

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
February 6, 2024

Place: Roosevelt Library Learning Center

Members Present: Mrs. Kathleen Avalos, Mrs. Sarah Eckmann, Mr. Joseph Cortese, Dr. Eric Isenberg, Dr. Kristine Mackey

Administrators Present: Dr. Edward Condon, Superintendent
Dr. Alison Hawley, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction
Mr. Larry Garstki, Roosevelt School Principal
Mrs. Diane Wood, Willard School Principal
Mr. Casey Godfrey, Lincoln School Principal
Ms. Stephanie Rath, Director of Communications and Community Outreach

Recording Secretary: Anthony Cozzi, Chief Operations Officer

Mrs. Avalos called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at approximately 7:01 p.m. and welcomed visitors and invited comments from the audience. The number of community participants in person was 2 and on zoom was 2.

Public Comment

Ted Perlstein, parent, first requested that the practice to allow public comments to be emailed in and read in advance of in-person public comment be reinstated. Second, he asked the Board to consider taking snow days and using emergency days at the end of the year in lieu of converting to E-learning days. He felt that E-learning days are not adequate instruction. Lastly, he felt that the block schedule at Roosevelt is detrimental to younger middle school students for various reasons, including the extended length of the classes, students' lack of adequate attention span and the infrequency students see individual teachers. He urged the Board to consider modifications to improve the schedule. He volunteered for any future block schedule modification taskforce.

It was moved by Dr. Isenberg and seconded by Mrs. Eckmann that the Board of Education approve the agenda as presented.

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

Ayes: Mrs. Avalos, Dr. Mackey, Dr. Isenberg, Mr. Cortese, Mrs. Eckmann

Nays: none

The motion carried.

Board Governance

Safety and Security Review Committee Recommendations – Dr. Condon brought forth the Committee recommendations, which were presented at the last meeting, for approval. He thanked the committee members for their hard work.

It was moved by Dr. Mackey and seconded by Mr. Cortese that the Board of Education approve the Safety and Security Review Committee Recommendations as presented.

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

Ayes: Dr. Mackey, Mr. Cortese, Dr. Isenberg, Mrs. Eckmann, Mrs. Avalos

Nays: none

The motion carried.

Board of Education Meeting Calendar 2024-2025 – Dr. Condon presented the updated Board Meeting Calendar for 2024-25 including the changes discussed at the last meeting. A Board discussion ensued. The Board came to consensus that moving the Regular Board meetings to Tuesdays would be beneficial, but thought that moving the start times up to 6:30pm could be problematic.

It was moved by Dr. Isenberg and seconded by Dr. Mackey that the Board of Education approve the Board of Education Meeting Calendar 2024-25 as revised to keep the start times for each Regular Board meeting at 7:00pm, except during July/August, which are already start at 6:00pm.

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

Ayes: Dr. Mackey, Mr. Cortese, Dr. Isenberg, Mrs. Eckmann, Mrs. Avalos

Nays: none

The motion carried.

NORC Focus Group Research Proposal – Dr. Mackey presented the updated NORC Proposal. A lengthy Board discussion ensued regarding the number of focus groups proposed, the total cost, and the process of recruiting teachers. Mr. Cortese and Dr. Mackey proposed that the contract be approved contingent on NORC clarifying the areas discussed for a price not to exceed the stated \$29,537. Mr. Cozzi reminded the Board that the cost of the NORC proposal as well as the cost of the next agenda item, the Power Scholars Academy Program, were not included in the long-range financial projections and that an approval of either one would affect the ending fund balances.

It was moved by Dr. Mackey and seconded by Mr. Cortese that the Board of Education approve the NORC Focus Group Research Proposal contingent on acceptable revisions to modifications discussed for a price not to exceed \$29,537.

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

Ayes: Dr. Mackey, Mr. Cortese, Dr. Isenberg, Mrs. Avalos

Nays: Mrs. Eckmann

The motion carried.

Power Scholars Academy Program 2024 – Dr. Condon presented the updated proposal from West Cook YMCA for the Power Scholars Academy Program for summer of 2024. He noted the discounted amount and answered questions from the Board. A Board discussion ensued.

It was moved by Dr. Mackey and seconded by Mr. Cortese that the Board of Education approve the proposal for Power Scholars Academy Program 2024 as presented.

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

Ayes: Dr. Mackey, Mr. Cortese, Dr. Isenberg, Mrs. Eckmann, Mrs. Avalos

Nays: none

The motion carried.

School Improvement Plan Mid-Year Update – Dr. Hawley presented the mid-year update of the District and School Improvement Plan. She noted the purpose of the District plan and the School plans and how they all align with the Board Strategic goals. She also spoke specifically about District level and School level goals. She then introduced the K-4 Principals to discuss ELA and Math improvement plans along with the Roosevelt Principal to discuss the Middle School improvement plan. Dr. Hawley then spoke about the timeline moving forward. The Board members thanked the school leadership teams. A Board discussion ensued.

Equity Action Plan Update – Dr. Condon gave a brief update on the Equity Action Plan, speaking specifically on the plan development timeline. A Board discussion ensued.

Personnel Report

It was moved by Dr. Isenberg and seconded by Mrs. Eckmann that the Board of Education approve the Personnel Report as presented.

On roll call, the vote was as follows:

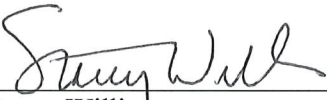
Ayes: Dr. Isenberg, Mr. Cortese, Mrs. Eckmann, Dr. Mackey, Mrs. Avalos

Nays: None

The motion carried.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the Committee of the Whole Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:08 p.m.



Stacey Williams
President



Sarah Eckmann
Secretary