

DISTRICT 58 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes of September 27, 2017

The Legislative Committee met on Wednesday, September 27, 2017 at 7:00 a.m. at the Administrative Service Center.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 a.m.

Present

Gwendolyn Box, Kathy Catalani, Kari Cremascoli, Laura Duffy, Melissa Jerves, Geoff Neustadt, Lisa Niforatos, Angie Rybarczyk, Michelle Rzepka, Jill Samonte and Beth Taylor.

Absent

Megan Hewitt, Lorie Pilster, Bruce Swanson, Bob Trojanowski, Angela Rodriguez, and Dan Gilbert.

Approval of Minutes

Kathy Catalani moved and Geoff Neustadt seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the March 15, 2017 meeting. Motion carried.

IASB Resolutions Committee Report

The committee discussed the IASB 2017 Resolutions Committee Report to Membership. These resolutions will be voted on by the IASB membership at the Triple I Conference on November 8, 2017. Beth Taylor is the District 58 delegate.

NEW RESOLUTIONS:

- A. Board Operations & Duties:
 - 1. Student Safety & Protection – Do NOT Adopt
- B. District Organization and Election:
 - 1. School as Polling Place Reimbursement – Adopt
- C. Financing Public Education – Local:
 - 1. 1% Sales Tax statewide – Do NOT Adopt
- D. Local – State – Federal Relations:
 - 1. Open Meetings – Discuss Shared Staff – Do NOT Adopt
 - 2. PARCC Testing Results – Adopt

AMENDED EXISTING POSITIONS:

- E. Financing Public Education – State:
 - 1. PTELL No Penalty for Under Levy – Adopt
 - 2. State Authorization of Charter Funding – Do NOT Adopt

NEW BELIEF STATEMENT:

F. Local – State – Federal Relations:

1. Energy Savings Contracting – Adopt

Legislative Breakfast

February 9, 2018 has been proposed as the date for the Legislative Breakfast at O’Neill Middle School. The Committee will hold an additional meeting on December 6, 2017 at 7:00 a.m at the ASC to develop questions for the legislators and plan further for the breakfast.

Legislative Update

Beth Taylor attended the recent LEND meeting on September 22, 2017. She reported that the state has allocated \$350 M in new money for this year and again for next year, but there is some question as to whether the state will actually fund at that level. Districts receive funds based on an adequacy formula. District 58 falls into Tier 3, so will not receive as much funding as Tiers 1 or 2.

PTA Communications

None

IEA, NEA Concerns

Kathy Catalani reported that IEA members had been organized to call legislators regarding HB40, but that legislation is now not coming to a vote. Senator Dick Durbin has asked for support for the Dream Act, and IEA has organized and encouraged members to contact their representatives. The IEA has not yet made a decision to support or endorse any of the primary candidates in the upcoming gubernatorial or congressional races.

Other Concerns

Laura Duffy asked whether the mandate relief touted in the state budget will benefit District 58. Kari Cremascoli responded that those mandates primarily affect high school districts and will have little impact on District 58.

Kari Cremascoli also informed the committee of a concern regarding the state’s evidence-based funding model legislation, which requires more tracking and reporting of spending; in particular, of funds expended at the school level. The concern is that such tracking requires additional administrative oversight and personnel, and may give an appearance of inequity if per-school spending is viewed out of context (if, for example, staff at different salary levels, based on their years of service and education levels, are assigned unevenly across schools, some schools appear to be spending more than others).

Reception of Visitors

There were no visitors to the meeting.

Reporter for next BOE meeting

Tuesday, October 10, 2017, 7:00 p.m. at O’Neill Middle School. Beth Taylor and Jill Samonte will report.

Adjournment

Geoff Neustadt moved and Angie Rybarczyk seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.
Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: DECEMBER 6, 2017