

Dist. 205 Board of Education
July 21, 2015
7:00 pm – 8:50 pm

All Bd members present
Public: 6 Staff: 10 Press: 0
Observer: J. Dorner

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

Public Comment: 6th Ward Alderman, Jim Kennedy, stated that he was the Chair of the Public Works Committee for the City of Elmhurst. He volunteered to be a resource for the School Board during their discussion on stormwater.

Superintendent's Communications:

A. Freedom of Information Requests: Three FOIA requests were received; one was granted and two were denied. One requested information regarding summer construction (granted), one requesting information regarding specific exceptions for in-district transfers (denied) and one regarding information on personal information on retirees (denied).

B. August 3rd Administrative Retreat: Dr. Moyer told the Board that the retreat would include discussion of PLCs (Professional Learning Communities) and the primary focus of the year, assessment.

The Board accepted the minutes for the 6/23/15 Board meeting.

Board Committee Reports:

A. Mr. Collins reviewed the **Board Improvement Committee** meeting. The retreat was the evening before. The Board thought it was excellent.

- A suggested agenda was discussed. The full board will see and discuss it before it is posted.
 - The board and Superintendent will discuss a framework for balancing short- and long-term direction.
 - Goals for the year will be set (short-term).
 - Long-term plans will be driven by needs and initiatives, including the community engagement process.
 - Group discussion of Mike Schmoker article – meaningful and productive school improvement to improve outcomes.
 - Professional Learning Communities (PLCs).
 - Group discussion on Michael Fullan video – Organizational Reform System – culture and group quality.
 - Business meeting agenda
 - Committee structure (committee and full board topics).
 - Academic Return on Investment (AROI) – “Spending Money Wisely.”

Superintendent's Consent Agenda The Board approved:

- Personnel Report
- Complete 2015-2016 Calendar - In the calendar being presented, the first day of school for high school students is Friday, August 14, 2015 and the last day for high school students would be Monday, May 23, 2016. The first day of school for elementary and middle school students would be Wednesday, August 19, 2015 and the last day for elementary and middle school students would be Friday, May 27, 2015. However, the last day of either school

calendar could be extended up to five days (May 31, 2016 or June 6, 2016) depending on whether any emergency days are used.

Mr. McDonough pulled:

- Financial Report. He asked the question that he had asked previously, “Are we really approving something?” He stated that Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, Chris Whelton, has prepared some excellent summaries for the Finance Committee. He much prefers referring to these summaries than looking through the hundreds of pages that the monthly financial reports contain. Dr. Harrell agreed with Mr. McDonough. Mr. Collins suggested that this issue be turned over to Dr. Moyer and Chris Whelton to review and come up with a possible solution. The financial reports were approved.

Superintendent’s Agenda – Action Items The Board approved:

- Resolution of appointment of School Association for Special Education in DuPage County (SASED) Representative – Dr. Moyer. Board member Karen Stuefen was also appointed as an alternate.

Board Communications:

Stormwater Update – Mr. McDonough reviewed the Communications Committee meeting that was held with the City, Park and School reps about 2 weeks ago. As far as the Madison intergovernmental agreement is concerned, there may be three business/policy issues that may still be unresolved:

- The City asked for “first right of refusal” should the School District want to sell the Madison property in the future. The School Board has asked for a change to a “first right of offer.” This should guarantee a fair price for the property, per some on the School Board.
- A pre Diem penalty. Should the draining of the flooded detention area not work as proposed, should there be a penalty that the city pays the schools? It was proposed that the agreement contain a time frame for the City to correct and deficiencies before any penalty is applied.
- Time of easement. The School District has offered a one-year time frame for the City to start construction of the detention area. The city is asking for four years. If four years is agreed upon, the School District expects relief on notice for termination (less time).

Mr. McDonough moved on to the Bryan Middle School area. The Board had received a copy of four different scenarios The City’s engineering firm has suggested for the Bryan Middle School area.

- A detention pond where the “gravel lot” is that is currently used for maintenance. The maintenance area would be moved to the new section currently being expanded into by the City. This area would represent 23 acre-feet of stormwater storage.
- A detention pond where the current York Girls’ Softball field is. This would represent 17 acre-feet of stormwater storage.
- Combining both the gravel pit area and the current York Girls’ Softball field and removing the street separating the two areas.
 - The property could be configured to contain softball fields and a soccer field or it could contain a softball field and a ¼ mile track.

The Board discussed this area and other stormwater issues with Alderman Kennedy acting as a resource to answer some questions. The Board wanted the Superintendent to ask the athletic departments if “dual use” works and would they support it. The Board also asked for the City to educate the Board on dual use for (possibly) the August Board meeting. Alderman Kennedy

supplied the Board with lots of information among it that 4% of Elmhurst residences flood, but 60% of Elmhurst residents feel that the City needs to address this issue.

Upcoming Meetings: The next regularly scheduled meetings are Tuesday Aug. 11th and Sept. 8th at 7:30 pm. All meetings are held at the D205 Center:

The board moved to enter closed session for the purpose of employment of employee, negotiations and approval of 6/23/15 closed session minutes. The Observer did not wait for the expected action on closed session – employment of employee (separation agreement).

Action Taken out of Closed Session: The Board of Education approved the separation and release agreement as presented.