

**Minutes of the Board of Education
Flossmoor School District 161, Cook County, Illinois
Board of Education Meeting
July 13, 2009**

President Dreyfuss called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. in the Normandy Villa School conference room, 41 E. Elmwood Drive, Chicago Heights, Illinois.

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

Present

Mr. Arnold Crater, arrived at 7:36 p.m.
Mrs. Christine Marks
Mr. Ronald Moore
Mrs. Timijanel Odom
Mr. John Simmons
Mr. Thomas Sifner
Dr. David Dreyfuss

Staff members present:

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

Others present:

Dr. Vanessa Atkins, Karen Brown, community members, and staff members (see attached list).

Audience to Visitors

Anne Colton, newly elected Homewood Village Trustee, introduced herself and shared she is visiting neighboring school boards, village meetings, as part of an intergovernmental road trip. She can be contacted via the Homewood Village website. The Board of Education thanked her for coming and congratulated her on her recent election victory.

Superintendent's Report

The District's summer school program is a big success. The last day of summer school will be Thursday, July 23. Dr. Joy thanked Bob Pinciak, summer school principal, and the summer school faculty and staff for the excellent job they did.

Dr. Joy acknowledged the District continues to make preparations for the opening of the 2009-2010 school year. Presently, all staff is hired with the exception of one junior high teacher.

The annual District 161 New Teacher Breakfast is Friday, August 21, at 8:30 a.m. The breakfast is at Normandy Villa. All Board of Education members are invited to stop by and meet the District's new faculty members.

Dr. Joy updated the Board on the construction project at Flossmoor Hills School. The project is 95% complete with the addition of light poles, a flagpole, and landscaping still to be installed. Joe Martin provided a more detailed update of the key accomplishments at each of the buildings. Joe Martin, Ed Grotte, the custodial and maintenance staff were all acknowledged for the stellar job they are doing with the District's facilities.

New student registration will be held at Normandy Villa from 1:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on August 4 and from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on August 5.

Class Assignment/Fee Payment Day is August 12 from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at all buildings and on August 13 for Parker Junior High only.

The following items were presented for approval:

Board Minutes:

- Regular Board of Education Meeting – June 8, 2009
- Executive Session – June 8, 2009
- Committee of the Whole Meeting – June 22, 2009

A motion was made by Mr. Sifner seconded by Mr. Moore to approve the consent Agenda regarding the Board minutes.

Voice Vote:

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

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

Personnel:

- Personnel Report

A motion was made by Mr. Moore seconded by Mrs. Marks to approve the consent Agenda regarding Personnel. Clarification regarding the reading specialists was discussed.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

Personnel:

- Superintendent's Contract

A motion was made by Mrs. Marks seconded by Mr. Sifner to approve a one-year extension on Dr. Donna C. Joy, Superintendent of Schools, current contract, which expired in 2010. Dr. Dreyfuss welcomes any input regarding specific goals or strategic planning items from the Board of Education members.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

Business:

- Approval of Copier Replacement

A motion was made by Mr. Sifner seconded by Mr. Moore to approve the consent Agenda regarding Business.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: Odom

Motion Carried.

A board member raised a question at the June 22nd Committee of the Whole meeting regarding the fact that Heather Hill would not be receiving a new copier and suggested the District move a copier from Heather Hill to another school, and replace it with a new copier originally intended for another school. A discussion took place regarding the quality of the copiers at Heather Hill School. The administration stated Heather Hill's copiers were replaced at an earlier date, and they have a maintenance contract with a different company.

A motion was made by Mrs. Odom, second by Mr. Crater to request that the administration evaluate the current status of the existing copiers in the District to ensure that each school has parity of functional and serviceable copiers without adding additional cost beyond the current approved copier expenditures.

Mrs. Odom requested that the administration report back to the Board with its findings and any recommendations.

Voice Vote:

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

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

- Approval of Change in Title 1 Plan

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

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

Mr. Moore questioned the status of the ARRA funds. At this time, the District is not in receipt of the funds. Dr. Dreyfuss inquired about state funds. Dr. Pingitore stated the District received \$551,000 in payments from the state, but is still owed \$477,000. But the District was owed substantially more last year than this year. It should be noted the state is frequently behind in payments at this point in the year.

- Approval of gifts from Parker Junior High PTO – Audio Receiver, and ½ String Bass for Orchestra

A motion was made by Mr. Moore seconded by Mr. Simmons to approve the consent Agenda regarding Business. The Board of Education expressed their gratitude to the Parker Junior High PTO for their generous gifts to the District.

Voice Vote:

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

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

- Appointment of Independent Hearing Officers

A motion was made by Mrs. Marks seconded by Mr. Simmons to approve the consent Agenda regarding Business. This matter was discussed at length last year and as a result guidelines were put in place asking hearing officers to limit their costs, and length of reports. This matter will be placed on a future Committee of the Whole meeting agenda to revisit the guidelines.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

Approval of Bills/Payroll

A motion was made by Mrs. Marks seconded by Mr. Moore to approve the bills for the month ending July 2009 in the amount of \$912,305.93. Mrs. Marks shared her concerns with Dr. Susan Pingitore prior to the board meeting. Mr. Simmons asked for clarification from Mr. Martin regarding a playground bill.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Sifner seconded by Mr. Moore to approve the payroll for the month ending June 2009 in the amount of \$1,360,340.61.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

Approval of Tentative FY 2010 Budget for Public Display

A motion was made by Mrs. Odom seconded by Mr. Sifner to approve placing the tentative FY 2010 budget on public display and to establish the public hearing prior to adoption of the budget on September 14, 2009. The budget was reviewed at the June 22 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Voice Vote:

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

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

Approval of School Handbooks

A motion was made by Mrs. Marks seconded by Mr. Moore to approve the Elementary Student Handbook and the Parker Junior High School Student Handbook.

Voice Vote:

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

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

A discussion took place regarding several items that seemed obvious, but the administration believes they need to be addressed in the handbooks. Parker reviews its expectations during student meetings held at the school.

Approval of Revised Policy 7:190 – Student Discipline

A motion was made by Mrs. Marks seconded by Mrs. Odom to approve the revision to Policy 7:190 – Student Discipline as written.

Voice Vote:

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

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

New Business

Mr. Sifner will be attending the July 16th SPEED Governing Meeting. He will share his report at the August Board of Education meeting.

A discussion took place regarding tentatively scheduling a public forum at Parker Junior High to address facts, fictions, and perceptions. Homewood-Flossmoor forums were referenced and Dr. Dreyfuss did attend a number of their forums.

Bonnie Rubin, a community member, shared her concern that community members are not given the opportunity to interview for positions within the District. She believes community members should be given that courtesy and given consideration first and foremost.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Mr. Simmons seconded by Mr. Moore to go into executive session to discuss matters relating to personnel 5ILCS 120/2 (c)(1).

Voice Vote:

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

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

The Board of Education went into executive session at 8:32 p.m.

Return to Open Session

A motion was made by Mr. Simmons seconded by Mr. Moore to return to open session.

The Board of Education returned to open session at 8:34 p.m.

Voice Vote:

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

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Simmons seconded by Mr. Moore to adjourn the Board of Education meeting.

Voice Vote:

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

Nay: None

Motion Carried.

The Board of Education meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Dr. David Dreyfuss, President

Ronald E. Moore, Secretary