



## 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 December 17, 2020, held via Zoom conferencing, to order at 7:06 p.m. Board members present: Vicki Chung, Kimberly Fay, Jennifer Kobus, Brian Maye, Gerald McCluskey, Rachael Rothrauff, and Eileen Kowalczyk. Absent: None.

### Public Hearing on 2020 Tax Levy

President Kowalczyk opened the Public Hearing on the 2020 Tax Levy.

Mr. Adam Parisi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, briefly recapped the information presented at the November 19 Board meeting. He informed the Board that the total proposed levy increase over last year for the district's capped funds is 4.24% and the total recommended 2020 levy is \$26,703,226. He said the notice of the hearing was published in the *Journal and Topics* on December 9 and the appropriate levy documents will be filed with Cook County on or before December 29. Mr. Parisi stated that after the tax cap application, the final 2020 tax extension is projected to be lower than the levy request. As such, the district must submit documentation of fund reductions to coincide with the final extension. In the likely event that the 2020 levy must be reduced, he said it is recommended that 100% of the reduction be made from the Education Fund. He also said that the Cook County Clerk's Office is scheduled to levy at least \$755,000 on the district's behalf for obligations in its Debt Services Fund.

President Kowalczyk asked if the Board had any questions. There were no questions. President Kowalczyk then asked if there was anyone in the audience at Fairview who wished to address the Board regarding the Tax Levy but there was no one at Fairview. President Kowalczyk closed the hearing at 7:09 p.m. and said the levy would be voted on later in the meeting under New Business.

### Communications

#### Board of Education

- NSSEO: Member Maye said he attended the December 2 meeting and there were three Shining Stars who were celebrated for transitioning from NSSEO to a more independent life and they will be looking for jobs. NSSEO is on a hybrid pause but they are planning to resume on January 4. The Sunrise Outdoor Educational Center is open to families but pre-registration is necessary. The next meeting is January 6.
- Education Foundation: Vice President Chung said she attended the December 15 meeting which was focused on the current fundraiser. She said proceeds will be evenly distributed to the four schools. The next meeting is January 19.
- PTO Reports: Member McCluskey (Lincoln), President Kowalczyk (Lions Park), Member Rothrauff (Westbrook), and Member Fay (Fairview) reported on PTO meetings.
- Board President Report:  
President Kowalczyk
  - Said the Board received many emails that contained good questions. She said questions are asked and discussed at meetings. Sometimes, as Board President, she will contact each Board member individually but then it would be discussed as a group at the next meeting.
  - Informed everyone that the Task Force met on December 10 and information will be included in tomorrow's email. Superintendent Aumiller said the Task Force is discussing what happens after hybrid and the next meeting will be January 12.
  - Notified everyone that there is a Special Meeting on January 7 which will be a virtual meeting held by video conference.

### Community Comments

President Kowalczyk said there were two times on the agenda for community comments. Those wishing to share comments were to email them using the Board feedback form on the district's website. The emails were seen by each of the Board members and district administration. The comments were posted on the website at noon that day. There were no community members at Fairview to address the Board.

### Staff Reports

- 2021-2022 Student Fees Presentation

Mr. Adam Parisi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, did a presentation on student fees. He said the fees for the 2021-2022 school year would remain the same. He said curriculum and Kids' Corner fees have remained the same since 2011-12 and transportation fees since 2012-13. There has been an early registration discount in place since the 2009-10 school year and approximately 82%-85% of families take advantage of that discount. He reviewed some items from the referendum campaign which noted that staffing levels and class sizes would not change when the referendum passed. He said in 2019-20 transportation had 955 riders and when we thought hybrid would start in November for Westbrook, Fairview and Lions Park, there would have been only 122 riders. Transportation revenues from parents were a negative \$51,079 due to reimbursements that were paid back to families because the students were remote. The transportation contract expenditures, even though greatly reduced, were still \$186,322. The transportation fees are \$375 for early registration and \$450 starting mid-June. The cost per bus is \$52,000 which the fees do not cover. The number of students attending Kids' Corner this year was greatly reduced and not a place for students to engage in fun activities but as a safe place for them for learning. The staffing for Kids' Corner may need to be increased next year.

Board discussion followed with Mr. Parisi answering questions. He said even with parents paying \$375 to \$450 for transportation, the district still subsidizes a big portion. Kids' Corner was a revenue producing program but now it is subsidized by the district. President Kowalczyk said the fees would be on the agenda for approval at the January 28, 2021, meeting.

- Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Aumiller said she had three Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests to report.

- 1) We received a commercial request on October 9 from Ken Deloian of SmartProcure. He requested the names, positions, departments, direct phone numbers, business cell numbers, email addresses and office address for current employees.

We responded on October 16, and sent him a spreadsheet that included the available information he requested.

- 2) We received another commercial request from Mr. Deloian on November 24. He requested information for purchase orders dated August 21, 2020, to current.

We responded on December 3, and sent him a spreadsheet that included the information he requested.

- 3) We received a request on October 19 from Keith Galloway of Student Transportation of America. He requested bid submittals and bid results from the District's Student Transportation Bid due April 2, 2020, and a copy of the contract with the vendor awarded the transportation services.

We responded the same day and sent him the documents he requested.

**Consent Agenda**

President Kowalczyk said it was necessary to pull the minutes from the Consent Agenda because all members were not present at the November 19 meeting. Member Fay reviewed the bills and said everything was in order. President Kowalczyk entertained a motion to approve the minutes. Vice President Chung moved, seconded by Member Maye, to approve the November 19, 2020, Open and Closed Session Minutes under Item 1 of the Consent Agenda. Roll call vote resulted as follows

Yes: Chung, Fay, Maye, McCluskey, Rothrauff, Kowalczyk  
 No: None  
 Abstain: Kobus Motion carried.

President Kowalczyk entertained a motion to approve the remaining items of the Consent Agenda. Member Fay moved, seconded by Member Rothrauff, to approve the following items of the Consent Agenda

Item 2. Personnel Transactions

**Accept the resignation of the following ESP employee:**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Effective Date</u></b>
Sharon Jaegers	Instructional Assistant	Lions Park	12/4/20

Item 3. Financial Reports – November 2020

Item 4. Accounts Payable Bills Totaling \$617,982.37

Item 5. 2021-2022 School Calendar

Roll call vote resulted as follows

Yes: Fay, Kobus, Maye, McCluskey, Rothrauff, Chung, Kowalczyk  
 No: None Motion carried.

**Unfinished Business**

None

**Community Comments**

President Kowalczyk said this was the second time for community comments and stated that the comments were posted on the website at noon that day. There were no community members at Fairview to address the Board.

**New Business**

1. **Approve Resolution 201217 Authorizing Levy and Reduction of Certain Fund Levies for the 2020 Levy Year**

President Kowalczyk said Mr. Parisi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, presented information on the tax levy earlier in the meeting. She asked if the Board had any questions but there were none. She entertained a motion to approve the levy. Member Rothrauff moved, seconded by Member Kobus, to

- 1) Approve the Certificate of Tax Levy for the 2020 Tax Levy
- 2) Approve the Truth in Taxation Certificate of Compliance; and
- 3) Approve Resolution 201217 Authorizing Reduction of Certain Fund Levies for the 2020 Levy Year.

Roll call vote resulted as follows

Yes: Kobus, Maye, McCluskey, Rothrauff, Chung, Fay, Kowalczyk  
 No: None Motion carried.

**2) First Read of the Following Board of Education Policies**

President Kowalczyk said the Policy Committee, which consists of her, Member Kobus, and Dr. Aumiller, met on December 7 to review the policies. The policies were from the November 2020 Policy Reference Education Subscription Service (PRESS) packet. The following policies were for first read.

- 3:40 – Superintendent
- 4:10 – Fiscal and Business Management
- 4:55 – Use of Credit and Procurement Cards
- 4:80 – Accounting and Audits
- 4:150 – Facility Management and Building Programs
- 4:175 – Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications
- 5:30 – Hiring Process and Criteria
- 5:190 – Teacher Qualifications
- 5:270 – Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment
- 6:15 – School Accountability
- 6:20 – School Year Calendar and Day
- 6:40 – Curriculum Development
- 6:280 – Grading and Promotion
- 6:320 – High School Credit for Proficiency
- 6:340 – Student Testing and Assessment Program
- 7:100 – Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations and Exclusion of Students
- 7:140 – Search and Seizure
- 7:300 – Extracurricular Athletics
- 7:325 – Student Fundraising Activities

President Kowalczyk asked if any Board member had any questions but there were none. She said the policies would be on the agenda of the January 28 meeting for approval.

**Board Discussion****● Back-to-School Hybrid Update**

President Kowalczyk opened the Board discussion. She asked Mr. Parisi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, about PPE purchases, dollar amount spent, and how much more money would be needed for items. Mr. Parisi said at this time there is more than enough PPE to last through the school year and we are ready to go. Administration has been communicating often with the two unions, MPEA and MPESPA. The temperature scanners are in place and the pre-screening is almost ready to go for January 19. There is Plexiglas in all offices and in some special education areas. N95 masks are available for those with a higher risk and markings for social distancing are in place. There are trifold for lunch at Lincoln and where students congregate.

President Kowalczyk asked about the metrics and Dr. Mary Gorr, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, addressed the metrics and said they were the same as at the last meeting and are posted on the district's website. She said she is confident in mitigation efforts. President Kowalczyk said the numbers are going down and asked if the survey results were still consistent. Dr. Gorr said they were. She also said if a parent wanted to switch from their choice of remote or hybrid, they should get in touch with the principal. All training has taken place and she said we should be successful as we return. President Kowalczyk suggested another survey for those parents who want to return. Lincoln families who requested hybrid should be surveyed if they prefer half days for three weeks and then going to two full days or if they want half days to continue until the end of the quarter which is March 19. Board members were mixed on whether another survey should be sent. It was also stated that half days at Lincoln might be helpful to families who have students in other buildings who will be half days. The Board said they

wanted to move forward with the return of students on January 19 unless there was an extreme problem. It was decided to send the survey and the results of the survey would be presented at the special meeting of the Board on January 7. The Board would go with the simple majority. Administration was in agreement with January 19 and said they are ready. It was decided that the internal metrics would weigh heavier than external. There was discussion about staff being uncomfortable with returning to in-person, how soon vaccinations would be available, and if the district could make vaccinations mandatory.

**Closed Session**

President Kowalczyk said there was no need for Closed Session.

**Adjournment**

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

Yes: Maye, McCluskey, Rothrauff, Chung, Fay, Kobus, Kowalczyk  
No: None Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

  
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Virginia Webster, Secretary

  
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Eileen B. Kowalczyk, President

Date of approval: January 28, 2021