

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
September 5, 2017

Place: Roosevelt Library Learning Center

Members Present: Mr. Ralph Martire, Mr. Richard Moore, Mrs. Barbara Hickey, Ms. Stacey Williams, Mrs. Judy Deogracias, Dr. Nicole Thompson, Mr. Cal Davis

Administrators Present: Dr. Alison Hawley, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Ms. Diane Wood, Willard School Principal
Mr. Larry Garstki, Roosevelt School Principal
Mr. David Davis, L/W School Assistant Principal

Community Present: Katie Avalos, Lincoln PTO Liaison
Sarah Hampson, Roosevelt PTO Liaison
Kelly O'Keefe, parent
Beth Vlerick, parent

Recording Secretary: Mr. Anthony Cozzi, Director of Finance and Facilities

Mr. Martire called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at approximately 7:01 p.m.

Mr. Martire welcomed visitors and invited comments from the audience. A copy of the Speakers' Roster as well as the Attendance Roster is included in the official minutes.

It was moved by Ms. Williams and seconded by Mrs. Deogracias that the Board of Education approve the agenda as revised to include Communications before the Freedom of Information Act Request.

On call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Dr. Thompson, Mr. Martire, Mrs. Deogracias, Ms. Williams, Mr. Moore, Mrs. Hickey, Mr. Davis

Nays: none

The motion carried.

Communications

A written public comment was read into the record from Nancy Murphy, 1111 Bonnie Brae. Ms. Murphy was concerned about the wording in the Board of Education's Resolution Declaring District 90 an Inclusive School District in light of the recent rescission of DACA.

Freedom of Information Act Request

A FOIA request was received from Nick Binotti on August 23, 2017 regarding Board contributions towards TRS. An email response was sent on August 28, 2017.

Board Governance

Mr. Martire began an informal discussion about the Board's intended legacy. Mr. Moore spoke about offering the broadest and most rigorous instructional product each year while maintaining fiscal prudence and preparing students for whatever high school they choose to attend. Mr. Martire hoped for a future that shows the District with no statistical achievement gap, while providing the most equitable product possible. Mrs. Hickey was concerned with the careful use of social media now that the District has put an electronic device in all students' hands. She hopes the District begins to offer recommendations about the careful use of those devices outside of school. Dr. Thompson hoped to expand individualized learning to stretch the boundaries of each child. Ms. Williams hoped the District will be seen as thought-leaders and bring new ideas to the community. Mrs. Deogracias hoped the District come up with strategies to empower the community to discuss important topics and solutions. Mr. Davis hoped that the District would be a leader in diversity, from the Board Policy to employing faculty to educating students. Mr. Martire summarized the thoughts and recommended that a reoccurring agenda item be dedicated to discuss these important topics.

Superintendent's Report

Board Committee Assignments – Mr. Martire spoke about the proposed adjustments to the current Board Committee Assignments that was discussed at the previous Board meeting. It was proposed moving Dr. Thompson from the Finance Committee chair to the Education Committee and assigning Mr. Davis as the Finance Committee chair.

It was moved by Mrs. Hickey and seconded by Dr. Thompson that the Board of Education approve the Board Committee Assignments as presented.

On call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Mrs. Hickey, Ms. Williams, Mrs. Deogracias, Dr. Thompson, Mr. Martire, Mr. Davis, Mr. Moore

Nays: none

The motion carried.

Education Committee

Dr. Hawley presented the proposed District 90 Curriculum Office initiatives for 2017-2018. She spoke about the overarching priorities and the proposed professional development opportunities for the upcoming year. A Board discussion ensued.

Dr. Hawley also spoke about the Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS). The survey was intended to assess children's readiness for kindergarten as they enter the District at that grade level. A Board discussion ensued.


Facilities Committee

Dr. Condon and Mr. Cozzi spoke about the space concerns at Willard School. A Board discussion ensued. Ms. Wood commended her staff for being creative this year in creating the best possible instructional spaces for students. Dr. Condon and Ms. Wood spoke about how most of the spaces discussed are housing children that are at the most educational risk. The Board came to consensus to proceed with the District's architect to develop more specific concept drawings and cost estimates and move forward with the project. The Board will analyze them and discuss as they become available.

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Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the Committee of the Whole Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:29 p.m.



Ralph Martire
Vice-President


Barbara Hickey
Secretary

Richard Moore