

November 9, 2020

The Board of Education, Downers Grove Grade School District 58, DuPage County, Illinois met in regular session on Monday, November 9, 2020, at the Downers Grove Village Hall. Due to the COVID-19 emergency, in-person meeting attendance was limited to 50 people and the meeting was live streamed to the public on the Village of Downers Grove YouTube channel.

## **1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The President called the meeting to order at 7:01 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; Justin Sisul, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Jessica Stewart, Assistant Superintendent for Special Services; James Eichmiller, Assistant Superintendent for Technology and Learning; Todd Drafall, Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO; Catherine Hannigan, Manager of Business Services; Kevin Barto, Director of Buildings and Grounds; Megan Hewitt, Coordinator of Community Relations; and Melissa Jerves, Board Secretary. Three visitors attended in person.

A moment of silence was observed in honor of Veterans Day.

## **2. FLAG SALUTE**

Matt Durbala, principal of O'Neill Middle School, and assistant principal Haley Vermeer, introduced an audio recording of Student Council members Rebecca Snouffer and Jordan Reynolds leading the pledge of allegiance. A video of O'Neill highlights was played.

Mr. Durbala reviewed O'Neill's progress toward Key Performance Indicator goals set out in the strategic plan for spring 2021. The goal in reading is an 80% or greater median percentile achievement as measured by NWEA MAP; the goal in math is a 77% median percentile achievement as measured by NWEA MAP. In fall 2020, O'Neill has achieved 75% in reading and 67% in math. To accomplish these goals, staff continue to use school improvement days, faculty meetings, professional learning Mondays and Institute Days as opportunities for data analysis, goal setting, tiered intervention support, and support for new curriculum. O'Neill also continues to focus on teaching students executive functioning skills and developing ways to include equity and inclusion in the curriculum and culture of the school.

O'Neill connects to the community through weekly newsletters, regular staff communications, Student Council projects such as Operation Gratitude and

collecting food pantry donations, PTA-sponsored events such as the Raise Craze fundraiser, and partnerships with police and fire departments and the National Alliance for Mental Health (NAMI).

Mr. Durbala reported that students have complied well with safety requirements for in-person learning. The building leadership team accomplished a monumental task in planning the logistics of room usage and scheduling to ensure appropriate social distancing.

O'Neill PTA President Suzette Stapleton provided a brief video message highlighting the ways PTA supports teachers and students. Raise Craze raises funds for completing acts of kindness. The funds support student activities and field trips. This year PTA has provided remote learning kits for students in need and sponsored teacher appreciation events. A teacher grant program provides funds for classroom needs.

### 3. SPOTLIGHT ON OUR SCHOOLS

#### Illinois Report Card

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Justin Sisul gave a brief presentation on the 2020 Illinois Report Card. The Illinois Report Card was released to the public on October 30, but includes very little data due to the suspension of in-person learning last spring. State assessments were not administered, including the Illinois Assessment of Readiness, Dynamic Learning Maps, and the Illinois Science Assessment. Summative designations for schools were not calculated anew for 2020; the 2019 designations were reissued. The Report Card includes student enrollment data, but it was noted that chronic absenteeism data was calculated with some degree of concern due to variations in how it was tracked in different districts during the suspension of in-person learning.

In the current school year, no federal waiver has been granted for state assessments, and remote delivery is not an option. There will be a longer testing window in which to complete assessments, during which districts will need to adhere to all safety protocols.

### 4. COMMUNICATIONS

#### Written Communications

1. Email from Lauren Dombrosky regarding COVID case information ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell*
2. Email from Charlie Jacobson regarding hybrid learning communication ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell*
3. Email from Melissa Rausch regarding clarification on option to switch from hybrid ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell*
4. Email from Laura Legare regarding school district COVID dashboard ~

- response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell*
5. Email from Laura Duffy regarding feedback from a hybrid teacher in D181 ~ *responses from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell and Board Member Tracy Weiner*
  6. Email from Sara Purgatorio regarding meeting tonight 10/14 ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell*
  7. Email from Agnes Piwowarczyk regarding second trimester question ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell*
  8. Email from Mike Davenport regarding District 99 COVID dashboard ~ *response from Board Member Tracy Weiner*
  9. Email from Nancy Johnson regarding remote learning/return to school ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell*
  10. Email from Cyndi Karmik regarding hybrid/middle school ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell*
  11. Email from Karen Schmidt regarding DG58 hybrid plan ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell*
  12. Email from Lauren Dombrosky regarding back to school metrics ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell*
  13. Text message from Lisa regarding substantial transmission category ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell*
  14. Email from Melissa Rausch regarding markers to move to remote ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell*
  15. Email from Sara Purgatorio regarding thank you
  16. Email from Jennifer Kowalik regarding thank you
  17. Email from Amy Bagley regarding thank you
  18. Email from Jennifer Klemz regarding thank you
  19. Email from Angelique Stacy regarding thank you ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell*
  20. Email from Tom Prince regarding in person school
  21. Email from Addie Pampalone regarding a few important curriculum items ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell*
  22. Email from Zoe Scheeringa regarding hybrid ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell*
  23. Email from Jessica Hurt regarding remote students and specials ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell*
  24. Email from Joylene Lobello regarding return to remote learning ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell*
  25. Email from Angelique Stacy regarding thank you
  26. Email from Karen Schmidt regarding thank you for hybrid decision ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell*
  27. Email from Erin Olsen regarding returning to remote learning ~ *response from Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell*

#### Freedom of Information Act Requests

1. Freedom of Information Act request from Matthew Topic regarding COVID notification letter ~ *response from Board Secretary Melissa Jerves*

## 5. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

### A. Superintendent

Dr. Russell provided the Board with information and updates, including:

- **School Board Member Appreciation Day**: Dr. Russell thanked Board members for their dedication to the District and read a proclamation from the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB).
- **El Sierra Playground**: The District has received a state grant for a new playground at El Sierra, which is expected to be complete in fall 2021. Dr. Russell thanked state Rep. Anne Stava-Murray for her assistance in obtaining this grant.
- **Temporary Shift to Remote Instruction**: The District will temporarily shift to remote instruction for most students beginning November 16. While there have been no outbreaks of COVID-19 in our schools or any documented cases originating inside the District, increased community transmission has resulted in high levels of student and staff absences. District 58's COVID-19-related absences have significantly disrupted the District's ability to staff its classrooms, provide instructional continuity, coordinate quarantined student scheduling logistics, and achieve timely contact tracing and notification. As such, District 58 can no longer effectively provide hybrid in-person instruction for most students until it decreases its student and staff absence numbers. Some special education programs and preschool will continue in-person.

During this period of remote instruction, teacher assignments and schedules will remain the same. In-person instruction will be replaced by live instruction via Zoom. Specials and student support services will continue. A two-week adaptive pause is planned; if an extension is needed, the District will give families one week's notice.

### B. Monthly Business

The Board received business reports and the investment report for the month ending October 31, 2020. Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO Todd Drafall reported that revenues and expenses are in a good position at this point. Refunds for outdoor education and milk will show up in next month's bills.

### C. Treasurer's Report

There was nothing special to report in regard to the Treasurer's Report.

### D. Policy Committee

The Policy Committee did not meet in September.

### E. Legislative Committee

Member Kirat Doshi reported on the October 21, 2020 Legislative Committee meeting. The committee discussed proposed resolutions from the Illinois

Association of School Boards (IASB) and made recommendations to the Board on whether or not to support each one. Member Emily Hanus will represent the District at the Delegate Assembly on November 14. The Board briefly discussed the IASB Resolutions.

F. Financial Advisory Committee

President Hughes reported on the November 6, 2020 Financial Advisory Committee meeting. The committee will adjust its schedule to meet monthly. The committee will continue to discuss short-term, mid-term and long-term ideas to combat the deficit due to the pandemic and ways to fund capital projects.

G. District Leadership Team

The District Leadership Team did not meet in September.

H. Health and Wellness Committee

Vice President Gregory Harris reported on the November 5, 2020 Health and Wellness Committee meeting. The committee reviewed September data; although revenue was slightly lower, the District is still running a surplus in its Medical Reserve Fund. 340 people participated in the wellness screen in September. Open enrollment has begun, and information sessions have been scheduled to help members make informed benefit choices.

**6. DISCUSSION**

There were no discussion items on the agenda.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

**8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Approval of Minutes – October 14, 2020

Member Weiner moved and Member Doshi seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2020 regular meeting as presented.

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

B. Approval of Minutes – October 26, 2020

Member Weiner moved and Member Olczyk seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2020 Curriculum Workshop as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Doshi, Hanus, Harris, Hughes, Olczyk,

Samonte, and Weiner  
NAYS: None

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), and the IASB Resolutions as presented in the packet materials. Member Weiner moved and Member Hanus seconded the motion to approve the following items:

A. Personnel

The appointment of four certified staff, one educational support staff employee, and one custodian; the medical leaves of absence of two certified staff; the leave of absence of one educational support staff employee; the resignation of one educational support staff employee and one custodian.

B. Financial Reports

The list of bills and obligations prepared for payment on November 9, 2020, as well as the revolving and imprest issued in October 2020 as shown on the list submitted under the date of November 9, 2020 in the total amount of \$1,887,362.31 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 NOVEMBER 9, 2020  
LIST OF BILLS & EXPENDITURES

**EDUCATION FUND**

List of Bills - November 9, 2020	\$1,410,166.01
Revolving Fund - October 2020	\$7,219.66
Imprest Checks - October 2020	\$4,279.70

**OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE FUND**

List of Bills - November 9, 2020	\$110,338.21
Revolving Fund - October 2020	\$6,272.97
Imprest Checks - October 2020	\$0.00

**DEBT SERVICE**

List of Bills - November 9, 2020	\$0.00
Revolving Fund - October 2020	\$0.00

**TRANSPORTATION FUND**

List of Bills - November 9, 2020	\$332,372.80
Revolving Fund - October 2020	\$0.00
Imprest Checks - October 2020	\$255.96

<u>IMRF</u>		
	List of Bills – November 9, 2020	\$0.00
<u>FICA/MEDICARE</u>		
	List of Bills – November 9, 2020	\$0.00
<u>SITE &amp; CONSTRUCTION FUND</u>		
	List of Bills - November 9, 2020	\$7,900.00
	Revolving Fund – October 2020	\$0.00
<u>WORKING CASH FUND</u>		
	List of Bills - November 9, 2020	\$0.00
<u>FIRE &amp; LIFE SAFETY FUNDS</u>		
	List of Bills - November 9, 2020	\$0.00
<u>MEDICAL INSURANCE RESERVE FUND</u>		
	List of Bills - November 9, 2020	\$8,557.00
<u>SINKING FUND</u>		
	List of Bills - November 9, 2020	\$0.00
	Revolving Fund - October 2020	\$0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,887,362.31</b>

C. IASB Resolutions

The recommendations of the Legislative Committee to adopt Resolutions 1, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11 and 12; and not adopt Resolutions 2, 3, 5 and 8.

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)

**10. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION**

A. 2020 American Education Week Resolution

Member Samonte moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to adopt the American Education Week Resolution as presented.

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

B. 2020 Certificate of Levy

Member Olczyk moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to adopt the 2020 Certificate of Levy in the amount of \$60,195,000.

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

C. Surplus Equipment: Band Saw and Tractor

Member Weiner moved and Member Olczyk seconded the motion to designate a band saw and John Deere 525 tractor as surplus equipment.

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

D. Engineering Services Proposal for Pierce Downer Mechanical Equipment

Member Samonte moved and Member Olczyk seconded the motion to accept the engineering proposal from CS2 Engineering as presented.

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:

Wednesday, November 11, 3:45 p.m.	Legislative Committee Meeting
Tuesday, November 17, 7 a.m.	Policy Committee Meeting
Monday, December 7, 3:45 p.m.	District Leadership Team Meeting
Monday, December 7, 7 p.m.	Financial Workshop

**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; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1);
- 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 Olczyk seconded the motion to reconvene in open session.

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

The Board convened to closed session at 9:12 p.m. and reconvened to open session at 9:33 p.m.

### 13. ACTION RESULTING FROM CLOSED SESSION

A. Approval of Closed Session Minutes – October 14, 2020  
Member Doshi moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2020 closed session meeting and keep them permanently closed due to the confidential nature of the contents.

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

### 14. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Darren Hughes, President

Melissa Jerves, Secretary