

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 92½, COOK COUNTY, WESTCHESTER, ILLINOIS, HELD IN THE WESTCHESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL GYMNASIUM, 1620 NORFOLK AVENUE, AT 4:30 P.M., ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2020.

I. The regular meeting of the Board of Education of School District 92½, Westchester, Illinois, was held in the Westchester Middle School Gymnasium, at 1620 Norfolk Avenue, on Thursday, December 10, 2020, commencing at 4:31 p.m.

I.A. ROLL CALL: On the call of the roll the following members were present via remote participation: President Slager, Vice President Voegtle, Secretary Quiroz, Members Boyd, Douglas-Pieniazek, and Ortiz. Member Wesolowski was absent at the call of the roll. Present at the meeting were Philip Salemi, Dennis Gress, and Sheri Wagner. Participating remotely were Jakub Banbor, Shawn Barrett, Stephanie DeFiacco, Lora Lafin, Greg Leban, Beth Malinski, and Rich Novy. Guests participating remotely: Jimma Aiyo, Shericka Armstrong, Craig Ashford, Kristine Ashford, Alicia Blair, Fran Bourgeois, Joan Bueta, Amber Cerda, Maggie Church, Nellie Darsaleh, Mitsa Flanigan, Kathleen Franzwa, Donna Frugoli, Madeline Funderburg, Shannon Gloude, Joan Hagstrom, Kelly Hernandez, Kim Isaak, Jill Jacobsen, Ann Javor, Kumar Kayastha, Karen Klemchuk, Becky Kocourek, Shirlee Kribbs, Laina Krisik, Nancy May, Tiffany McMorrow, Suann Meyer, Debbie Milas, Sheryl Neff, Jesus Perez, Kirsten Pope, Claudia Romero, Katarzyna Szymaszek, Laura Tevere, and Lesley Tumpach.

I.B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

I.C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED: A motion was made by Mr. Voegtle, seconded by Mrs. Quiroz, that the Agenda be approved as presented. When the question was called, the Roll Call Vote was taken with the following results: 6 members voting Aye, Boyd, Douglas-Pieniazek, Ortiz, Quiroz, Voegtle, Slager; 0 Nays; 1 Absent, Wesolowski. The President declared the motion carried.

II. DISTRICT ACHIEVEMENTS: President Slager commented on the positive feedback received regarding Parent Teacher Conferences. He also noted that it was great to have all three schools participate in food drives during November. He congratulated Filip Ciepiela and Evan Smith for being inducted in NJHS and, referencing the recent SEL survey summary, gave kudos to the staff for connecting with students and making positive impressions on our students.

III.A. OPEN THE 2020 TAX LEVY HEARING: A motion was made by Mrs. Douglas-Pieniazek, seconded by Mrs. Ortiz, to open the 2020 Tax Levy Hearing at 4:38 p.m., as advertised in the Chicago Sun-Times. When the question was called, the Roll Call Vote was taken with the following results: 6 members voting Aye, Boyd, Douglas-Pieniazek, Ortiz, Quiroz, Voegtle, Slager; 0 Nays; 1 Absent, Wesolowski. The President declared the motion carried.

Board Member Comments: None.

Public Comments: None.

III.B. ADJOURN THE 2020 TAX LEVY HEARING: A motion was made by Mr. Voegtle, seconded by Mrs. Quiroz, to adjourn the 2020 Tax Levy Hearing at 4:47 p.m. When the question was called, the Roll Call Vote was taken with the following results: 6 members voting Aye, Boyd, Douglas-Pieniazek, Ortiz, Quiroz, Voegtle, Slager; 0 Nays; 1 Absent, Wesolowski. The President declared the motion carried.

IV. AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None.

Mrs. Wesolowski joined the meeting at 5:06 p.m.

V.A. 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR UPDATES: The District made the decision to transition to full remote learning from November 16, 2020 through January 15, 2021. Mr. Salemi reviewed the factors being used to guide the decision-making process for the return to in-person learning and presented the proposed schedule for bringing groups of students back to school beginning January 19, 2021.

V.B. ELA PILOT DISCUSSION: Currently Kindergarten-Grade 5 are utilizing *Treasures* by Macmillan/McGraw Hill 2007 and Grades 6-8 are utilizing *Literature* by McDougal Littell 2008. Mrs. DelFiacco and the ELA Committee presented their recommendation to adopt HMH *Into Reading* for Kindergarten-Grade 5 classrooms and HMH *Into Literature* for middle school students and answered questions raised by Board Members. The Board will vote on the resource adoption at the December 17, 2020 Special Meeting.

V.C. TIF DISCUSSION: Mr. Gress presented a brief update on the progress toward an intergovernmental agreement with the Village regarding the Cermak Road TIF District.

VI.A. APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Mr. Voegtle, seconded by Mrs. Quiroz, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

- B. Approve the minutes of the November 12, 2020 Regular Meeting Open Session as written.
- C. Accept the resignation for retirement, with regret, of the following staff member, effective as stated:
 - Barbara Boyd WPS/WIS Library Aide June 30, 2021

When the question was called, the Roll Call Vote was taken with the following results: 7 members voting Aye, Boyd, Douglas-Pieniazek, Ortiz, Wesolowski, Quiroz, Voegtle, Slager; 0 Nays; 0 Absent. The President declared the motion carried.

VII.A. APPROVE THE BILLS, CLAIMS AND PAYROLLS AS PRESENTED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Mrs. Wesolowski, seconded by Mr. Slager, that the bills and claims in the amount of \$267,738.19 and payrolls in the amount of \$895,029.13 be approved and authorized for payment. When the question was called, the Roll Call Vote was taken with the following results: 7 members voting Aye, Boyd, Douglas-Pieniazek, Ortiz, Wesolowski, Quiroz, Voegtle, Slager; 0 Nays; 0 Absent. The President declared the motion carried.

VII.B.1. APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FINAL AGGREGATE TAX LEVY FOR THE YEAR 2020 AND THE CERTIFICATE OF TAX LEVY FOR WESTCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS, DISTRICT 92½, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Mrs. Quiroz, seconded by Mrs. Douglas-Pieniazek, to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Final Aggregate Tax Levy for the year 2020, in the amount of \$14,647,000 and adopt the 2020 Certificate of Tax Levy as presented. When the question was called, the Roll Call Vote was taken with the following results: 7 members voting Aye, Boyd, Douglas-Pieniazek, Ortiz, Wesolowski, Quiroz, Voegtler, Slager; 0 Nays; 0 Absent. The President declared the motion carried.

VII.B.2. APPROVE THE RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COOK COUNTY CLERK TO APPORTION ANY EXTENSION REDUCTION TO CERTAIN FUNDS:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Mr. Slager, seconded by Mr. Voegtler, to approve the Resolution Directing the Cook County Clerk to Apportion Any Extension Reduction to Certain Funds as presented. When the question was called, the Roll Call Vote was taken with the following results: 7 members voting Aye, Boyd, Douglas-Pieniazek, Ortiz, Wesolowski, Quiroz, Voegtler, Slager; 0 Nays; 0 Absent. The President declared the motion carried.

VII.C. APPROVE THE AMENDED 2020-2021 CALENDAR AS PRESENTED:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Mrs. Ortiz, seconded by Mrs. Wesolowski, to approve the amended 2020-2021 calendar as presented. When the question was called, the Roll Call Vote was taken with the following results: 7 members voting Aye, Boyd, Douglas-Pieniazek, Ortiz, Wesolowski, Quiroz, Voegtler, Slager; 0 Nays; 0 Absent. The President declared the motion carried.

VIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Correspondence: Mr. Slager commented that he received many emails from staff in appreciation for the gift received from the Board.
- B. Board President's Report: Mr. Slager, Mrs. Ortiz and Mr. Voegtler summarized the sessions they attended during the IASB Virtual Summit.
- C. Legislative Report: None.
- D. IASB West Cook Report: None.
- E. FOIA Requests: Two new FOIA requests were received in November and correspondence was sent as a follow-up to an October FOIA request.

- F. Superintendent's Report: Mr. Salemi reported that staff are working on creating a SEL page on our website to gather information in one location to assist students and parents. Mr. Salemi attended a webinar regarding school designations. ISBE is working to accommodate federal requirements that will not have a negative impact on schools. He also recognized Mr. Novy for going above and beyond to work with the Westchester Fire Department to obtain smoke detectors for families in need.
- G. Administrator Reports: The reports were available on BoardDocs.

IX.A. BOARD RETIRED TO CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Mrs. Boyd seconded by Mrs. Ortiz, that the Board retire into Closed Session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees; the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students; and minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act for the purpose of semi-annual review of minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. When the question was called, the Roll Call Vote was taken with the following results: 7 members voting Aye, Boyd, Douglas-Pieniazek, Ortiz, Wesolowski, Quiroz, Voegtle, Slager; 0 Nays; 0 Absent. The President declared the motion carried and the Board retired at 7:07 p.m.

IX.B. BOARD RECONVENES: The Board reconvened in Open Session after the conclusion of its Closed Session at 7:25 p.m.

Mr. Slager lost internet connection and left the meeting at 7:26 p.m. Vice President Voegtle assumed the position of President Pro-Tem.

X.A. AUTHORIZE THE DESTRUCTION OF CLOSED SESSION VERBATIM RECORDINGS FROM JANUARY 17, 2019 – MAY 16, 2019: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Mrs. Quiroz, seconded by Mrs. Wesolowski, to authorize the destruction of Closed Session verbatim recordings from January 17, 2019 – May 16, 2019. When the question was called, the Roll Call Vote was taken with the following results: 6 members voting Aye, Boyd, Douglas-Pieniazek, Ortiz, Wesolowski, Quiroz, Voegtle; 0 Nays; 1 Absent, Slager. The President Pro-Tem declared the motion carried.

X.B. APPROVE THE SEMI-ANNUAL REVIEW OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Mrs. Ortiz, seconded by Mrs. Douglas-Pieniazek, to release the Closed Session minutes of May 21, 2020; June 4, 2020; June 18, 2020; and July 16, 2020 and that the remaining Closed Session minutes not previously approved for release should continue on file as confidential. When the question was called, the Roll Call Vote was taken with the following results: 6 members voting Aye, Boyd, Douglas-Pieniazek, Ortiz, Wesolowski, Quiroz, Voegtle; 0 Nays; 1 Absent, Slager. The President Pro-Tem declared the motion carried.

X.C.1. APPROVE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND GENERAL RELEASE WITH THE PARENTS OF STUDENT 202001 AS PRESENTED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Mrs. Douglas-Pieniazek, seconded by Mrs. Quiroz, to approve the Settlement Agreement and General Release with the Parents of Student 202001 as presented. When the question was called, the Roll Call Vote was taken with the following results: 6 members voting Aye, Boyd, Douglas-Pieniazek, Ortiz, Wesolowski, Quiroz, Voegtle; 0 Nays; 1 Absent, Slager. The President Pro-Tem declared the motion carried.

X.C.2. APPROVE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND GENERAL RELEASE WITH THE PARENTS OF STUDENT 202002 AS PRESENTED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Mrs. Quiroz, seconded by Mrs. Ortiz, to approve the Settlement Agreement and General Release with the Parents of Student 202002 as presented. When the question was called, the Roll Call Vote was taken with the following results: 6 members voting Aye, Boyd, Douglas-Pieniazek, Ortiz, Wesolowski, Quiroz, Voegtle; 0 Nays; 1 Absent, Slager. The President Pro-Tem declared the motion carried.


Mr. Slager returned to the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

X.D. APPROVE THE BILLS AND CLAIMS: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Mrs. Boyd, seconded by Mrs. Wesolowski, that the bills and claims in the amount of \$10,595 be approved and authorized for payment. When the question was called, the Roll Call Vote was taken with the following results: 7 members voting Aye, Boyd, Douglas-Pieniazek Ortiz, Wesolowski, Quiroz, Voegtle, Slager; 0 Nays; 0 Absent. The President Pro-Tem declared the motion carried.

XI. ADVANCED PLANNING: None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Mrs. Douglas-Pieniazek seconded by Mr. Voegtle, that the Board meeting be adjourned. When the question was called, the Roll Call Vote was taken with the following results: 7 members voting Aye, Boyd, Douglas-Pieniazek Ortiz, Wesolowski, Quiroz, Voegtle, Slager; 0 Nays; 0 Absent. The President Pro-Tem declared the motion carried and the Board adjourned at 7:38 p.m.


Bryan Voegtle, President Pro-Tem


Molly Quiroz, Secretary