

The Board of Education, Downers Grove Grade School District 58, DuPage County, Illinois met in special session on Monday, February 4, 2019, at Longfellow Center, 1435 Prairie Avenue, Downers Grove.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The President called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and announced that it was a special meeting of the District 58 Board of Education. Members present: President Doug Purcell; Vice President Elizabeth Sigale; Members Kirat Doshi, Gregory Harris, Darren Hughes, John Miller, and Jill Samonte. Members absent: none. Also in attendance were Kari Cremascoli, Superintendent; Jayne Yudzentis, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel; Justin Sisul, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Megan Hewitt, Coordinator of Community Relations, and Melissa Jerves, Board Secretary.

2. DISCUSSION

A. Superintendent Search Planning

Mark Friedman, Dawn Green and Sheila Harrison Williams from BWP & Associates led a discussion regarding the superintendent search process and timeline. 26 applications have been received to date. BWP recommended conducting a confidential search, in which candidates' names are not publically disclosed. In their experience, protecting the anonymity of the candidates results in the widest applicant pool. The Board agreed to proceed with a confidential search to attract the most experienced candidates, but will consider the possibility of including stakeholders in the final round of interviews. BWP will survey comparable neighboring districts regarding superintendent compensation to assist the Board in developing a compensation range. BWP and the Board agreed to the following timeline:

- Week of February 11: Launch stakeholder survey
- February 20: Conduct individual Board member interviews and meetings with stakeholder groups
- End of February: BWP screens applicants
- March 5: Board meets in closed session to discuss slate of 4-6 candidates; BWP conducts workshop with Board to prepare for interviews
- March 7 and 9: First round interviews
- March 12, 15 and 15: Second round interviews

3. RECEPTION OF VISITORS

Kylie Spahn asked whether the turnover on the Board due to the April election will affect how candidates perceive the Board. Mark Friedman responded that all

candidates are familiar with the Board election cycle, and that the culture of a board can transcend the individual members.

Chris Hanley, Henry Puffer attendance area, encouraged the Board to take the steps necessary to have Board candidates and administrators participate in the final review of superintendent candidates.

Tracy Weiner, Henry Puffer attendance area, commented on the value of allowing staff who work directly with the superintendent to have input in the interview process.

Emily Hanus, Pierce Downer attendance area, asked whether there would be enough time for BWP to compile the feedback from stakeholder meetings before the screening interviews. BWP responded affirmatively.

Craig Young, DGEEA President, stated that the superintendent search is an opportunity to bring the community and staff together. Involving stakeholders in later rounds of interviews could help build support for the Board's selection.

4. ADJOURNMENT

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

VOICE VOTE

Motion carried

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Doug Purcell, President

Melissa Jerves, Secretary