

April 9, 2018

The Board of Education, Downers Grove Grade School District 58, DuPage County, Illinois, met in regular session on Monday, April 9, 2018, at the Downers Grove Village Hall.

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The President called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and announced that it was the regular monthly meeting of the District 58 Board of Education. Members present: President Doug Purcell; Vice President Elizabeth Sigale; and Members Gregory Harris, Darren Hughes, John Miller, Jill Samonte, and Beth Taylor. Members absent: None. Also in attendance were Kari Cremascoli, Superintendent; Jayne Yudzentis, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel; Jessica Stewart, Assistant Superintendent for Special Services; Justin Sisul, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; David Bein, Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO; Lorie Pilster, Director of Business Services; Ken Young, Director of Buildings and Grounds; James Eichmiller, Director of Innovative Technology and Learning; Megan Hewitt, Coordinator of Community Relations; and Melissa Jerves, Board Secretary. Attending this meeting were at least 23 visitors. (Visitors' Roster attached to official minutes.)

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

Bridget Moore, principal of Highland School, introduced Student Council sponsors Cheryl Varys and Jennifer Dunlap, who in turn introduced student council officers Dana Kamilis, Laura O'Neill and Zachary Baker. The students led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. The officers talked about activities, fundraisers, and events for this school year including spirit days such as Pajama Day, Twin Day, and 80's Day. Fundraisers included a holiday pen and pencil sale, school store, Cutest Pet Contest, Hat Day and Game Day, in which students paid \$1 to participate. The money raised funded a stone reading bench dedicated to former principal Dr. Kmak, and flexible, comfortable seating in the LRC. Service projects led by the Student Council included the Giving Tree to provide toys for the Humanitarian Service Project, collecting travel size toiletries for the homeless, Pennies for Patients to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, and Stick it to Cancer, which raised over \$5,000.

PTA President Dawn Burrows reported that the Highland PTA has sponsored fun and educational activities such as a Fun Run Fundraiser that raised over \$22,000, Bingo Night, Family Roller Skating, and Movie Night. They introduced new events such as father-son bowling and a daddy-daughter dance. PTA fundraising provides money to teachers to support classroom initiatives, and makes possible events such as Reading Night, Geography Night, One Book One School, author visits and Grandparents Day. The nearby church of St. Luke's provides space for Highland afterschool activities, and in thanks the PTA donates to the PADS program.

Principal Bridget Moore shared that Highland's theme is "Be the Reason Someone Smiles Today." She highlighted Highland's monthly all-school meetings, where birthdays and accomplishments are celebrated and create a sense of community. She also presented a video that recorded one second of every day in the school year so far to provide a glimpse of life at Highland.

### 3. NON-ACTION REPORTS

#### A. Recognition of Students

The Board recognized the achievements of District 58 students in the Illinois Young Author's Conference.

#### B. "Spotlight on our Schools" – Strategic Planning Update

Strategic Planning consultants Paul Swanstrom, Kenneth Arndt and Mary Biniewicz from Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates (HYA) presented their report of the focus group and survey results, as well as the resulting goals and objectives developed by the Planning Team, a representative group of members of the Meet and Confer Strategic Planning Committee.

Mr. Swanstrom outlined the three phases of the strategic planning process: Engage (document the current state of reality and the desired future position of the District); Focus (create framework for broad direction and priorities for the future in a formal strategic plan document); and Execute (document specific steps that will be taken in order to accomplish the goals and objectives identified in the strategic plan). The district is currently wrapping up the Focus phase and beginning the Execute phase.

Mr. Arndt listed some of the global findings from the focus group and survey data:

- Participation was significant compared to other communities: 575 focus group participants and 2,463 survey respondents
- Appreciation of teachers and the positive difference they make in children's lives
- Appreciation from staff of parental involvement
- Opinions varied regarding the level of academic rigor
- Confusion over which assessments have value
- 1:1 technology is viewed as important, but there are concerns with how it is used in primary grades
- Desire for more art, music, foreign language and physical education
- Students rated extracurricular opportunities as excellent or good
- Community leaders expressed desire to work more closely with the district
- Social-emotional learning (SEL) is appreciated, and safety and welfare of students is a priority in the district
- Parental frustration at perceived inconsistent discipline across schools
- Concern over insufficient staffing in social work and nursing

- Pleased with district's fiscally conservative approach
- Parent organizations are concerned over the need to fundraise for schools
- Neighborhood school structure may contribute to a perception of inequity of resources
- Schools are clean and well maintained, but much infrastructure work is needed and the lack of air conditioning is a common concern
- Belief that including 6th grade in a middle school concept could address some enrollment issues
- Clear and consistent communication of both successes and challenges at all levels is desired

Ms. Biniewicz presented some highlights of district strengths and opportunities for growth. Strengths include:

- Dedication of teaching staff
- Focus on SEL and meeting the individual needs of students
- Safety and welfare of students is a top priority
- Active involvement of parents and the community
- Responsibility by the district in financial matters
- Variety of extracurriculars, enrichments and a commitment to technology

Opportunities for growth include:

- Communication: clarity, consistency, timeliness
- Transparency in sharing standards, expectations, processes, structures and timelines
- Investments in human capital: staffing, professional development, collaborative processes, resources and instructional time
- Facilities and finances that support student learning
- Being conscientious about equity in access to resources and supports for all students

HYA reviewed the district's existing mission, vision and guiding principles and found them in alignment with the new data received and the goals and objectives in the draft strategic plan. Mr. Swanstrom emphasised that all of the above was what HYA heard from stakeholders. The following goal areas and their associated objectives were developed by the Planning Team as a result of the themes that emerged from that data:

Goal 1: Focusing on Learning

*Enhance and support learning to meet the needs of all students.*

Goal 2: Connecting the Community

*Cultivate and strengthen community relationships by focusing on communication, collaboration, and consistency.*

Goal 3: Securing the Future

*Provide safe and effective learning environments in fiscally responsible ways.*

The Board asked some follow up questions that were answered by both HYA

and members of the Planning Team. Dr. Cremascoli stated that the administration will need direction from the Board about whether to bring the plan forward for approval at the April Budget Workshop or at the May regular meeting. That decision may be based on whether the Board has any further feedback or revision on the goals and objectives.

#### 4. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Emails from Steve Mitchell regarding student walkouts ~ *responses from Dr. Kari Cremascoli, Superintendent, and Doug Purcell, Board President*
- B. Emails from Lisha Lecroix regarding student walkouts ~ *response from Doug Purcell, Board President*
- C. Emails from Jennifer Norgaard regarding Highland kindergarten enrollment ~ *responses from Dr. Kari Cremascoli, Superintendent, and Board Members Darren Hughes, Greg Harris, John Miller, Jill Samonte, Elizabeth Sigale, Beth Taylor and Doug Purcell*
- D. Emails from Monica Zycinski regarding Highland kindergarten enrollment ~ *responses from Board Members Darren Hughes, John Miller and Elizabeth Sigale*
- E. Email from Lora Dominow regarding principal ~ *response from Doug Purcell, Board President*
- F. Letter from Chris McGrath regarding middle school wrestling
- G. Email from Steve Olczyk regarding strategic planning survey ~ *response from Doug Purcell, Board President*
- H. Email from Monica Zycinski regarding Highland kindergarten
- I. Emails from Tracy Weiner regarding town hall meeting ~ *response from Board Member Greg Harris*
- J. Email from Alison Rozell regarding art curriculum and strategic plan
- K. Email from Mark Eddington regarding Puffer Watch D.O.G.S. program

#### 5. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

##### A. Superintendent

Superintendent Kari Cremascoli reported:

- Planning has begun for 2018-2019 staffing, professional development, budget and registration. Online registration for returning students launches on April 16.
- The April Budget Workshop will address 2018-2019 planning and budget.
- Personnel hiring is in progress for open teaching and administrative positions.
- A Realtor Breakfast in conjunction with District 99 and its other feeder schools is scheduled for April 26 at 8 a.m. to answer questions and offer information to local realtors.
- School Open Houses for families will be held on April 26 and May 3. It is an opportunity for teachers and students to show off what they have been working on throughout the year.
- Upcoming end-of-year events include Select 58 on May 9, Distinguished

Service Award Ceremony on May 15, and the Board Retiree Luncheon on May 25.

- Dr. Cremascoli introduced Member Taylor, who announced that she will be unable to fulfill her term on the Board because she is moving out of state at the end of June, after living over 30 years in Downers Grove. She thanked the Board and the community for allowing her to serve on the Board. Dr. Cremascoli stated that the district will begin the process of filling the anticipated Board vacancy.

B. Monthly Business

The Board received business reports, the investment report, and revenue and expenditure summary reports for the month ending March 31, 2018. Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO David Bein reported:

- Later in the meeting, the Board will consider a resolution to abate funds from the Working Cash Fund and transfer to the Capital Projects Fund to fund the Lester addition and other projects. A similar resolution will be recommended in July for the remaining funds and expenses.
- Progress continues on the Lester addition. Ken Young, Director of Buildings and Grounds, reported that footings were poured and completed last week, with foundation walls in progress this week.
- The bidding process for the Kingsley fire alarm and Fairmount electrical work has started.
- The third mandated categorical payment from the state has been vouchered but remains unpaid, leaving the unpaid amount up to \$840,959. Unless the State catches up on these payments in time for accounting in the current fiscal year, there will be a larger than projected deficit.
- Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax (CPPRT) revenue is running currently at 55% of budget; Mr. Bein expects that it will hit around 86% of budget by the end of the year.
- Revenue is also over \$840,000 behind in the category of special education IDEA, although revenues are skewed toward the end of the fiscal year. State reimbursement for special education private facility tuition is projected at 77% of budget.
- The evidence-based funding trailer legislation was recently signed into law, which allows for the additional funding above the hold harmless amount to be paid to districts. The state has calculated District 58 at 96.7% of adequacy and will provide approximately \$101,000 of additional funding, which will put state aid very close to budget for this year.

C. Treasurer's Report

There was nothing special to report in regard to the Treasurer's Report.

D. Policy Committee

Member Harris reported on the April 5, 2018 Policy Committee meeting. The committee has initiated a comprehensive review of the district policy manual, beginning with the Business section. This review is important but time-consuming, and expected to be a multi-year project so as not to overwhelm

the administrative team. The committee has several new and revised policies drafted, but will wait to bring them to the Board for first reading as a larger package of policies. The April 17 Policy Committee meeting has been canceled.

E. Legislative Committee

Member Taylor reported on the April 6, 2018 Legislative Committee meeting. The committee hosted a Coffee with the Legislators as a replacement for the Legislative Breakfast, which was canceled due to a snow day. State Representative David Olsen, State Senator John Curran, Hilary Denk from U.S. Representative Bill Foster's office, and Chris Jordan from U.S. Representative Peter Roskam's office attended. Member Taylor recommended that the committee consider a similar smaller event in its plans for next year.

F. Financial Advisory Committee

Member Hughes reported on the April 3, 2018 Financial Advisory Committee meeting. The committee reviewed the site-based funding model. As a follow-up to its January meeting, the committee discussed solar power. While it is a good time to contemplate solar energy and there are federal programs that could assist, it would be an investment of approximately \$6.5M, with return on investment far into the future. Roofs with solar panels are about 10% more costly to replace. The committee also discussed the health insurance burden on the district, and noted that the Medical Reserve Fund is being hit hard. The current model of providing health insurance is unsustainable in light of needs to balance budget and cover facility needs. The district no longer has a surplus to mask increasing costs.

G. Meet & Confer Strategic Plan Committee

Member Sigale reported on the March 22, 2018 Meet & Confer Strategic Plan Committee meeting. The committee reviewed the draft strategic plan. The committee will not meet on April 12, as the March 12th meeting replaced that date.

## 6. DISCUSSION

A. 1:1 Learning Initiative

James Eichmiller, Director of Innovative Technology and Learning, presented results from a survey of teachers regarding 1:1 device use in the classroom. The response rate was high, with 230 teachers participating. The survey measured the negative impact of removing 1:1 devices. Up to 85% of teachers responding indicated some level of negative impact. Conclusions from the survey were that teachers value 1:1 technology as a resource to support learning, technology has become embedded in many activities teachers are doing with their students, home use of technology is less important, and shared devices would have a negative impact for many teachers. The Technology Committee plans to recommend a refresh and renew of 1:1 devices. The committee still believes that the iPad is the best device for

elementary students, in part because there is a professional development barrier to changing devices. The committee is proud of the many successes of the program, but recognizes areas for improvement, particularly in providing a more consistent student experience across the district. The committee is also committed to using existing professional development time to support teachers in using 1:1 technology, embedding technology in a variety of content areas. Finally, the committee will continue to focus on parent communication and engagement, sharing more of the day-to-day use of technology with parents.

The Board discussed maximizing the consistent use of technology in the classroom, integrating technology into curriculum development, and increasing professional development. Member Taylor asked whether there has been any consideration of school-issued devices versus a bring your own device (BYOD) program. Mr. Eichmiller responded that at the beginning of the 1:1 program it was an option that a few families took advantage of, but the district found that the variety of devices was very challenging for teachers to manage. Member Hughes also noted the possible security and content issues that could arise with BYOD devices.

## **7. RECEPTION OF VISITORS**

Tracy Weiner, Henry Puffer parent, requested that the Board publicly release the strategic planning focus group comments. She also commented that an ISBE representative at the recent town hall meeting stated that PARCC is grade-level appropriate, but that many schools are not teaching up to grade level. Ms. Weiner noted that the teacher technology survey seemed weak and that there should be a plan for utilization before buying additional devices.

Ellen Jorstad-Stein, Highland parent, in regard to the teacher technology survey, commented that the midpoint on the unlabeled scale ought to be “undecided” rather than “moderate.”

Jill Schwartzers, Lester attendance area with a student at Belle Aire, stated that she has a background in educational technology and is a proponent of 1:1 technology. She commented that the switch from iPads to Chromebooks does not really have a steep learning curve, and the cost of Chromebooks is more reasonable. She also stated that students may have difficulty meeting learning standards without devices, even in grades 3 and 4. Touchscreen Chromebooks could be a solution in primary grades.

Bart Olson, Highland attendance area with an incoming Belle Aire student, expressed disappointment that Highland enrollment issues were not on the agenda for this meeting. He commented that he would like some certainty to future enrollment issues, including the registration process for next year’s kindergarten class.

Jennifer Norgaard, Highland attendance area with an incoming Belle Aire student,

also commented on future needs of the Highland community regarding enrollment and urged the Board to decide these issues for the future. She asked what proactive measures the Board will take, even if it is pursuing other large facility shifts.

Alison Rozell, Hillcrest parent, stated that she is interested in increasing art in the district. She noted that art instruction helps create innovative thinkers and that new art standards are more detailed. She shared a handout compiling her research on the topic.

Craig Young, Kingsley teacher, commented that he enjoyed the strategic plan presentation, and encouraged the Board to ask teachers questions and use them as a resource as they decide next steps.

## 8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

### A. Approval of Minutes – March 12, 2018

Member Harris moved and Member Samonte seconded his motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2018 regular meeting as presented.

VOICE VOTE

Motion carried

## 9. CONSENT AGENDA

There being no request for individual consideration of any items on the consent agenda, the President stated that a motion would be in order relative to items on the consent agenda, consisting of the Personnel Report and Financial Statements consisting of the List of Bills and Summary. Member Taylor moved and Member Miller seconded her motion to approve the following items:

### A. Personnel

The resignation of one administrator, one certified staff employee, and four educational support personnel employees. The request for Family Medical Leaves of Absence for two certified teachers. The appointment of four certified staff employees and five educational support personnel employees. The recommendations for tenure of 19 certified staff employees.

### B. Financial Reports

The list of bills and obligations prepared for payment on April 9, 2018 as well as the revolving and imprest issued in March 2018 as shown on the list submitted under the date of April 9, 2018 in the total amount of \$1,139,586.16 and direct that they be so entered in the minutes and orders drawn for their payment in accordance with the following summary and that the President and Secretary be authorized to certify the list to the School Treasurer.

BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 58  
SUMMARY PAGE APRIL 9, 2018  
LIST OF BILLS & EXPENDITURES



**EDUCATION FUND**

List of Bills - April 9, 2018	\$555,313.83
Revolving Fund - March 2018	\$5,477.98
Imprest Checks - March 2018	\$19,358.17

**OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE FUND**

List of Bills - April 9, 2018	\$69,362.03
Revolving Fund - March 2018	\$19,161.88
Imprest Checks - March 2018	\$850.00

**DEBT SERVICE**

List of Bills - April 9, 2018	\$641.27
Revolving Fund - March 2018	\$0.00
Imprest Checks - March 2018	\$0.00

**TRANSPORTATION FUND**

List of Bills - April 9, 2018	\$469,421.00
Revolving Fund - March 2018	\$0.00
Imprest Checks - March 2018	\$0.00

**IMRF**

List of Bills - April 9, 2018	\$0.00
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**FICA/MEDICARE**

List of Bills - April 9, 2018	\$0.00
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**SITE & CONSTRUCTION FUND**

List of Bills - April 9, 2018	\$0.00
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**WORKING CASH FUND**

List of Bills - April 9, 2018	\$0.00
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**FIRE & LIFE SAFETY FUNDS**

List of Bills - April 9, 2018	\$0.00
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**MEDICAL INSURANCE RESERVE FUND**

List of Bills - April 9, 2018	\$0.00
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**SINKING FUND**

List of Bills - April 9, 2018	\$0.00
Revolving Fund - March 2018	\$0.00

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,139,586.16</b>
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ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Harris, Hughes, Miller, Purcell,  
Samonte, Sigale, and Taylor  
NAYS: None Motion carried

(Copy of Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements  
attached to official minutes)

10. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

A. Working Cash Fund Abatement Resolution

Member Taylor moved and Member Hughes seconded her motion to abate \$2,099,989 of Working Cash Funds, and authorize the transfer of the funds per the attached resolution.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Harris, Hughes, Miller, Purcell,  
Samonte, Sigale, and Taylor  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried

B. Tentative Amended 2017-2018 Budget

Member Miller moved and Member Hughes seconded his motion to approve the Tentative Amended Budget and make it available for public inspection; and establish the date for the Budget Hearing as Monday, May 14, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the same location as the Board's regular meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Harris, Hughes, Miller, Purcell,  
Samonte, Sigale, and Taylor  
NAYS: None Motion carried

C. Resolution Re: Non-Reemployment of Part-Time Educational Support Personnel Employees

Member Harris moved and Member Taylor seconded his motion to approve the Resolution Re: Non-Reemployment of Part-Time Educational Support Personnel Employees.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Harris, Hughes, Miller, Purcell,  
Samonte, Sigale, and Taylor  
NAYS: None  
Motion carried

D. Second Reading – Policy #1150 – Community Relations – Citizen Communications with the Schools and the Board

Member Hughes moved and Member Taylor seconded his motion to approve Policy #1150 - Community Relations - Citizen Communications with the Schools and the Board.

VOICE VOTE Motion carried

E. Second Reading – Policy #8244 – Internal Board Operations – Determining Agenda

Member Hughes moved and Member Sigale seconded his motion to approve Policy #8244 - Internal Board Operations - Determining Agenda.

VOICE VOTE

Motion carried

F. Second Reading – Policy #3295 – Business – Record-Keeping Policy and Post-Issuance Compliance

Member Miller moved and Member Hughes seconded his motion to approve Policy #3295 - Business - Record-Keeping and Post-Issuance Compliance.

VOICE VOTE

Motion carried

## 11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Purcell announced the following dates:

Monday, April 23	Staff Meet & Greet with the Board 6:15 p.m.	Herrick
Monday, April 23	Budget Workshop 7:00 p.m.	Herrick

## 12. CLOSED SESSION

Member Hughes moved and Member Harris seconded the motion to move to closed session for the purpose of discussing matters relating to

- the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1);
- collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2);
- the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10);
- litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the District has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the District finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11);
- discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21).

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Members Harris, Hughes, Miller, Purcell,  
Samonte, Sigale, and Taylor  
NAYS: None Motion carried

Member Hughes moved and Member Harris seconded the motion to reconvene in open session.

VOICE VOTE Motion carried

The Board convened to closed session at 10:17 p.m. and reconvened to open session at 12:16 a.m.

### 13. ACTION RESULTING FROM CLOSED SESSION

A. Approval of Closed Session Minutes

Member Harris moved and Member Hughes seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2018 closed session meeting.

VOICE VOTE Motion carried

B. Review of Closed Session Minutes

Member Taylor moved and Member Miller seconded the motion to keep the minutes from the March 12, 2018, closed session meeting permanently closed due to the confidential nature of the contents.

VOICE VOTE Motion carried

### 14. ADJOURNMENT

Member Harris moved and Member Hughes seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

VOICE VOTE Motion carried

The meeting was adjourned at 12:18 a.m.

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Doug Purcell, President

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Melissa Jerves, Secretary