

Dist. 205 Board of Education
Feb. 23, 2016
7:45 pm – 8:45 pm

Absent: Blum
Public: 20 Staff: 9 Press: 1
Observer: J. Dorner

The Board was in closed session from 6:15 p.m. for an employee issue and approval of closed session minutes from 1/25/16, 1/26/16 and 2/9/16.

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

Public Comment: Four York students representing the International Club spoke about the advantages of international travel and asked the Board to reconsider their denial of a trip to Costa Rica over the summer.

A parent spoke about the York Special Olympic Basketball team end of the season event earlier that evening and suggested that all attend a basketball game next year.

Board member Jim Collins addressed the students that had spoken. Although it is not common practice for the Board to respond to public comment, he shared that during his 7 years on the Board, he has never seen nor denied a student travel request. He suggested that the students continue to work with the York administration who would work with the District administration. The students started responding, and eventually went back to the microphone to say that they had received a positive response from York Principal Smith, but received an email from Dr. Moyer saying the Board had denied their request. Dr. Moyer stated that he had discussed their request with his *cabinet* and then sent the denial.

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes: The Board accepted the minutes of 1/25/16, 1/26/16 & 2/9/16.

Superintendent's Agenda: The Board approved the following Consent agenda:

- Personnel Report
- Financial Reports
- 2016-17 school calendar

Mr. McDonough asked that the following item be removed from the consent agenda.

- Bid #16-03 Musical Instruments – Music & Arts Centers - \$5,254, Sam Ash - \$2,460, Washington Music Center - \$1,477.

Mr. McDonough wanted to highlight this piece and commend the administration for using this great procurement process.

Superintendent's Agenda-Action Items: The Board approved the following:

- Resolution to amend the SASSED's (School Association for Special Education in DuPage) Articles of Agreement/Legal Entity Status – This was discussed at the last school board meeting.
- Donation (Edison School) – The PTA is donating \$667.86 for art supplies.
- Donation (Lincoln School) – The PTA is donating \$7,500 to purchase classroom rugs.
- Donation (Lincoln School) – The “Dad’s Club” is donating 2 adjustable basketball backboards not to exceed \$3,000.
- Donation (Jackson School) – The PTA is donating \$41,000 and the Student Council is donating \$4,000 to upgrade the playground.

President Ebner said that the following donation would be handled at a future meeting.

- Donation (Conrad Fischer School) – Whole Foods School Garden Grant for \$2,000 to plan a learning garden.

Superintendent Communications:

2015-16 Student Achievement Objectives: Mid-Year Update: Dr. Moyer stated that when he first came to this community he wanted to address:

- “The Moral Imperative Realized....Raising the Bar and Closing the Achievement Gap for All Students.”
 - All means all.
 - A shift from the old school “sort and select” fewer students who are not mastering concepts. Instead of accepting that some students don’t meet standards it is that all students learn. Move from the bell curve to a mountain curve.
- And for the District to come up with a comprehensive plan.
 - Focus 205 – a report on the fall engagement sessions will be coming to the school board at its March 8th meeting. Dr. Moyer will continue to stress the interrelatedness of student achievement, financial sustainability and facilities usage for future-ready learning.
 - Student achievement objectives for 2015-16
 - Balanced assessment system (the amount of instructional time that is used by assessment should be reduced over time)
 - Increased student engagement in all grades
 - Community Compact – for complete discussion of this, see http://www.elmhurst205.org/cms/page_view?d=x&pid=&vpid=1440491260147
A simplification of this is to develop a system where there is
 - High quality teacher in every classroom.
 - A need to build leadership throughout the system.
 - Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
 - Three Big Ideas:
 - Insuring that students learn,
 - A culture of collaboration,
 - And a focus on results
 - Four Critical Questions:
 - What do we want our students to learn?
 - How will we know if each student has learned it?
 - How will we respond when some students do not learn?
 - How can we extend and enrich learning for those who have demonstrated proficiency?
 - Effect Size Research
 - A meta-analysis of thousands of studies of millions of students throughout the world. It translates instructional approaches into percentile achievement gains. D205 student achievement goals reflect the practices that have the greatest potential to positively affect student learning.

Dr. Moyer highlighted a few of the accomplishments that the district has made so far this past school year, which included the mobile learning implementation (MLI) in grades 6 – 12, some English Language Arts (ELA) units completed and establishment of the Middle School Task Force. At this point it is thought that the District Management Council’s report will be presented to the

school board meeting on March 22nd.

Mr. McDonough asked about another definition of “student engagement.” Dr. Moyer replied that it is more than having students be actively working on a project. Mr. Collins asked for Dr. Moyer to define effect size research in layman’s term. Dr. Moyer says it translates learning gains into the equivalent of standard deviation units. It tries to figure out what practices truly have the greatest impact on student learning. It is research of the research. Dr. Harrell stated that the key principles are pretty obvious except for the effect size research. She rephrased it in layman’s term as trying to determine what has been proven best practices and trying to apply those. Dr. Moyer agreed.

Board Communications: Mr. McDonough made the following announcements/reports

- This is Fine Arts Week at York – please participate! Go to Yorkfaw.com
- Welcomed Erin DeLuga, Principal of York starting next year, who was present at this meeting.
- Water detention concerns with the City of Elmhurst:
 - The City would like to start on the Madison south lot as soon as possible. Mr. McDonough recommended that they work with the District administration to do so.
 - The City would also like the Bryan IGA (intergovernmental agreement) completed as soon as possible. The City has not completed the project design yet. He did agree that the school board would try to meet their timeline.
 - The City asked about future projects. Mr. McDonough shared with the City again that the Board would like to see how well the “dual purpose” property (south lot at Madison) worked before moving ahead on other projects. He told the City representatives that he could not commit for the Board. The Board will have to determine when they will feel comfortable moving forward.

Upcoming Meetings: The next regularly scheduled meetings are Mar. 8th and Mar. 22, 2016 at 7:30 pm. All meetings are at the District 205 Center, second floor.

- Tuesday, Mar. 15th – Finance and Operations Committee, 7:00 pm

The Board moved to go back into closed session for the purpose of employment of employee and approval of closed session minutes from 1/25/16, 1/26/16 and 2/9/16. The motion carried. President Ebner stated that no action would be taken out of closed session.