

Dist. 205 Board of Education
Sept. 22, 2008
8:05 pm – 10:05 pm

No Spaeth
Public: 5 Staff: 20 Press: 1
Observer: J. Dorner

The Board had been in closed session since 6:45 pm to consider the employment of employees, property acquisition/lease/purchase, and approval of closed session minutes (8/11/08 and 9/08/08). President Davy called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Budget Public Hearing: Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Pat Masterston, gave a brief overview of the FY 09 Budget. She stated that the budgeted revenues will increase 5.3% over the actual FY 09 revenues (\$102,749,725). Once again, 89.7 % of the revenues come from local (mostly property taxes) sources, 7.2% from the state, and 3.1% from the federal government. The FY 09 budgeted expenditures (\$107,836,962) is a 9.7% increase over the FY 08 actual expenditures. These expenditures include over \$8 million in the capital budget (old site and construction line item) that currently has \$9.3 million as a fund balance. There will be no need for tax anticipation warrants for this budget year.

Public Comment related to the Budget: None

Budget Hearing adjourned, open session called.

Public Comment: None

Action on Closed Session Items: The Board approved the appointment of Maria Martinez-Valiukenas Principal of Churchville Middle School. They also approved a settlement of a grievance presented by the paraprofessional union. This settlement was accepted with 5 yes, 0 no, 1 absent and 1 present (Thrall).

Workshop Discussion Topic:

2008 Summer School Program: Dr. McCann, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, presented a summary of revenues and expenditures for the 2008 summer. All summer school programs netted out with an almost \$36,000 deficit, using an estimated figure of \$27,000 for utilities, maintenance, and custodial costs and an almost \$14,000 deficit for the Incoming Freshman Academy. This summer was the first time for the Incoming Freshman Academy, which was offered to incoming freshman who appeared to need help per the PLAN test, which every eighth grader takes. Of the over 100 students invited to take this class, about 40 opted to attend. Recommendations for next summer include increasing the cost of instrumental music camp to \$100 from \$83 and to re-think the teachers proposing the K-8 summer school classes. Dates for 2009:

- K-8 summer school July 6 – July 17 (at Sandburg)
- High School
 - June 18 – July 9 (Session 1)
 - July 10 – July 31 (Session 2)
- Instrumental Music July 20 – July 31 (at Sandburg)

Superintendent's Communications:

Strategic Plan Draft Dr. Krizic reviewed a draft document of the long range goals and strategic tactics of the strategic plan. Metrics and time lines for each tactic are expected to be available at the Oct. 14th meeting. The themes and goals are:

Theme: Curriculum & Instruction

- Goal 1: Accelerate achievement for all students and minimize disparities among all groups of students.
- Goal 2: Follow researched-based, best practice instructional strategies and programs consistently across the district.
- Goal 3: Provide equitable educational opportunities and resources for the benefit of all students in the district.

Theme: Research & Assessment

- Goal 1: To implement a comprehensive assessment system aimed at providing reliable, relevant and timely information to enhance student, teacher and district performance.
- Goal 2: To use data and information to support decision making, to improve achievement and to provide for continuous improvement.

Theme: Communication

- Goal 1: Establish an effective two-way communication system within the district to strengthen mutual understanding and collaborative decision-making.
- Goal 2: Establish an effective two-way communication system with parents/community to foster a trusting and supportive relationship.

Theme: Human Resources

- Goal 1: Recruit, hire, induct, support and retain high quality staff.
- Goal 2: Cultivate a high-performing, professional culture.

Theme: Facilities

- Goal 1: Provide equitable space and resources among all schools for curricular and co-curricular use.
- Goal 2: Assure safe and secure District 205 facilities.
- Goal 3: Become a leader in the use of instructional, informational, and telecommunications technology to promote 21st century student learning.

Organization Health Update: Organization Health is made up of ten dimensions: goal focus, communication adequacy, optimal power equalization, resource utilization, cohesiveness, morale, innovation, autonomy, adaptation, and problem solving ability. The District first surveyed the certified staff in FY 07 and then again in FY 08. There was growth in all dimensions except for optimal power utilization. The support staff was surveyed for the first time in FY 08. Their numbers were higher than the certified staff. There is a direct correlation between student achievement and dimensional health. For FY09, the District's priorities are to improve communication adequacy (exists when information is relatively distortion free and travels both vertically and horizontally across the boundaries of an organization) and problem solving adequacy (is the degree to which the school is able to perceive potential problems and to solve them with minimal energy. The problems get solved, stay solved, and the problem-solving procedures are maintained and/or strengthened.)

Superintendent's Agenda: The Board approved:

- Minutes of 8/11/08 and 9/08/08
- A. Consent Agenda
 - Personnel Report
 - Financial Reports
 - Freedom of Information requests
 - New Policy #3232 Green Cleaning Schools – 2nd reading.

- Revision to Policy #1115-5 Board Member Conflict of Interest – First reading
- Revision to Policy #1110 Board Member Code of Conduct – First Reading
- New Policy #4110-11 Nepotism – First Reading
- Revision to Policy #4110-1 Vacancies and Postings – First Reading
- Revision to Policy #5205-2.1 Admission/Enrollment – First Reading
- Revision to Policy #1115-2 School District Elections – First Reading
- Utilize Illinois Association of School Board (IASB) Policy Manual Services to Facilitate the Policy Review Process
- Issue a Request for Proposal for Landscape Architect Services
- Financial Consultant/Bond Underwriter
- 2008-2009 Application for Recognition of Schools
- Authorization for Board Election Designee

Mrs. Ostojic removed the following from the consent agenda:

- Revision to Policy #1115-10 Ethics Act and Gift Ban – First Reading – Mrs. Ostojic wanted the definitions included in the policy. They will be included.
- Revision to Policy #3175-5 Student Activity Funds – First Reading – Mrs. Ostojic asked if there were any implications with this change. The reply was that there would be none.
- Purchase of Boundary/Transportation Routing Software – Mrs. Ostojic asked if all cost components would be reimbursed at the 80% level. The answer was yes.
- Donation to Hawthorne Elementary School – The Board was asked to approve the donation of a television set to the Hawthorne School teachers’ lounge from their PTA “as it would allow the staff the ability to receive news of important events or in times of crisis.” Mrs. Ostojic stated that this same reasoning should be used for all schools so the District should supply all schools with televisions for the teachers’ lounges. Dr. Krizic said that there are TVs available elsewhere in schools and “there are things that we can be tight on and things that we can be loose on and I’m no so sure that we need to be tight on supplying television sets in teachers’ lounges.” The motion carried.

B. Approval of Recommendation to Begin Design of Emerson Elementary School Addition

C. Approval of Resolution for Adoption of 2008-2009 Budget

Board Communications: Mrs. Conroy asked about the hiring of a gymnastic coach at York High School. Dr. Krizic stated that one has been hired. Mr. Carlquist and Mrs. Davy had a discussion about Mr. Spaeth’s attendance at Board meetings. Mrs. Davy will try to contact Mr. Spaeth by a signed, certified letter.

There will be a special meeting on September 30th at 6:00 pm concerning the property acquisition at 120 S. York Rd.