

Dist. 205 Board of Education
Feb. 9, 2016
7:37 pm – 9:25 pm

Bastedo by phone, All others present
Public: 80 Staff: 8 Press: 1
Observer: J. Dorner

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

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

Public Comment: Jan Dorner, representing LWV of Elmhurst stated: A CIRCLE report of the Commission on Youth Voting and Civic Knowledge from 2013, stated that their research showed that while schools matter, civic education must be a shared responsibility. It also reported that the average 18-24 year olds turnout in presidential years between 1972-2012 was below 44%. Civics education is a low priority for most policy makers and the idea for engaging young people in politics has been controversial.

In that vein, I'd like to tell you that the DuPage Election Commission and the League of Women Voters of Elmhurst partnered to bring mock primary elections to York High School on this Friday. We will be teaching students the voting mechanics so that piece will not deter voters.

For Friday, the DuPage Election Commission will lend the League 10 voting booths, which we will set up on the third floor in front of the "freedom isn't free" mural. The election commission has designed a pdf ballot for both Republican and Democratic candidates vying to represent their party as their Presidential nominee.

League members will act as election judges, or train student volunteers to be election judges, for the day. The York Young Politicians will hand count the ballots.

This year in Illinois, all 17 year olds who will be 18 on our before the general election (Nov. 8) are eligible to register and vote in the primary, which is March 15. Those eligible York students will be registering online before next Tuesday, or if needed, we can register them by paper on Friday.

We are excited to be able to help with this learning experience and are sure that this will be a meaningful collaboration.

Reports and Presentations:

A. Illinois music Educator's Association (ILMEA) All-State Selectees: Twenty-two York students were recognized for being awarded All-State and performing at the ILMEA All-State convention in Peoria Jan. 27 – 30, 2016.

B. Illinois Chapter of the American String Teachers' Association Outstanding School Educator Ward: Churchville Middle School Orchestra Director, Barbara Scott, received the Outstanding School Educator Award.

C. Shining Star Recognition: Kelly Iturbide, Hawthorne 2nd grade teacher, was recognized for making a positive impact on the students and staff of D205.

After recognitions, about 12 members of the public remained.

D. Student Achievement Objectives:

- Assistant Superintendent for Learning and Teaching, Michelle Fitzgerald, reported on what activities the teachers at different levels participated in on the Institute Day on 1/29/16:
 - Early Childhood – Culturally and linguistically responsive practices for communication.
 - K – 8 – Embedding formative assessment or Seven strategies of Assessment for Learning.
 - K-8 Social workers, psychologists and MS Counselors – Crisis intervention for students, heightened anxiety and school avoidance.
 - K-8 Speech/Language Pathologists – their role on the literacy team and their role in working on comprehension and phonological awareness and working in content areas.
 - York - Various offerings, including: Using depth of knowledge levels to analyze student learning, Address it! Assess It! Summaries and Relationships, The power of student choice: Leading students to learning, not apps, Molecular gastronomy in the kitchen.
- Superintendent Moyer reported on the Jan 21st Principals' meeting. They discussed professional learning communities and 3 keys to maximum effectiveness as a Principal.

E. SASSED (School Association for Special Education in DuPage) Update:

Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, Kathy Kosteck discussed that SASSED would like to move to become a separate entity to act as its own fiscal agent. In order to move to this, a resolution would need to be approved by the D205 school board at the next meeting (and 2/3 of the districts that participate in SASSED).

To implement this change, a Governing Board, made up of elected officials from all participating school districts (administrating staff NOT allowed on this Board) would need to be constituted. The two purposes of this board would be to approve an annual budget and to hire the executive director of the organization. The current board of control would continue in its role of advising and could contain administrative board members from participating districts.

F. Cohort Presentation:

Dr. Fitzgerald and York English Department Chair Ryan Doherty presented data and modifications to the York Cohort program. This program was designed to support those students who were not reading at grade level to strategies to build skills in assessing main ideas, identifying relationships and drawing conclusions. This combined English 9, World Studies, Academic Literacy and a Learning Cohort period has seen less growth than non-cohort. It will no longer be called “cohort,” because the group will not remain together. The proposal for the next year is to integrate students into general English 9 and general World Studies sections and institute a new model for Academic Literacy. Academic Literacy will be co-taught with a literacy coach and a special education teacher. All 3 sections will be during a single period, which allows for data driven decisions, flexible groupings, enrichment to transition students out of a supported literacy course and provides minutes towards IEP (individualized education plan) goals.

Building capacity in the special education staff with content area background, additional supplemental materials in both content areas, designing instruction, and professional learning will be needed to move to the new structure.

G. Finance Committee Meeting:

Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, Chris Whelton, reported on the ISBE's (Illinois State Board of Education) 2017 Budget request. ISBE is requesting that over \$300 million that is currently in the "Funding for Children Requiring Special Education Services" line item be reallocated into the GSA (General State Aid) line item to increase the foundation level. GSA is allocated using two measures of need: formula grant, which is dependent upon the availability of local resources within each school district and poverty grant, which increases as the amount of low-income students increases within a district.

This possible change would decrease D205's Special Education state funding by almost \$1 million (\$994,901) and increase D205's GSA by \$426,653, amounting in \$568,248 less received from the state in FY2017.

Superintendent Communications:

LUDA (Large Unit District Association) Winter Conference Update: This conference was held in Springfield at the end of January. Discussion of the above-mentioned possible change in special education/GSA funding was held as well as discussion of "evidence-based funding." This type of funding would "hold harmless" all districts (not cut any state funding from any district) and have a formula for an "adequate education of a student." This proposal comes out of Vision 2020 and does not currently have a sponsor in the Illinois General Assembly. Note that this type of state funding would require new money be added to current funding level.

Board Communications:

A. Joint Conference: School Board members attended a conference where Mrs. Stuefen attended a presentation about "Culture" that she shared with the rest of the Board. Dr. Harrell and Mr. McDonough also shared information they received from different presentation they attended.

Superintendent's Agenda – Action Items: The Board approved

- Purchase of Palo Alto Web Filter and Intrusion Prevention System (IPS) – This system will replace a current one that has resource limitations and is causing network performance issues. The Palo Alto system will cost \$188,396 (for 3 years of web filtering and IPS) with an additional \$8,000 for professional development.
- Lincoln School Donation – The PTA is donating a class set of Chromebooks and a Chromebook charging cart not to exceed \$8,000.

Upcoming Meetings: The next regularly scheduled meetings are Feb. 23 and Mar. 8 at 7:30 p.m. All meetings are at the District 205 Center, second floor:

- Thursday, Feb. 11, 2016 -- Learning and Teaching Committee Meeting 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, Mar. 15, 2016 – Finance and Operations Committee Meeting– 7:00 p.m.