

**Minutes of the Recognition Meeting and Regular  
Business Meeting of the Board of Education  
Flossmoor School District 161  
March 14, 2011  
Normandy Villa Administration Center**

The recognition ceremony was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Conference Room at Normandy Villa Administration Center. Board President Dr. David Dreyfuss called the Recognition Ceremony in session.

Roll call verified that there was a quorum of the Board present with the following members present as listed below:

**Present**

Mr. Arnold Crater  
Mrs. Christine Marks  
Mr. Ronald E. Moore  
Mrs. Timijanel Odom, arrived at 7:40 p.m.  
Mr. Thomas Sifner  
Mr. John Simmons  
Dr. David Dreyfuss

**Staff members present:**

Dr. Donna C. Joy, Superintendent  
Dr. Susan Pingitore, Associate Superintendent for Administrative Services  
Dr. Rebecca Elish, Director of Learning and Instruction  
Mr. Joseph Martin, Director of Operations  
Ms. Deborah Pitts, Director of Instructional Technology and Information  
Ms. Nancy Wilson, Director of Special Education  
Mrs. Cathy Perino, Secretary to the Superintendent and Board of Education

**Others present:**

Dr. Vanessa Atkins, Karen Brown, Bruce Brozynski, Jennifer Camilleri, Bruce Nieminski, Venus Smith, Lynn Westerlund, Crystal Conley, FEA Co-President, Pam Cernetic, FEA Co-President, Nicolette Chambers, Reporter with Patch.com, and community members (see sign in sheet).

The Board of Education believes many excellent things happen in our School District. Students achieve many different things, teachers do outstanding things in the teaching-learning process, and citizens and parents support the schools in many different ways. The Board of Education is using the Recognition Ceremony as one of the ways to recognize our excellence.

The Special Olympics Winter Games were held in February. The following students participated in the Individual Skills Basketball Competition: Aubria

Thornhill, David Knot, Brandon Davis, Maeric Rodriguez, Winston Langston, Abednego Miller, and Michael Gordon. All participants did an outstanding job.

The regular business meeting was called back to order at 7:35 p.m. in the Conference Room at Normandy Villa Administration Center.

### **Audience to Visitors**

Board President Dreyfuss asked if there was anyone wishing to address the Board on non-agenda items. No one responded.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Joy congratulated those Special Olympians who were unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Dr. Joy announced that Isabel Weber, an eighth grade student at Parker Junior High, qualified to represent the District PJHS at the state level of the National Geographic Bee, which is scheduled for April 1 at the College of DuPage.

Dr. Joy thanked Dr. Becky Elish, Karen Cramer, Kate Raddatz, Sandy Thompson, Karen Legreid, the faculty and parent volunteers that contributed to the success of the District 161 Science Fest. Approximately 70 students in grades 1 through 8 participated in the Science Fest held on Saturday, March 12. It was a great event!

Dr. Joy reported the Illinois State Board of Education will enact new Principal Evaluation regulations as of September 1, 2012. Dr. Joy and Karen Brown, Principal of Flossmoor Hills School, were selected to serve on the Governors State University's principal evaluation task force. The team's facilitator is Dr. Joseph Murphy of Vanderbilt University. The first meeting is scheduled for March 16.

Dr. Joy shared that Western Avenue annual spring play is scheduled for Tuesday, March 22, and Wednesday, March 23. She invited the audience and community members to attend.

Dr. Joy reported the Homewood-Flossmoor League of Women Voters will host a Candidate Forum for School District 161 on March 21 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Flossmoor Library.

Dr. Joy announced that Serena Hills School celebrates its 50-Year Anniversary on Saturday, April 9 from 11:00 to 1:00 p.m. She invited community members, families, and friends of the District and Serena Hills to attend the celebration and to tour Serena Hills, and view the many improvements that have been made to the building and grounds.

Kindergarten registration is scheduled Wednesday, April 20, at all elementary sites. Parents are reminded to register their students early. The District makes staffing decisions based upon registration numbers.

Following the Superintendent's report, Dr. Dreyfuss announced the approval of the new Superintendent's contract will be removed from the agenda due to some logistical issues.

**The following items were presented for approval:**

Approval of Minutes:

- Recognition and Board of Education Meeting – February 14, 2011
- Executive Session – February 14, 2011
- Committee of the Whole Meeting – February 28, 2011
- Executive Session – February 28, 2011

A motion was made by Mr. Moore seconded by Mr. Sifner to approve the consent Agenda regarding Board minutes as amended. All AYES. Mr. Crater abstained from 2/28/11 minutes. Motion Carried.

Personnel

- Personnel Report

A motion was made by Mr. Moore seconded by Mr. Crater to approve the consent Agenda regarding personnel.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Odom, Moore, Simmons, Marks, Crater, Sifner, Dreyfuss

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

**Business Report**

- Approval of 2011-2012 Calendar

A motion was made by Mr. Moore seconded by Mrs. Marks to approve the consent Agenda regarding Business. All AYES. Motion Carried.

- Acceptance of Investment Report

A motion was made by Mrs. Odom seconded by Mrs. Marks to approve the consent Agenda regarding Business. All AYES. Motion Carried.

- Acceptance of District Audit

A motion was made by Mr. Sifner seconded by Mrs. Marks to approve the consent Agenda regarding Business. All AYES. Motion Carried.

### **Approval of Illinois School Insurance Cooperative Resolution**

A motion was made by Mrs. Odom seconded by Mr. Sifner to approve the consent Agenda regarding Business. All AYES. Motion Carried.

### **Approval of Bills**

A motion was made by Mr. Crater seconded by Mr. Sifner to approve the bills for the month ending March 2011 in the amount of \$895,216.49. Mr. Crater discussed his questions with Dr. Pingitore prior to the board meeting and noted as usual, the bills were in order.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Crater, Odom, Marks, Simmons, Sifner, Moore, Dreyfuss

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

### **Approval of Payroll**

A motion was made by Mrs. Odom seconded by Mr. Moore to approve the payroll for the month ending February 2011 in the amount of \$1,288,189.57.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Marks, Odom, Moore, Crater, Sifner, Simmons, Dreyfuss

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

### **Approval of Fees for the 2011-2012 School Year**

A motion was made by Mrs. Marks seconded by Mr. Moore to approve no change to the textbook fees, however, the administration is asking for a \$5.00 increase in the Outdoor Education fee in order to cover camp costs. The administration is also asking to increase graduation fee at Parker from \$60 to \$65. This increase is due primarily to the increased cost for the yearbook with the remainder attributable to the cost of caps and gowns as well as expenses related to the eighth grade dance. Finally, an activity fee for athletics is considered. A fee may be charged for the following activities: basketball, volleyball, track, cheerleading, cross country, and steppers.

The fee for students in Grades K-5 would be \$155 and the fee for Grades 6-8 would be \$190. However, the fee would remain the same as the fees for the 2010-2011 school year for returning students who participate in mail-in registration or students who register during kindergarten registration in April. These fees would be \$120 (K-5) and \$155 (6-8). The fees were reviewed by the Committee of the Whole on February 28, 2011.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Moore, Sifner, Simmons, Odom, Marks, Crater, Dreyfuss

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

### **Approval of Bus Lease for Mini Buses**

A motion was made by Mr. Sifner seconded by Mr. Moore to approve a one-year lease with 18,000 annual miles for two (2) 29-passenger gasoline-powered busses with an option to extend for an additional year at the same cost. This item was reviewed at the Committee of the Whole meeting on February 28, 2011.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Sifner, Odom, Moore, Crater, Marks, Simmons, Dreyfuss

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

### **Approval of Fiber Optics**

A motion was made by Mrs. Marks seconded by Mrs. Odom to upgrade the District's network infrastructure with fiber optics to support a faster, more efficient network for the 2011-2012 school year. This recommendation was reviewed at the Committee of the Whole meeting on February 28, 2011.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Odom, Moore, Simmons, Marks, Crater, Simmons, Dreyfuss

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

### **Approval of Strategic Plan**

A motion was made by Mrs. Odom seconded by Mr. Sifner to approve the executive summary and the action plans that were developed to support the goals of the Strategic Plan. This recommendation was reviewed at the Committee of the Whole meeting on February 28, 2011. All AYES. Motion Carried.

The Strategic Plan can be viewed on the District's website [www.sd161.org](http://www.sd161.org).

### **Discussion for Board of Education Reorganization**

A discussion took place regarding the need to reorganize within 28 days after the consolidated election (April 5, 2011). It was decided to reschedule the Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled from Monday, April 25 to Wednesday April 27.

### **Executive Session**

A motion was made by Mr. Moore seconded by Mrs. Odom to go into executive session to discuss matters relating to student discipline 5ILCS 120/2 (c)(9) and personnel 5ILCS 120/2 (c)(1). All AYES. Motion Carried.

The Board of Education went into executive session at 8:03 p.m.

**Return to Open Session**

A motion was made by Mr. Moore seconded by Mrs. Odom to return to open session. All AYES. Motion Carried.

The Board returns to open session at 8:35 p.m.

**Action on Student Discipline Matters**

A motion was made by Mr. Sifner seconded by Mr. Moore to approve the hearing officer's recommendation in regards to student no. 820949563. All AYES. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Moore seconded by Mr. Sifner to approve the hearing officer's recommendation in regards to student no. 647635605. All AYES. Motion Carried.

**Return to Executive Session**

A motion was made by Mr. Moore seconded by Mrs. Odom to return to executive session to discuss matters relating to personnel 5ILCS 120/2 (c)(1). All AYES. Motion Carried.

The Board of Education went into executive session at 8:45 p.m.

**Return to Open Session**

A motion was made by Mr. Moore seconded by Mrs. Odom to return to open session. All AYES. Motion Carried.

The Board returns to open session at 9:20p.m.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Mr. Moore seconded by Mr. Sifner to adjourn the Board of Education meeting. All AYES. Motion Carried.

The Board of Education meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

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Dr. David Dreyfuss, President

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Ronald E. Moore, Secretary