

**Dist. 205 Board of Education**  
**Apr. 11, 2017**  
**7:40 pm – 10:10 pm**

**All Bd members present**  
**Public: 50 Staff: 9 Press: 0**  
**Observer: J. Dorner**

The Board was in closed session from 6:30 p.m. for collective negotiations and employment of employee.

President Ebner called the meeting to order and led the recitation of the pledge of allegiance.

**Public Comment:**

Katy Padberg, Elmhurst Teachers Council President, spoke about the Middle School Task Force (MSTF) proposed changes. She stated that this task force was included in the most recent contract and that the union would be “taking action.”

Michelle Bowles, Vice President of ETC and co-chair of the MSTF, said that the contract states that any changes for the 2017-18 school year must be given to the ETC by Feb. 28, 2017. However, ETC did not receive the proposed changes until March 9 and had only 2 hours to look at the changes. She continued that some of the changes looked appropriate, but needed more time to implement and said they should be executed for the following year.

Three more middle school teachers spoke about the negative implications of the proposed changes to the middle school programs, including student choice between band/orchestra/chorus, world language, and unified arts, and less class time for social studies and science (especially since Focus 205 resulted in setting STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) as the highest academic priority of the D205 community).

**Reports and Presentations:**

A. National Merit Finalists: York Principal introduced the National Merit Finalists. The Board acknowledged these thirteen York students: Elizabeth Brown, Amy Choi, Emily Landreth, Kevin Lipkin, Maria Muehleis, Noah Neidigh, Amelia O’Halloran, Mateo Sanchez, Colin Sandstrom, Amalia Siavelis, Sehe Tinfang, Gavin Vandenberg and Flanagan Waldherr.

B. Focus 205 Final Presentation: Co-chair Kara Caforio, co-chair of the committee, began the report with a review of the process. The final facilitating team’s recommendations were that:

- Specific pricing and impact details be attached to several scenarios, which would support and sustain excellent public education in Elmhurst, including an All-Day Kindergarten feasibility study and pressing facility needs.
- The Board and Administration should investigate funding sources to support critical and ongoing facility needs.
- The Administration should begin working to develop a Facilities Master Plan, which addresses the needs of Lincoln and Field schools in the short term.
- Best practices should continue to be implemented, providing resources and programming to support Future Ready Learning and STEM.
- There must be ongoing opportunities provided for continued community engagement/input, including an annual State of the District presentation.

Mrs. Caforio stated that this was the end of Phase I. Phase II will have a different format. The Board asked several questions and Dr. Moyer said that he would like to present an operational plan in July.

C. English Learners Update: Ariana Leonard, D205 EL Program Coordinator, gave the update. The number of English Learners increased by almost 100 between 2015 and 2016, to 644 students. About 150 students are at Fischer, 75 at Madison, 65 at Churchville, 60 at Emerson and 105 at York. The numbers are less than 25 at all other schools. There are 57 different languages in D205. Expectations on ACCESS (the test which determines when a student leaves the EL program) for ELs are increasing. Using these reclassification rates, where 15% met the “old” scores in 2015, only 5.9% meet the new scores in 2016.

The current EL programming in D205:

- TBE - Transitional Bilingual Education – must be offered when 20 or more students of the same language in a building. English and Math must be taught in native language. Native Language support in social studies and science. The goal is to transition students out of EL.
- TPI – Transitional Program of Instruction – ELs of various backgrounds with 19 or fewer students of the same language. It provides intense English instruction and support with the goal to transition out of EL.

All EL students are tested to see if they meet D205’s college and career readiness standards. When looking at those students who have exited the program 1-2 years previously:

- Reading: 21% on target, with about 40% near target and 39% below the target.
- Math: 19.5% on target, 36% near target and 45% below target.

When looking at former EL students who left the program more than 2 years ago:

- Reading: 35% on target with over 42% near target and 23% below target.
- Math: 28% on target, 38% near target and 34% below target.

All students in D205 score:

- Reading: 48% on target, 36% near target and 16% below target.
- Math: 49.5% on target, 29% near target, 21% below target.

Possible instructional approaches include dual language, developmental bilingual education and co-teaching. There is the most data on dual language programs with this appearing to be the best way to narrow the achievement gap.

It appears that D205 will be moving toward a dual language program pilot. Dr. Moyer said it is cost neutral. This will be included in the July operational plan.

D. Technology Report: Director of Technology, Dave Smith, presented. Next year there will be close to 11,000 devices in the district.

- 1:1 computing in grades 3-12 with chromebooks taken home in grades 6-12.
- In grades 6-8
  - New protective cases
  - Carts stay in school for storage/charging as needed
  - Chromebooks checked in for summer
- Freshman Chromebooks
  - Tentatively Acer C738T
  - Touchscreen
  - Damage resistant Gorilla glass
  - Latest processor and graphic technology
  - 360 degree hinge for laptop, “tent,” or tablet mode
  - \$300 for Chromebook only (no case)
- Chromebook Protection Plan (CPP) for take-home Chromebooks
  - D205 administered accidental damage protection plan
  - Unlimited out-of-warranty repairs

- Accidental damage (“drop protection”) – 1 claim/student/year
- No coverage for loss/theft
- Grade 6-12 Tech Fee increased from \$50 to \$65 to offset CPP cost.
- There will be pilot devices in K-2 during the upcoming school year.
- TSI (technology service internship – a York class in which students are repairing chromebooks while earning several different certifications) will be 4 periods rather than 3.
- Tech Support:
  - K-8 tech media assistants to tech assistants – one position/school
  - Add 10 days to calendar
  - Possible reclassification to higher salary schedule
  - \$45-\$55K salary and benefit increase – total for 11 FTE (full time equivalents)

Several technology projects to upgrade Internet bandwidth, upgrade VoIP system and major release upgrade for PowerSchool/Gradebook. These upgrades, along with the new equipment should result in a net expenditure of just under \$3 million.

**Superintendent’s Agenda – Action Item:** None taken during initial open meeting.

- Administrative Positions reorganization – To change the STEM Coordinator and Literacy Coordinator titles to those of Director of STEM and Director of Literacy. Cabinet would like to promote Dave Beedy to the Director of STEM Education position.

*This was withdrawn and will be addressed in closed session following this meeting.*

**Superintendent’s Communication:**

Dr. Moyer said that he and Mary Baum and Kathy Kosteck attended a workshop on cost effective ways to close the achievement gap.

He also thanks the facilitating committee of Focus 205 for their service.

**Board Communications:**

Dr. Harrell said that the Board has been trying to get together to talk about a few things concerning meetings. The time is late, but:

- How to manage items on the agenda?
- How can all items be on BoardDocs and the Board be prepared?
- How can they more thoroughly capture information from committee meetings?
  - Committee of the whole?
  - Tape meetings?
  - Are committee meetings needed?

Mrs. Ebner suggested they update Policy #2:220 of the Board of Education Meeting Procedure, while Mr. McDonough thought the Board should discuss before changing a policy.

**Upcoming Meetings:** The next regularly scheduled meetings are Apr. 25 and May 9 at 7:30 p.m. All meetings are at the District 205 Center, second floor:

The Board moved to go into closed session and President Ebner stated that there may be some action taken out of closed session. This observer left, but later received the following information.

The Board voted 5-0 to support Dr. Moyer's request for a reorganization of administrative positions - Superintendent's Action Item #5 on the agenda. Mr. Collins and Mr. Blum left before the vote.