



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 May 19, 2022, held at Fairview School, to order at 6:59 p.m. Board members present were Vicki Chung, Kimberly Fay, Corrin Bennett-Kill, Jennifer Ciok, Jennifer Kobus, Chris Lettow and Eileen Kowalczyk. Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance

Student Recognition

President Kowalczyk announced it was time to acknowledge the coaches and students of The Lincoln Girls 7th and 8th-grade basketball teams for their undefeated season last winter. Coach Rebecca Pollard and John Bondurer were present and gave some highlights of the season. Each member of the team received a certificate.

New Business

1. Election of Board of Education Officers

Motion to Establish Chairman Pro Tem

President Kowalczyk entertained a motion to establish a Chairman Pro Tem. Member Fay moved, seconded by Member Chung, to appoint Superintendent Gorr to serve as Chairman Pro Tem. Roll call vote resulted as follows

Yes: Bennett-Kill, Chung, Ciok, Fay, Kobus, Kowalczyk, Lettow
Absent: None
No: None Motion carried.

Motion to Establish Secretary Pro Tem

President Pro Tem Gorr entertained a motion to establish a Secretary Pro Tem. Member Lettow moved, seconded by Member Bennett-Kill, to appoint Roberta Flack to serve as Secretary Pro Tem. Roll call vote resulted as follows

Yes: Bennett-Kill, Chung, Ciok, Fay, Kobus, Kowalczyk, Lettow
Absent: None
No: None Motion carried.

Nominations for Office of President and Term of Office

Chairman Pro Tem Gorr entertained nominations for the office of Board President to serve for a term of one year. Member Ciok moved to nominate Eileen Kowalczyk for President. Chairman Pro Tem Gorr acknowledged that Eileen Kowalczyk was nominated and asked if there were any other nominations for the office of President. There being no further nominations, Chairman Pro Tem Gorr said the nominations for the office of President were closed. Chairman Pro Tem Gorr instructed Secretary Pro Tem Flack to record a unanimous vote for Member Kowalczyk and declared her elected. Chairman Pro Tem Gorr said President Kowalczyk would then assume her position as President.

Nominations for Office of Vice President and Term of Office

President Kowalczyk entertained nominations for the office of Board Vice President to serve for a term of one year. Member Chung moved to nominate Kimberly Fay for Vice President. President Kowalczyk acknowledged the nomination of Kimberly Fay. President Kowalczyk asked if there were any other nominations for the office of Vice President. There being no further nominations, President Kowalczyk said the nominations for the office of Vice President were closed. President Kowalczyk instructed Secretary Pro Tem Flack to record a unanimous vote for Member Fay and declared her elected.

Nominations for Office of Secretary and Term of Office

President Kowalczyk entertained nominations for Board Secretary to serve for a term of one year. Member Bennett-Kill moved to nominate Roberta Flack. President Kowalczyk acknowledged the nomination of Roberta Flack and asked if there were any other nominations for the office of Board Secretary. There being no further nominations, President Kowalczyk said nominations for Board Secretary were closed. President Kowalczyk instructed Secretary Pro Tem Flack to record a unanimous vote for herself and declared Roberta Flack elected.

Administration of Oath to President, Vice President and Secretary

Superintendent Gorr administered the Oath of Office to President Eileen Kowalczyk, Vice President Kimberly Fay, and Secretary Roberta Flack.

Communications

Board of Education

- NSSEO: Member Chung shared that the last meeting was on May 4th, and this month's Shining Stars were two high school students in the STEP program. (Secondary Transition Experience Program). STEP is a grant-funded program.
- Education Foundation: Member Ciok attended the last meeting on April 26 and shared the Gala numbers are not in yet.
- PTO Reports: Vice President Fay (Lincoln), Member Lettow (Lions Park), Member Bennett-Kill (Fairview) Member Kobus (Westbrook) reported on PTO meetings and events at the schools.
- Board President Report:
 - President Kowalczyk advised there was a need to move the June 16 Board meeting to June 23.
 - Community engagement
 - President Kowalczyk shared that the Board will have a booth with adjoining districts at the Mount Prospect Block Party this summer to meet with the public. Each Board member shared their past experiences at concerts and events at our schools.

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.

- Two audience members addressed the Board regarding a Juneteeth celebration happening at Trinity Methodist Church and invited the audience and Board to join the event.

Staff Reports

❖ **Superintendent Report**

Superintendent Gorr wanted to highlight the Board for their significant time given to community events with their busy schedules. Dr. Gorr updated the Board on end-of-the-year events happening in the District with

students and staff. The first Citizens Finance Advisory committee meeting took place last week and Assistant Superintendent for Finance gave a short review of the 2-hour meeting.

- Social-Emotional Learning Curriculum Recommendation

Superintendent Gorr invited Dr. Kristin Vonder Haar, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, Sara Tyburski, Director of Student Services, to present to the Board recommendations for a new social-emotional learning curriculum. The leadership team that worked on this project included, Dan Ophus, Principal, Una Durkin, Assistant Principal, Alana Davidov, 5th Grade Teacher, and Lisa Ryno, Social Worker. The team gave a detailed presentation and the recommendation is for the Second Step curriculum. The curriculum was selected after being heavily researched by the administration and staff. Dr. Vonder Haar explained the expenditures for the instructional materials. The cost for the Teacher online resources would be \$31,540 for a 5 year subscription. In addition the K-5 bullying prevention units would be one-time cost of \$66,962. The plan with the Board's approval is to utilize ESSER funds for payment of this new curriculum. President Kowalczyk opened the discussion to the Board for questions to this leadership team. Specific examples of the benefits were discussed. President Kowalczyk asked for a vote on moving forward with Second Step curriculum. Six Board members voted yes, and one voted no. Superintendent Gorr thanked the team for their hard work and the Board for adopting this new curriculum.

- Strategic Planning

Superintendent Gorr proposed to the Board in finding partnerships with strategic planning. Typically in the past the strategic planning has been done in the Superintendents office with help from the Board. She shared the timing is right to capitalize on having an outside consultant and experts share their knowledge. Dr. Gorr asked with the Boards approval, bring forth different options and costs in a proposal. All Board members support this and Dr. Gorr will provide further information in the near future.

- Freedom of Information Act

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

- On May 5, 2022, a request was made from Mr. Hillstrom requesting any documentation (emails, presentations, drafts of reading lists etc) that contain the term "gender queer".

A response was sent on May 10, 2022.

Consent Agenda

President Kowalczyk said it was necessary to pull the April 21, 2022, open and closed session minutes from the Consent Agenda because all members were not present at the meetings.

Item 1. Minutes of the following Board of Education Meeting

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

President Kowalczyk entertained a motion to approve the April 21, 2022 open and closed session minutes. Vice President Fay moved, seconded by Member Chung. Roll call was as follows

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

Abstain: Kobus

Absent: None

Motion carried.

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

Item 2. Personnel Transactions

That the Board of Education approve the administrative contract the following individual:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Eric Larson	Principal	Lincoln	07/01/2022	\$136,000
Breanna Pustai	Assistant Principal	Lions Park	07/28/2022	\$ 86,000
Karen Schwartzwald	Director of Human Resoures	Admin	07/01/2022	\$116,000

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Elise Dean	Assistant Principal	Lions Park	06/30/2022

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>
Mirela Ibrahimovic	Teacher - Art	Lincoln	End of 2021/2022
Mimi Maman	Social Worker	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>
Kristina Gorby	Clerical Assistant	Westbrook	05/09/2022	\$17.63
Jennifer Parmenter	Instructional Assistant	Lions Park	05/13/2022	\$16.42

That the Board of Education accept the retirement of the following ESP employees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
David Cessna	Buidling Technology	Lincoln	06/10/2022
Elin Lonergan	Instructional Assistant	Fairview	08/03/2022
Yvonne Wright	Instructional Assistant	Fairview	06/01/2022

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>
Natalie Fitch	Instructional Assistant	Westbrook	05/28/2022
Johanna Gonzalez	Health Clerical Assistant	Westbrook	06/01/2022
Hayden Jorgenson	Kids Corner Assistant	Lions Park	06/01/2022
Pooja Mehndiratta	Instructional Assistant	Lions Park	04/26/2022

Item 3. Financial Reports – April 2022

Item 4. Accounts Payable Bills Totaling

Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Yes: Chung, Lettow, Bennet-Kill, Ciok, Fay, Kobus, Kowalczyk
 No: None Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

None

Community Comments

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

- One parent addressed the Board about the Second Step Program.
- The next audience member addressed the Board, asking to focus on test scores and not social-emotional learning.

New Business

None

Board Discussion

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 9:09 p.m.

Regular Session

Member Ciok made a motion, seconded by Member Chung, to return to open session. All members voted yes and the Board reconvened into open session at 10:23 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, Kobus, Lettow, Kowalczyk

Absent: None

No: None

Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 10:23 p.m..



Roberta Flack, Secretary



Eileen B. Kowalczyk, President

Date of approval: June 23, 2022