

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
February 1, 2022

Place: Roosevelt Auditorium

Members Present: Mrs. Barbara Hickey, Ms. Stacey Williams, Dr. Thompson, Mrs. Kathleen Avalos, Mr. Richard Moore, Mr. Cal Davis, Mrs. Sarah Eckmann

Administrators Present: Dr. Edward Condon, Superintendent
Dr. Alison Hawley, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Mr. Larry Garskti, Roosevelt School Principal
Mr. Kevin Martin, Director of Technology (via Zoom)
Mrs. Tina Steketee, Roosevelt School Assistant Principal (via Zoom)
Mr. Casey Godfrey, Lincoln School Principal (via Zoom)
Ms. Diane Wood, Willard School Principal (via Zoom)
Mrs. Christine Gerges, Lincoln/Willard Assistant Principal (via Zoom)
Mrs. Dawne Simmons, Communications Coordinator

Community Present: The number of community participants on Zoom was 16.

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

Mrs. Hickey called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at approximately 7:03 p.m. Mrs. Hickey welcomed visitors and asked Mrs. Simmons for written comments from the public received in advance of the meeting.

Public Comments

Alishia Myrick, parent, noted that the same parents in the River Forest community who didn't want their students in school during a pandemic want to opt their children out of being tested for the disease. She doesn't understand why they are refusing.

Joshua Ehart, parent, thanked the Administration for their continued work keeping children safe during the pandemic. He asked that the District continue to make decisions with the safety of the broader school community at the center.

Sonia Green, parent, urged the District not to let parents opt their students out of COVID outbreak testing.

Brett Gentile, parent, asked the District to require testing for all students and not let parents opt their students out of outbreak testing.

Libby and Scott Hall, parents, expressed their extreme disappointment and frustration with the Administration activities and communication regarding COVID outbreak testing. They urged the Administration to be more transparent and collaborative in the future.

Steffani LeFevour, parent, feels that the District is putting its students last. She noted that, while students are back to in-person instruction, they are not getting an education that promotes social/emotional or mental health. She asked the Board to allow parents to attend students' after school activities. She also asked the Board to stop over-testing and sending healthy students into quarantine.

Amy and Brian McNeilly, parents, spoke about the River Forest Park District's implication that the decision to not let spectators into the Roosevelt gym was made by the District. She asked that the District reconsider the decision and allow spectators in, specifically to have a parent on site in case of a student injury.

Zach Goldberg, Roosevelt 8th grade student, expressed sadness that his father and his grandparents cannot attend his sporting events. He asked the District to reconsider the decision.

It was moved by Mr. Davis and seconded by Dr. Thompson that the Board of Education approve the agenda as presented.

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

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

Nays: none

The motion carried.

Board Governance

COVID-19 Safety Protocols – Dr. Condon spoke about the updated guidance from governing entities around COVID protocols, isolation/quarantine and outbreak testing. A lengthy Board discussion ensued.

District 90 Representation on PlanItGreen Core Team – Dr. Condon spoke about the efforts of the PlanItGreen organization and District 90's current participation on its core team. PlanItGreen representatives have invited a District Board member to participate on its core team. Dr. Thompson volunteered.

Strategic Action Objective Plans Progress Report – Dr. Condon gave a brief update on each action plan. A Board discussion ensued.

Long-Range Facilities Plan – Mr. Cozzi presented the long-range facilities plan listed by category and by building. He noted those items which represent routine projects required for the sustainability of the buildings and those items which represent an improvement initiative without regard to useful life. He also noted the inclusion of projects approved in the Life Safety report. A Board discussion ensued about prioritization of future items.

Education Committee

Roosevelt Middle School Math Programming Update – Dr. Thompson introduced Dr. Hawley and Nancy Mueller, Instructional Coach to present the Roosevelt Middle School Math Programming Update. Mr. Garstki also gave input about how the program has improved the Math curriculum. A Board discussion ensued.

Personnel

It was moved by Mr. Moore and seconded by Dr. Thompson that the Board of Education approve the Personnel Report as presented.

On roll call, the vote was as follows:

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

Nays: None

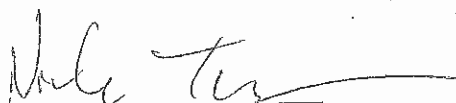
The motion carried.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the Committee of the Whole Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:02 p.m.



Barbara Hickey
President



Nicole Thompson
Secretary