

Dist. 205 Board of Education
Aug. 8, 2017
7:30 pm – 9:35 pm

No Blum or Collins
Public: 5 Staff: 30 Press: 2
Observer: J. Dorner

The Board was in closed session from 6:00 pm concerning collective negotiations and employment of employee.

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

Public Comment: None

Reports and Presentation:

A. Model Schools – The six (five of whom are new) Elementary Principals and the Madison Early Childhood Principal attended this seminar in Nashville. This seminar stressed rigor, relevance and relationships. It fostered shared “ownership” of students – “these are OUR students.” Those who attended were impressed by how much culture trumps strategy. Culture will be a part of each school’s School Improvement Plan this year. There are interpersonal skills all students’ need. The conference also stressed story telling – “brand” your school. If you don’t tell your story, someone else will and the negative will take over.

Meetings with Bill Daggett and Eric Sheninger were held with just the D205 contingency.

- Student-centered mindset.
- One is never done with school improvement.
- Surveys can be a tool to assess rigor, relevance, relationships and culture.
- Showcasing things going on in classrooms via social media is important.
- Change can be unsettling but worth it.

All administrators are encouraged to tweet using #igniteD205 concerning their school or area of expertise.

B. American Middle Level Education (AMLE) Leadership Summit: Five staff members and the Principal from each middle school were sent to this summit in San Diego. This seminar focused on culture, as well as engagement (student and teacher) and co-teaching.

Three main characteristics to guide well rounded middle level education

- Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment
- Leadership & Organization
- Culture and Community

The building leadership reviews all of these characteristics and the PLCs (professional learning communities) and grade level teams promote a culture of connectedness and development of shared best practices.

Co-Teaching – Both teachers are responsible for delivering instruction. This approach benefits a broad spectrum of students. Some examples:

- Bilingual teacher and science teacher
- Special education and math teachers
- Reading specialist and English teacher

Co-teaching will be used for special education, bilingual/EL (English Learner), reading/math students who need help. It is also helpful in interdisciplinary work.

C. Kagan Cooperative Learning Structures Workshop: Fourteen staff members attended this conference in Lisle, IL. The objective is to learn and practice new cooperative learning structures to

increase student engagement in the classroom. Students take turns responding orally (to each other) in pairs, groups, or other combinations. Research shows all students participating in this way learned more of the subject matter.

Superintendent's Agenda

- Communications Consultant – Strategies 360 for services related to public opinion research and communications for Phase 2 of Focus 205 community engagement. The total amount is \$59,500, excluding video, print production, travel costs and contract with Minding Your Business at \$100/hour, not to exceed \$15,000 in 2017-18. Strategies 360 will be the lead, but they are located in Seattle, so Minding Your Business will be the local contact. **Motion carried 5 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.**
- All-Day Kindergarten Feasibility Study Consultant - \$5,000 to Dr. Steve Cordogan.
 - To determine what comparable districts offer all-day kindergarten
 - Convene a focus group to discuss comparable district findings, other possible issues
 - Create a community survey to determine level of interest
 - Work with D205 Communications & Public Relations office to send the survey to identified stakeholders and to compile findings
 - Analyze findings and produce a report with recommendations.
 - To be completed by Oct. 19, 2017.
- Dr. Harrell spoke of the need for this type of information and requested that additionally the study access what is already available in the community and understand its value.
- Mrs. Carforio asked if another question could be added – Any Districts similar to ours who decided not to have all-day Kindergarten?
- Mr. McDonough said that this could be the largest transformation of D205 in a long time.
- Mrs. Stuefen said she would vote no due to timing and lack of space in the elementary schools, which would be unable to handle the increase in enrollment.
- Mrs. Ebner said this is the cornerstone of what would happen to all our buildings.
- **Motion carried 4 yes, 1 no, 2 absent**

Action on Closed Session: The Board approved the settlement agreement with the Elmhurst Teachers' Council as presented. Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, Jim Woell explained that the original grievance was filed inappropriately, since no change had yet been made to the Middle School schedule. ETC went on to a "Demand to Bargain." ETC leadership changed, and a memo of agreement was issued, which the ETC did NOT approve. The administration and the leadership of the ETC have met extensively and resolved all issues concerning this issue.

Superintendent's Communications:

Dr. Moyer spoke about Dr. Bill Daggett's presentation on Monday, Aug. 14th in the York Commons 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm.

Board Communications:

BOE Annual Calendar – Mrs. Ebner, Mrs. Stuefen and Mrs. Walsh, from the Superintendent's office, have put together a draft calendar for the Board.

Upcoming Meetings: The next regularly scheduled meetings are Tuesday, Aug. 22nd and September 12th at 7:30 pm. These Board meetings are held at the D205 Center.