

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
January 22, 2007**

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

A Regular Business Meeting of the Board of Education of Lake Forest Community High School District #115, County of Lake, State of Illinois, was held on Monday, January 22, 2007 and called to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Lake Forest High School Library.

On Roll Call the following Members were found to be present:

Mary Ritter, Secretary	Dick Block, Member
Marilyn Harlow, Member	Jim Carey, Member
Sharon Golan, Member	Janet Nelson, President

Absent: Tom Neri, Vice President

Administration Present:

Dr. Harry Griffith, Superintendent
Jay Hoffmann, Principal
Allen Albus, Deputy Superintendent for Finance and Operations
Jennifer Hermes, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
Gary Pickens, Director of Technology
Thor Benson, Instructional Director, Math
Wendy Antrim, Instructional Director, Art, Business Education and
Telecom
Kyle Schumacher, Instructional Director, Music

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Janet Nelson welcomed everyone back from Winter Break and reported that the reconfiguration of the parking lot had been completed on-time over break. She thanked parents and visitors for their patience and cooperation and the Administration for communicating information on the new parking and traffic patterns. She also thanked Librarian, Kerry Flaherty and the library staff for extending library hours prior to and during first semester finals so that students would have the opportunity to study.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Griffith introduced Student Council President, Sarah Quon who reported on current student activities. Students are planning a dance on February 10th after the boy's Senior Night basketball game. Planning for Prom "Tonight Never Dies 007" is underway. Students continue to visit with senior citizens at Westmoreland.

Dr. Griffith reported that the district continues to reach out to local education and government entities to expand shared services and improve articulation. Educational opportunities for all levels of students and adults continue to evolve at Elawa Farms as the high school works with the City of Lake Forest. The existing Internet Consortium, a group with representatives from local government and education entities is discussing expansion beyond sharing technology resources to investigate opportunities to share food service, professional development and training and print services. A committee of neighboring school leaders and government officials has been formed to discuss long-term solutions to the possible loss of Federal Impact Aid to North Chicago schools. Dr. Griffith announced that administrative teams from Districts 115 and 67 will hold a mid-year team-building retreat in February.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no Public Participation

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Board Education Committee

Mrs. Ritter reported that the committee discussed the growing interest in offering Chinese. Brainstormers, an after school program at District 67, is offering Chinese this semester. Mr. Block said that the committee received an update on future plans for the auto shop during the construction this year and for next year. A sub-committee will study current best practice for related curriculum. Other items on the agenda included an update on construction activities, a discussion on West Campus and a presentation on the new Student Software System.

Board Operations Committee

Mrs. Harlow reported that the committee reviewed, discussed and endorsed design elements for the front façade of the school, the commons and the rear façade. Rather than introduce a new architectural element, glass walls will be installed in the front and rear. The rear design will be consistent with the existing façade. The two-level commons will feature neutral finishes and will be a bright open space infused with natural light from the new glass facades. The committee also discussed relocating the cell tower located on the smokestack to the roof-top once the smokestack is demolished. Renovation plans have been shared electronically with students in CADD classes and Science classes will study environmental issues as the project truly becomes a part of the curriculum. The committee reviewed the Performance Contract discussion and endorsed the contract. They also reviewed and endorsed the student information system plan. Mrs. Harlow reported that we are currently slightly under budget on the project. The district will also recognize a savings in the cost of asbestos abatement at West Campus as ceiling tiles suspected of containing asbestos were found to be asbestos free. The committee also reviewed preliminary plans for the administrative offices at West Campus.

Mr. Albus reported that \$3.3 in bid projects have been advertised. Bids received so far are under budget by \$185,000 and the project is on time. Construction updates are posted on the district's web page. The majority of the proceeds from the December 29th bond sale have been invested in CDs with additional investments in money markets and agency instruments.

Finance Committee

Mr. Carey announced that the next Finance Committee Meeting will be held on February 7th in the Superintendent's Conference room. Agenda items will include a discussion of the performance contract.

Joint Shared Services Committee

Mrs. Golan reported that members of Boards from Districts 115, 67 and 65 will hold a Tri-District get together. The JSSC discussed the lease agreement between Districts 115 and 67 for space at Deer Path over the summer. The high school will move summer school and administrative personnel to Deer Path while the high school building is under construction. The committee will receive an overview of the new student information package at their February 20th meeting.

Policy Committee:

There was no meeting this month.

REPORTS/DISCUSSION

Student Information System

Gary Pickens and Cornelius DuBose reported on the search for a new student information system to be used by Districts 115, 65 and 67. Over the past months, the SIS committee, comprised of 5 representatives from each district, met and prepared a request for proposals. After evaluating proposals submitted from various software companies, attending software demonstrations and visiting schools currently using the program, the committee has recommended the purchase of Power School Premier. The cost of the system will be split by the three districts on a per pupil basis. The new system will provide a secure, efficient way to share data. Approval of the new system will be an action item on the agenda at February Board of Education Meetings at all three districts.

Mathematics

Thor Benson, Math Department Instructional director presented an overview of his department. He reported that 99% of the total enrollment of 1752 students take math. Teachers in the math department have an average of 15.8 years of teaching experience. They man the Math Resource Center from 6:55 am until 4:05 pm and work on group projects with students, math related activities including the American Math Exam and student activities outside of the classroom, serving as coaches and club sponsors. They also sponsor and work on volunteer projects such as building a house with Habitat for Humanity. This summer, after a complete review of the department curriculum, a new sequence for accelerated freshman was developed and will be implemented beginning in the 2006-07 school year.

Electives

Wendy Antrim, Instructional Director of Art, Business Education and the Telecom Departments reported on elective offerings at the high school. Art is integrated throughout the school from the mural project to the student permanent art collection displayed throughout the school. Art students are encouraged to display at local art shows, design logos and posters for community organizations. They enter and win art competitions such as the National Library Legislative Day 2007 logo design contest. Teachers in the Art Department have an average of 18.5 years of experience and offer 38 semester sections.

The Business Education Department includes courses ranging from Intro to Business to Law Honors. A new course, business Technology, has been added to curriculum offerings this year to help fulfill the department's goal of increasing student use of technology in the learning process and increase community involvement through business partnerships.

The Telecom Department continues to develop new and relevant opportunities for students to be challenged in real-life media experiences. They research and network with excellent media programs from around the world and teach the skills students need to become critical viewers and consumer and producers of meaningful media. Students in Telecom have won awards from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences and the ChicagoLand Television Educators Council Festival.

Kyle Schumacher, Instructional Director of the Music Department, reported that under the guidance of the music instructional staff, band, orchestra and chorus students share their musical talents beyond the usual school activities to support school spirit and community pride at community functions. Department goals include increasing small ensemble opportunities for students, increasing music opportunities for students not in traditional music ensembles and refining and aligning the curriculum with elementary districts.

District Goal Setting

Mrs. Nelson presented the Board's goal setting and evaluation calendar for 2007-2008. The Board will hold a goal setting retreat in February or March, a Board self-evaluation in May and approve the 2007-08 budget in July.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Activity Bus Lease

The District currently leases two 14 passenger buses that are used to transport students to special events and activities and field trips. These buses are driven by trained district employees, are more economical and offer more flexibility than the using rented school buses. There is now a need for an additional bus. The Board's approval of this item will authorize the Treasurer to execute the new three-year lease agreements for all three buses.

MOTION: Mr. Block moved and Mr. Carey seconded that the Board of Education approve the three-year lease agreement for three activity busses and authorization for the Treasurer to execute the lease agreements as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

ROLL CALL: Aye: Block, Harlow, Carey, Golan, Ritter, Nelson
 Nay: None
 Absent: Neri

Motion Carried

Approval of Personnel Reports

MOTION: Mrs. Harlow moved and Mrs. Golan seconded that the Board of Education approve the Personnel Report as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

ROLL CALL: Aye: Harlow, Carey, Golan, Ritter, Block, Nelson
 Nay: None
 Absent: Neri

Motion Carried

CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Nelson reported that the Consent Agenda includes:

Approval of Payroll Clerk Beth Reich as Authorized IMRF Agent

Financial Reports:

Financial Reports: The List of Checks Written and Direct Deposit Payroll for December 7, 2006 to January 17, 2006 as follows:

Education Fund	\$ 1,139,836.74
Building and Maintenance Fund	573,505.68
Transportation Fund	96,961.55
Direct Deposit Payroll & Taxes	<u>1,912,968.23</u>
Total Expenditures	\$ 3,723,272,20

The Treasurer’s Report, Revenue/Expense Reports dated January 17, 2006 as presented. The Financial Report for the period ending January 17, 2006.

Minutes of the December 11, 2006 Regular Business meeting, the Executive Session of December 11, 2006 and the Executive Session of December 18, 2006.

MOTION: Mr. Carey moved and Mrs. Golan seconded that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

ROLL CALL: Aye: Harlow, Carey, Golan, Ritter, Block, Nelson
Nay: None
Absent: Neri

Motion Carried

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Mrs. Nelson announced that the next Regular Business Meeting will be held on Monday, February 12, 2007 in Council Chambers at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Carey moved seconded by Mr. Block that the Board of Education of Education adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education at 9:45 p.m.

On voice vote, the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.