

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION,
NAPERVILLE COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 203, DUPAGE
AND WILL COUNTIES, ILLINOIS, HELD AT NAPERVILLE NORTH
HIGH SCHOOL, 899 NORTH MILL STREET, NAPERVILLE, IL
MARCH 5, 2012, AT 7:00 P.M.

Call to Order President Mike Jaensch called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Board members present: Mike Jaensch, Jackie Romberg, Susan Crotty, Terry Fielden, Suzyn Price, and Dave Weeks. Absent: Jim Dennison

Administrators present were: Mark Mitrovich, Superintendent of Schools; Carol Hetman, Chief Human Resources Officer; and Dave Zager, Assistant Superintendent for Finance.

Closed Session Crotty moved, seconded by Price to go into Closed Session at 5:05 p.m. for consideration of:

1. Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).
2. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the District 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5).

Open Session Crotty moved, seconded by Romberg to return to Open Session at 7:00 p.m. A voice vote was taken. Those voting Yes: Crotty, Jaensch, Fielden, Weeks, Dennison, Price and Romberg. No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

Roll Call Board Members present were: Mike Jaensch, Jackie Romberg, Susan Crotty, Dave Weeks, Suzyn Price and Terry Fielden. Present via Tandberg video conference: Jim Dennison. Mr. Jaensch noted that the Board has agreed to allow Mr. Dennison to join the meeting electronically.

Administrators present: Mark Mitrovich, Superintendent of Schools; Tim Wierenga, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning - STEM; Kitty Ryan, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education; Roger Brunelle, Chief Information Officer; David Zager, Chief Financial Officer; Susan Rice, Director of Communications; Dan Bridges, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education; Carol Hetman, Chief Human Resources Officer.

Public Comments Mr. Jaensch offered the community the opportunity to make public comment after any presentations, but before any action was taken by the Board. The other Board members were in agreement.

Weeks made a motion to remove the All Day Kindergarten item from Discussion With Action to Discussion Without Action. Fielden seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Those voting yes: Weeks, Price, Fielden, Crotty, Jaensch, Romberg, and Dennison. The motion carried.

There were no public comments at this time.

Superintendent Staff School Reports All Day Kindergarten Superintendent Mitrovich noted that his ADK remarks would be brief given the thorough presentation by Kathy Duncan and Jen Hester at the last Board

meeting. He noted some key points of merit for ADK:

- Aligns with the District 203 Mission
- ADK gives students a crucial foundation and the best possible start to their formal education.
- ADK provides 600 extra hours of education
- Provides a flexible learning environment with time for one-on-one instruction and assessment of each child's needs and progress.
- Provides an environment for social emotional learning.

Superintendent Mitrovich noted that the next steps include developing a program that provides appropriate activities for children, professional growth and training for teachers, and curriculum development. He reviewed the one-time and ongoing costs for the District to run the program. He discussed some issues that the state is dealing with and noted that there are many unanswered questions about general state aide funding and other areas that are not resolved yet. He recommended that a final decision on all day kindergarten be postponed until fall so the District might have some extra planning time as well as some answers from the state regarding funding. He indicated that this postponement in no way changes the Administration's commitment for ADK, and does not delay what we will be doing in terms of planning, but noted that it is prudent for the District to do this at this time.

Dave Weeks reported that the Diversity Committee has invited community members to joined all five subcommittees and have added a new dimension to the discussions. Following two more subcommittee meetings, a recommendation including concrete measurable steps will be made to the Board of Education.

Action By
Consent

The following items were presented on the Consent Agenda:

1. Personnel

Appointment – Administration

Mary Baum, July 1, 2012, Mill Street, Principal

Resignation – Certified

Amanda Hosko, February 13, 2012, Maplebrook, Reading Specialist

Dori Berg, February 24, 2012, JJHS, Social Science

Dilara Sayeed, February 15, 2012, KJHS, Language Arts

Deborah Hutchison, February 17, 2012, NNHS, German

Scott Buresh, May 29, 2012, NNHS, LBS

Appointment – Certified (Full Time)

Angelo Georgacopoulos, August 13, 2012, NNHS, Guidance

Todd Hall, August 13, 2012, NNHS, Guidance

Leave Of Absences – Certified

Kristin Phillips, 8/13/12 - 12/21/12, Kingsley, Second Grade

Lauren Burns, 2012/2013 *full year*, Maplebrook, Kindergarten

Amy McInerney, 2012/2013 *full year*, NCHS, Biology

Nikole Epstein, 8/13/12 – 12/21/12, NCHS, Business Education

Christina Yoo, 2012/2013 *full year*, NCHS, Communication Arts

Leslie Markle-Cortes, 8/13/12 – 12/21/12, NNHS, Spanish

Retirement – Non-Union Classified

Barb Holtze, June 29, 2012, PSAC/Technology, Mgr/User Support

Retirement – Classified

Sandra Locascio, April 13, 2012, WJHS, LRC Assistant
Thomas Myers, June 29, 2012, Ellsworth, Head Custodian

Employment – Classified

Mitchell Nugent, March 1, 2012, NNHS, Special Education Assistant
Sherry Brockway, March 5, 2012, LJHS, Clerical Assistant

Addendum:

Extend Leave Of Absence – Certified

Ljiljana Mercier, 2012/2013, NNHS, Social Science

Jaensch made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the Personnel Agenda as amended in Closed Session. Fielden seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Those voting yes: Crotty, Price, Romberg, Jaensch, Fielden, Weeks and Dennison. The motion carried.

Superintendent Mitrovich introduced Mary Baum, new Principal at Mill Street Elementary. He welcomed her and noted that she is coming to D203 from Palatine with extensive experience.

Discussion
Without Action

All Day Kindergarten

Board members shared their thoughts about ADK. The main areas of discussion were:

- Longer time frame to work out the details to do it right in a deliberate and thoughtful way.
- Deciding to postpone the decision about ADK until fall will not change or slow down the process since it was originally slated for implementation in fall of 2013.
- Piloting pros and cons were discussed – some Board members thought it would be a good idea to pilot ADK to give the community the opportunity to learn about the benefit of the program and work out some potential challenges. Kathy Duncan noted that if we are ready to go for a pilot, would be ready to go at all schools from a program stand point. Teacher training is a big component because the all day program would be significantly different than regular kindergarten.
- Having the time/funding to prepare all facilities was discussed. Questions need to be answered.
- The overall cost of the program was questioned and discussed and questions need to be answered.
- Key state issues that might have an impact on District funding were discussed. The resolution of the issues may be postponed due to the upcoming election. There was discussion about financing our programs without waiting for what the state does.
- It was suggested that an outside, independent person be brought in to review the space in all buildings and be creative in suggesting consistent, effective ways to use the facilities.
- There was discussion about taking the leadership position and making the decision on our own as a District without comparing us to other districts.

Public
Comment

Joyce Browne - NNHS parent

Compared ADK and Special Education noting that in her daughter’s IEP

regarding All Day Kindergarten

meeting she was told that the District only provides what is necessary and does not go above and beyond. She questioned how the District can provide for some students, while discriminating against others based on disability.

Melissa Anelera

Suggested that she would gladly have her child be in a pilot program for ADK – anything more for her child. She noted that she is tired of kindergarten as it is and indicated that the students are ready to go. She suggested that staff members step up to the plate and put a pilot program together for ADK next year.

DeAnn Kerr

Noted that she will be paying close attention to the funding of ADK in the light of cuts that have been made to the program for her multi-needs child at River Woods. She suggested that she has asked for ADK funding information but has not received any.

Bob Boland

Noted that the District needs to think holistically about the entire impact of ADK, that he does not see the benefit of it. He indicated that the construction costs to implement the program keep changing, and suggested that the District get a handle on what it will really cost.

Kevin Sawatzky

Noted that he is happy about the recommendation to postpone the decision about ADK. The last meeting sounded like a sales presentation and the goal is to get information to the Board so they can make a decision. He indicated that there was an attempt to sneak ADK into the overcrowding problems in the north, and suggested that enrollment be fixed first and then ADK be considered after that.

Ian Van Dintner

Urged the Board to make a commitment to ADK as soon as possible because families need to know where their children are going to school and for how long.

ECS Recommendation

Superintendent Mitrovich noted that Mill Street involves several steps:

1. Find successor for Mark DeMoulin to lead into the future
2. Deal with class size at the school. He met with teachers at Mill Street to talk directly to them about their needs
3. Support systems are being put in place to assist teachers
4. Overall enrollment studied and what can be done to help.

Mr. Zager reviewed demographic information including the five year Kasarda projection report that was done in 2006. The RSP demographic report that was done in fall 2011 indicates that past projections have been reasonable. The District also does in house projections and enrollment is expected to peak in 2014 – 2015. Class size at Mill Street was discussed noting that the dual language students are not included in the figures because those class sizes are higher by design.

Superintendent Mitrovich noted that there are two main issues, least disruption

and bringing all buildings to a point where they are flexible programmatically with the understanding that all figures are projections. If all schools are equally utilized, there will be disruption across the District. We are trying to take a comprehensive view of what is best for Mill Street and Beebe and then move on. Just lowering the enrollment will not end the problem, plus the fact that lowering enrollment more at Mill Street could cause a potential enrollment problem at another school. The demands of the student body at Mill Street and Beebe are not the same as some of the other schools. We need to provide additional support at those two schools. Staffing varies from building to building depending on the needs of the student population. There was discussion about what the actual recommendation to the Board would be. We could move Mill to Elmwood and Beebe to Steeple Run. Superintendent Mitrovich indicated that when the all day kindergarten decision is made, then the rest of the map will be decided on. The immediate need and real deadline is to move Mill Street to Elmwood and Beebe to Steeple Run.

Public
Comment on
ECS

Rob Bava

Noted that the projections for Mill Street enrollment are too light. Mill Street is broken and continues to be a school in need of capacity assistance. On behalf of all the parents, he requested that the Board change map 6 now and take 30 – 40 more students out so they can receive the same product as the rest of the District.

Corey Schmidt

Questioned what phase two really looks like and suggested that the Board try harder and make the decision that is needed now.

Lise Leonard

Noted that the overcrowding issue has been around for a long time and it is still happening. It is completely unacceptable not to meet testing objectives. She noted that it seems like projections are not correct due to the Lisle property that is approved for development and the possibility of Mainland Farm land being sold. She suggested that something has to be done that will last and provide some wiggle room.

John Tarantino

Noted that it seems as if map 6 is out of the picture and no one knows what the actual recommendation is at Mill and Beebe. He indicated that things seem cloudy and murky when the initial goal was to level the playing field, now the goal has become causing the least disruption. He urged the Board to make some disruption, take 50 more students out and fix the problem. Mill Street deserves better and an equal chance.

Steve Yendel

Thanked the Board and Administration for doing due diligence, but they need to be more deliberate about the big picture. He would like to see things work out well for everyone and would like to see changes made. He noted that if map 6 gets approved, it does not fix Mill Street. He questioned what transportation would look like and suggested that Lisle and Woodridge voices be heard.

Miriam Sen

Noted that map 6 is not sufficient to fix the problems at Mill street and in two years we will be doing the same thing. She indicated that she is not confident that her child is learning as much as other children in the District and suggested that he deserves the same opportunity as the other children. She questioned what teachers and students would do with fewer students in the classroom and asked that more significant changes be made.

Lance Jansen

Noted that what we are doing at Mill Street is not enough and suggested that the Board do the hard thing and the right thing now.

Heather Queen

Suggested the same as everyone else – to get the numbers down. She noted that the problems facing Mill Street with overcrowding etc. are worse than where they moved from. She was under the impression that all schools in D203 were created equally. The current map does not give Mill Street any more room and does not serve the greater educational good of the students.

Mike Crossett

Noted that we need 50 more students to be moved out of Mill Street, that it is unacceptable to leave Mill Street with no room for growth or anomalies that will occur. He indicated that we cannot go into this with the least disruption and urged the Board to level the load and make the hard decisions now. He suggested that the District look at where special programs might be housed and bus students there.

Kristin Fitzgerald

Noted that the changes in map 6 are not adequate and that teachers cannot be asked to shoulder the burden any longer. The situation is serious at Mill Street and she asked if the District has done everything possible to rectify the situation. She questioned if the Board has been listening since every person has said that map 6 is not ok and requested that they heed the warning and do everything possible to bring Mill Street back to health.

Joe O'Malley

Noted that Mill Street has history of overcrowding and using map 6 will allow it to be overcrowded again in 2 years. He requested that 40 – 50 more students be moved out of Mill to give teachers an equal opportunity as their peers to help students learn.

Maureen Gafrick

Noted that Mill Street has been over capacity since her kids have been there, and parents have been patient. Taking out another 40 – 50 students will allow Mill to mirror the best schools in the district and students will receive a comparable education regardless of which building they are in.

John Gafrick

Noted that more needs to be done and he cited statistics that by 2013 Mill Street would be no better than it is now and by 2016 it would be even worse. He indicated that excess capacity exists in the district and asked the Board to consider the parents concerns and move a couple dozen more students.

Steven Marcus

Reiterated the request for reduction in capacity at Mill Street and encouraged the Board to use risk management. He gave a plea to remove Mill Street from the equation of changes that are happening in Naperville and make everything equal.

Mike Baldinger

Noted that he does not have first hand witness of the overcapacity at Mill Street since his children are not there yet, but has heard from his neighbors. Students deserve better especially when 203 has the ability to fix the situation and the projected growth is a reality. He urged the Board not to apply a short term fix to a long term problem and take 50 more students out of Mill Street.

Lynn Morgan

Noted that her realtor advised her not to move to the Mill Street attendance area because they have the poorest neighborhood in Naperville. She also noted that so far every plan being discussed will bring the problem back in 2 years – once you figure out that you have a problem it takes years to solve it. She urged the Board to make the hard decisions and use the capacity in south to move the kids before they become two more years invested in their schools.

Paul Hanft

Urged the Board to stop kicking the can down the road.

Steve Keeley

Suggested that the Board had heard it all and asked again that 50 more kids be moved. Goal is to fix the repeated overcapacity at Mill Street. It is not fair for north side kids to have the lowest test scores and that the Board needs to cause some disruption to fix the problem. He suggested that the Board is starting to face a real credibility problem with numbers that constantly change.

Daniel Koons

Moved to the neighborhood because of the school district and is disappointed that Mill Street does not reflect the rest of the district. He suggested that at least 50 more students need to be reassigned to other schools. He noted that he called district to offer to go to another school, he was told no, that alternate attendance was mainly used to accommodate job or day care responsibilities, class size is not a reason for alternate attendance. He suggested that Mill Street parents be allowed voluntary transfers to transport their children to other schools for alternate placement.

Stephanie Raquel

Noted that we need to support recommendations to relieve Mill Street and Beebe. The Board needs to take time to be sure we get ADK right and enrollment right. District 203 is the gold standard and we deserve to continue to be the gold standard. She urged the Board not to make unnecessary moves beyond Mill Street and Beebe.

Alberto De La Serna

Noted that map 6 does not meet the needs of their community. He indicated

that their voices have not been heard and wants their voices to be heard. He noted that he has received inconsistent information.

Shannon O'Brien

Her children are part of the neighborhood that was redistricted recently from Mill Street to Elmwood. She expressed concern that Elmwood needs a multipurpose room and additional space especially if they absorb more students from Mill Street.

Kendra Panic

Suggested concern that the work of the committee will be for naught. She noted that Peach Creek is not enough for Beebe and that grandfathering will keep the enrollment high. She urged the Board to look at Beebe as well as Mill Street.

Melissa Anderson

Noted that behavioral issues that are going on at Mill Street have not been addressed. Her child leaves the classroom because it is just too much to handle. She suggested that Mill Street is the ghetto of Naperville and that one teacher cannot handle the discipline problems. She questioned if grandfathering could be an option and urged the Administration to pole families regarding it because some families might opt out of grandfathering.

Following public comments, there was further discussion about map 6 and the fact that it accommodated one of the Board's criteria of least disruption. It was noted that there is a crisis at Mill Street and Beebe and we have the opportunity to re-look at the map. It was suggested that maybe the committee should restart and look at the map again to even out capacity. There is no point in putting ourselves in the position to do this all over again in two years when there are empty seats.

Superintendent Mitrovich noted that he has heard many comments about what is happening at Mill Street. He noted facts and statistics about testing at Mill Street over the years. The reality of not making AYP is that only one sub group out of the whole school did not make AYP. The facts are testimony about that school and the dedication of the people who come in day after day and deal with an ever challenging population. Yes, they have issues that need to be addressed but the staff has made an amazing accomplishment at that school.

The administration is working hard to level capacity. Superintendent Mitrovich requested two more weeks to examine the scope of the boundary changes for next year.

Weeks moved to postpone any action on ECS recommendation for another 2 weeks. Fielden seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Those voting yes: Weeks, Price, Fielden, Crotty, Jaensch, Romberg, and Dennison. The motion carried.

Discussion
Without Action

Old Business

New Business

Upcoming Events • Board of Education Business Meeting March 21, 2012, Naperville North High School

Adjournment Fielden made a motion to adjourn at 10:20 p.m. Price seconded the motion. A unanimous voice vote was taken.

Approved March 19, 2012

Michael Jaensch, President
Board of Education

Ann N. Bell, Secretary
Board of Education