

**OCTOBER 24, 2022**  
**WILMETTE, IL**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Monday, October 24, 2022 at the Mikaelian Education Center, 615 Locust Road, Wilmette, Illinois. President Amy Poehling called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Members Present: Amy Poehling, Anne Hart, Bonnie Kim, Frank Panzica,  
 Lisa Schneider-Fabes, Erin Stone

Members Absent: Jon Cesaretti

Administrators Present: Kari Cremascoli, Corey Bultemeier, Heather Glowacki, Katie Lee,  
 Kristin Swanson, Kelly Jackson

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Highest Middle School Principal Kelly Jackson introduced 6<sup>th</sup> grade Student Advisory Students to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ARTWORK**

The artwork on display was created by students enrolled in Mrs. Robyn Scott's classes at Wilmette Jr High School. The eighth-grade students used 35mm cameras to take abstract photographs with black and white film. The seventh-grade students used Adobe Photoshop to create digital self-portraits.

**APPROVE THE MINUTES**

Ms. Stone moved, seconded by Mr. Panzica, to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2022 e-Learning Hearing, Board of Education Regular and Executive Session Meetings. The minutes were approved as submitted by **Roll Call Vote**.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Facility Development – Mr. Panzica**

The Facility Development Committee met on October 17th as part of the Committee of the Whole Meeting. The Board was provided with an update on 2023 Summer Construction planning. The design team has completed the 60% design drawings and Nicholas & Associates reviewed updated budgetary estimates for each project, including notable drops in the estimates planned projects at Central and Highest Middle Schools. The construction team also reviewed the equipment pre-purchase process.

Pre-purchasing of equipment is critical in light of supply chain issues. The Board also received a brief update on the State Maintenance Grant Application. The State of Illinois offers a maintenance grant for up to \$50,000, as a matching grant where the matching funds must be from local sources. The application is recommended for approval by the Board as part of the Consent Agenda.

**School Finance – Mr. Cesaretti**

The School Finance Committee also met as part of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Bultemeier provided the Board with an update on the 2022 Tax Levy Process and Status. The finalization of the 2021 tax extension by multiple agencies is a fluid process but appears to have seen some positive developments in the last couple of weeks. This is good news which positively impacts the 2022 tax levy process and timeline.

Thankfully, it appears the Cook County Assessor's Office is on track for sending out the second installment tax bills in November. The Board reviewed current cash flows and short-term borrowing needs, with special attention to the Cook County Assessor's updated timeline. A summary of monthly cash flows was provided to the Board. Based on this in-depth review, it does not appear that D39 should need short-term borrowing as sufficient funds will be on hand to cover monthly expenses.

### **Strategy – Mrs. Schneider-Fabes**

The Strategy Committee also met as part of the October Committee of the Whole. The Board received two exciting updates regarding progress in implementing the Strategies and Action Steps of the Strategic Plan. This month, the Board received an in-depth review of SEL Teacher and Parent Supports and Resources. This report provided an overview of recently developed grade level objectives, curricular supports, assessment tools, parent supports and resources for the District 39 Social-Emotional Learning Framework, completed by the SEL committee last year and through the summer. In addition, the Board was provided a review of the efforts to support successful transitions from 4th to 5th grade for students and parents. The administrative team provided a short outline of the transition supports that have been put in place as a result of the feedback gathered regarding the 4th to 5th grade transition last fall, and highlighted initial feedback gathered from these new structures for this year.

### **Liaison Reports**

#### **Community Review Committee (CRC) – Mrs. Hart**

The Community Review Committee met for their first meeting on October 11. Introductions took place and an overview of topics were discussed. The CRC topic for this year will be Neurodiversity supporting the strategic goals: specifically, Goal number 1, Student Achievement and Growth, and Goal number 3, Professional Community. The CRC group is quite large and subgroups on area of focus were assigned. The next meeting will be on November 1.

#### **Educational Foundation – President Poehling**

Ed Foundation met on October 18. Many events are being planned including Trivia Night (already sold out), Paddle Classic, Bingo, Beers for Cheers and also some new events on the horizon including finding ways for student involvement. The next meeting will be held on November 9 and will include a vote on Gripp Grants and a vote to revise the bylaws.

#### **Wilmette Village Intergovernmental Cooperation Working Group – Mrs. Kim/Mr. Cesaretti**

Mrs. Kim noted the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 26, Mr. Cesaretti will attend representing D39 Board.

#### **Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) – Mrs. Kim**

No IASB news, however, a North Cook Division meeting will be held this Wednesday evening at Evanston Township High School to review the proposed resolutions for the 2022 IASB Delegate Assembly to be held in November. District 39 Board members will review the resolutions at the November Committee of the Whole meeting.

#### **Legislative Update – Mrs. Kim**

Mrs. Kim attended the Ed-Red kick off lunch earlier this month. This year there will be three advisory committees focusing on school safety, special education funding, and communications. Mrs. Kim joined the School Safety Committee and will update members throughout the year with ideas or proposals that are generated.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **A. Written Communication – Dr. Cremascoli**

Dr. Cremascoli reported the Board received written communication from Christopher Palombo suggesting school nurses be equipped with Narcan (naloxone), a life-saving reversal medication for opioid overdose; Nate VanderKamp praising D39 for not adopting the National Sexual Education Standards; Chase and Matt Martinek concerned that the National Sex Education Standards would be adopted in D39.

### **B. Administrative Announcements – Dr. Cremascoli**

#### *Parent-Teacher Conference Sign-Up*

Dr. Cremascoli stated fall parent-teacher conferences will take place on November 16-18, immediately preceding Fall Break (Thanksgiving week). Conferences will be held via Zoom. Parents who requested an in-person conference signed up through a survey that closed last week. All parents will receive an email with login information for the conference scheduler on Friday, October 28th. Conference sign-up will open Monday, October 31st and will close Monday, November 14th.

#### *Community Review Committee Members-at-Large*

The Community Review Committee (CRC) serves in an advisory capacity to District 39's Board of Education to research specific topics that lead to improvements in teaching, learning, or managing the District's operations. The CRC is requesting the Board approve Debbie Theilig, Allyson Pallas, and Najah Musaccio to serve as members-at-large on the 2022-2023 CRC.

#### *Fiscal Year 2022 School Maintenance Grant Application*

ISBE offers each school district the opportunity to submit one application for a matching school maintenance project grant. The grant amount is up to \$50,000. Before the application can be submitted to ISBE in November, the Board of Education is required to approve the application. The application details installation of outside air ventilation to a lower-level office plus the addition of a chiller to provide air conditioning to the remaining 13 classrooms at Harper Elementary School.

#### *Property Tax Assessment Appeals*

The Board of Education approved a resolution authorizing intervention in property tax assessment appeals filed with the PTAB and with the Circuit Court of Cook County in accordance with policies and limitations established by the Board of Education. The Property Index Number and the estimated refunds are listed for new property tax interventions at the PTAB and Circuit Court of Cook County this month.

#### *Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)*

The District received FOIA requests from Jodi Cohen of ProPublica and the Chicago Tribune requesting Wilmette Community Special Education Agreement records showing the number of student referral incidents to law enforcement for 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022 school years; records showing the number of student arrest incidents by law enforcement for 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022; records showing the number of incidents a student was cited or ticketed by law enforcement for an ordinance violation for 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022 school years.

### **C. Strategic Plan Updates**

#### 1. Spring 2022 Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) Preliminary Data

Ms. Katie Lee presented the IAR assessment results from spring of 2022 which is reflective of the 2021-2022 school year. These assessment results are deemed preliminary and embargoed by the Illinois State Board of Education until October 27, 2022. When Illinois State Board of Education publicly releases the data, it will be published on myIRC website with all other school/district report card data.

Members discussed the assessment data including the written expression scores. Members shared their respect and support for the reflective process and acknowledged tremendous individual growth while all groups may or may not have met target goals.

## 2. Fall 2022 NWEA MAP and aimswebPlus Assessment Data

Ms. Katie Lee and Dr. Kristin Swanson presented the 2022 NWEA MAP and aimswebPlus Assessment Data to the members of the Board for preview and discussion. These data provide a baseline of achievement for the school year as well as a historical review.

Ms. Lee explained that the assessments are analyzed at the district level, grade level, team and classroom levels, as well as focusing on each individual student performance. Members appreciated seeing the KPI indicators are applied within the report. An inquiry of conducting a MAP data comparison of local area schools was investigated, and deemed unobtainable.

## 3. Goal 1 Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Update

An update was provided for the achievement-specific KPIs as a way to monitor progress of Goal 1 Key Performance Indicators within the Fall 2022 NWEA MAP and aimswebPlus Assessment Data presentation.

### **D. Annual Business**

#### 1. 2022 Fall Enrollment Report

Mr. Tony DeMonte presented the fall enrollment report. Annually, District 39 provides a Fall Enrollment report that captures the number of students attending District 39's schools as of enrollment on October 1<sup>st</sup>. This year, there are 3,304 students educated in D39 schools. In addition, the number of students District 39 has a responsibility to educate is reported. This number is higher as it includes early childhood students receiving itinerant speech at the district office, students outplaced at therapeutic settings, and students receiving special education services at the local parochial or private schools. District 39 Fall Enrollment total is 3,356 students. The Long-Term Enrollment Projections report will be presented at the November Board meeting.

### **E. Board Policy Review**

1. First Reading of Board of Education Policies 2:100, 2:230, 2:300, 4:20, 4:51, 4:140, 6:10, 6:40, 6:65, 6:70, 6:100, 6:140, 6:170, 6:180, 6:210, 6:240, 6:250, 6:255, 6:260, 6:290, 6:340, 7:15, 7:30, 7:60, 7:90, 7:130, 7:150, 7:160, 7:170, 7:230, 7:270, 7:280, 7:300, 7:310, 7:325, 8:70, 8:90 and 8:100

Mrs. Kim asked for several language clarifications for policies 6:170, 7:30 and 7:130. Mr. Panzica requested policy 2:300 be brought back for further discussion as Mr. Cesaretti was not in attendance. President Poehling stated she would reach out to Mr. Cesaretti on whether to include this policy on the next committee meeting agenda in November.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **A. Consent Agenda** – Policies 2:100 and 2:300 were pulled from the Consent Agenda

Ms. Stone moved, seconded by Mr. Panzica, to approve the Personnel Report dated October 24, 2022, which included educational support personnel full-time employment of Ellen Hackett, effective October 24, 2022; Karen Miller, effective October 10, 2022; Ma Elena Nunez, effective October 12, 2022; licensed resignation of Cheri Bridge, effective September 30, 2022; Ari Kaufman, effective October 3, 2022; educational support personnel resignation of Kelly Burlingame, effective November 4, 2022;

Chris Dziedzic, effective October 14, 2022; Jody Nelson, effective October 7, 2022; release of a probationary employee, Chhandy Em, effective September 20, 2022; educational support personnel retirement for Ann Grochocinski, effective October 30, 2026: approve the Fiscal Year 2022 School Maintenance Project Grant: approve Debbie Theilig, Allyson Pallas, and Najah Musaccio to serve as a members-at-large on the Community Review Committee (CRC): to approve as first reading of Board of Education Policies 2:100 *Board Member Conflict of Interest*; 2:230 *Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Petitions to the Board*; 2:300 *Employment of Relatives of Members of the Board of Education*; 4:20 *Fund Balances*; 4:51 *Tuition Fees*; 4:140 *Waiver of Student Fees*; 6:10 *Educational Philosophy and Objectives*; 6:40 *Curriculum Development*; 6:65 *Student Social and Emotional Development*; 6:70 *Teaching about Religions*; 6:100 *Using Animals in the Educational Program*; 6:140 *Education of Homeless Children*; 6:170 *Title I Programs*; 6:180 *Extended Instructional Programs-Summer School*; 6:210 *Instructional Materials*; 6:240 *Field Trips*; 6:250 *Community Resource Persons and Volunteers*; 6:255 *Assemblies and Ceremonies*; 6:260 *Complaints about Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs*; 6:290 *Homework*; 6:340 *Student Testing and Assessment Program*; 7:15 *Student and Family Privacy Rights*; 7:30 *Student Assignment and Intra-District Transfer*; 7:60 *Residence*; 7:90 *Release During School Hours*; 7:130 *Student Rights and Responsibilities*; 7:150 *Agency and Police Interviews*; 7:160 *Student Appearance*; 7:170 *Vandalism*; 7:230 *Misconduct by Students with Disabilities*; 7:270 *Administering Medicines to Students*; 7:280 *Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease*; 7:300 *Extracurricular Athletics*; 7:310 *Restrictions on Publications*; 7:325 *Student Fundraising Activities*; 8:70 *Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities*; 8:90 *Parent Organizations*; and 8:100 *Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies*: approve to maintain as confidential the executive session minutes of March 14, 2022; March 21, 2022; April 11, 2022; April 25, 2022; May 16, 2022; May 23, 2022; June 6, 2022; June 13, 2022; August 15, 2022: approve to dispose of executive session audio recordings pursuant to District policy for May 11, 2020; May 18, 2020; June 8, 2020; June 15, 2020; July 20, 2020; August 12, 2020; August 17, 2020; August 24, 2020; September 14, 2020; September 21, 2020; October 19, 2020: approve the accounts payable for bills listed between September 20, 2022 – October 24, 2022 in the following amounts: Educational Fund \$716,932.43; O&M Fund \$71,636.88; Transportation Fund \$240,898.57; Capital Projects \$630,655.00; total all funds: \$1,660,122.88: to approve the manual checks issued between September 20, 2022 – October 24, 2022 in the following amounts: Educational Fund \$811,417.65; O&M Fund \$194,690.02; Transportation Fund \$307.28; Capital Projects \$2,309,489.14; total all funds: \$3,315,904.09.

On a roll call vote on the motion, voting “yea” –Anne Hart, Bonnie Kim, Frank Panzica, Lisa Schneider-Fabes, Erin Stone, Amy Poehling; voting “nay” – none; absent – Jon Cesaretti: **Motions Carried.**

## **CONFERENCE ITEMS**

### **Old Business**

Mr. Panzica inquired about absenteeism updates or information. Dr. Cremascoli noted that while the state has designated attendance/absenteeism as a focus following the pandemic, and while all school districts have experienced varying attendance patterns, there was no trend data available at this time.

### **New Business**

None

### **Good and Welfare**

Mrs. Kim watched the Highcrest Middle School Weekly Update and was so impressed with students' confidence and comfort levels.

Mrs. Hart attended Curriculum Night at Wilmette Junior High School and was impressed with how quickly students move through the school, going through their schedules, and meeting teachers. The event was very well organized. She also commented on the Central Carnival event having a great turn-out, with new and old families participating. Mrs. Hart recently volunteered in the school cafeteria which was also a highlight. She expressed how happy families are to attend school events in-person.

Ms. Stone moved, seconded by Mr. Panzica, to adjourn to executive session to discuss specific personnel.

On a roll call vote on the motion, voting “yea” – Anne Hart, Bonnie Kim, Frank Panzica, Lisa Schneider-Fabes, Erin Stone, Amy Poehling; voting “nay” – none; absent – Jon Cesaretti: **Motion Carried.**

The meeting adjourned to executive session at 8:55 p.m. and returned to the regular meeting of the Board of Education at 9:13 p.m.

Being no further business, Ms. Stone moved, seconded by Mr. Panzica, to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education. It adjourned at 9:13 p.m. by **General Consent.**

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President

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Secretary