

MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

June 24, 2020

6:30 P.M.

via Webinar

The Board of Education of the Bloomington Public Schools, School District 87, McLean County, Illinois, met in Regular Session via Webinar due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent closing of schools and shelter-at-home order from the Governor of Illinois.

Ms. Wilma Gleason, Board Secretary, established a quorum and the following Members were present: Mr. James Almeda, Ms. Elizabeth Fox Anvick, Mrs. Tammy Houtzel, Mr. Chuck Irwin, Mr. Mark Wylie, and Ms. Brigitte Beasley, Board President.

Present from the administrative staff were Dr. Barry Reilly, Dr. Herschel Hannah, Dr. Colin Manahan, and Dr. Diane Wolf.

In accordance with Section 17-1 of the School Code, the Board of Education held a public hearing on the 2019-20 amended budget for Bloomington Public Schools District #87. The District prepared an amended budget in tentative form for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, which this Board reviewed at its May 13, 2020 meeting. The tentative amended budget has been on file for public inspection at the Educational Services Center for District #87 for over thirty days, and public notice of the availability of the budget was published in *The Pantagraph* on May 15, 2020. Dr. Manahan explained that the tentative amended budget was presented remains unchanged since the May 13, 2020 Board meeting. There was no discussion, and the public hearing was concluded.

The Board of Education held a public hearing on the proposal to sell bonds in the amount of \$17,000,000 for the purpose of increasing the working cash fund of Bloomington Public Schools District #87. All persons desiring to be heard had the opportunity to present written or oral testimony. Dr. Reilly stated there are many unknowns with regards to funding repercussions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There was no discussion from the Board or public. Motion was made by Mr. Almeda, seconded by Mrs. Houtzel, to adjourn this hearing of the Board of Education. Motion carried.

It was moved by Ms. Fox Anvick, seconded by Mr. Wylie, that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on June 10, 2020 be approved. Upon a roll call vote, Almeda, Beasley, Fox Anvick, Irwin and Wylie voted "Aye"; Houtzel abstained due to absence on June 10, 2020. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Irwin, seconded by Mr. Almeda, that the Minutes of the Closed Session of the Board of Education held on June 10, 2020 be approved. Upon a roll call vote, Almeda, Beasley, Fox Anvick, Irwin and Wylie voted "Aye"; Houtzel abstained due to absence on June 10, 2020. Motion carried.

Dr. Reilly gave shout outs to Julia Perez and Diane Wolf for communications during the pandemic and planning for the staff forums, Sally Kelly and Patrick Mainieri (two new administrators for the 2020-21 school year), and to Dr. Hannah for his years of service to District 87 as he is retiring June 30, 2020. Ms. Beasley thanked Dr. Hannah for his support to the Board of Education and District 87.

Mr. Almeda met with Wellness Committee.

Ms. Fox Anvick met with Dr. Wolf, Julia Perez, and a teacher to talk about revamping the family engagement committee. The McLean County Leadership Project had worked with District 87 on this project. Dr. Wolf will report on this at the August 12th Board meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Wylie, seconded by Mrs. Houtzel, that the Board approve the Consent Agenda (Human Resources Report, FOIA Report, Treasurer's Report, Financial Summary). Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye". Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, 6-24-20/1)

Dr. Reilly stated that the Illinois State Board of Education's document/guidelines pertaining to the 2020-21 school year was released on June 23, 2020. District 87's Task Force met on June 24th pertaining to remote learning, blended learning, and what school will look like this fall. Dr. Reilly shared the five important guidelines:

1. Require use of appropriate personal protective equipment including face coverings;
2. Prohibit more than 50 individuals from gathering in one space;
3. Require social distancing be observed, as much as possible;
4. Require that schools conduct symptom screenings and temperature checks or require that individuals self-certify that they are free of symptoms before entering school buildings; and
5. Require an increase in schoolwide cleaning and disinfection.

There are many things to consider when planning with these guidelines. Dr. Manahan will guide our custodial and maintenance staff through these cleaning procedures. This could mean hiring additional staff. The task force subcommittees will continue to plan. Parents will be allowed to do remote learning if they choose to do so.

Mr. Wylie asked about social distancing at the high school during certain passing periods, etc. Dr. Reilly stated the task force is looking at all of the logistics. The administration will be in communication with the Board and public as soon as they are finalized.

Dr. Reilly shared a draft of a survey which will be sent to parents next week regarding the return to school in the fall.

Dr. Reilly shared that there is a lot of conversation regarding the civil unrest and discussions across the community and country. The district has had two faculty forums. Dr. Reilly shared a document in progress titled "District 87 - Living Our Mission: Diversity". Dr. Reilly will email this document to Board members.

The Governor has mandated that November 3, 2020 (election day) as a school holiday. The calendar has been revised. Ms. Fox Anvick asked if this legislation is for the federal election this year or every year. Dr. Reilly believes it is for this year.

Mr. Wylie asked if there was discussion to add the day at the beginning of the year. Dr. Reilly stated that the BEA contract states that teachers cannot begin until August 15th. Mr. Wylie asked about the possibility of completing the 1st semester at Thanksgiving as some colleges/universities are doing. Dr. Reilly stated we are not in a place to do this.

Dr. Hannah reflected on his retirement and thanked the Board of Education for their relational skills. This Board and many others on prior Boards are passionate about District 87's commitment to educational excellence. He thanked the Cabinet members for their leadership and stated that District 87 is looked upon as a great leader in many areas across the State of Illinois. Dr. Hannah believes District 87 has the leadership in place to move forward in light of COVID-19.

It was moved by Ms. Fox Anvick, seconded by Mr. Almeda, to approve the Amended 2020 Budget. Upon a roll call vote, all Members

present voted "Aye." Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, 6/24/20-2)

It was moved by Mr. Wylie, seconded by Mrs. Houtzel, to approve the BEA Letter of Understanding - Traveling Psychologists and Vocational Coordinator. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye." Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, 6/24/20-3)

It was moved by Mrs. Houtzel, seconded by Mr. Almeda, to approve the State Farm Agreement Second Amendment. Upon a roll call vote, Almeda, Houtzel, Irwin and Wylie voted "Aye." Fox Anvick and Beasley abstained. Motion carried. (See with Original Minutes, 6/24/20-4)

It was moved by Mr. Wylie, seconded by Mrs. Houtzel, to cancel the July 8 and July 22, 2020 Board meetings. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

It was moved by Ms. Fox Anvick, seconded by Mrs. Houtzel, to adjourn this meeting of the Board of Education. Upon a roll call vote, all Members present voted "Aye." Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

President

o

Secretary