

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
March 12, 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, March 12, 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:

Jim Carey, Vice President
Dick Block, Secretary
Todd Burgener, Member
Monty Edson, Member
Sharon Golan, President

Absent: John Scribner, Member
Nicki Snoblin, Member

Administration Present:

Michael Simeck, Superintendent
Allen Albus, Deputy Superintendent for Finance and Operations
Jennifer Hermes, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
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 7:00 p.m. She stated that the Board held an Executive Session prior to the meeting and that no action was taken. She also announced that April 9th is Election Day and 3 new Board members will be elected to replace 3 retiring members.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Simeck asked Mr. Hoffmann to update the Board on school activities. Mr. Hoffmann reported that Districts 115, 67 and 65 faculty members met on Tri-District Institute Day to discuss academic issues and hear from Dr. Jean Sophie, Superintendent of District 65 and Mr. Simeck. Mr. Hoffmann congratulated the boys' swim team on their Conference and Sectional Championships. They ended the season 3rd in State and their Coach, Cindy Dell, received the Illinois Coach of the Year Award. The Gymnastics team were Conference champs, won Regionals and qualified for State. Coach Robin Straus received the Coach of the Year Award from the Illinois Gymnastics Association. The Scouts were victorious at the annual ELS basketball game this year against New Trier. The game stars our special needs students and is played during the lunch periods to allow students to attend. As always, the event drew a large amount of support from students and staff who filled the gym.

Mr. Simeck informed the Board that the ASCD Conference, the premier conference in the world of education, will take place at McCormick Place. He asked Jennifer Knight to update the Board on plans for the conference. Mrs. Knight reported that teachers from District 115 and District 67 will attend the conference and will be able to choose from 400 workshops in a number of areas of education. The hope is that this conference and the learning that happens during the workshops will be brought back and shared with other faculty members.

Mr. Simeck reported on the success of the recent Tri-District Institute Day noting that this was the first time that a Superintendent from Lake Bluff District 65 has spoken at the high school. He complimented Dr. Jean Sophie on her participation in the joint superintendent presentation.

Mr. Simeck said that new opportunities for Shared Services are being developed, as directed by the Board, and that more information on the opportunities will be forthcoming.

The first community newsletter has been mailed and Mr. Simeck will be speaking in a variety of venues in the community in the near future.

Mr. Simeck congratulated Allen Albus on being unanimously chosen to receive the Distinguished Service Award from the Illinois Association of School Business Officials. He noted that we are one of only 67 districts in the entire nation that have a triple A bond rating and one of 2% of the schools in the state who have an item free audit with no findings.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Carl Lambrecht, Highland Park, noted that the Spring Music trip destinations of Lake Forest and Highland Park students are similar. He also said the controlling costs is a concern, that schools should not have as much bureaucracy and that education is a key item to be addressed in controlling costs.

REPORTS

Jennifer Knight reviewed the proposals for Educational Goals. She compared the structure of goals for District 115 and District 67 noting that the content was similar although there was a common language issue. Both district structures have strengths and weakness and both districts changed their structure but did not compromise the unique nature of each District's goals.

Mr. Block asked what the plan was going to be moving forward.

Mrs. Knight said that no change to the Vision Statement is suggested. The Goals were shared with the Education Committee. Mr. Simeck said that the Goals will be presented at the next meeting for approval.

Jennifer Hermes updated the Board on Book-Buy. Input has been received from bookstore and business department personnel. Focus is on problem solving to improve book-buy. They looked at the possibility of having someone come in and streamline the procedures to reduce the frustration and length of time spent in going through the line. There are companies who specialize in this area. Mrs. Hermes will look at demand and inventory, useful life of the book, logistics at the book-buy and curriculum review cycles. Data gathering continues and examination of the option of a third party is still under discussion.

Mr. Simeck asked what it would cost to hire a vendor and Mrs. Hermes replied that although we don't have final pricing, based on the preliminary information, it would cost parents approximately 60% more if the District went with a vendor instead of continuing to handle it in-house. She noted that she was not expecting to see that much of a difference in cost and said that the District currently sells books at cost plus \$1 to offset shipping. Some of the vendors interviewed reported that the District gets better prices on some books than they are able to get. Mr. Simeck noted that this is an update to the Board and that Mrs. Hermes will be reporting to the Board and meeting with parent groups once all information has been gathered and reviewed.

BOARD COMMITTEES

Education Committee

Mr. Edson reported that the committee met on Wednesday, February 6th and has not met since then.

Board Finance and Operations Committee

Mr. Block reported that the Committee met on March 7th at 7:30 am. He noted that these are public meetings and that the public is welcome to attend. The Committee consulted with Elizabeth Hennessy from William Blair on opportunities to finance upcoming capital projects while interest rates are favorable. They also discussed the opportunity to save the community money by refinancing the remaining portion of the \$54 million dollars issued in 2006 for the reconstruction project. The committee also discussed refunding the general obligation bonds issued a few years ago to achieve a savings for the community. The Board periodically checks to see if there's an opportunity to improve the situation for taxpayers relative to financing those big projects. Mrs. Hennessy reported that we are not there yet. A Parameters Resolution, which would allow the Board to take advantage of savings as they become available, will be presented at the April Board Meeting. No date has been set for the next meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Human Resources Report

Mrs. Knight presented the Human Resources Report noting that the hiring process continues.

MOTION: Mr. Carey moved and Mr. Block 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: Block, Edson, Burgener, Carey, 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 February 7, 2013 to March 8, 2013:

Education Fund	\$ 749,763.63
Building and Maintenance Fund	235,031.04
Debt Service Fund	--
Transportation Fund	59,525.92
Capital Projects Fund/ General	--
Procurement Card Expenses	205,300.94
Direct Deposit Payroll & Taxes	<u>1,988,345.30</u>
Total Expenditures	\$ 3,237,966.63

Minutes of Regular Meeting, February 12, 2013
 Minutes of Executive Meeting, February 12, 2013
 Minutes of a Joint Board Workshop, February 21, 2013
 Minutes of a Joint Board Workshop, March 7, 2013
 Renewal of the Illinois High School Association Membership
 Disposal of audio recordings: July 12, 2011
 Release of Executive Session Minutes: November 2011 through December 2012
 Any item may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of a Board Member.

MOTION: Mr. Burgener 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: Edson, Block, Burgener, Carey, Golan
 Nay: None

Motion Carried

FOIA REQUESTS:

Robert Reda, Robert@Rdlawyers.com
 Pat O'Brien, CL Graphics: pato@clgraphics.com
 Nancy Thorner, 331 E. Blodgett Avenue, Lake Bluff, IL 60044

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:

March 14, 2013	Band/Orchestra Concert RMA 7:30
March 19, 2013	Choral Concert RMA 7:30
March 22, 2013	Spring Break begins end of day
April 1, 2013	School re-opens

NEXT MEETING DATE:

April 9, 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 8:20 p.m.

Dick Block, Secretary

Date

3/12/13