

March 9, 2020

The Board of Education, Downers Grove Grade School District 58, DuPage County, Illinois met in regular session on Monday, March 9, 2020, at the Downers Grove Village Hall.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The President called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and announced that it was the regular monthly meeting of the District 58 Board of Education. Members present: President Darren Hughes; Vice President Gregory Harris; and Members Kirat Doshi, Emily Hanus, Steve Olczyk, Jill Samonte and Tracy Weiner. Members absent: None. Also in attendance were Kevin Russell, Superintendent; Jayne Yudzentis, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel; Jessica Stewart, Assistant Superintendent for Special Services; Justin Sisul, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Todd Drafall, Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO; James Eichmiller, Assistant Superintendent for Technology and Learning; Catherine Hannigan, Manager of Business Services; Kevin Barto, Director of Buildings and Grounds; Megan Hewitt, Coordinator of Community Relations; and Melissa Jerves, Board Secretary. Attending this meeting were at least 10 visitors.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Stephanie Dornan, assistant principal of Herrick Middle School, introduced student council officers Pallavi Fisher, Isabel Landman, Laura O'Neill, and Caralyn Fleming. The students led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. The officers explained their election process and how it mimics the electoral college system. Because there was a tie, they have two vice presidents. They talked about activities, fundraisers, and events for this school year including Red Ribbon Week, Fall Grams and Valentine Grams sales, the Giving Tree collection of winter wear for the West Suburban Community Pantry, the Snack Shack at Herrick home games, food drive for PADS, and Herrick school dance plans.

PTA Co-President Ann Cummins reported that the Herrick PTA supports the school with teacher appreciation lunches and activities, grandparents day for seventh graders, dance and etiquette classes, and parent education nights.

Assistant Principal Dornan presented a video with highlights from Herrick. She reported on strategic goal progress. Winter MAP data shows that Herrick scored in the 80th percentile in reading and the 78th percentile in math, exceeding District targets. Professional Learning Mondays have allowed teachers to collaborate and provide additional support for struggling students, and focus on issues of diversity, restorative practices,

student behavior, grading, homework and assessment practices. Herrick communicates through weekly newsletters to parents and students, while staff communicate with students and parents via email, Google Classroom, Powerschool, and telephone.

3. NON-ACTION REPORTS

A. "Spotlight on our Schools" – SEL Curricular Audit Update

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Justin Sisul began the presentation with a brief discussion of social-emotional learning (SEL) and its history in District 58, as well as noting the Illinois SEL learning standards. The District's SEL Curricular Audit Committee conducted a review of the strengths and deficits of the existing SEL instructional program, Second Step, and determined that it continues to align with state standards. The committee also recognized the value in evaluating the effectiveness of SEL instruction, and identified two assessment tools that align with Second Step. SEL assessments help measure students' skills and competencies aligned with the SEL learning standards. They are not a mental health assessment. The District piloted the two tools with students in committee members' homerooms. Assessments were administered in May 2019 and October 2019 with two different sets of students. Parents were notified of the pilot directly by the homeroom teachers and data privacy policies were shared. The assessments took students an average of 30 minutes to complete. Feedback from committee members after the pilot acknowledged that the Panorama tool most closely aligned with Second Step and the District's needs and purpose.

Assistant Superintendent for Special Services Jessica Stewart stated that Panorama allows students to self-reflect, monitors progress in SEL, and is aligned to the student competencies included in the state learning standards. Panorama is a strengths-based assessment, giving students the opportunity to self-reflect on their own skills. It is not a mental health assessment and does not ask for clinical behavioral data. The primary goal is to determine the effectiveness of Tier 1 (all students) instruction. The data helps identify student growth over time, and is not used to rank or group students.

The District proposes asking the Board to approve the purchase of Panorama at the April Board meeting, and then begin initial conversations with teachers around the use and purpose of Panorama. Full implementation training would take place in Fall 2020, with administration to begin in December to align with the winter benchmarking window. After some discussion, the Board requested more information and discussion at the April Board meeting, with the potential of an action item in May.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

Email Communications

1. Email from Tracy Lefko regarding kindergarten ~ *response from Board Secretary Melissa Jerves.*
2. Email from Chris Hanley forwarding MAP data corrections email.
3. Text messages from Amy Ihde regarding lice policy ~ *response from Board Member Tracy Weiner.*
4. Text messages from Margaret Geise regarding food allergy policies ~ *response from Board Member Tracy Weiner.*
5. Emails from Georgia Kaempf regarding bus stop incident ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
6. Email from Amy Vogt regarding school safety curriculum ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell.*
7. Text message from Anne Healy regarding sixth grade campus idea ~ *response from Board Member Tracy Weiner.*
8. Email from Mary Blanchard regarding community conversation event on needs of LGBTQ youth ~ *response from Board Member Tracy Weiner.*
9. Email from Mia Churma regarding Building Bridges ~ *response from Board Member Emily Hanus.*
10. Email from Carrie Blonigen regarding SEL assessments ~ *response from Board Member Kirat Doshi.*

Freedom of Information Act requests

1. Freedom of Information Act request from Nathan Mihelich/IRTA regarding upcoming certified staff retirements ~ *response from Board Secretary Melissa Jerves.*
2. Freedom of Information Act request from Lucas Habeeb regarding Hacienda Landscaping ~ *response from Board Secretary Melissa Jerves.*

Board Meeting Follow-Up Communications

1. Email from Board Member Emily Hanus to Emily Kao regarding class size.
2. Email from Board Member Gregory Harris to Katie Rios Thomas regarding curriculum purchases.
3. Email from Board Member Gregory Harris to Kylie Spahn regarding student data.
4. Email from Board Member Gregory Harris to Rich Stachon regarding art curriculum.
5. Email from Board Member Gregory Harris to Carrie Blonigen regarding early release and substitute usage.
6. Email from Board Member Gregory Harris to Brian Johnson regarding the achievement gap.

5. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

A. Superintendent

Superintendent Kevin Russell reported on the following:

- Curriculum: During the recent Teacher Institute day, most teachers received initial training on the new math materials, while the remainder took advantage of county-wide institute day offerings. The Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) and the Illinois Science Assessment will be administered in April, but results will not be available until October.
- Finance: The District continues to work on its contracts for cost-saving measures, including partnerships with District 99 and 68 for bussing, and District 99 for insurance.
- Facilities: The Citizen Task Force met on March 2 and made recommendations regarding facility priorities. The Board then had a special meeting and decided to engage in a robust community engagement process regarding a proposal that includes enhanced security and secure vestibules, middle school grade reconfiguration, eight years of maintenance, remodeling of bathrooms, and air conditioning and HVAC overhaul. The Task Force will meet again in June to finalize a recommendation to the Board, and the Board will decide whether to put a referendum question on the ballot.
- Public Relations: Administration is in close contact with the Department of Health, which recommends that schools stay open at this time. If schools experience a confirmed case, District 58 will work with the Department of Health and the CDC to determine next steps. The District continues to take all concerns seriously and take preventative measures.
- Personnel: A new principal at Indian Trail has been selected and recommended to the Board, and the hiring process for the principal of Pierce Downers has begun.
- Technology: The Technology Department is preparing for state testing, as well as working with teachers and the Technology Committee regarding the replacement of staff devices.
- Student Services: Dr. Russell and Member Hanus attended the recent Building Bridges meeting. Building Bridges is a group created to assist parents of children with special needs.
- Other: Spring Break is scheduled for March 30 to April 3.

B. Monthly Business

The Board received business reports, the investment report, and revenue and expenditure summary reports for the month ending February 29, 2020. Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO Todd Drafall reported that expenditures are still running slightly ahead of revenues due to the three payrolls that fell in January. The Medical

Reserve Fund shows more deposits coming in than disbursements out. The Board will be asked to approve a resolution abating 2019 property taxes for Rexnord Industries in accordance with the agreement District 58 and District 99 signed with Rexnord in 2017 to bring more jobs to the community and increase the District's tax base.

- C. Treasurer's Report
There was nothing additional to report in regard to the Treasurer's Report.
- D. Policy Committee
Member Samonte reported on the February 18, 2020 Policy Committee meeting. The committee should be finished reviewing the draft manual by spring break and will return it to the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) to compile. The final draft will be on public display before it is presented to the Board for approval.
- E. Legislative Committee
Member Doshi reported on the February 26, 2020 Legislative Committee meeting. The committee did a debrief of the Legislative Breakfast, and sent a survey to attendees for feedback. The committee continues to stay abreast of proposed legislation, such as a potential Fair Tax change that could impact Evidence Based Funding formulas and legislation to incentivize more teachers to enter the profession.
- F. Financial Advisory Committee
Member Hughes reported on the March 6, 2020 Financial Advisory Committee meeting. The committee reviewed draft fund balance policy language, as well as the year-to-date reports and the budget for the coming school year. The fiscal year 2020-2021 budget includes the addition of 5.5 FTE staff positions, two of which are placeholders in the event the District needs to add staff at some point during the year. During fiscal year 2022-2023, tax increment financing (TIF) districts will expire, so the District should see a rise in revenue. The committee also discussed the future of the administrative facilities and the potential partnership with the Village, as well as other possibilities.
- G. District Leadership Team
Member Hughes reported on the February 24, 2020 District Leadership Team meeting. The committee reviewed progress on all three strategic goals. Progress toward Goal 1 includes work on vertical alignment, rigor, and how to meet the goals outlined in the Portrait of a Graduate. The Professional Learning Council is looking at how best to use Mondays to provide good professional development opportunities. Parent education opportunities are being explored in several topic areas. Progress toward Goal 2 includes a working toward completion of a districtwide communication plan. The staff newsletter has a high

open rate, and a website redesign has been explored and two finalists selected for a new hosting provider.

H. Health and Wellness Committee

Member Harris reported on the February 27, 2020 Health and Wellness Committee meeting. Claims data from July to January is about \$375,000 less than it was at the same time last year. There have been fewer large claims than last year. All health insurance plans are projected to end with a surplus in fiscal year 2020. The committee is exploring staff wellness programs and incentives, as well as cost-saving changes to the prescription plan that would reduce high-cost/minimal impact drugs.

6. **DISCUSSION**

There were no items for discussion.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Kylie Spahn, Lester attendance area, commented that she objects to the administration's characterization of the Panorama SEL assessment, and believes that it collects data similar to that found in other mental health assessments. She also stated concerns regarding the security of the data.

Amy Ihde, Whittier attendance area, expressed concern with data privacy regarding SEL assessments. She noted that a parent can request that a student not take the assessment, a student can refuse the assessment, or the parent can request that the data be scrubbed after the assessment.

8. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Approval of Minutes – February 3, 2020

Member Weiner moved and Member Hanus seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2020 special meeting as presented.

VOICE VOTE

Motion carried

B. Approval of Minutes – February 10, 2020

Member Olczyk moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2020 regular meeting as presented.

VOICE VOTE

Motion carried

C. Approval of Minutes – February 11, 2020

Member Samonte moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to

approve the minutes of the February 11, 2020 O'Neill Board Tour/PTA meeting as presented.

VOICE VOTE

Motion carried

D. Approval of Minutes – February 18, 2020

Member Doshi moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2020 Fairmount Board Tour/PTA meeting as presented.

VOICE VOTE

Motion carried

E. Approval of Minutes – March 3, 2020

Member Doshi moved and Member Hanus seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2020 Herrick Board Tour/PTA meeting as presented.

VOICE VOTE

Motion carried

9. **CONSENT AGENDA**

There being no request for individual consideration of any items on the consent agenda, the President stated that a motion would be in order relative to items on the consent agenda, consisting of the Personnel Report and Financial Statements consisting of the List of Bills and Summary. Member Hanus moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to approve the following items:

A. Personnel

The appointment of one administrator and two educational support staff employees. The request for Family Medical Leaves of Absence for one certified teacher and one administrator. The resignation of one certified teacher and one educational support staff employee. The approval of administrative salaries for 2020-2021.

B. Financial Reports

The list of bills and obligations prepared for payment on March 9, 2020 as well as the revolving and imprest issued in February 2020 as shown on the list submitted under the date of March 9, 2020 in the total amount of \$1,096,782.32 and direct that they be so entered in the minutes and orders drawn for their payment in accordance with the following summary and that the President and Secretary be authorized to certify the list to the School Treasurer.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 58
SUMMARY PAGE March 9, 2020
LIST OF BILLS & EXPENDITURES**

<u>EDUCATION FUND</u>		
List of Bills - March 9, 2020		\$551,809.89
Revolving Fund - February 2020		\$8,048.31
Imprest Checks - February 2020		\$10,927.39
<u>OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE FUND</u>		
List of Bills - March 9, 2020		\$129,831.30
Revolving Fund - February 2020		\$1,222.18
Imprest Checks - February 2020		\$78.99
<u>DEBT SERVICE</u>		
List of Bills - March 9, 2020		\$2,800.00
Revolving Fund - February 2020		\$0.00
<u>TRANSPORTATION FUND</u>		
List of Bills - March 9, 2020		\$391,071.26
Revolving Fund - February 2020		\$0.00
Imprest Checks - February 2020		\$993.00
<u>IMRF</u>		
List of Bills - March 9, 2020		\$0.00
<u>FICA/MEDICARE</u>		
List of Bills - March 9, 2020		\$0.00
<u>SITE & CONSTRUCTION FUND</u>		
List of Bills - March 9, 2020		\$0.00
<u>WORKING CASH FUND</u>		
List of Bills - March 9, 2020		\$0.00
<u>FIRE & LIFE SAFETY FUNDS</u>		
List of Bills - March 9, 2020		\$0.00
<u>MEDICAL INSURANCE RESERVE FUND</u>		
List of Bills - March 9, 2020		\$0.00
<u>SINKING FUND</u>		
List of Bills - March 9, 2020		\$0.00
Revolving Fund - February 2020		\$0.00
	Total	----- \$

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes,
 Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner
 NAYS: None Motion carried

(Copy of Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements
 attached to official minutes)

Dr. Russell introduced the newly appointed principal of Indian Trail School, Ms. Mariana Nicasio, and recognized retiring principal Robin Bruebach for her 16 years of service. The Board welcomed Ms. Nicasio to District 58.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- A. 2020-2021 School Calendar Revision: Early Release Mondays
Member Samonte moved and Member Hanus seconded the motion to approve the final 2020-2021 school calendar as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes,
Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

- B. Facility Planning Community Engagement Letter
Member Olczyk moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to approve the facility planning community engagement letter as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes,
Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

- C. Rexnord Abatement Resolution
Member Olczyk moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing Property Tax Abatement for the Rexnord Facility for the 2019 Tax Year. (Attachment 20200309A)

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes,
Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

- D. Resolution re: Honorable Dismissal of Teachers
Member Weiner moved and Member Hanus seconded the motion regarding the Honorable Dismissal of Teachers. (Attachment 20200309B)

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes,
Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

- E. Resolution re: Dismissal of Part-Time Teacher for Reasons Other Than Reduction-in-Force
Member Samonte moved and Member Olczyk seconded the motion to adopt the Resolution regarding Dismissal of Part-Time Teacher for

Reasons Other Than Reduction-in-Force. (Attachment 20200309C)

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes,
Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

F. Resolution re: Dismissal of Full-Time Teacher for Reasons Other Than Reduction-in-Force

Member Samonte moved and Member Hanus seconded the motion to adopt the Resolution re: Dismissal of Full-Time Teachers for Reasons Other Than Reduction-in-Force. (Attachment 20200309D)

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes,
Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

G. Bid: Miscellaneous Painting

Member Olczyk moved and Member Doshi seconded the motion to award the bid for Miscellaneous Painting at 13 Schools to Wright and Sons for a total cost of \$26,200.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes,
Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

H. Bid: Sale of Truck

Member Samonte moved and Member Doshi seconded the motion to award the bid for the sale of a 2009 GMC Sierra truck to Matt Bando for \$4,001.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes,
Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

I. Bid: Henry Puffer and Lester Playground Renovations

Member Weiner moved and Member Olczyk seconded the motion to award the bid for Playground Renovations at Henry Puffer and Lester Elementary Schools to The Kenneth Company for a total cost of \$233,355.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes,
Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner
NAYS: None Motion carried

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Hughes announced the following dates:

- Tuesday, April 7th, 6:30 p.m. ~ Board Tour/PTA Meeting ~ Pierce Downer
- Monday, April 13th, 7 p.m. ~ Regular Board Meeting ~ Village Hall

12. CLOSED SESSION

Member Harris moved and Member Doshi seconded the motion to move to closed session for the purpose of discussing matters relating to

- the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1);
- student disciplinary case; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9);
- the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10);
- discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21).

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk, Samonte, and Weiner
 NAYS: None Motion carried

Member Harris moved and Member Samonte seconded the motion to reconvene in open session.

VOICE VOTE Motion carried

The Board convened to closed session at 9:10 p.m. and reconvened to open session at 9:37 p.m.

13. ACTION RESULTING FROM CLOSED SESSION

A. Approval of Closed Session Minutes

Member Samonte moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2020 closed session meeting and keep the minutes them permanently closed due to the confidential nature of the contents.

VOICE VOTE

Motion carried

B. Approval of Destruction of Verbatim Recordings

Having on file Board approved written minutes of the following close meetings, Member Samonte moved and Member Doshi seconded the motion to approve the destruction of the following verbatim recordings that are at least twenty-four (24) months old:

09/11/17

10/10/17

11/13/17

12/11/17

01/08/18

02/12/18

02/26/18

VOICE VOTE

Motion carried

C. Semi-Annual Review of Permanently Closed Minutes

Member Harris moved and Member Samonte seconded the motion to keep the District 58 and District 69 closed session minutes listed in Attachment 03/09/20* permanently closed for reasons of confidentiality.

VOICE VOTE

Motion carried

14. ADJOURNMENT

Member Harris moved and Member Samonte seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

VOICE VOTE

Motion carried

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Darren Hughes, President

Melissa Jerves, Secretary