

**Dist. 205 Board of Education**  
**Sept. 11, 2018**  
**7:35 pm – 8:45 pm**

**All Board members present**  
**Public: 2 Staff: 7 Press:1**  
**Observer: J. Dorner**

The Board was in closed session from 6:00 pm concerning employment of employee, collective negotiations, possible litigation, purchase of property and setting a price for sale of property.

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

**Public Comment:** Marine Captain Matthew Cetta chastised the Board for York not supplying at least 75% of the Juniors' and Seniors' names to the military services. He implied that this was illegal.

### **Reports and Presentations:**

A. Recap of August Start-Up Activities: Dr. Henderson reported on the vision statement "All students graduate college-, career, and life-ready. Included in this are the 6 Cs: Communications, Critical Thinking, Collaboration, Character, Creativity, and Citizenship. For the start of the year, the Learning and Teaching priority is to "Help create shared understanding and measurement of district vision, strategies and priorities."

Dr. Henderson discussed work that had been done over the summer, including an administrator retreat and the new educator academy and their time with instructional coaches, their home school principals and the Chamber of Commerce lunch welcoming them. She also spoke about the Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> Institute days.

B. Senior Final Exam Exemption: Ryan Doherty, Assistant Principal at York, presented the following change, with hopes that it will be effective Spring 2019.

*Senior Final Examinations*

*All students will be required to take final examinations. Seniors may*

*qualify for an exemption from their 8th semester (spring) final examinations in all courses if the student has:*

- • *No Behavior Consequences issued by a Dean.*
- • *No Parking Violations during 2nd semester.*
- • *No more than 4 missing graded assignments in the course during 2nd semester.*
- • *No more than 3 unexcused absences in the course during 2nd semester.*

*Seniors who are not exempt from last semester final examinations will take their examinations at the regularly scheduled times for semester examinations. Students who qualify for an exemption can take the final exam if they choose to do so. This final exam will then be counted towards the student's semester grade.*

Mr. Doherty said that he had been able to share the Hinsdale High School district's survey on this. Out of 22 high schools, only 6 required all seniors to take all finals (York was one of these).

Most Board members had an opinion about this. Mrs. Stuefen said she had many concerns about this and asked to see the survey results. Mr. McDonough asked for what are the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester senior finals used. Mr. Doherty replied that they are not reported on transcripts. The teachers use these results as seeing where more instruction might be needed the following year. (Dr. Cohen interjected that many universities are moving away from final exams and that final exams were given in only 27% of Harvard courses last year.) Mr. Blum thought that an academic requirement should be added to the list of qualifying exemptions. He called it a reward for achievement. Mr. Collins said that he wholeheartedly supported this with no need for an academic criteria addition.

Dr. Moyer suggested that this be discussed by the upcoming Learning and Teaching Committee and brought back to the Board in October, with the hope of making this effective in Spring of 2019.

### **Superintendent's Communications:**

A. Innovation Cohort: The American Association of School

Administrators (AASA) is teaming up with the Successful Practices Network to establish an Innovation and Transformational Leadership Network. D205 is part of the inaugural effort. The team is Board member Jim Collins, Assistant Superintendent of Innovation and Growth Dr. Cohen, Field Principal Heidi Thomas, Sandburg English Chair Frank Dahlman and Dr. Moyer.

The Board took a moment of silence in remembrance of the Sept. 11, 2001 attack on the United States.

B. “Tweet of the Week”: In keeping with the date, the tweet showed the Churchville choir standing around their flagpole and singing the national anthem.

C. IASB (IL Assoc of School Boards): will be honoring D205 Board member Margaret Harrell as a past Board member.

### **Board Communications: None**

**Upcoming Meetings:** The next regularly scheduled meetings are Tuesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> and October 9<sup>th</sup>. These Board meetings are held at the D205 Center.

- Monday, Sept. 17 State of the Schools address at 7:00 pm – York Commons
- Monday, Sept. 24, Community Finance Night – Tours 6:00 pm, Presentation 7:00 pm, Lincoln School
- Monday, Oct. 1st Finance Committee Meeting at 6:30 pm at the D205 Center.

After the meeting had adjourned, the members of the Learning and Teaching Committee decided to meet on Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.