

MINUTES OF A BUSINESS MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
EDUCATION, NAPERVILLE COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT
203, DUPAGE AND WILL COUNTIES, ILLINOIS, HELD AT KENNEDY
JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, 2929 GREEN TRAILS DRIVE, LISLE, IL
JANUARY 23, 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: Susan Crotty, Suzyn Price, Jackie Romberg, Terry Fielden, Jim Dennison and Mike Jaensch. Absent: Dave Weeks.
- Administrators present at 6:15 p.m. were: Mark Mitrovich, Superintendent of Schools; Dave Zager, Chief Financial Officer; Carol Hetman, Chief Human Resources Officer.
- Closed Session Price moved, seconded by Dennison to go into Closed Session at 5:00 p.m. for consideration of:
1. Discussion of lawfully closed minutes 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21).
 2. 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).
 3. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the District, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5).
- Open Session Dennison moved, seconded by Crotty to return to Open Session at 7:00 p.m. A voice vote was taken. Those voting Yes: Crotty, Romberg, Fielden, Jaensch, Dennison and Price. No: None. The motion carried unanimously.
- Roll Call Board Members present were: Susan Crotty, Jackie Romberg, Suzyn Price, Terry Fielden, Mike Jaensch and Jim Dennison. Absent: Dave Weeks.
- NNHS Student Ambassador Absent: Anthony Matar,
NCHS Student Ambassador Present: Hannah Olsen
- Administrators present: Mark Mitrovich, Superintendent of Schools; Tim Wierenga, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning - STEM; Jen Hester, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning – Humanities; Kitty Ryan, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education; Roger Brunelle, Chief Information Officer; David Zager, Chief Financial Officer; Susan Rice, Director of Communications; Kathy Duncan, Chief Academic Officer; Steve Mathis, Director of Buildings and Grounds; Raquel Lightbourne-Coley, Director of Community Relations.
- Pledge of Allegiance Sue Salness, Principal of Ranch View Elementary School accompanied by Virginia Jamnicki, Student Council Advisor, introduced the following students who led the Pledge of Allegiance: Anusha Ratnaker, John Cardwell, Ayden Lutes, Megan Bennington, and Michael Deng.
- Recognition **National Board Certified Teachers**
Superintendent Mitrovich noted that National Board Certification, by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, is one of the most prestigious credentials a teacher can earn. Those who achieve the status of

National Board Certified Teacher have met rigorous standards through intensive study, expert evaluation, self-assessment and peer review. To date, about 90 teachers, who are currently employed by District 203, have earned National Board Certification; they join 82,000 teachers throughout the country who have achieved this mark of excellence. The leaders of the cohort for mentoring are: Ann Schinske, Lynn Henz, Susan Parkhurst, David Carroll and Cathy Kaduk.

Tonight we welcome the following two new NBCTs: Carliss Harris and Melissa Tomei. Additionally, congratulations to Ann Schinske who earned her National Board Certification renewal.

Josh Mika, Apple Distinguished Educator Program

Superintendent Mitrovich invited Josh Mika, LRC Director at Beebe Elementary School, to come up on stage. He was recently selected to participate in the Apple Distinguished Educator’s program this summer in Cork, Ireland. Josh was one of approximately 100 United States existing Apple Distinguished Educator’s (he received this honor last year as well) to be invited to the global event in Cork. Educators from around the world including Canada, Mexico, Australia, New Zealand, China, Africa, Europe and Japan are expected to attend the event.

Student Ambassador Reports Hannah Olsen, Naperville Central High School

- Saturday night is the second annual informal dance.
- Blood drive is coming up – a permission slip is necessary for students to donate.
- Winter dance in one month – the theme has not been announced yet.

Written Communication Freedom of Information Requests:

- DeBoer request for Special Education information
- Berman request for contractor information
- Contractors Adjustment Co. request for contractor information
- Rykov request for contractor information
- Bendis request for “Smart Grid” information
- Yee request for photography services information

Superintendent Staff/School Reports **ACT Update**

Tim Wierenga noted that The State of Illinois eliminated the writing portion of the ACT on the Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE). It is often used by students when applying to a college or university. No District in the State is allowed to offer the writing portion of the ACT during the PSAE testing dates. We recommend that students sign up and pay for a national test date and take the writing portion of the ACT. Naperville Central and Naperville North will each host a national testing session on April 14, 2012. Naperville Central will also host a national testing session on June 9, 2012. Students have been encouraged to take the ACT test and even multiple times to achieve a “super score” which involves the recalculation of an ACT composite based upon multiple tests. A list of schools requiring the written portion of the ACT was provided. It was noted that Illinois schools are responding to this and the U of I will not require the written portion of the ACT in the future.

President’s

Report

Board of
Education
Reports

Monthly
Reports

- Treasurer's Statement – The Board received the November Treasurer's Statement
- Investments – The Board received the November Investment Report as well as an additional Cash and Investment Report.
- The Board received the December Insurance Report
- Budget – The Board received the budget reports for November 2011.

Action by
Consent

The following items were presented on the Consent Agenda:

1. Bills and Claims from Warrant # 364866 through Warrant # 365796 totaling \$24,540,957.71 for the period of December 20, 2011 through January 23, 2012.
2. Board Meeting Minutes – December 19, 2011, January 9, 2012
3. Personnel January 2012

Retirement – Administration

Mark DeMoulin, June 30, 2012, Mill Street, Principal

Leave Of Absences – Certified

Stephanie Korntheuer, 8/13/12 thru 11/6/12, Steeple Run, Second Grade

Retirement – Classified

Mary Lynch, February 3, 2012, NNHS, Special Education Assistant

Resignation – Classified

Mary Logan, January 16, 2012, LJHS, AP Secretary

Catherine Archambault, January 20, 2012, Mill Street, Project LEAP

Rose Anderson, January 27, 2012, NCHS, Dean Secretary

Employment – Classified

Otis Scarver Jr., January 9, 2012, NNHS, Campus Supervisor

Kevin Koelbl, January 12, 2012, NNHS, Campus Supervisor

Rachael Turner, January 9, 2012, Highlands/WJHS, Custodian

Approval Of Settlement Agreement As Discussed In Closed Session

Fielden made a motion to approve Bills and Claims from Warrant #364866 through Warrant # 365796 totaling \$24,540,957.71 for the period of December 19, 2011 through January 23, 2012 and all other items numbers 1 – 3 on the Consent Agenda as discussed in Closed Session. Crotty seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Those voting yes: Jaensch, Price, Dennison, Fielden, Romberg, and Crotty. No: none. The motion carried.

Discussion
Without Action

Enrollment Capacity Study

Superintendent Mitrovich began the discussion. He noted that it has been several years since a comprehensive capacity study has been done. Student enrollment has remained steady in the north and declined in the south. The Enrollment Capacity Study Committee was formed to address whether each of our facilities can effectively support our core instructional program now and in the future. They have been meeting since late October 2011. The direction given to the committee by the Board is:

- The proposal developed should meet the District’s need to balance enrollments based on current and projected needs and provide for the best utilization of facilities for the long-term.
- Impact on students should be kept to a minimum: keep neighborhoods intact
- Walkers remain walkers with the focus on preserving neighborhoods which will optimize transportation.

The committee was expanded to include at least one representative from each school. They established working covenants and reviewed their role and purpose. Dan Bridges noted that they have worked in large and small groups to discuss five draft maps that were based on the committee’s criteria as directed by the Board. They are not ready to bring a map forward to the Board yet. Their work is not finished; everything is a work in progress. The next meeting of the committee will be on January 25 with the goal of coming to consensus on a draft map to present to the community for feedback at five evening public forums that have tentatively been scheduled on 1/30, 1/31, 2/1, 2/2, and 2/8. Following the forums the committee will meet on February 15 and tentatively present their report and recommendation to the Board on February 21.

There was discussion about the Common Core Standards and how implementation will affect the District. Superintendent Mitrovich noted that our curriculum will be revamped at every grade level to speed up the learning process in order to implement the Common Core Standards and prepare students for the PARCC (Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Career) testing. This mandatory testing will compare the work and progress of our students against students from around the world. PARCC test questions will be integrated into the ISAT tests until 2015 when PARCC will be implemented. The District has not seen these test questions yet, but understand that they are more rigorous and that they are set up in a different manner. Staff members are attending preparation training. Principal and teacher evaluations will be tied to the test scores.

All day kindergarten was discussed. Superintendent Mitrovich stressed that the additional 600 educational hours would greatly benefit our students in preparing them for increasingly rigorous learning. He stated that District 203 is part of a consortium from around the country and our District is the only district in the consortium that does not offer all day kindergarten. He indicated that we can either stand still or move forward and prepare our students for their future. He noted that funding for this new initiative would be available by reviewing programs and looking at various efficiencies.

Special programs were discussed. Superintendent Mitrovich noted that other than a program that is in a school to serve its own population, the other programs are mobile and can be relocated to another school.

A list of websites that explain Common Core Standards will be provided – the first of which is: Corestandards.org

Public
Comment

Mr. Jaensch noted that the five tentative forums that are scheduled will be a good venue for questions and give and take discussion regarding any boundary

changes. Tonight the Board will listen to comments.

Rob Harbour, Representing FutureNap203.org

Noted that there is concern that the goals of the committee had not been clearly spelled out and the process has gone off track. He suggested that the identified problem of overcrowding in the north side schools be solved and future programming be identified, approved and funded before considering boundary changes that disrupt families. He requested a more reasonable time line.

Dr Simon Zhang, Representing the Asian Community

Noted that under the current proposed map and communications from the District, 49 Asian families or 65% of the Asian population at Highlands would have to move. On behalf of the Asian community at Highlands, he indicated that they strongly object to moving and requested that the Asian population be taken into consideration when planning to downsize Highlands.

Bill Amato Representing the Knolls of Huntington Homeowners Association

Expressed his endorsement of Ron Harbour's comments. He recommended that the Enrollment Capacity Study Group stop, regroup and address any potential changes at Highlands separately from the north side overcrowding issue. He noted that it is unnecessary to move children for unfunded programs and urged the Board to carefully and critically examine and evaluate the long range plan. He also noted that keeping neighborhoods intact is imperative.

Rob Bava, Representing Mill Street Parents

Has talked to many parents all over the District and they agree that Mill Street and Beebe cannot stay the way they are. He suggested that all 14 elementary schools in the District must share in the capacity movement that is facing our District. They are public schools, not private and the District is responsible for leveling out the enrollment. He urged the Board not to half-fix the Mill Street problem or wait until next year, but to make the decision now so that all children receive an equal opportunity to succeed.

Carol Naughton, Green Trails resident

Expressed support of Rob Harbour's comments. She noted that if one of the criteria is preserving neighborhood communities, theirs has not been considered. The proposals divide their neighborhood. She urged the Board to move students only according to future programs.

Jack Tierney, Representing Huntington Ridge Homeowners Association

Noted that there are 97 homes in the subdivision east of Naper Blvd. He requested that the Highlands – Kennedy tract be maintained. He urged the Board to safeguard the students transportation, preserve the community ties with their subdivision neighbors and not create a new elementary feeder school split. He noted that moving their students is not the right piece of the puzzle to move.

Mike Crossett, Representing Mill Street Parents

Equated District 203 with a Fortune 500 company that must adapt to change in order to remain competitive. He noted that Mill Street Elementary is at 107%

capacity and that capacity has not been balanced for 10 years. He urged the Board to fix the core issue and balance the population correctly now prior to the arrival of the PARCC testing so it will not need to be addressed for many years. He indicated that this will not be easy, but the District has never taken the easy way out. We should be focusing on the whole of the District and working on how to integrate students into their new schools.

Mike Considine, Representing Huntington Estates Homeowners Association

His association includes 320 households. He noted that he fully supports the comments made by Rob Harbour. The homeowners in his association are agonizing over the proposed maps. He respectfully requested that their neighborhood not be split, that they are one neighborhood, one community and one school.

Brian Douglas, An East Highlands resident

Supports the message that Rob Harbour gave earlier this evening. He spoke in support of fixing overcrowding but requested that the Board do whatever they could to slow down the process to benefit the entire population and not to make any arbitrary decisions.

Dana South, A Green Trails Resident

Requested that all of Green Trails be kept intact through junior high and high school. She noted that most of the recent scenarios divide Green Trails into four elementary schools, divided junior high schools and high schools. Green Trails and Steeple Run are being asked to take on the largest amount of change, and they are willing to do their part to help the district but urged the Board to keep them intact as much as possible.

Thom Higgins, Representing QualityEducation203.org

Noted that the committee deserves our respect. They are serious and committed and they are doing excellent work. It is tough to change schools and no one is happy about it, but if it is best for the education of all the students, it needs to be done. Any school that a child attends in District 203 will be excellent. He also noted that the Common Core Standards are the next major step in education in the country and that he hopes the community embraces them.

Discussion
With Action

New Business

Old Business

Upcoming
Events

Intergovernmental Dinner, Tuesday, January 31, 2012, Naperville Public Works Building
Board of Education Meeting, February 6, 2012, 7:00 p.m.
Enrollment Capacity Community Forums 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.:
January 30: LJHS
January 31: WJHS
February 1: JJHS

February 2: KJHS
February 8: MJHS

Adjournment Dennison moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Price seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken. Those voting yes were: Crotty, Price, Romberg, Dennison, Jaensch and Fielden. No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

Approved February 21, 2012

Mike Jaensch, President
Board of Education

Ann N. Bell, Secretary
Board of Education