

The School Board met in closed session before the meeting reported below and took the following action out of closed session: The Board approved the hiring of Ryan Anderson as the new Sandburg Middle School Principal.

**Dist. 205 Board of Education Policy Committee**

**July 23, 2008**

**7:00 pm – 9:40 pm**

**Public: 0 Staff: 4 Press: 2**

**Observer: J. Dorner**

Board Members Mr. Thrall, Mr. Carlquist, and Mrs. Ostojic, Superintendent Krizic, Assistant Superintendents Pat Masterton and Lisa Smith were present. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**Public Comment:** none

**Policy Review Discussion:**

Legal Requirements –

- Green Cleaning Schools Act - New policy 3232 was discussed. This policy is in response to an addition to the School Code, which requires schools to purchase and use only environmentally sensitive cleaning products according to the guidelines established by the Illinois Green Government Coordinating Council. An exception exists if it is not economically feasible. District 205 sees it as economically feasible and had already initiated the program. This policy will be brought to the whole Board for a first reading.

District Initiatives/Issues

- Board Member Conflict of Interest – Currently there are several policies that deal with conflict of interest. All were combined under new policy #1115-5.2. Also, the policy for hiring of family members of Board members is inconsistent. Legally, there is nothing that prevents members of Board members families from being hired. This new policy covers this aspect for Board members. A separate policy on nepotism with general personnel will be developed. Policy #1115-5.2 states that no Board member will have any direct pecuniary interest in a contract nor furnish direct labor, equipment or supplies to the District. It also says that the District will hire no Board member's immediate family. But a current employee need not resign his/her position if a family member is elected to the Board. The Policy Committee discussed this policy extensively. Some discussion centered on not only actual conflict of interest, but perceived conflict of interest. Although there is no legal requirement preventing this, Mr. Thrall stated he would not be voting on this policy. This policy will not be brought to the entire Board until the general personnel nepotism policy is developed.
- Ethics and Gift Ban- the word "ethics" in this title and policy relates solely to banning the acceptance of gifts by Board members from a prohibited source. The policy does eliminate the Superintendent appointed 3-person ethics committee in favor of an "ethics advisor" who should have more information/familiarity with state statutes (e.g. the District's legal counsel). Again, Mr. Thrall stated he would not be voting on this policy.

**Policy Manual Structure:**

Dr. Krizic and her cabinet said they feel that the current policy book needs alignment. Dr. Krizic suggested alignment with the Illinois Association of School Board recommended structure. The IASB offers the service of restructuring a policy book and cross-referencing policies to statutes. The administration will ask for a quote from IASB for this service and will also work on updating and aligning the District procedure book to the policy book. The quote will be brought to the next Board meeting.

**Policy Committee meeting Schedule:**

There are many policies that need updating with additional legislative requirements. The Policy Committee needs to meet more often. It was decided to set monthly meetings for the next 3 months and then determine need at that time. The next meeting will be August 18, 2008 at 7:00 pm.