

MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
of the Board of Education
Riverside School District No. 96
held on Tuesday, October 21, 2008
Hollywood Elementary School
Cook County, Brookfield, Illinois

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

08-55 The Regular Business Meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Ms. Cheryl Berdelle and on roll call the following members were recorded as being present:

Mrs. Linda Bade
Ms. Cheryl Berdelle
Mrs. Nancy Jensen
Mr. Giles McCarthy
Mr. James Schraidt
Mrs. Hareena Wakely

Absent: Mr. Richard Volpe

Also present were: Dr. Jonathan Lamberson, Superintendent; principals Colleen Lieggi, Bob Chleboun, Janice Limperis, and Leslie Berman; special education director Mary Polk, technology director Vern Bettis; and approximately 18 interested parents/citizens of the community.

The regular meeting was held in the gymnasium at Hollywood Elementary School.

Ms. Berdelle led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

B.1. Information and Proposals.

There were no comments from the REC or the public at large.

08-56 A motion was made by Mrs. Jensen, supported by Mr. McCarthy, that the Board approve the items listed under the *Consent Agenda* as follows:

- Minutes of the Budget Hearing and Regular Business Meeting of September 16, 2008.
- Minutes of the Building Committee Meeting of September 30, 2008.
- The Financial Statement as of September 30, 2008 concerning the status of each separate fund of the district and filed in the official minutes of this meeting.
- Payment of invoices listed on Schedule A-680 and that a record of said invoices be filed in the official minutes of this meeting.
- Accepted the resignation of Blythe Park School paraprofessional, Asta Cuplinskas as reported on Schedule B-375.
- Approved the appointment of Artemis Daglas to the position of Blythe Park School paraprofessional as reported on Schedule C-917.

- Approved Extra-Duty appointments for 2008-09 per contract provisions, Schedule C-918.
- Adopted a resolution to approve and adopt the FSA Plan documents to establish a Section 125 Flexible Spending Account for all eligible employees of District 96, subject to review of the final Plan by the Board’s attorneys and dental program new statement of benefits.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mrs. Bade
Mrs. Jensen
Mr. McCarthy
Mr. Schraidt
Mrs. Wakely
Ms. Berdelle
Nays: None
Absent: Mr. Volpe

08-57 Supt. Lamberson reviewed with the Board the proposed District Goals for 2008-09 as discussed at both the August and September Board meetings as well as by the Education Committee. A motion was made by Mr. McCarthy, supported by Mrs. Bade, that the Board resolve to adopt the following District Goals for the 2008-09 school year:

1. Evidence “best practice” standards of civility and courtesy.
2. Support the following District 96 initiatives:
 - ▲ Writing Curriculum (review)
 - ▲ District 96 Cadre - Curriculum Mapping
 - ▲ District 96 Cadre - Inquiry (PD on demand)
 - ▲ District 96 Cadre - Technology
 - ▲ District 96 Cadre - Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)
 - ▲ Phase 1 of TtI (Response to Intervention)
 - ▲ Collaborative Teams
 - ▲ PowerSchool with Parental Portal
 - ▲ New and improved District website with on-line Board policies (including updated policies, as needed)
 - ▲ Design “5 for 4” Program - every fifth grader in 2009-10 will be issued their own laptop to use for the next 4 years - using only new funding that does not increase local property taxes
3. Pilot Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences in Grades 3 - 8.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Six
Nays: None
Absent: One (Mr. Volpe)

In conjunction with the adoption of the 2008-09 goals Supt. Lamberson reported that arrangements have been made with the IASB (Illinois Association of School Boards) to contract their services to assist in updating and customizing the current Board Policies. After having met with Dr. Lamberson and Board member Nancy Jensen to conduct an initial review of existing policies, IASB representative Laurel DiPrima will work with the administration to produce a more current and updated version of Board policies. Ms. DiPrima indicated that a first draft of the document would be available before the Thanksgiving break. The draft will then be reviewed by the Board, administration and staff with recommendations for changes and/or additions being brought back for consideration. The timeline projects a final document ready for Board adoption in April 2009.

- 08-58 Following review at the September 16, 2008 meeting, a motion was made by Mr. Schraidt, supported by Mrs. Wakely, that the Board approve the 2008-09 Board Agenda Calendar listing core topics for discussion and review on a month-by-month basis. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Six
Nays: None
Absent: One (Mr. Volpe)

- 08-59 At the September 16, 2008 meeting the Board reviewed a proposed schedule for Board committee meetings (Building, Education, Finance) for 2008-09. A motion was made by Mr. McCarthy, supported by Mrs. Jensen, that the Board adopt the 2008-09 Board Committee meeting schedule as presented on Enclosure B.4.c. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Six
Nays: None
Absent: One (Mr. Volpe)

- 08-60 Superintendent Lamberson reviewed with the Board the Mission deliverables (as evidenced by . . . statements) for each of the identified mission imperatives - *Academic Excellence, Creativity, Critical Thinking, and Respect*. During the 2007-08 school year the administration and staff focused on observing the viability of achieving the desired outcomes as written and determined that the potential for successful achievement of the goals is attainable. The Education Committee discussed and recommended that the District 96 Mission "Deliverables" be brought to the Board for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. McCarthy, supported by Mrs. Bade, that the Board adopt the Mission "deliverables" as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Six
Nays: None
Absent: One (Mr. Volpe)

08-61 President Berdelle advised the Board that due to time requirements a letter of support was written on behalf of the Board to the Illinois Surface Transportation Board in favor of approving the Canadian National acquisition of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway to reduce freight train congestion in Riverside and promote student safety. This topic had previously been discussed by the Board indicating their support. A motion was made by Mrs. Wakely, supported by Mr. Schraidt endorsing the Board's support of the purchase for the safety of the children in the community. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes:	Six
Nays:	None
Absent:	One (Mr. Volpe)

Supt. Lamberson provided informational materials to the Board regarding a possible State Constitution Convention and the potential impact it could have for District 96.

C.1. From Superintendent and Staff.

Supt. Lamberson reported that enrollment as of September 30, 2008 is 1,456 students in grades K-8. Due to this year's substantial increase in enrollment at all grade levels and the need for the Board to over ride class size policy limits in kindergarten and 2nd grade in order to accommodate the students, it was recommended that the Board discuss the current policy for possible changes prior to the start of the 2009-10 school year.

The Board also received a report that approximately 4% of our students who, because of the class size policy, are attending classes in a school outside their regular attendance area.

Each member of the District Leadership Team (DLT) which includes all of the school principals, special education director Dr. Mary Polk, and technology director Vern Bettis, gave a brief report on the beginning of the new school year.

Blythe Park principal Bob Chleboun talked about a service project they were rewarded courtesy of Home Depot staff who came to Blythe Park and painted the auditorium and several other areas free of charge. He noted that this year, both the a.m. and p.m. sessions of the ECE program are meeting five days per week rather than four as in the past. Both classes are at full capacity - 10 students per class. This year the staff will be working on grades 2 & 3 cross grade guided reading experiences. Another focus will be greater efforts toward recycling and keeping Blythe Park "green."

Central School principal Dr. Janice Limperis and administrative intern Mindy Keller reported on this year's theme of "Courteous and Kind to Everyone" - (C.A.K.E.) Emphasis will be placed on civility to one another in all aspects of the school day through positive actions and respectful behavior in conjunction with the District Goals for 2008-09. Each month will have a designated theme on which to focus special attention relating to courtesy and kindness.

Mindy Keller reported on the new transitional kindergarten initiative called K.I.T.E. or Kindergarteners Improving Toward Excellence. After screening the children, 32 students were identified for participation in the program. Of those 32 students, 29 of them are enrolled in the transitional program. Classes are held at each of the four elementary schools for identified students to give additional support in basic skills needed to achieve at an appropriate level to successfully advance to first grade.

Ames School principal Colleen Lieggi shared the many activities and projects in the school this year in conjunction with the theme of "We Are Family." Students continue to participate in cross grade level reading groups. Staff members are honing their technology skills and creating iMovies to highlight various projects and events.

Special education director Dr. Mary Polk reported on the development of the District's Response to Intervention Plan (RtI). The main focus of implementing an RtI plan is to provide early intervention for students at the first sign of a deficiency, before a student fails. Being able to define and analyze a student's problem and develop and implement a corrective plan as soon as possible will help prevent or lessen the need for special education services as time goes on. The ISBE has mandated that all school districts have a plan written by January 2009 for implementation in the 2009-10 school year. Dr. Polk reported that early interventions have proven to be successful for many of our students.

Technology director Vern Bettis reported on a new technology initiative this year for staff who are interested in receiving an iPod Touch and 15 hours of training on its use. Participants will have access to iLife, iWork software and numerous other links for instruction innovation including Book Club, Make It & Take It, Digital Storytelling, Apple 1 to 1, Apple Learning Interchange, and Apple Media Services. Professional development opportunities will be offered in conjunction with the National Educational Technology Standards to facilitate and inspire student learning and creativity through the use of technology throughout all subject areas.

Hauser principal Leslie Berman reported on the implementation of PowerSchool for grade reporting and attendance and the introduction of the parent portal for 2008-09. Several Hauser families piloted the parent portal during the second half of 2007-08 with much success. This year, all parents will receive their own password so that they can access their child's records at any time to monitor their progress and facilitate open communication between the teacher and parents. Additional features will be added later in the school year.

08-62 A motion was made by Mrs. Jensen, supported by Mrs. Bade, that the meeting be adjourned to Closed Session for the purpose of discussing personnel and contract issues. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mrs. Jensen
Mr. McCarthy
Mr. Schraidt
Mrs. Wakely
Mrs. Bade
Ms. Berdelle

Nays: None
Absent: Mr. Volpe

The time was 8:40 p.m.

08-63 A motion was made by Mr. McCarthy, supported by Mr. Schraidt, to adjourn the Closed Session and return to open session. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. McCarthy
Mr. Schraidt
Mrs. Wakely
Mrs. Bade
Mrs. Jensen
Ms. Berdelle
Nays: None
Absent: Mr. Volpe

The time was 9:30 p.m.

08-64 A motion was made by Mrs. Wakely, supported by Mrs. Jensen, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Six
Nays: None
Absent: One (Mr. Volpe)

The time was 9:31 p.m.

Recorded: October 21, 2008

Approved: November 18, 2008

Judith Novak, Board Secretary

Cheryl Berdelle, Board President