

DISTRICT 58 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes of January 23, 2019

The Legislative Committee met on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at 3:45 p.m. at the Administrative Service Center.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:47 p.m.

Present

Kirat Doshi, Chair; Elizabeth Sigale, Jim Cagle, Kathy Catalani, Kari Cremascoli, Mike Ghawaly, Katie Hannigan, Megan Hewitt, Geoff Neustadt, Lisa Niforatos, Michelle Rzepka and Bruce Swanson.

Absent

Gwen Box, Laura Duffy, Dan Gilbert, Emily Hanlon, Doug Purcell, Jason Suchy.

Visitors

Todd Drafall, Bill Riban.

Approval of Minutes

Bruce Swanson moved and Elizabeth Sigale seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the November 28, 2018 meeting. Motion carried.

Legislative Breakfast

Dates & Attendance

The breakfast will be held on March 15 because the legislature will not be in session. Save the dates went out before the holidays; formal invitation to follow. Two intend to attend (Costa Howard and Glowiak); hoping to hear from the other five legislators (Foster, Casten, Curran, Stava-Murray and Mazzochi). O'Neill has been reserved for the event. The committee decided not to include village representatives on the formal discussion panel, but there will be an informal opportunity for engagement on village issues during the breakfast.

Questions for Legislators

The committee discussed possible question topics: funding, new funding formula, upcoming infrastructure projects, standardized testing, repeal of 3% salary limit, pensions, unfunded mandates. How legislators inform themselves about education issues, what their priorities are, and how they plan to partner with districts. The committee decided to ask two questions about education in general (priorities, how we can work together), and two questions regarding funding (pension cost shift/property tax freeze and reliability of state funding). The team will work to build out the questions and they will be finalized at the next committee meeting.

Format for Breakfast

Students read brief introductions of the legislators, not the questions. The O'Neill orchestra has performed in the past during the first half hour as people mingle. Legislative Committee Chairs from District 99 and their feeder schools should be invited, as well as the media.

Legislative Update

Introduced this week, SB60 and HB350 would repeal the 3% salary limit for teachers. Still awaiting the new governor's agenda.

PTA Communications

Kari Cremascoli will be meeting with the PTA Council tonight and will share the date for the breakfast.

IEA, NEA Concerns

NEA email went out January 22nd regarding concerns about Title 9.

Other Concerns

None

Reception of Visitors

No comments were made at this time.

Reporter for next BOE meeting

Monday, February 11, 7:00 p.m. at Downers Grove Village Hall.
Elizabeth Sigale will report.

Adjournment

Geoff Neustadt moved and Megan Hewitt seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.