



Board of Education

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Call to Order and Roll Call

President Eileen Kowalczyk called the Regular Business Meeting of the Board of Education of July 21, 2022, held at Fairview School, to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members present were Vicki Chung, Corrin Bennett-Kill, Jennifer Ciok, Chris Lettow and Eileen Kowalczyk. Jennifer Kobus joined the meeting remotely through video conference. Absent Kimberly Fay.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Kowalczyk asked for a moment of silence and reflection for all those affected by the tragedies in Highland Park and at Robb Elementary in Uvalde, Texas.

Communications

Board of Education

- **NSSEO:** Member Lettow explained that there was an emergency meeting to approve the NSSEA and NSSEASP contracts. Member Lettow could not attend, and Member Ciok represented the District.
- **Education Foundation:** No report.
- **PTO Reports:** No reports.
- **Board President Report:**
 - President Kowalczyk thanked all members attending the Mount Prospect Block Party for engaging with the community.

Community Comments

President Kowalczyk said there were two times on the agenda for community comments. Each time the Board would listen for up to 60 minutes and asked people to limit their time speaking to three minutes.

- Dr. Judy Hacket, Superintendent of Northwest Suburban Special Education Organization (NSS) addressed the Board to thank Member Vicki Chung for her time as the liaison with NSSEO. Dr. Hacket wanted to thank Superintendent Gorr and the community for the time that Member Chung was able to work with their organization. Dr. Hacket presented Member Chung with a gift.

Staff Reports

◆ **Update of Summer Facilities**

Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Facilities Jason Kaiz shared that the projects within the District are going very well. He highlighted the major purchase of the chiller at Fairview School being completed. Mr. Kaiz listed some of the other work completed, including partial flooring replacement in all buildings, a new roof at the maintenance shed, and a generator at the administration building. Superintendent Gorr invited the Board to a walk-thru of all facilities on August 11.

◆ **Report the 2022-2023 Tentative Budget**

Assistant Superintendent Kaiz began his presentation with the Fiscal Year 2022 recap of the budget. He reminded the Board that the budget is a roadmap of the District's goals and objectives. For Fiscal Year 2023, Mr. Kaiz explained local, state, and federal revenue assumptions with an increase in local property taxes.

With expenditures, salaries are approximately 59%. With the new contracts, there has been an increase in salaries. There is a large increase in benefits because insurance costs have gone up. There is a budget of \$2,000,000 for construction projects. Some anticipated expenditures include a Westbrook intercom, Fairview gym projector, updating wireless services, Social Emotional Learning curriculum purchase, and Strategic Plan development. Assistant Superintendent Kaiz shared that there is word that the Cook County taxes will be delayed in the fall. This has not been confirmed yet, but if it were, it would lead to delays in future billing cycles if we do not receive these funds. There are options to correct this issue if, indeed, the delay does happen, and Mr. Kaiz reported he is watching this closely.

❖ Superintendent Report

• Fall Back to School Update

Superintendent Gorr began her discussion with information on orientation dates for new certified staff members in District 57 on August 11 and 12. Dr. Gorr announced the District is offering, for the first time, an orientation for new instructional assistants. Dr. Gorr invited the entire Board to the new staff luncheon on Friday, August 12. The staff institute days are held on August 15, 16, and 17.

a. Staffing Plan Update

Superintendent Gorr reported that as of this date, we have 98% of staff hired. Human Resources Director Karen Schwartzwald has been working very hard to hire all staff. The District will continue to spread the word about the positions available.

b. Enrollment Update

Superintendent Gorr discussed that enrollment has been steady and typical. First-grade numbers are slightly high, but we do not recommend adding a section at this time and continue to monitor.

c. COVID Update

Superintendent Gorr's recommendation to the Board is to discontinue social distancing, remove SHIELD testing and mandatory masks, also cease the monitoring of the dashboard. At this point of the pandemic, with vaccinations and with our management of the pandemic, she relayed it is time to return to the work of the school. Continuing with the mitigations that were in place would be very difficult for staff and administration to continue. All Board members agreed with the recommendation from the administration and Superintendent Gorr.

• Strategic Planning Report

Superintendent Gorr presented the proposal for a new Strategic Plan consultant. The strategic plan sets priorities for the District 57 Board of Education and administration to accomplish their goals. Dr. Gorr researched multiple firms and considered cost, approach for our community, timeline, and fit. Dr. Gorr recommended Weselak & Associates and gave the reasons for the choice. Dr. Gorr shared that at this time, the Equity Audit is in the process of being completed and suggested the Strategic Plan begin in January 2023 with implementation in August 2023. The estimate for Weselak & Associates is under \$10,000. Dr. Gorr recommended a mass mailing survey to District 57 families with strategic plan goals. Two Board members suggested waiting until the Equity Audit is complete and starting this process in 2023. The Board and Dr. Gorr discussed this option. Four Board members elected to defer to the recommendation of Dr. Gorr and the administration and therefore move forward.

• Freedom of Information Act

There was one FOIA to report. Superintendent Gorr shared the following information:

On July 11, 2022, a request was made from Smart Procure requesting all purchasing records from April 8 thru July 11. A response was sent on July 13, 2022.

Consent Agenda

President Kowalczyk said it was necessary to pull the June 23, 2022, minutes from the Consent Agenda because all members were not present at the meetings.

Item 1. Minutes of the following Board of Education Meeting

President Kowalczyk entertained a motion to approve the June 23 regular business meeting minutes. Member Chung moved, seconded by Member Lettow. Roll call was as follows

Yes: Ciok, Bennett-Kill, Kowalczyk, Lettow, Chung, Kobus

Abstain: Kowalczyk

Absent: Fay Motion carried.

President Kowalczyk entertained a motion to approve the remaining items of the Consent Agenda. Member Ciok reviewed the bills and said everything was in order. Member Ciok moved, seconded by Member Bennett-Kill, to approve the following items of the Consent Agenda

Item 2. Personnel Transactions

That the Board of Education approve the contract for the following administrator:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Keri Malow-Williams	Assistant Principal	Lincoln	07/28/2022	\$ 86,000

That the Board of Education approves the employment of the following certified individuals:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Taylor Marquardt**	Speech-Language Pathologist	Westbrook	08/15/2022	\$58,443*
Ashley Bloom	3rd Grade Teacher	Fairview	08/15/2022	\$46,838*
Kathryn Demeas	2nd Grade Teacher	Fairview	08/15/2022	\$62,003*
Rebecca Ferraro	Spanish Teacher (.67 FTE)	Lincoln	08/15/2022	\$40,332*
Colleen Jennings	Speech-Language Pathologist	Westbrook	08/15/2022	\$53,484*
Ariana Cilia	4th Grade Teacher	Lions Park	08/15/2022	\$48,243*
Kaitlin Staffeldt	Special Education Teacher	Fairview	08/15/2022	\$45,473*
Grace Sefton	Social Worker	Lincoln	08/15/2022	\$58,443*
Chris Steininger	Social Worker	Lincoln	08/15/2022	\$53,484*
Julie Yi**	Psychologist	Lincoln	08/15/2022	\$58,443*

*Salary includes Board paid TRS

**Pending criminal background check

That the Board of Education accepts the resignation of the following certified employee:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
JoAnn Dynkin	School Psychologist	Lincoln	08/01/2022
Maria Dolorres Higgs	Bilingual Spanish Interventionist	Westbrook/Lions	08/31/2022
Darcy O'Brien	Science Teacher	Lincoln	08/01/2022

That the Board of Education approves the employment of the following ESP individual:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Roseann Houghton	SOAR Instructional Assistant (.5 FTE)	Westbrook	08/16/2022	\$18.07
Rhoda Livermore	Kids' Corner Assistant	Fairview	08/16/2022	\$16.83
Christopher Young	Instructional Assistant	Fairview	08/16/2022	\$16.83
Heather Gawronski Salerno**	Communications Specialist (.5 FTE)	Admin	08/01/2022	\$30,000/year

**Pending criminal background check

That the Board of Education approve the release of the following ESP employee:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
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Samantha Mangrum

Instructional Assistant

Lincoln

07/22/2022

That the Board of Education approve the resignation of the following ESP employee:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Ilisa Subrin	Purchasing Agent/Transportation	Admin	08/05/2022

Item 3. Financial Reports – June 2022

Item 4. Accounts Payable Bills Totaling \$740,334.25

Item 5. Approve Donations Report

Item 6. Approve Tuition Reimbursement

Item 7. Approve Review of the Closed Session Minutes for the Period of July 2020 through December 2022 and Destruction of Closed Session Audio Tapes prior to June 2022.

Roll call vote resulted as follows

Yes: Chung, Lettow, Bennet-Kill, Ciok, Kobus, Kowalczyk

No: None Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

1. Approve PRESS Policies Issue 109

Policy Number	Title
• 2:230	Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Petitions
• 3:70	Succession of Authority
• 4:10	Fiscal and Business Management
• 4:70	Resource Conservation
• 5:40	Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease
• 5:70	Religious Holidays
• 5:80	Court Duty
• 5:110	Recognition for Service
• 5:140	Solicitations By or From Staff
• 5:240	Suspension
• 6:70	Teaching About Religions
• 6:80	Teaching About Controversial Issue
• 6:140	Education of Homeless Children
• 6:290	Homework
• 6:330	Achievement and Awards
• 7:15	Student and Family Privacy Rights
• 7:285	Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Food Allergy Management Program

President Kowalczyk entertained a motion to approve Press Policies Issue 109. Member Bennett-Kill moved and seconded by Member Chung.

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Yes: Ciok, Fay, Bennett-Kill, Chung, Lettow, Kowalczyk

No: None

Motion Carried

Community Comments

President Kowalczyk said this was the second time for community comments. There were none.

New Business

None

Board Discussion

None

Closed Session

President Kowalczyk said there was a need for closed session for the following reasons.

1. For or the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body.

Member Chung made a motion to go into closed session, and Member Lettow seconded the motion. Board convened into Closed Session at 8:09 p.m.

Regular Session

Member Lettow made a motion, seconded by Member Ciok, to return to open session. All members voted yes and the Board reconvened into open session at 9:26 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Kowalczyk entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Ciok made a motion, seconded by Member Lettow, to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote resulted as follows

Yes: Bennett-Kill, Ciok, Chung, Kobus, Lettow, Kowalczyk

Absent: Fay

No: None

Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.



Roberta Flack, Secretary



Eileen B. Kowalczyk, President

Date of approval: August 18, 2022