

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
April 7, 2020

Place: Virtual Zoom Meeting

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

Administrators Present: Dr. Edward Condon, Superintendent
Dr. Alison Hawley, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Mrs. Dawne Simmons, Communications Coordinator
Mr. Kevin Martin, Director of Technology

Community Present: Neha Patel, resident
Marsh Leibundguth, resident
Maggie Clancy, resident
Deana Herrman, resident

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

Mr. Moore called the virtual Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at approximately 7:04 p.m. He welcomed visitors and noted that there were no comments received from the audience during the allotted time period.

It was moved by Mrs. Hickey 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: Mrs. Avalos, Mrs. Deogracias, Mrs. Hickey, Mr. Davis, Mr. Moore, Ms. Williams, Dr. Thompson

Nays: none

The motion carried.

Board Governance

Mr. Moore expressed his concerns for all those affected by COVID-19. He hoped that moving forward together, the community would get through the trying times. He thanked Dr. Condon and the rest of the Administrative team for their efforts. He hoped the public continues to engage at the upcoming virtual meetings. He also guaranteed that District 90's remote learning will keep the continuity of learning that River Forest families deserve.

Dr. Condon presented the COVID-19 Response/Remote Learning Plan. He spoke about areas including, but not limited to, free/reduced lunch provisions, business office operations, facilities cleaning, human resource matters, and Board governance/oversight.

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On the topic of Remote Learning, he thanked the District Administration and more importantly, the teachers for a smooth implementation. He specifically thanked Mr. Martin and his Technology staff for the technical implementation as well as providing the Administrators with their iPhone migration to FirstNet, a cellular platform afforded to first responders. He spoke about Special Education related services being provided. He thanked the Director of Special Education as well as Special Education teachers and aides for their hard work. He spoke briefly about English Learner instruction and the communication instruments/tools for the outreach to the community. He thanked Mrs. Simmons for her efforts. He then spoke specifically about ongoing staff development, including the upcoming scheduled remote planning days. Mr. Davis asked about the attendance rates since e-learning/remote learning began. He also noted that he was pleased with the level of communication from the District to the community. Mrs. Hickey asked about some particular concerns from parents. Ms. Williams asked about how teachers are providing differentiated learning to students of all levels.

Dr. Condon presented the District 90 Draft Strategic Plan – Initial Recommendations for Board Review. He noted that it represents a lot of hard work from a lot of talented contributors. He highlighted its mission, vision, values, goals and strategies. He spoke about the forty-two person team and thanked them for their service. He then spoke about the next steps, first employing a Strategic Management Survey and then on to action planning using SMART goals. Mr. Moore thanked the entire Strategic Planning committee. He asked if remote learning would affect the specifics of the plan at all. Mrs. Avalos questioned the benefits of a higher-level Strategic Plan, as this one seems to be, in comparison to previous plans. Dr. Condon noted the importance of action objectives and how they will continue to be reported to the Board on a periodic basis. Mrs. Hickey thanked all for tonight's presentation in light of the circumstances.

It was moved by Mrs. Hickey and seconded by Mrs. Deogracias that the Board of Education move into closed session in order to discuss 1) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity as well as 10) the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students.

On roll call, the vote was as follows:

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

Nays: none

The motion carried and the Board moved into closed session at approximately 8:26 p.m.

The Board returned to open session with the same members present at approximately 9:13 p.m.

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Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the Committee of the Whole Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:14 p.m.

DocuSigned by:

Richard P. Moore

Richard Moore
President

DocuSigned by:

Stacey Williams

Stacey Williams
Secretary