

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
LAKE FOREST COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL  
DISTRICT 115  
April 8, 2014**

**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, April 8, 2014 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, Secretary  
John Powers, Member  
Ted Moorman, Member  
Dave Schreiber, Member  
Todd Burgener, President

Absent: Monty Edson, Member  
Dick Block, Vice President

**Administration Present:**

Michael Simeck, Superintendent  
Jennifer Hermes, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services  
Lauren Fagel, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, Technology & Assessment  
Andy Henrikson Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources  
Barry Rodgers, Principal

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Burgener announced that an Executive Session had taken place and that no action was taken during that session.

Mr. Burgener spoke about the Mission-Vision-Goals initiative; the Board's recent efforts to articulate their beliefs about education in our community and their ambitions for the future. Mission/Vision/Goals is one of several initiatives being advanced, or currently undertaken, in an attempt to bring positive change to our District and its students.

He said that consistent among each of these efforts is an expressed desire to fundamentally change the way learning occurs; which, in turn, means fundamentally changing how teachers teach. This will require the enthusiastic and universal buy-in of all stakeholders, along with the commitment of each to do the hard work needed to make these efforts successful. Without this, all of the words of aspiration in the world will be worth no more than the slides they are printed on. To make change, to truly progress or transform requires effort far beyond aspirational words.

To help achieve the buy-in and commitment needed for success, a clear articulation of, and consensus about, the challenges being faced is necessary. What are the relative impacts of these challenges on student experiences and learning? How are the proposed changes, or "advances",

expected to solve them? What alternatives to the proposed solutions have been considered? What sustained efforts are needed, and by whom, to make the efforts a success? How will we know when, and if, we are successful? These are all questions that we must get better at asking, and answering, before we embark on new initiatives. Otherwise, this becomes a place where good ideas come to die.

Mission-Vision-Goals has been a significant investment, one we, as a Board, approved in December. To get to the output, that we will hear more about later, has involved both expense to the District and the commitment of numerous faculty, administrative staff, board members and the community. All have devoted considerable time and intellectual capital to work through this process.

We cannot allow these investments to be squandered or to lead to the disjointed pursuit of educational flavors of the day. We need to step closer to our own picture, to see the points and brush strokes, in order to see how all of the pieces fit together and to understand the interdependencies of the critical parts. We need to leverage those connections to make our progress real, to make it swift and to make it cultural and sustainable.

At the end of the day, our reason for being here is to lend our hand in helping to create an environment in which each unique and individual student's experience is optimized. We need to contribute to making sure that each student is sent off from here with a capacity, not necessarily to "change the world", but to accept and cope with their own world as it is today, with the confidence to withstand the challenges they will face and with the ability to change their own tomorrows in positive ways. We can call this courage, strength, or resolve, but what we really hope for is conscience, that inner sense of right and wrong and the desire to live life accordingly.

Today, more than 13 years into the "new" century, we continue to hear about 21st Century learning and about skills needed to succeed in the modern world. Creativity, innovation, critical thought, communication, collaboration, flexibility and adaptability, productivity, accountability, leadership and responsibility; these are all held out as necessary "21st Century" skills, but these are really enduring life skills that have always been necessary to succeed throughout modern history.

Mr. Burgener noted that his point is not to long for the "good old days." He admitted that the world today is, in very positive ways, very different from what it was nearly 40 years ago when he sat down the hall from this room learning how to type. He also said he suspects that in 30-40 years, when perhaps some of our own children will be sitting in these chairs, today's ChromeBooks and iPads will seem as silly and antiquated, to them, as the electric typewriter seems to us.

Modern advancements represent opportunity for sure; but, almost always, they are also accompanied by risk. Just as all of us have done to reach this point in our adult lives, our kids must develop the skills and ability to recognize those risks for what they are and to cope, adapt and adjust; and, ultimately, to resist the temptation to act impulsively and irreversibly, or to be swept away by every next "big thing." This is where our attention and focus needs to be.

As we move through tonight's meeting, and have our "first reading" of the Mission-Vision-Goals, his hope is that we will all remember that none of this is about us, the grownups, or about putting new words to old and established concepts and principles. This is about our kids, and their kids,

and about recognizing them all, individually and collectively, as the most important people in our buildings. There should be no contest here and there should be no second place.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Simeck asked Mr. Rodgers to update the Board on high school activities. Mr. Rodgers reported that spring sports are underway and that the Girls Track Team was the first team to use the new track. Students involved in the China Exchange program are back from their trip to China and will make a presentation on their trip at a future Board Meeting. LFHS students collected over 1500 new and gently used books and donated them along with a refurbished bookshelf to the Johnson School of Excellence in Chicago. Northwestern Hospital recently provided funding to bring the Distracted Driving Program to LFHS. Secretary of State Jesse White was also present and spoke to students about the risks of texting and driving.

Lauren Fagel, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, Technology & Assessment, reported on professional learning activities that occurred at the February 15<sup>th</sup> Tri-District Institute Day. Nearly 500 teachers from District 65, 67 and 115 heard from Dr. Susan Brookhart, Ph.D, author and national expert on formative assessment. Teachers also led sessions for their peers on formative assessment for learning . A survey conducted after the event revealed that of those who responded to the survey. 56% agreed and 23% strongly agreed that they wanted to learn more about the formative assessment process. The survey also showed that 57% agreed and 22% strongly agreed that as a result of the day they had a better understanding of how to provide high quality feedback to students in their classroom. Attendees felt that teacher and administrator- led sessions were interesting, presenters were well prepared and the time was valuable.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Lake Bluff resident, Nancy Thorner voiced her concerns about Common Core noting that research shows Common Core is brainwashing children so as adults they accept the progression/socialist pablum they are being served in the Common Core Curriculum. She distributed articles she co-authored with Bonnie O'Neil, Vice President of Eagle Forum in California.

Highland Park resident Carl Lambrecht voiced his concern about low reading levels in schools. He also said that teachers are professional people and don't need a lot of administration.

### **REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

Mr. Simeck complimented participants in the recent music concert which featured a symphony by Shostakovich that was considered very daring at the time it was written. The concert was a joint undertaking by band and orchestra members and community members and included student narration at certain parts of the performance. He praised the music teachers for their hard work in organizing this incredible endeavor.

Mr. Simeck presented the latest iteration and first viewing of the Mission, Vision Goals and Values. He commented that the reviewing and updating of the Mission, Vision and Values and then setting a strategic direction for the organization is one of the Board's most important roles. The Board's goal was to articulate enduring beliefs for the high school, to unify teachers, students, parents and community and administration in a shared view of what matters and what matters most. The approach chosen was to create a draft statement of core beliefs and vision for the future

and gather feedback on items in a wide range of forums. The next step was to refine core beliefs and to produce a report sharing the with input gathered. The Board will then ratify the vision. Administration will develop a strategic plan that articulates specific goals and milestones associated with fulfilling the mission. Finally, the Administration will then provide ongoing visibility into how we're doing against the Strategic Plan.

The Vision Development Team included members of the Board of Education, Administrators, Principal and Teachers and a Parent community member. Input was sought and obtained during 17 interviews with the Vision Development Team. Four questions were posed to the Community. Question 1 asked what student outcome would we celebrate most. The number one answer was happy well-rounded students. Question 2 asked what the ideal day-to-day school experience would be and the number one answer was schedule. Question 3 asked what should be the core value of the school and the number one answer was respect. The top answer to the final question, which was what area of progress would you like to see in the next ten years was quality education. A community survey was completed by 653 residents and several community and school forums were held to gather additional input. The product before the Board tonight is the direct result of those activities and reflects the thoughts and beliefs of the community.

The Milestones we will achieve together by 2024 include achievement and significant intellectual and social emotional growth for every student, instruction in a real world inquiry-based and interdisciplinary environment, development of innovative assessments, continuous professional development for teachers, effective communications and trusting partnerships that include the Board, Administration, Faculty, Staff, Students and Parents and the creation of a dynamic, inspiring environment where technology, facilities and community enhance the learning experience.

Mr. Simeck said that the next step is posting the Mission, Values, Vision and Milestones on the website and that he welcomes additional comment. Administrators will create near-term milestones for each major area of progress and will partner with faculty and staff to create a strategic plan that describes how we will achieve year one milestones.

Board members discussed the need to do things in a manner different than we ever have before, noting it takes courage to make the changes needed to achieve the goals. They felt that this is an opportunity to really make a difference and do something important with and for the community by creating something sustainable. It's important that we use language that is real and we need to be cautious and vigilant as we move into the tactics and strategies phase. They noted that this is a community project and that the input of the community continues to be vital.

## **BOARD COMMITTEES**

### Education Committee

Mrs. Snoblin reported that the Committee has not met since the last meeting. There will be a meeting in May, but it has not been scheduled yet.

## Finance/Operations Committee

In Mr. Block's absence, Mr. Powers reported that the Committee met on April 4<sup>th</sup>. They discussed fine-tuning the budget and the need to anticipate expenditures. He said that Discovery has awarded the district new playground equipment for use during the school day by SEDOL at West Campus. Kaboom has scheduled a community event in September where they will work with the community to design the equipment that which is intended for use by younger children. The equipment will be available for use by the community on weekends and non-school days. The committee discussed fees and the fact that books, unlike extra-curricular activities, are not subsidized by the district. Mr. Moorman added that the committee will continue to discuss equalizing the district's support of books and activities.

### **LIAISON REPORTS**

Mr. Schreiber updated the Board on the recent EdRed meeting noting that pending legislation includes legislation on limiting Charter Schools when the local school district does not support them as well as Anti-Bulling and the Student Bill of Rights. The State is facing fiscal pressures in light of the phase-down in income tax which will result in a drop of \$1.5 billion dollars in revenue. Mr. Albus reported that because of the poor economy, General State Aid has been pro-rated at 89% for the past years. There may be legislative action to change that by implementing a per-dollar student reduction which would be close to what we get in State Aid. Mr. Albus will monitor the situation closely.

Mr. Moorman reported that NSSSED will meet tomorrow and the 18 member districts will ask that NSSSED reduce their reserve level which is currently around 23%. Districts are bound by contract to fund any NSSSED shortfalls. Most member districts retain reserves between 10-15%.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### Approval of Replacement Activity Bus Lease

This item was tabled at the last meeting pending further information which has been received by the Board. The annual lease for the new bus is the same cost as the expiring lease and is recommended for approval.

**MOTION:** Mr. Powers moved, seconded by Mrs. Snoblin, that the Lake Forest High School District 115 Board of Education approve the lease of a replacement activity bus as presented.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Aye: Moorman, Schreiber, Snoblin, Powers, Burgener  
Nay: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

#### Approval of AT&T Cell Tower – East Campus

Jonathon Stapleton from National Wireless representing AT&T reported that the new AT&T Cell tower will enhance services to the community, provide full bandwidth and enhanced GPS services. AT&T will occupy the equipment area vacated by US Cellular. The tower will provide an alternate source of revenue for the district.

**MOTION:** Mr. Powers moved, seconded by Mrs. Snoblin, that the Lake Forest High School District 115 Board of Education approve the AT&T Cell tower as presented.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Aye: Moorman, Snoblin, Schreiber, Powers, Burgener  
Nay: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Approval of Olson Transportation Renewal

Mr. Albus recommended the Board renew the Olson Transportation contract for two years.

**MOTION:** Mr. Powers moved, seconded by Mr. Schreiber, that the Lake Forest High School District 115 Board of Education approve the Olson Transportation contract as presented

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

**ROLL CALL:** Aye: Schreiber, Moorman, Snoblin, Powers, Burgener  
Nay: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Approval of Policy 7:185 – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

This is a required policy regarding teen dating violence. Mr. Burgener suggested waiving the first reading of the policy and asked for a motion to do so.

**MOTION:** Mr. Powers moved, seconded by Mrs. Snoblin that the Board waive the first reading of Policy 7:185.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Aye: Schreiber, Moorman, Snoblin, Powers, Burgener  
Nay: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Approval of Policy 7:185 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

**MOTION:** Mr. Moorman moved, seconded by Mrs. Snoblin that the Board approve Policy 7:185 as presented.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Aye: Powers, Schreiber, Moorman, Snoblin, Burgener  
Nay: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Approval of Proposed Board Meeting Dates for 2014-2015

Mr. Simeck recommended approval as presented.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Snoblin moved, seconded by Mr. Schreiber that the Board approve the 2014-2015 proposed Board Meeting dates as presented.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Aye: Snoblin, Schreiber, Moorman, Powers, Burgener  
Nay: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Approval of 2013-2014 Final Calendar

Dr. Henrikson recommended approval as presented.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Snoblin moved, seconded by Mr. Schreiber that the Board approve the proposed Final 2013-2014 Calendar as presented.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Aye: Powers, Snoblin, Moorman, Schreiber, Burgener  
Nay: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Approval of Assistant Principal Multi-Year Contract

Mr. Simeck recommended approval as presented.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Snoblin moved, seconded by Mr. Moorman that the Board approve the Assistant Principal Multi-Year Contract as presented.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Aye: Moorman, Schreiber, Powers, Snoblin, Burgener  
Nay: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Approval of Director of Curriculum & Instruction Multi-Year Contract

Mr. Simeck recommended approval as presented.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Snoblin moved, seconded by Mr. Moorman that the Board approve the Director of Curriculum & Instruction Multi-Year Contract as presented.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Aye: Moorman, Schreiber, Powers, Snoblin, Burgener  
Nay: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Approval of Deputy Superintendent of Finance & Operations/CSBO Multi-Year Contract  
Mr. Simeck recommended approval as presented.

**MOTION:** Mr. Powers moved, seconded by Mr. Moorman that the Board approve the Deputy Superintendent of Finance & Operations/CSBO Multi-Year Contract as presented.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Aye: Moorman, Snoblin, Schreiber, Powers, Burgener  
Nay: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Approval of Human Resources Report

Mr. Simeck recommended approval of the Human Resources report, as presented.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Snoblin moved, seconded by Mr. Schreiber that the Lake Forest High School District 115 Board of Education, approve the Human Resources report, as presented.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Aye: Schreiber, Snoblin, Powers, Moorman, Burgener  
Nay: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Approval of Consent Agenda

Mr. Burgener reported that the Consent Agenda includes:

Approval of Disbursements, Payrolls & Financial Statement March 2014:

Financial Reports: The List of Checks Written and Direct Deposit Payroll and Taxes for the period March 6, 2014 to April 2, 2014:

Education Fund	\$ 481,296.36
Building and Maintenance Fund	228,573.32
Debt Service Fund	2,000.00
Transportation Fund	74,304.65
Capital Projects Fund/ General	-
Procurement Card Expenses	333,858.26
Direct Deposit Payroll & Taxes	<u>2,298,496.26</u>
Total Expenditures	\$ 3,418,528.84

Minutes of a Regular Meeting, March 11, 2014

Minutes of an Executive Session, March 11, 2014

Minutes of a Joint Board Workshop, March 6, 2014

Minutes of a Board Workshop, March 11, 2014

Minutes of a Board Workshop, March 17, 2014

Approval of Construction Partial Payment #4 in the amount of \$313,293.13

Approval of Final Bill for Track Project in the amount of \$28,582.77

Approval of Towel Service Contract

4/8/14



Approval of Renewal of Illinois High School Association Membership

Disposal of Audio Recordings: None

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

**MOTION:** Mr. Powers moved, seconded by Mrs. Snoblin, that the Lake Forest High School District 115 Board of Education, amend the Consent Agenda and remove the Approval of Construction Partial Payment #4 in the amount of \$313,293.13 and Approval of Final Bill for Track Project in the amount of \$28,582.77.

**ROLL CALL:** Aye: Powers, Snoblin, Schreiber, Moorman, Burgener  
Nay: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

**MOTION:** Mrs. Snoblin moved, seconded by Mr. Moorman, that the Lake Forest High School District 115 Board of Education, approve the Amended Consent Agenda, as presented.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Aye: Powers, Snoblin, Schreiber, Moorman, Burgener  
Nay: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Approval of Construction Partial Payment #4

**MOTION:** Mr. Powers moved, seconded by Mr. Moorman, that the Lake Forest High School District 115 Board of Education, approve Partial Payment #4 in the amount of \$269,765.13 and that the Superintendent or his designee be authorized to disperse the remaining balance of \$43,528 upon receipt of proper certification from the district's architect.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Aye: Moorman, Snoblin, Schreiber, Powers, Burgener  
Nay: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Approval of the Final Bill for the LFHS East Campus Project

**MOTION:** Mr. Schreiber moved, seconded by Mr. Moorman, that the Lake Forest High School District 115 Board of Education, approve the Final Bill for the LFHS East Campus Track Project in the amount of \$28,582.77 and that the Superintendent or his designee be authorized to disperse the funds upon receipt of proper certification from the district's architect.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Aye: Schreiber, Snoblin, Powers, Moorman, Burgener  
Nay: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

**FOIA REQUESTS:**

Lenny Jarratt, Education Matters  
Brian Anderson, Lee's Foodservice Parts and Repairs, Inc.  
Esther Castillejo, Better Government Association

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

April 17, 2014	Regular full day of school
April 18 2014	Day of Non-Attendance

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** May 13 2014 Board of Education Meeting  
7:00 pm – West Campus Board Room

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION:** Mr. Powers moved, seconded by Mr. Schreiber, that the meeting be adjourned.  
On voice vote, the motion carried

Mr. Burgener declared the meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

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Nicki Snoblin, Secretary

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Date