



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 April 21, 2022, held at Fairview School, to order at 7:01 p.m. Board members present were Vicki Chung, Kimberly Fay, Corrin Bennett-Kill, Jennifer Ciok, and Eileen Kowalczyk. Absent: Jennifer Kobus.

Pledge of Allegiance

Girl Scout Junior Troop 45689 came forward to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Student Recognition

President Kowalczyk thanked the coaches of The Lincoln Wrestling Team for their great success this year. Dave Baysingar addressed the board, mentioned his gratitude to Athletic Director Kelly Bailey for her assistance, and reported that eight team members were State Qualifiers. Each member of the team received a certificate.

Communications

Board of Education

- NSSEO: Member Chung shared her enthusiasm for tonight's presentation of the NSSEO Budget by Dr. Judy Hackett, Superintendent, and Julie Jilekm, Assistant Superintendent of Finance. Dr. Hackett began the presentation with a history of NSSEO, its mission, and an overview of the special education programs and services offered to surrounding districts. The NSSEO budget will be approved at the next meeting on May 19, 2022.
- Education Foundation: Member Ciok discussed the Gala held on April 9. Member Ciok will update the final numbers at the next meeting.
- PTO Reports: Vice President Fay (Lincoln), Member Lettow (Lions Park), Member Bennett-Kill (Fairview) reported on PTO meetings and events at the schools.
- Board President Report:
 - President Kowalczyk said there was no need for the May 5 tentative meeting, and it will be canceled.

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.

- An audience member addressed the Board regarding the enrollment numbers at Lincoln Middle School. She asked for a solution with the Lincoln staffing plan and hiring the two teachers to address the high classroom enrollment numbers.

Staff Reports

❖ Superintendent Report

Superintendent Gorr thanked Dr. Hackett and Ms. Jilek from NSSEO.

- Update on Lincoln Staffing Plan

Superintendent Gorr began her presentation by acknowledging Assistant Principal Randy Steen in the audience to give some feedback on Lincoln. Dr. Gorr presented three staffing options to lower class size for the projected 6th-grade class next year. The staffing scenarios were 1) Increase 1.0 FTE, 2) Increase 1.33 FTE, or 3) Increase 2.0 FTE. The Board began the discussion by asking Mr. Kaiz about budget

concerns, and he shared that even if option 3, there is room, and we would be fine. All the Board members agreed to hire the 2.0 full-time positions.

- Summer School Update

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Kristin Vonder Haar, updated the Board on all summer programs offered by District 57. In addition to the Extended School Year Program (ESY) and the Bilingual Extended School Year, there is the Summer Bridge program. This program is offered to students that require additional math and literacy support. This year, Summer Bridge will be offered at Lions Park School from July 11 to July 29. Dr. Vonder Haar explained that the district has nine staff members currently teaching and plans to recruit additional staff to expand the program.

- Preview Board of Education Meeting Dates

Superintendent Gorr asked if any Board members had questions about the proposed meeting dates for the 2022/2023 school year. No further discussion was needed, and the calendar will be voted on in the May meeting.

- Remote Education Program

Superintendent Gorr shared that there are a small number of remote learners at this time, and it is the recommendation of the Administration to discontinue the remote learning policy effective at the end of this school year.

- Citizens Finance Advisory Committee (CFAC)

Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations updated the Board on the new committee. There are a total of 10 members, including community members/parents, a student, and teachers. This committee will start with financial projections and possibly make this a multi-year commitment.

- Freedom of Information Act

There were two FOIA to report. Superintendent Gorr shared the following information:

- ❖ On March 16, 2022, a request was made from ABC7 requesting a copy of data reconsideration forms or other forms that challenge library books.
A response was sent on March 21, 2022.
- ❖ On April 11, 2022, we received a request from Smart Procure requesting all purchasing records from January 11 to current.
A response was sent on April 13, 2022.

Consent Agenda

President Kowalczyk entertained a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Member Lettow reviewed the bills and said everything was in order. Member Bennett-Kill moved, seconded by Member Chung, to approve the items of the Consent Agenda as follows:

Item 1. Minutes of the following Board of Education Meetings

- Regular Business Meeting April 21, 2022 – Open Session and Closed

Item 2. Personnel Transactions

That the Board of Education accepts the retirement of the following certified employees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Laurie Feinstein	Occupational Therapist .4 FTE	Lions Park	End of 2021-22 School Year
Kathy Winters	Teacher/ Speech	Westbrook	End of 2021-22 School Year

That the Board of Education approve first year leave of absence from the following certified employee:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Christina Mueller	Teacher	Lions Park	End of 2021-22 School Year

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>
Kari Commare	Teacher	Fairview	08/1/22

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>
Dawn Cunningham	Health Assistant	Lincoln	03/29/22	\$16.42

That the Board of Education accepts the resignation of the following ESP employees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Susan Alcazar	Instructional Assistant	Fairview	04/5/22
Joellen Fitzgerald	Clerical Assistant	Westbrook	04/8/22
Joe Monaco	District Maintenance	Admin	04/5/22
Ryan Nielsen	Instructional Assistant .8 FTE	Westbrook	04/8/22

Item 3. Financial Reports – March 2022

Item 4. Accounts Payable Bills Totaling \$392,105.96

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

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

No: None Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

None

Community Comments

President Kowalczyk said this was the second time for community comments.

- A parent re-addressed the Board to let them know she is happy that they decided on the two teacher hires and had some thoughts on the term of a new hire.

New Business

None

Board Discussion - Community Engagement

President Kowalczyk asked the Board for ideas for future community engagements. The ideas that were listed for Superintendent Gorr to look into further are; 1) Student liaison Board member for the 22/23 school year, 2) Tours of Lincoln in the fall, 3) Family survey in the fall for a community engagement committee 4) Minimum of attending two events in the community per year 5) Q and A event on becoming a Board member.

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.
2. Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees of their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.

Member Chung made a motion to go into closed session and Member Ciok seconded the motion. Board convened into Closed Session at 9:35 p.m.

Regular Session

Member Ciok made a motion, seconded by Member Bennett-Kill, to return to open session. All members voted yes and the Board reconvened into open session at 12:13 a.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, Fay, Lettow, Kowalczyk

Absent: Kobus

No: None

Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 12:13 a.m.



Roberta Flack, Secretary



Eileen B. Kowalczyk, President

Date of approval: May 19, 2022