

Dist. 205 Board of Education
Feb. 25, 2008
7:43 pm – 9:30 pm

All Bd members present
Public: 50 Staff: 6 Press: 1
Observer: J. Dorner

The Board had been in closed session since 6:00 pm to consider the performance of and employment of specific employees, collective negotiations and approval of closed session minutes (1/28/08 & 2/11/08). President Davy called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was held for all the shooting victims, specifically Dan Parmenter, alumnus of York High School, of the 2/14/08 violence at NIU.

Recognition: The Illinois Music Educator's Association's recognized the thirteen musicians from York High School as All-State Musicians.

Public Comment: Five (three of whom were York students) people spoke against the elimination of speech as a graduation requirement.

Superintendent's Communications:

A. FY 09 Calendar – Dr. Krizic stated that some parents were concerned about Election Day, this November 4th. There are 5 schools that will have polling places in them while school is in session (Madison, Fischer, Edison, Bryan, and Sandburg). Dr. Krizic said that some Districts are having Institute Days on Election Days. This is not possible for the November 2008 election. She suggested that the November 11th commemoration of Veterans' Day be an attendance day and that Election Day be a non-attendance day. Mr. Spaeth asked about the Spring 2009 election. Dr. Krizic did not have a immediate remedy for that Election Day. Although Mrs. Ostojic expressed disappointment that the students would not be witnessing citizens practicing their right to vote, she understood the concern of parents for their students' safety. The Board's consensus was that the Administration pursue a waiver for attendance on Veteran's Day and non-attendance for Election Day in November 2008.

B. Kindergarten registration Update – Kindergarten round up was held on 2/20/08. Some schools are at the same level they were at last year and others are not. The administration will present an enrollment plan to the Board in March. It will be based on the current enrollment, **not** projections.

C. Graduation Requirements – Dr. Krizic read a statement about the possible change in graduation requirements, on which the Board will be voting later in the evening. It was a summary of past arguments.

Superintendent's Agenda: The Board approved:

- Minutes from 1/28/08, 2/11/08
- Consent agenda
 - Personnel report
 - Financial reports
 - Approval of School Improvement Plans:
 - Emerson, Fischer, Hawthorne, Jackson, Jefferson
 - Approval of Display of Proposed High School Materials Adoption

- Approval of Donation of Athletic Uniforms for York High School
- Approval of Bid #08-17 Fitness Center Cardio Equipment
- Approval of Bid #08-18 York Band/Orchestra Instruments

Removed from consent agenda:

- Freedom of Information Act – Mr. Thrall was concerned about the FOI request from First Investors Corporation. He said that he thought that the information received would be used as a marketing tool. Dr. Krizic answered that all legal parameters were followed. This motion was carried.
- Approval of Purchase of Proposed Literacy Adoption – Mrs. Ostojic questioned the rational of moving the technology piece of the literacy adoption out of this proposal. Dr. Krizic answered that David Smith would be presenting a total technology picture in March. The Board approved the proposed literacy adoption for grades K to 5 in the amount of \$633,817. This does not include the technology component of the curriculum.
- Approval of Revision to Policy #2625 Graduation Requirements (Second Reading) – Each Board member spoke of his/her opinion on this issue of removing the speech course as a requirement of graduation from York High School. Mrs. Ostojic, Mrs. Conroy and Mr. Spaeth were concerned that the teachers already are over taxed with the amount of curriculum that must be taught and to require additional tasks of speech was asking too much. Mr. Carlquist, Mrs. DeRonne and Mrs. Davy said that the speech course would still be available to all who chose to take it as an elective. Mr. Thrall said that up until that morning he was prepared to vote against it. He now was going to vote for it with the condition that a report would be given by the High School concerning students' speech ability a year from now. The motion carried 4 to 3.
- Approval of 2008-2009 Student Registration Fees – 5 yes and 2 no (Spaeth and Thrall)

Board Communications: None

Action out of Closed Session: The Board denied the 10/10/08 Elmhurst Teacher Council's grievance.