

River Forest District 90 Board Business Meeting Highlights October 15, 2012



Presented by

Mr. James Weiss, District 90 Board President
Dr. Edward Condon, Superintendent

The monthly Business Meeting of the Board of Education was held in the Roosevelt Middle School Library Learning Center. All members were present with the exception of Juli Geldner. Below is a summary of the meeting.

Public Comments

Members of the public were invited to make comments for three minutes each. No Board response or action was taken at the time of comments.

Suzanne Morrison, River Forest parent, spoke regarding the topic of the District's Gifted and Talented Program.

Freedom of Information Act Request

There was a Freedom of Information Act request for the September 2012 bill list. A response was provided on September 5.



Student Presentations

During the school year, students are invited to present information about school activities at each Board meeting. Lincoln and Roosevelt Middle School students gave excellent presentations about classroom projects and school activities.



Calendar Review

Board members reviewed the calendar of District and school events for the coming months and discussed which members would attend various events.

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Board Committee Reports

The Personnel Committee met and Chair Patrick Meyer gave its report in closed session at the end of the meeting. Liz Fischer, Facilities Committee Chair, reported that planning has kicked off for the Roosevelt exterior design work, and a traffic study will be done. Other committees did not meet in October.

Outside Meetings

Board members attend meetings of community organizations representing the District. James Weiss attended a meeting of the Council of Governments and reported that the District 200 Board has four openings and is looking for candidates, and that many participating agencies are in the midst of strategic planning.

Liz Fischer toured new areas of OPRF High School as part of the OPRFHS Citizens' Council meeting.

James Weiss reported that the next meeting of the River Forest Service Club will be a special meeting about Home Rule.

Ralph Martire reported that the Illinois Association of State Boards of Education (IASB) reviewed the State's pension fund at its last meeting and that the problems with the fund are not related to its structure but rather with the State's problems repaying its debt.

District Meetings

1. District PTO Council: Dr. Condon reported on the first meeting in September. There was a presentation regarding Home Rule and discussion of the purpose and activities of the group.
2. Green4Good: The group met in September. The current president would like to step down from the position and asked for interested candidates, and there was discussion about plans for Walk-to-School Week.
3. River Forest Administrators' Forum: Focus of the September meeting was strategic planning.
4. Superintendent's Leadership Council (SLC): The September meeting focus was on gifted and talented programming. Subcommittees will be reviewing best practices.
5. Teacher Leadership Council (TLC): The October meeting focus was Response to Intervention and the Common Core State Standards.

Superintendent's Report

Action Items:

1. Public School Calendar 2013-2014: Martha Ryan-Toye convened a committee of teachers, parents and support staff to review calendar considerations. Columbus Day and Pulaski Day were reinstated. Approved as presented.

2. FDSE Dissolution: The process requires that each district involved waive their conflict of interest to hire an attorney to handle the dissolution. The District 90 attorney recommended that the District sign the waiver. The other districts have signed. Approved as presented.
3. Approval of School Recognition Report and Assurances: Every year schools are eligible to receive recognition from the State. This form must be completed in order to apply. Approved as presented.

Informational Items

1. Summer School Report 2012

Peggy Rudy presented an overview of Summer School activity. Roosevelt students were housed at Lincoln this summer and it worked out well. Willard hosted the elementary students. There were a total of 461 students, which is down from previous years. The main reason for the lower number is that Roosevelt Readiness was not held over the summer. A survey was administered after the session, which was completed by 79 parents. Of those, 69.6% indicated that the program was "excellent" and 21% rated it "satisfactory." Parents indicated a desire for more variety of classes and two sessions. It was recommended to continue the program in 2013 and requiring minimum enrollment. Revenue and expenditures were both lower than anticipated.

Closed Session

Discussion of personnel issues, according to 5ILCS120/2(c) for 1) "The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity."