

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
December 6, 2022

Place: Roosevelt Auditorium

Members Present: Mrs. Barbara Hickey, Ms. Stacey Williams, Dr. Nicole Thompson, Mr. Richard Moore, Mrs. Kathleen Avalos, Mr. Calvin Davis

Administrators Present: Dr. Edward Condon, Superintendent
Dr. Alison Hawley, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction
Mr. Larry Garstki, Roosevelt School Principal
Mrs. Tina Steketee, Roosevelt School Assistant Principal
Ms. Diane Wood, Willard School Principal
Mr. Casey Godfrey, Lincoln School Principal
Mrs. Christine Gerges, Lincoln/Willard School Assistant Principal
Ms. Dawne Simmons, Communications Coordinator

Community Present: The number of community participants in person was 22 and on Zoom was 48.

Recording Secretary: Mr. Anthony Cozzi, Chief Operations Officer

Mrs. Hickey called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at approximately 7:01 p.m., welcomed visitors and invited comments from the audience.

Public Comment

Abby Sears, resident, wrote in favor of moving to a full day kindergarten program. Would have liked the program last year to benefit her family personally.

Brenna Brown, resident, wrote asking the Board to add full day kindergarten as soon as possible as the current half day program is not equitable.

Diane Carroll, resident, wrote praising the current kindergarten teachers in the District. Asked that full day kindergarten be implemented in order for more instructional time to be spent on students in order for them to grow intellectually, socially and emotionally.

Kate Strozek, resident, wrote in favor of full day kindergarten. She went on to write that a full day program best serves students academically.

Leidy Severson, resident, wrote in support of full day kindergarten. She noted that half day programming is antiquated.

Lindsay Hollander, resident, wrote to ask the Board to prioritize a full day kindergarten program. She went on to write that the current half day program is shorter in duration each day than most area preschool programs.

Mary McCahill, resident, wrote to fully support a full day kindergarten program.

Committee of the Whole Meeting, December 6, 2022

Patricia Feierberg, resident, wrote to fully support a full day kindergarten program. She felt that District resources should be allocated equitably. She offered to help in any way possible.

Rachel Glick, resident, wrote to express that she strongly believes that District 90 needs a full day kindergarten program. She felt that it is unacceptable for the District to expect parents to fill a student's other half day of education. She added that a full day program would avoid inequities and discrepancies.

Raymond Muccianti, resident, wrote in favor of full day kindergarten, noting that research exists that overwhelmingly supports a full day program and its equity benefits and its strengthening of social and emotional skills.

Thomas Severson, wrote in full and enthusiastic support of a full day kindergarten program, noting that more education is better.

It was moved by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mrs. Avalos that the Board of Education approve the agenda as presented.

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

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

Nays: none

The motion carried.

Education Committee

Mrs. Hickey opened the Town Hall Forum portion of the meeting by once again welcoming visitors and explaining the process for the open dialogue with the Board. She introduced Dr. Hawley to present the Kindergarten Program Review Committee update. Dr. Hawley spoke about the development and composition of the committee and its role and scope. She then discussed the status of each working group and discussed the timeline for completion. The Town Hall discussion and public feedback began. Further Board discussions ensued. Dr. Condon thanked Dr. Hawley for her leadership chairing the committee.

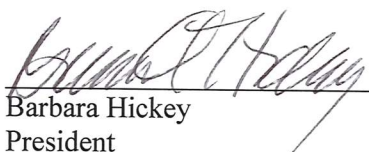
Board Governance

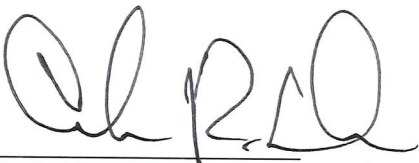
Proposed Official School Calendar, 2023-2024 – Dr. Hawley presented the first draft of the 2023-2024 Official School Calendar and made herself available to answer any questions. A Board discussion ensued.

Proposed Board Meeting Calendar, 2023-2024 – Dr. Condon presented the first draft of the 2023-2024 Board meeting calendar and answer Board questions.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the Committee of the Whole Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:26 p.m.


Barbara Hickey
President


Nicole Thompson
Secretary, PRO TEAM