

Dist. 205 Board of Education
Oct. 13, 2015
7:35 pm – 10:20 pm

All Bd members present
Public: 50 Staff: 10 Press: 0
Observer: J. Dorner

The Board was in closed session from 6:00 p.m. for contract negotiations and employment and employee.

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

Public Comment: LWV Elmhurst President Sue Whitworth read the following statement:
At the September 22nd Board of Education meeting, you approved paying \$225,000 over the next three years to a firm that would conduct a middle school study. This topic has not been discussed in recent School Board meetings and was considered less than 5 minutes during the vote to approve the expenditure. In contrast, several months ago, this Board spent 30 minutes discussing changing the name of the Curriculum and Instruction Department to the Learning and Teaching Department.

On September 22nd D205 Board Docs had not been updated with agenda items, attachments, minutes, audio or video from the committee meetings held the prior week. An email was sent on September 23rd by our observer to the Board of Education about this lack of deliberation and was answered that this “study was discussed in the Learning and Teaching committee as well as the Performance Management Committee. Both were open meetings.”

Board Doc’s on the D205 website updated 2 weeks later on October 8th included the minutes only for the committee meetings on September 14th and 16th. Learning and Teaching Committee meeting did have an item entitled “Middle School Programming”.

The Performance Management meeting of Sept. 16th had an agenda item entitled “Academic Return on Investment.” The Board Doc’s state that Dr. Moyer shared the proposal and the committee discussed and the full board would be updated. However again, no detail and nothing regarding the price tag of \$225,000 to what is noted as “to gain invaluable information on middle school best practices”.

We question the timing of this decision, since a community engagement initiative, Focus 205, had only one meeting at the time of this commitment, asking the community what we want our schools to be.

According to D205’s Policy manual, policy 2:150, Board committees are advisory in nature, and report directly to the full Board.

For 95 years The League of Women Voters encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and works to influence public policy through education and advocacy. To that end, the Elmhurst League wants to remind this Board that your deliberations and decision-making process are important for the citizens of Elmhurst to witness, whether it be in-person attendance at a meeting or by watching it electronically.

We are concerned at the lack of discussion and are looking forward to dialog among yourselves and your commitment to hold open meetings with appropriate discussion on agenda topics.

Reports and Presentations:

A. National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists and Commended Students: York commended scholars, who represent the top 5% of US high school seniors are: Jack Anderson, Nora Barrett, William Brigham, Julia Conversa, Daphne David, Mark Edakara, Abigail Emich, Anna Hubert, Brennan McGovern, Claire Niewiara, Brandon Parr, and Kristen Viola. There are three semifinalists for 2015, which represent the top 1% of US high school seniors: Kathryn Dierksheide, Robert Tomaska and Natasha Yarklagadda.

After this presentation, most of the audience left, leaving 9 people.

B. Focus 205: Kara Caforio, one of the co-chairs gave an update on the last meeting. Less people attended this meeting in comparison to the September meeting.

Dr. Fitzgerald, Assistant Superintendent of Learning and Teaching, discussed “Tomorrow’s Classroom Today.” Eight different ideas were discussed in small group settings, which included all day kindergarten and a language immersion school. Attendees could also contribute some of their ideas for discussion as well. Next meeting is Nov. 12th with Chris Whelton, Assistant Superintendent for finance and facilities, will present “Utilization of Resources for Maximum Student Success.”

C. Student Achievement Plan Objectives Update:

- A PERA (Performance Evaluation Reform Act) Committee will become “official” on Nov. 1st. There is a group who is already meeting and has come up with a timeline to complete work on this by the end of the school year.
- Each middle and elementary school has identified an assessment team to create district common assessments to measure student growth.
- The administrators professional learning meeting worked on learning targets. This aligns with the first question of PLCs (Professional Learning Communities): What do we want students to know and be able to do?
- The Cabinet will be meeting on the first chapter of the District Management Council’s book *Spending Money Wisely, Getting the most form School District Budgets*.

D. 2015-16 Enrollment Analysis and Internal Enrollment Projections through 2020-21:

Enrollment for the entire district decreased by 32 students compared to last year. Breakdown by level is as follows:

Early Childhood **increased** by 21 from 248 to 269 (8.5%).

Grade K-5 **decreased** by 78 from 3500 to 3422 (2.2%).

Middle School Grade 6-8 **increased** by 72 from 1921 to 1993 (3.7%). (8th grade had a 97 student increase)

High School Grade 9-12 **decreased** by 47 from 2694 to 2647 (1.7%).

- Enrollment growth for Madison School (early childhood) has increased by 44% over the last 5 years.
- Emerson enrollment has decreased by 100 students over the last 4 years and Hawthorne has decreased by 100 students in the last 5 years.
- Jackson has had two successive years of larger than expected kindergarten classes.
- D205 is experiencing an enrollment bubble for grades 6-10.
- Bryan is projected to be the largest middle school starting next year.

District Projections for 2016/17 through 2020/21:

<u>16-17</u>	<u>17-18</u>	<u>18-19</u>	<u>19-20</u>	<u>20-21</u>	
8,387 (+56)	8,470 (+83)		8,491 (+21)	8,573 (+82)	8,543(-30)

E. Overview of York High School Course Proposals for 2016-17:

2 Possible New Courses are:

- Sports Broadcasting and Journalism
- Special Topics in History – this course will be available for summer school as well as during the school year.

14 Possible Course Modifications:

- Journalism II (Mod. Of York-hi and Y'sTales)
- Foundation Research and Digital Literacy (Mod of Research in Social Sciences Honors)
- AP Seminar (Mod of Research in the Social Sciences Honors)
- AP Computer Science Principles (Mod of Programming Honors)
- Woman's Studies (Mod for grade level appropriateness, added Soph to Jr & Sr)
- Computer Programming I, AP Computer Science A, Computer Science II (Mod graduation credit – Adding Practical art credit option)
- Bilingual Language Arts 9 (English 9 in Spanish)
- Bilingual Biology (Biology in Spanish)
- Bilingual Algebra A (Algebra A in Spanish)
- Bilingual Algebra AB (Algebra AB in Spanish)
- ACP French 3H (ACP = advanced college project)
- ACP French 4H
- ACP Spanish 3H
- ACP Spanish 4H

F. English Language Arts Conceptual Framework:

A conceptual framework for English Language Arts was formed. It started with belief statements about College and Career Ready in literacy. It then contained what the learning experience should include.

G. Learning and Teaching Committee Report:

Mrs. Ebner reported on the **Learning and Teaching Committee** of 9/14/15.

- Consensus was reached on avoiding duplicate presentations. A schedule of topics was discussed.
- Dr. Moyer discussed the District Management Council (DMC). He gave a presentation of its background and capabilities. He also gave a rationale for retaining this firm for consulting services related to Middle School processes.

H. Performance Management Committee Report:

Mrs. Stuefen reported on the **Performance Management Committee** of 9/16/15.

- The committee discussed the Superintendent Goal and Evaluation process, timeline and instrument.
- Dr. Moyer will be reviewed mid-year in January and May or June for final year-end review. These reviews will be done in closed session under agenda item employment of employee.
- The committee discussed a comprehensive compensation study, which has been discussed

frequently in the recent past.

- Dr. Moyer shared the Middle School Study proposal from the District Management Council.

I. Policy Committee Policy:

Mr. McDonough reported on the Policy Committee Meeting of 9/21/15.

The Committee discussed the following policies:

- Policy #6:235 Access to the District Network and Technology – The District’s attorney had drafted this to address the Mobile Learning Initiative and 1:1 Technology.
- Policy #5:240 Suspension – The District’s attorney drafted a new policy.
- Both of the above policies will be brought to the full Board as a first reading.

The Committee reviewed the suggested policy changes from PRESS (Policy Reference Education Subscription Service). Most of these policies had minor changes/additions to references. Unless noted, all are recommended to be brought before the entire Board for a first reading.

- 2:160 Board Attorney
- 2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure
- 4:50 Bill Payment
- 5:50 Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace: Tobacco Prohibition
- 5:170 Copyright – the committee recommends to kept the current policy
- 6:140 Education of Homeless Children
- 7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities
- 7:40 Nonpublic School Students, Including Parochial and Home-Schooled Students
- 7:310 Restrictions on Publications Including Electronic Materials
- 7:325 Student Fundraising Activities
- 8:10 Connection with the Community
- 8:80 Gifts to the District

Superintendent Communications:

A. State Conferences – IASA/LUDA: Superintendent Moyer attended IASA (Illinois Association of School Administrators) conference in Springfield and the LUDA (Large Unit District Association) conference in Chicago. Both had sessions that were meaningful to the District, for instance, Dr. Moyer attended one on over-assessment of students and preserving instructional time and at LUDA, he attended one on Supervising Principals to have them think of themselves as instructional leaders rather than task masters.

Board Communications: Mr. McDonough attended the school law seminar put on by Franczek Radelet. Mr. Collins said that the City had planned on the yearly TIF update for this evening at 6:00 pm, but did reschedule it for next week. Mr. Collins resigned as Board President. Mrs. Ebner will become President of the Board at the end of the meeting. The Board will vote for a new Vice President at the beginning of the next meeting.

Upcoming Meetings: The next regularly scheduled meeting is Oct. 27th at 7:30 pm. All meetings are at the District 205 Center, second floor:

- Monday, Oct. 19, 2015 – Learning and Teaching Committee Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 20 Finance Committee Meeting – 7:00 pm

The Board adjourned into closed session for the purpose of negotiations. No action is expected.