

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 186,
SPRINGFIELD, SANGAMON COUNTY, ILLINOIS
Monday, November 20, 2017 (6:30 PM)

The Board of Education convened in Regular Session on November 20 A.D., 2017, at 5:30 p.m., there being present thereat:

Present: Adam Lopez, President
Julie Hammers, Board Secretary

Anthony Mares
Donna Moore
Jamie Sisti
J. Michael Zimmers

Jennifer Gill, Superintendent
Rekha Goswami, Student Member

CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Roll Call

President Lopez called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Mares moved to adjourn to Executive Session to consider the following matters:

- 2.1 The Appointment, Employment, or Dismissal of Employees – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)
- 2.2 Contract Negotiations – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
- 2.3 Security Procedures – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8)
- 2.4 Student Discipline and Other Matters Concerning Individual Students – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9,10)

Motion seconded by Mrs. Moore and carried by the following vote:

Those voting “aye”: Lopez, Mares, Moore, Sisti, Zimmers
Those voting “no”: None.

Adjournment to Executive Session

The meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. Upon reconvening, it was noted that five Board members were present.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

3.1 President's Comments

Mr. Lopez made the routine announcement that public comment on published agenda items would occur during the Public Comments portion of the meeting. He instructed those interested in addressing the Board to fill out the required Public Participation at Board Meetings Form and submit it to Ms. Mitchell in the front row of the audience. Additionally, he reminded those interested in addressing the Board that comments are limited to three minutes.

Mr. Lopez reported attending the Illinois Association of School Board's Joint Annual Conference in Chicago recently. He indicated that he enjoyed spending time with some of his fellow Board members while having the opportunity to attend professional development designed specifically for Board of Education members from across the State of Illinois.

Next, Mr. Lopez read a statement that addressed concerns about an incident that occurred after a recent high school basketball game. He reported that going forward, spectators should expect to be searched before admittance into some District sporting events. He encouraged spectators to arrive early to future sporting events, especially basketball games where a large crowd is expected, to allow for the additional time needed to ensure the safety of all those attending and participating.

Mrs. Gill indicated that the District reserves the right to conduct searches prior to spectator admittance at any District event, including sporting events. Mr. Jason Wind, Director of School Support, reported that he and the high school athletic directors had recently met to develop additional security procedures, beyond what is already in place. He has been working closely with the Springfield Police Department to ensure enough off-duty police officers are available to provide security at upcoming sporting events and to supplement the civilian security that routinely attend. Next, Mr. Wind reported that his office is developing a procedure for conducting the wand searches that will be needed at some upcoming sporting events to allow fans to enter as quickly as possible while taking into consideration the safety and security of those in attendance. He asked for the community's patience while the new security measures are implemented. Mrs. Gill also reported that no admittance would be granted after the start of the third period at upcoming basketball games, similar to the procedures that are in place currently at the Boys' Basketball City Tournament.

3.2 Board Salutes

Mr. Mares also addressed safety at sporting events, after which he reported visiting Black Hawk Elementary School and Springfield High School over the course of the last two weeks. Next, he reported that the results of the facilities study would be presented during the December 4, 2017 regular Board of Education meeting. Lastly, Mr. Mares encouraged the community to attend a charity basketball tournament, taking place at and benefiting Lanphier High School over the Thanksgiving weekend.

Mr. Zimmers reported also attending the Illinois Association of School Board's Joint Annual Conference in Chicago. He indicated that he especially enjoyed the presentation that he attended by Dr. Ruby Payne, an internationally recognized leader in cultural issues that affect education and students.

Mrs. Moore reported also attending the Illinois Association of School Board's Joint Annual Conference in Chicago. She attended numerous workshops on data and how it can be used to make policy. She also attended a session on the 5Essentials. She encouraged parents to take the survey associated with the 5Essentials, available on their child's school's webpage of the District website.

Mrs. Sisti reported also attending the Illinois Association of School Board's Joint Annual Conference in Chicago. She attended several sessions, including a session on restorative justice. Lastly, Mrs. Sisti reported visiting Lee School and attending Fairview Elementary School's recent reading night, at which staff dressed up as characters from their favorite books.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4.1 Old Business

There was no old business at this time.

4.2 New Business

There was no new business at this time.

4.3 Student Business

Ms. Goswami provided an update from the Superintendent's Student Roundtable. She reported that the group meets again on November 29. They will continue planning for the upcoming Unity Day event and the Middle School visits.

Ms. Goswami invited the community to attend a ceremony at Mission Outreach, 4930 Laverna Road, at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, December 11, 2017 to celebrate the send off of heart catheterization laboratory equipment donated by St. John's Hospital to India. Ms. Goswami reported that she and a group of students had met their fundraising goal, which provided the funds necessary to ship the equipment to the clinic in India, as well as supply personnel at the clinic with training and the supplies necessary to keep the lab updated. She then provided some additional background information on the project.

Mrs. Gill then asked Ms. Goswami to share her thoughts regarding the increased security measures at sporting events as they relate to students. Ms. Goswami indicated that she feels the measures are a good idea.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

There were no presentations to the Board at this time.

BUSINESS REPORTS

6.1 Treasurer's Report

Board members were provided with electronic copies of the Treasurer's Report for October 2017. Copies have been filed with the Official Minutes and are available for public viewing on the Electronic School Board, [here](#).

Mr. Joseph Bascio, Business Manager, reported that the District ended the month of October with a cash balance of approximately \$50.5 million in the bank for all funds. Mr. Bascio further reported earned interest for the month of approximately \$59,000, with year-to-date interest earnings of approximately \$161,600.

6.2 Presentation of the 2016-2017 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

Board members were provided with copies of the 2016-2017 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Copies have been filed with the Official Minutes.

Mr. Bascio introduced John George, Audit Partner, and Katie Berry, Senior Manager, from the accounting firm of RSM US LLP. Mr. George provided information regarding the audit team, process and timeline. Ms. Berry directed Board members to the introduction letter and statistical schedules, which provide historical data. She then reported that RSM has issued an unmodified (clean) opinion. Next, Ms. Berry provided a general overview of the report including information on the governmental-wide financial statements, the fund financial statements, and required supplementary information. She reported that next year's report would include GASB 75. Mr. George reported that administration was very cooperative. He thanked administration for their assistance and cooperation. Mrs. Gill thanked Mr. Bascio, and his staff, including Mr. Nate Fretz,

Accounting Director, who worked closely with the audit team. Mr. Fretz then addressed the Board. He thanked the staff of the Business Office and across the District for their assistance in providing requested documentation to the auditors.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

7.1 Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Gill provided the following information and Shout-Outs:

- Thank you to the Andre Iguodala Youth Foundation for hosting the 13th Annual Andre Iguodala Turkey Giveaway, providing the makings of Thanksgiving dinner to community members in need.
- Shout out to Lincoln Magnet School Beta Club, as well as the Southeast and Lanphier High School basketball teams for their assistance with the Turkey Giveaway.
- Shout out to Grant Middle School for their recent Reading After Dark event
- Thank you to the GMS Book Worms and Barnes and Noble for supporting Grant Middle School's Reading After Dark event.
- Shout out to Grant Middle School students and staff members about whom she has received letters of praise in recent weeks. The first letter was from Mr. Steve Eunice of Peoria, Illinois. Mr. Eunice was recently visiting Springfield and encountered a group of Grant Middle School students. He praised these students for their good manners and excellent behavior. The second letter Mrs. Gill read was from the parent of a former student that recently was promoted to the rank of Eagle Scout. The parent thanked Grant Middle School staff for their positive impact on his son, who described his years at Grant as the best of his school career.
- Shout out to the Jefferson Middle School Art Club along with many other District schools that participated in the Festival of Trees
- Shout out to Southeast High School senior Sydney Tobias for making the IHSA state qualifying time in the backstroke competition.
- In follow-up to the November 6, 2017 Board of Education meeting, Mrs. Gill provided additional assessment data.
- With respect to Consent Action Item 8.6, the agreement provides the opportunity to create a pilot program with the Regional Office of Education to affect truancy rates at Washington Middle School. It provides additional supports to families of truant students. If the program is effective and grant funds are obtained, the program will expand to other schools.

A moment of silence was observed for Southern View teacher Kierra Doss, who passed away recently.

CONSENT ACTION ITEMS

8.1 Approval of Consent Action Items

Approval of consent action items as listed in the agenda.

Resolution: The Superintendent recommends approval of the consent action items 8.2 through 8.6 as described in the corresponding resolutions.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Donna Moore**) Moved, Member (**Michael Zimmers**) seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends approval of the consent action items 8.2 through 8.6 as described in the corresponding resolutions'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 5 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Lopez, Mares, Moore, Sisti, Zimmers

Those voting "no": None.

8.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Session and the Regular Meeting of November 6, 2017

Resolution: WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Springfield School District 186 reviews the minutes of the regular session and the executive session of the previous Board Meetings; and WHEREAS, copies of these sets of minutes were distributed to the Board in the board packet prior to this meeting; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the aforementioned set of regular session and executive session minutes and directs the Secretary to include them in the official records of the Board of Education meetings.

8.3 Approval of Payroll and Bills Payable

Resolution: That the Board of Education approves payroll and bills payable as shown in the attached report.

8.4 Declaration of Surplus Property

Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED to declare the above items on this document as surplus materials and to be sold or disposed.

8.5 Approval of a Consultant Agreement with Creative Culture Consulting

Resolution: WHEREAS, Springfield School District 186 desires a consult for the Disabilities to Possibility Conference in 2018 who will provide professional development focused specifically on students with disabilities; and WHEREAS, Patrick Schwarz, Ph.D. of Creative Culture Consulting LLC is qualified to provide such services as a Consultant for the District; and WHEREAS, Dr. Schwarz has indicated his willingness and desire to provide professional development at the Disabilities to Possibility Conference on February 24, 2018 and the cost for these services will be paid by a donation received by Springfield Parents of Students with Disabilities (SPSD) for Professional Development for Parents not exceed \$5000.00; and NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the retention of consultant Patrick Schwartz per the terms identified above and directs the Superintendent to execute the necessary documents on behalf of the Board.

8.6 Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Regional Office of Education #51

Resolution: WHEREAS, Springfield Public School District 186 is continually looking for ways to improve student achievement and student attendance; and WHEREAS, the Regional Office of Education (ROE) #51 is able to provide an alternative learning opportunity program (Project Impact) to support at risk students; and WHEREAS, the District and ROE #51 will work together to identify students to be enrolled in the Project Impact program; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the agreement with the Regional Office of Education #51 regarding the Project Impact program.

ROLL CALL ACTION ITEMS

9.1 Approval of Personnel Recommendations

Resolution: The Superintendent recommends adoption of the Personnel recommendations as presented.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Donna Moore**) Moved, Member (**Anthony Mares**) Seconded to approve the ORIGINAL motion 'The Superintendent recommends adoption of the Personnel recommendations as presented'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 5 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Lopez, Mares, Moore, Sisti, Zimmers
Those voting "no": None.

9.2 Approval of the 2017-2018 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Springfield Education Association

Approval of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Springfield Education Association for the 2017-2018 school year

Resolution: The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution: WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Springfield Public School District 186 and the Springfield Education Association have conducted contract negotiations from August 9, 2017 through November 7, 2017; and WHEREAS, the negotiating teams of both parties have signed tentative agreements regarding changes to the Negotiated Agreement between the Board and the Springfield Education Association; and NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Springfield Public School District 186 does hereby approve the changes to the bargaining agreement with the Springfield Education Association as noted in the signed tentative agreements and ratified by the membership of the SEA on November 20, 2017.

Mrs. Gill then read the agreement, including changes and financial terms associated with the changes.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Michael Zimmers**) Moved, Member (**Jamie Sisti**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution: WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Springfield Public School District 186 and the Springfield Education Association have conducted contract negotiations from August 9, 2017 through November 7, 2017; and WHEREAS, the negotiating teams of both parties have signed tentative agreements regarding changes to the Negotiated Agreement between the Board and the Springfield Education Association; and NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Springfield Public School District 186 does hereby approve the changes to the bargaining agreement with the Springfield Education Association as noted in the signed tentative agreements and ratified by the membership of the SEA on November 20, 2017'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 5 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Lopez, Mares, Moore, Sisti, Zimmers
Those voting "no": None.

9.3 Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Public Notice and Holding of a Public Hearing Regarding Truth in Taxation Law

The law requires the school district to notify the public and to hold a hearing regarding the adoption of the aggregate tax levy if it exceeds 105% of the previous year's tax extension. The estimated aggregate tax levy represents a 3.34% increase.

Resolution: The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution: WHEREAS, the Truth in Taxation Law requires taxing districts to estimate the amount to be extended upon the levy of the preceding year; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby determines that the amount of money estimated to be necessary to be raised by property taxes will be \$97,250,000; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education shall hold a public hearing at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, December 18, 2017; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Board of Education is hereby authorized and directed to give public notice of such public hearing and the intent of the Board of Education to adopt an aggregate levy in an amount that is not more than 105% of the amount of property taxes extended or estimated to be extended upon the levy of the preceding year.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Donna Moore**) Moved, Member (**Anthony Mares**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'The Superintendent recommends adoption of the following resolution: WHEREAS, the Truth in Taxation Law requires taxing districts to estimate the amount to be extended upon the levy of the preceding year; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby determines that the amount of money estimated to be necessary to be raised by property taxes will be \$97,250,000; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education shall hold a public hearing at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, December 18, 2017; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Board of Education is hereby authorized and directed to give public notice of such public hearing and the intent of the Board of Education to adopt an aggregate levy in an amount that is not more than 105% of the amount of property taxes extended or estimated to be extended upon the levy of the preceding year'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 5 - 0**

Those voting "aye": Lopez, Mares, Moore, Sisti, Zimmers
Those voting "no": None.

9.4 Student Discipline

Resolution: That the Board approves the student discipline as discussed in Executive Session and summarized by the Superintendent as:

One 8th grade students be hereby expelled from further attendance at Grant Middle School through the end of the 2017-2018 school year with a program;

One 9th grade student be hereby expelled from further attendance at Southeast High School through the end of the 2018-2019 school year without a program;

And one 9th grade student be hereby expelled from further attendance at Lanphier High School through the end of the first semester of the 2018-2019 school year without a program.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Donna Moore**) Moved, Member (**Jamie Sisti**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'That the Board approves the student discipline as discussed in Executive Session and summarized by the Superintendent'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **5** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 5 – 0**

Those voting "aye": Lopez, Mares, Moore, Sisti, Zimmers
Those voting "no": None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

10.1 Next Regular Meeting — Monday, December 4, 2017, at 5:30 p.m. — Board Room

10.2 Upcoming District Events

November 23 & 24 – No School – Thanksgiving Break

10.3 Freedom of Information Report

10.4 Alliance Legislative Reports – 100-48 and 100-49

Available at the following link: <https://www.iasb.com/govrel/almenu.cfm>

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Lopez declared the meeting adjourned until Monday, December 4, 2017. The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Adam Lopez, President

Julie A. Hammers, Secretary

Dated: _____