

The Board of Education, Downers Grove Grade School District 58, DuPage County, Illinois met in special session for a budget workshop on Monday, August 24, 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's YouTube channel.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The President called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and announced that it was a special meeting and budget workshop 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; Todd Drafall, Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO; Catherine Hannigan, Manager of Business Services; Kevin Barto, Director of Buildings and Grounds and Melissa Jerves, Board Secretary.

2. FLAG SALUTE

President Hughes led the flag salute.

3. TENTATIVE BUDGET WORKSHOP

Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO Todd Drafall gave a presentation on the proposed 2020-21 budget. This year's budget goals are to navigate the pandemic, provide consistent services to students and staff, manage the deficit, and put the District on a path back to surplus and sustainability.

The budget was created with the following expenditure assumptions, many due to the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Special services staff have been added, while SASSED and private placements have been reduced;
- Transportation costs are estimated at 98% of last year's budget;
- Medical insurance premiums will remain flat (but still require a 2.5% increase in budget);
- Reductions in food service costs;
- Reductions in substitute pay, overtime and instructional assistants;
- Increases for personal protective equipment (PPE), cleaning supplies, rental of tents and storage containers;
- Increases for contracted services (snow removal, landscape, repairs) to allow District operations staff more time for cleaning and sanitizing;
- Field trips, athletics, outdoor education and related staff stipends resume in

spring 2021.

Losses in revenue for this fiscal year total \$2.12 million:

- \$1 million in OKEEP fees;
- \$125,000 in preschool tuition, bus fees, and student registration fees;
- \$750,000 in transportation reimbursements;
- \$122,000 in interest income
- \$130,000 in Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax (CPPRT).

Mr. Drafall noted that the District will most likely need to borrow funds in the spring when cash on hand is traditionally low, and presented several options that the District could consider. Further long-term projections may be affected by circumstances such as decreases in state revenue, negative inflation, an extended period before moving to Phase 5 of the Restore Illinois plan, or the emergence of a substantial capital need such as a roof replacement.

Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell closed the presentation by noting that the pandemic has forced immediate needs to be met and others to be put off; however, District 58 cannot sustain a multi-year deficit. The District's tax base does not allow for a large fund balance, nor is there extra programming that can easily be cut. If the crisis continues, the administration and the Board will need to have difficult conversations about long-term restructuring options, such as a referendum, building utilization, boundaries, consolidating administrative centers and programs, selling assets, and restructuring staff. Development of any plan will include a robust community engagement process.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

In a recorded comment, Brian Sweeney expressed concerns about teachers working in schools without air conditioning. Dr. Russell responded that the lack of air conditioning has been an ongoing concern, which is why it was included in the most recent facilities proposal from the Citizen Task Force, whose work has been paused due to the pandemic. The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) has clarified that teachers working alone in a classroom with the door closed may remove their masks. Teachers may also rotate through the air-conditioned spaces in each building. The IDPH also recommends opening windows and running fans to increase ventilation, both of which are encouraged in District 58 schools. When students are not in the building, exterior doors may be opened to create more air flow.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

A. Approval of Tentative Budget for 2020-2021

Member Weiner moved and Member Hanus seconded the motion to approve the Tentative Budget for FY 2020-2021 as presented, and make it available for public inspection at the ASC office and on the District 58 website.

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

B. Establish Date of Budget Hearing

Member Samonte moved and Member Weiner seconded the motion to establish the date for the Budget Hearing on Monday, September 24, 2020 at 7 p.m. at the Downers Grove Village Hall.

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

C. Immediate Adoption of Policies 2:260, 2:265, 4:180, 5:20, 7:20, 7:190 Necessary to Be Legally Compliant and Meet Emergency Conditions, and 2:232 and 4:182 for Renumbering

Member Weiner moved and Member Doshi seconded the motion to adopt Policies 2:260, 2:265, 4:180, 5:20, 7:20, 7:190, 2:232 and 4:182 as presented.

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

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Hughes announced the following dates:

Monday, August 31, 3:45 p.m. District Leadership Team Meeting

Friday, September 4, 7 a.m. Financial Advisory Committee Meeting

Monday, September 14, 7 p.m. Regular Board Meeting

7. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Darren Hughes, President

Melissa Jerves, Secretary