

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

January 8, 2013

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

A Regular Business Meeting of the Board of Education of Lake Forest Community High School District #115, County of Lake, State of Illinois, was held on Tuesday, January 8, 2013 and called to order at 7:00 p.m. at West Campus in the Boardroom.

On Roll Call the following Members were found to be present:

Nicki Snoblin, Member
Jim Carey, Vice President
Dick Block, Secretary
Todd Burgener, Member
Sharon Golan, President

Absent: Monty Edson, Member
John Scribner, Member

Administration Present:

Michael Simeck, Superintendent
Allen Albus, Deputy Superintendent for Finance and Operations
Dr. Julie Cooley, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services
Jay Hoffmann, Principal
Jennifer Knight, Director of Personnel and Instruction

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Golan called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. She reported that all Board Members have completed their state-mandated Open Meetings Act training. The Board is invited to attend an Ed-Red dinner in January. A Board workshop will be scheduled in the near future.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Simeck asked Mr. Hoffmann to introduce the Professional Development Report. Frank Lezniak, Dean and Special Education teacher and Librarian, Kerry Littel gave the Board an overview of the recent Capturing Kids Hearts 3-day training provided by the Flip Flippen Group. The training, funded in part by the APT, offers new strategies for diffusing situations and communicating with kids.

Mr. Simeck asked Kerry Littel to report on the new furniture in the Library. Mrs. Littel said that over winter break, the Library hosted a photo shoot for Bretfert School furniture company's catalog which entailed moving the company's products into the Library. Upon completion of the shoot, Bretfert donated all of the furniture, estimated to be worth around \$200,000 to the Library. The company will return during spring break for another photo shoot in the Commons and will donate that furniture, projected to be worth \$200,000, to the high school.

Mr. Simeck congratulated Jay Hoffmann on winning the Illinois Music Educator Award. Mr. Hoffmann was nominated as the Department Chair of the Music Department by the Music

Department staff. Mr. Simeck also complimented Mr. Hoffmann on the success of the recent Spaghetti Dinner and Winter Concert.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Nancy Thorner advocated that the Board consider hiring a temporary, paid Inspector General to sort out the questions the public has about the increasing expenses of LFHS and other area schools. She asked that a discussion of hiring an Inspector General be placed on the February District 115 Board Meeting agenda.

REPORTS

Dr. Julie Cooley, Kim Kuhn and Jennifer Doerscheln provided a report on updates to two Special Education Programs. Dr. Cooley reported that the Educational Life Skills program has been located at the high school for many years, and was supervised and staffed by NSSED employees. Those teachers and professionals were hired by the high school as LFHS employees at the beginning of this school year. The Transition Life Skills program, which helps students transfer their skills to community settings, has moved from Highland Park to West Campus. Transition student, Anders Gullberg, gave the Board a tour of the Transition classroom prior to the meeting and commented that his favorite thing about Transition is planning and managing his schedule so he knows what he's doing every day.

Mr. Block requested that a full report summarizing the changes made in the Special Education program including the number of students involved and the savings in the program over the last 2 years be presented to the Board at a future meeting.

BOARD COMMITTEES

Education Committee

Mrs. Snoblin reported that the committee has not met since the last Board Meeting. The next scheduled meeting is on Wednesday, February 6th.

Board Finance and Operations Committee

Mr. Carey reported that the committee met on December 18th to review the list of capital projects that have been in the planning phase for the last few years. Some projects that were deferred due to the District's financial condition now need to be completed. He noted that while the committee is not seeking approval tonight, they are hoping to get a sense from the Board that the direction recommended is agreeable.

Mr. Albus and Carol White, Director of Buildings and Grounds identified core infrastructure improvements requiring attention. Mr. Albus noted that a Bond issuance in the Spring would cover the cost of the improvements.

Mr. Block requested a consolidated capital projection, including building and grounds, technology and furniture and fixtures prior to going out for funding. He also asked for a formal justification of major projects to see the economic justification prior to going forward.

Mrs. Golan suggested that anyone with questions or comments on capital projects should contact Mr. Simeck for further details.

Mr. Carey reported that given the persistent low interest rates, there might be opportunities in the next several months to refinance and save taxpayers significant dollars. He also noted that at the last Board meeting, the idea of hiring an Inspector General was discussed with the Auditor who responded that only one other district has an Inspector General and that he saw no need for one in District 115. Mr. Carey said that the Board has been focused in getting back to black by deferring capital projects, making cuts in all areas except for the classroom and by scrutinizing each expenditure to determine if it is required.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Personnel Report

MOTION: Mrs. Snoblin moved and Mr. Burgener seconded that the Lake Forest High School District 115 Board of Education approve the personnel report as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

ROLL CALL: Aye: Carey, Burgener, Snoblin, Block, Golan
Nay: None

Motion Carried

Approval of Consent Agenda

Mrs. Golan reported that the Consent Agenda includes:

Approval of Disbursements, Payrolls and Financial Statement

Approval of Financial Reports:

Financial Reports: The List of Checks Written and Direct Deposit Payroll

From December 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012:

Education Fund	\$ 701,089.11
Building and Maintenance Fund	108,679.40
Debt Service Fund	515.00
Transportation Fund	65,777.46
Capital Projects Fund/ General	4,040.00
Procurement Card Expenses	150,138.33
Direct Deposit Payroll & Taxes	<u>1,942,578.63</u>
Total Expenditures	\$ 2,972,817.93

Minutes of Regular Meeting, December 4, 2012

Minutes of Executive Meeting, December 4, 2012

Minutes of Joint Board Workshop, December 12, 2012

Minutes of Tax Levy Hearing, December 4, 2012

Disposal of audio recordings: None

Any item may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of a Board Member.

MOTION: Mrs. Snoblin moved and Mr. Block seconded that the Lake Forest High School District 115 Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

ROLL CALL: Aye: Block, Carey, Burgener, Snoblin, Golan
Nay: None

Motion Carried

FOIA REQUESTS:

William Holst, 31290 N. U.S. Highway 45 Libertyville, IL 60048
Katherine Smyser, NBC Universal, Katy.Smyser@nbcuni.com

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was an Executive Session at 6:00 p.m. for a discussion on matters related to the appointment, employment, compensation, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body. 5 ILCS 120/2(c) (1) No action was taken.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: January 16, 17, 18, 2013 Finals
January 21, 2013 Martin Luther King Day, No School

NEXT MEETING DATE: February 12, 2013 Board of Education Meeting
7:00 pm – West Campus
Board Room

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Mr. Carey moved and Mr. Burgener seconded that the meeting be adjourned.
On voice vote, the motion carried

Mrs. Golan declared the meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Dick Block, Secretary

Date