintendents in the feeder districts in the near future to present the calendar. Mr. Welch would like an additional change to the calendar to include all non-attendance days in one spot. Dr. Bonnette suggested a note saying all shaded dates are non-attendance days.

Reduced Price Lunches

Dr. Bonnette said this item was discussed last month. This item was initiated by faculty because they noticed students going without lunches and there was an increase in free lunch applications. This would service approximately another 25-30 students and not adversely impact our Quest agreement and projected income for the lunch program this year. Mr. Sinde stated that Quest is picking up the cost.

RESOLUTION # 12224

Reduced Price Lunches

Mr. Sinde moved the following:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, Township High School District 208, Cook County, Illinois, approves an agreement with Quest to provide a reduced price lunch option for eligible students at a price rate of \$1.00 per meal on a trial basis for the remainder of the 2009-10 school year, as presented in the January 12, 2010, Board Agenda Packet.

Mr. Welch seconded the motion and upon roll call, the following members voted AYE:

Mr. Herbst, Mrs. Leibrandt, Mr. Moon, Mr. Sinde, Mr. Welch, and Mr. Marciniak

and the following voted NAY: None

and the following were ABSENT: Mrs. Kleinmeyer

The motion carried.

New Business

Ratification of Budget Change Order #13, James McHugh Construction Company

Mr. Andy Totten briefly explained each item of the next two budget change orders.

RESOLUTION # 12225

Ratification of Budget Change Order #13, James
McHugh Construction Company

Mr. Herbst moved the following:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, Township High School District 208, Cook County, Illinois, hereby ratifies Budget Change Order #13 to the James McHugh Construction Company and, furthermore, deduct the amount of \$628,963.00 to the Project Construction Contingency line item, all in the best interest of the District as presented in the January 12, 2010, Board Agenda packet.

Mrs. Leibrandt seconded the motion and upon roll call, the following members voted AYE:

Mr. Herbst, Mrs. Leibrandt, Mr. Moon, Mr. Sinde, Mr. Welch, and Mr. Marciniak

and the following voted NAY: None

and the following were ABSENT: Mrs. Kleinmeyer

The motion carried.

Ratification of Budget Change Order #14, James McHugh Construction Company

RESOLUTION # 12226

Ratification of Budget Change Order #14, James
McHugh Construction Company

Mr. Herbst moved the following:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, Township High School District 208, Cook County, Illinois, hereby authorizes an internal fund transfer from the Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment line item to the Project Construction Contingency as specified in Budget Change Order #14, and, furthermore, increases the Project Construction Contingency line item in the amount of \$635,000, all in the best interest of the District as presented in the January 12, 2010, Board Agenda packet.

Mr. Sinde seconded the motion and upon roll call, the following members voted AYE:

Mr. Herbst, Mrs. Leibrandt, Mr. Moon, Mr. Sinde, Mr. Welch, and Mr. Marciniak

and the following voted NAY: None

and the following were ABSENT: Mrs. Kleinmeyer

The motion carried.

Long Range Financial Projections, FY 2015

Dr. Bonnette made an informal presentation of the long range financial projections through the year 2015. A deficit spending pattern is projected which is due to decreased revenues in 2010-11. Dr. Bonnette stressed this is a financial projection, not a budget. There is still a lot of work to be done by looking at all expenditure areas and revenues options before coming back to the Board with next year's budget.

Board Policy Updates

PRESS Plus Policy Updates, November/December 2009 and

Policy 2.220, Board of Education Meeting Procedure

The policy updates are presented for a first reading. The updates for November/December 2009 are largely legislation driven. Some policies are checked for immediate adoption, such as the FOIA policies. Mr. Marciniak stated that the checked policies could be adopted this month and adopt the remaining items at a later date. Mrs. Leibrandt stated that we would have to comply with the FOIA regulations whether the policy was up to date or not. Dr. Bonnette said Transportation Policy 4:110 needed follow up. Discussion followed regarding Policy 2:220, Board of Education Meeting Procedure, focusing on the consent agenda and the visitors' statement sections of the Board meeting. Discussion followed. Mr. Marciniak suggested that the second visitors' statements be eliminated and move the remaining visitors' statements after roll call at the beginning of the meeting. Mr. Sinde and Mr. Welch favored retaining the second visitors' statements to ensure transparency. Mr. Marciniak stated that the second visitors'

visitors' statement section is after the new business. Any questions formulated should be investigated by the appropriate person in the chain of command between the meeting where new business is presented and the next meeting where the items are presented for consideration and a vote. Discussion followed regarding the pros and cons of keeping the second visitors' statements portion. Mr. Welch commented on the consent agenda and the time spent removing items. He stated that it would save time to go through the items individually for a vote. Mr. Marciniak said that the time saving aspect with regard to the consent agenda and other parts of the meeting is to take care of questions about details of the motions and items of business in advance. These two items will be on the February agenda.

Historic Properties Resolution

Dr. Bonnette gave a brief history of this resolution stating that the resolution has been adopted annually since the 1980s.

RESOLUTION # 12227

Historic Properties Resolution

A resolution to elect that certain assessment relief provided by the Revenue Act of 1939 for historic buildings not apply to taxes that are levied by the Board of Education of School District No. 208, Cook County, Illinois.

Mr. Sinde moved the following:

:

Be it resolved by the Board of Education of School District No. 208, Cook County, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1: This Board of Education finds as follows:

A. That the General Assembly of the State of Illinois has adopted Public Act 82-1023 (House Bill 1244 with Amendatory Veto changes) to add new Sections 20j-1 through 20j-8 (Chapter 120, paragraphs 501j-8, Illinois Revised Statutes) to the Revenue Act of 1939, as amended, to take effect on January 1, 1983.

B. That said legislation provides tax relief in the form of an eight-year freeze on the assessed valuation of certain single family residence property designated to be an historic building and issued a rehabilitation certificate following completion of certain restoration and rehabilitation actions.

C. Said legislation provides that any taxing district, such as this School District, may elect by a majority vote of its governing authority within the first thirty days of each calendar year, upon written notice to the County Clerk and the County Assessor, that the provisions of said Sections 20j-1 through 20j-8 shall not apply to taxes that are levied by this taxing District.

D. There are certain structures within that part of this School District located within the Village of Riverside and within a National Historic District known as the Riverside Landscape Architectural District which are or may be eligible for assessment relief pursuant to the provisions of Sections 20j-1 through 20j-8 of the Revenue Act of 1939, as amended.

E. This Board hereby determines that the application of such assessment relief to structures determined to be historic buildings within the boundaries of School District No. 208 will have an adverse impact on present levels of tax revenue and present levels of services provided by the District out of such revenue.

Section 2: This Board of Education does hereby elect that the provisions of Sections 20j-1 through 20j-8 of the Revenue Act of 1939, as amended, shall not apply to taxes that are levied by the Board of Education of School District No. 208, Cook County, Illinois.

Section 3: The Secretary of this Board is hereby authorized and directed to file a certified copy of this Resolution with the County Clerk and with the County Assessor of Cook County together with a notice addressed to the County Clerk and to the County Assessor of Cook County which shall be in substantially the following form:

Section 4: This Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon its adoption this 12th day of January, 2010.

Mrs. Leibrandt seconded the motion

Upon call for discussion, Mr. Moon asked if there is any advantage to the District. Mr. Marciniak, Mr. Sinde, and Mr. Herbst explained the purpose of this resolution and the possible burden historic property status would place on other tax payers.

and upon roll call, the following members voted AYE:

Mr. Herbst, Mrs. Leibrandt, Mr. Moon, Mr. Sinde, Mr. Welch, and Mr. Marciniak

and the following voted NAY: None
and the following were ABSENT: Mrs. Kleinmeyer **The motion carried.**

Trip Request, Cheerleading State Competition

RESOLUTION # 12228 Trip Request, Cheerleading State Competition

Mr. Welch moved the following:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, Township High School District 208, Cook County, Illinois, approves the overnight trip to the Illinois Cheerleading Coaches Association state competition in Springfield, Illinois, on February 13-14, 2010, as presented in the January 12, 2010, Board Agenda Packet.

Mrs. Leibrandt seconded the motion and upon roll call, the following members voted AYE:

Mr. Herbst, Mrs. Leibrandt, Mr. Moon, Mr. Sinde, Mr. Welch, and Mr. Marciniak

and the following voted NAY: None
and the following were ABSENT: Mrs. Kleinmeyer **The motion carried.**

Personnel Matters

Dr. Bonnette summarized the personnel items (maternity leave request, principal job description, and RBEA items) stating that they will be discussed further during the Closed Session.

Visitors Statements

There were no visitors' statements at this time.

Closed Session

A closed session was recommended for the purpose of considering appointment, employment or dismissal of employees, student disciplinary matters, and collective bargaining issues.

RESOLUTION # 12229 Closed Session

Mr. Moon moved the following:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, Township High School District 208, Cook County, Illinois, enters closed session for the purpose of considering appointment, employment or dismissal of employees, student disciplinary matters, and collective bargaining issues.

Mr. Sinde seconded the motion and upon roll call, the following members voted AYE:

Mr. Herbst, Mrs. Leibrandt, Mr. Moon, Mr. Sinde, Mr. Welch, and Mr. Marciniak

and the following voted NAY: None
and the following were ABSENT: Mrs. Kleinmeyer **The motion carried.**

The Board entered closed session at 10:17 p.m., reconvened in open session at 11:24 p.m. and took action on items of unfinished business.

Action/Information Following Closed Session

RESOLUTION #12230

Maternity Leave Request, Allison Cabaj

Mr. Herbst moved the following:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, Township High School District 208, Cook County, Illinois, approves the maternity leave request of Allison Cabaj, beginning on January 28, 2010 (due date), and returning on May 24, 2010, as presented and discussed during the January 12, 2010, closed session meeting.

Mr. Welch seconded the motion and upon roll call, the following members voted AYE:

Mr. Herbst, Mrs. Leibrandt, Mr. Moon, Mr. Sinde, Mr. Welch, and Mr. Marciniak

and the following voted NAY: None

and the following were ABSENT: Mrs. Kleinmeyer

The motion carried.

Adjournment

RESOLUTION #12231

Adjournment

It was moved by Mrs. Leibrandt and seconded by Mr. Herbst that the Regular January 12, 2010, Meeting of the Board of Education, Township High School District 208, Cook County, Illinois, be adjourned. All members present voted AYE, and the motion carried.

At 11:32 p.m. the President declared the meeting adjourned.