April 8, 2019
Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Call to Order
The April 8, 2019 regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance
Mr. Buchholz led in the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call
The following members were in attendance: Kurt Buchholz, Bob Bruno, Bruce Currie, Linda D’Ambrosio, Jason Loebach, Erica Nelson, and Stephanie Clark.

Also in attendance: Assistant Superintendent of Teaching, Learning and Accountability Dr. Katie McCluskey, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations Eric DePorter, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Marci Conlin, Buildings and Grounds Director Dave Scarmardo, Chief Communications Officer Erika Krehbiel, Director of Student Services Laurel O’Brien, and Director of Technology Mike Wood.

Superintendent Reports
Construction Update: Jack Hayes and John Eallonardo from FQC presented the Board with an update on the Hadley addition. They reported that staff have begun moving into the new spaces that will replace the PODS and work on the PODS will continue until the start of the 2019-2020 school year.

Mr. Eallonardo also presented an update on the scheduled renovations at the elementary schools over the summer. Work will begin the first week of June and continue through the first or second week of August. Mr. Hayes reported that the summer construction at Churchill last year is about to be closed out and it came in under budget.

Dr. Gordon thanked Dave Scarmardo, Director of Buildings and Grounds, and his team for all the hard work they accomplished over spring break to ensure the new spaces at Hadley were ready for staff when they returned.

Board Reports
- Mrs. Nelson reported on her attendance at the Partnership for Educational Progress (PEP) meeting.
- Mr. Bruno reported on his attendance at the LEND meeting noting legislation under consideration.
- Mr. Loebach reported on another House Bill currently being discussed in Springfield.

Public Participation
Community member Jeff Cooper addressed the Board thanking Mrs. Clark and Mr. Buchholz for their work on the Board over the last four years. He also gave Dr. Gordon advice for the future.

Presentations
Budget Development Calendar: Mr. DePorter provided an overview of the budget development calendar and explained that this is the first step of the process; it sets the expectation of when each part of the budget process will be completed.

Board members discussed the information and Dr. Gordon noted that the Board will see the current fiscal year’s budget compared to the next fiscal year as part of the process.
**Mentor Program Update:** Ms. Conlin provided an update on the District’s new Mentor Program, which started this year. She outlined the different aspects of the program and shared that surveys of the participants was conducted mid-year which will be followed up by an end of year survey. Ms. Conlin highlighted the survey results, feedback from the participants, and any improvements that will be considered for next year. Ms. Conlin explained that Year 2 of the program will be less intense for those who choose to participate, but there will still be support provided to new teachers. Board members asked clarifying and follow-up questions.

**Discussion**

**2020 Technology Recommendation - Student Chromebooks:** Mr. Wood facilitated a presentation of the District’s recommendation for student Chromebooks for the 2019-2020 school year. He noted the history of the technology plan including the District implementing a 1:1 program for grades 1-8. He reviewed the information provided to the Board in October of 2018 when Administration presented the Board with a Five-Year Technology Plan. The plan included student Chromebook refresh with a purchase plan for Hadley students. During that discussion, Board members discussed the differences between purchasing with a one time payment versus leasing the equipment and spreading the payments over several years.

Administration researched options for replacing the student Chromebooks for the 2019/2020 school year and selected the Dell 3100 Chromebook as the preferred device. The 3100 is Dell’s newest Chromebook model and will be supported by Google until June of 2025. Administration determined 430 Chromebooks will be needed for incoming 6th graders at Hadley and 2,300 Chromebooks will be needed for students at the elementary schools. This quantity will provide for a 1:1 for incoming 6th graders as well as a 1:1 for grades 1st through 5th. The 2,300 Chromebooks will also provide for 10 Chromebooks in each Kindergarten classroom, a device for all instructional aides, 20 Chromebooks for each elementary LMC and an additional Chromebook for each classroom for teacher instruction or a spare device for student use.

PCM provided the most cost effective quote for 2,730 Dell 3100 Chromebooks and Chrome Management Licenses for the elementary schools and Hadley incoming 6th graders. Administration recommends purchasing 430 Dell 3100 Chromebooks with a one time payment from the 2019/2020 technology budget. The cost breakdown for this purchase is below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Unit Cost</th>
<th>Ext Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dell Chromebook 3100</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>$284.11</td>
<td>$122,167.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chrome License</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>$23.53</td>
<td>$10,117.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chromebook Case</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>$32.97</td>
<td>$14,177.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$146,462.30</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Administration also recommends acquiring 2,300 Dell 3100 Chromebooks with a four-year dollar buyout lease through American Capital Leasing. We will have the option of keeping these Chromebooks. The cost breakdown is below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Ext Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dell Chromebook 3100</td>
<td>2300</td>
<td>$284.11</td>
<td>$653,453.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chrome License</td>
<td>2300</td>
<td>$23.53</td>
<td>$54,119.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$707,572.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Annual Lease</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$186,765.82</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mr. Wood reminded the Board that when the 2019/2020 student fees were approved it included an increased technology fee at Hadley. This increase is to support an ownership fee for the device when the student graduates Hadley.
Board members discussed the information presented noting the cost differences over the next few years between purchasing versus leasing. This report is for Board discussion only, the Board will take action on April 22, 2018 as outlined in this report.

**Board Policy and Procedures Revisions:** In August 2018, 105 ILCS 5/10-16.5, was amended by P.A. 100-1055, effective January 1, 2019. These changes include revisions to policy 2:80 Board Member Oath and Conduct and 2:80 E Exhibit - Board Member Code of Conduct. Language change in the policy includes that the school board member oath of office to add, six additional board member responsibilities, including, but not limited to a board member’s “role in the equitable and quality education of every student in the school district” and that board members “shall strive to work together with the district superintendent to lead the school district toward fulfilling the vision the board has created, fostering excellence for every student in the areas of academic skills, knowledge, citizenship, and personal development.” Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Nelson noted the changes in the two recommendations and their discussions on these changes at the last policy meeting. Mrs. Nelson noted that the recommendations were a direct result of a change in the law effective January 2019.

This report is for discussion only. The Board will take action on the changes April 22, 2019.

**Board Discussion**

**District 41 Letter of Support for ISBE 2020 Budget Recommendation:** Mrs. Nelson reintroduced the letter she asked the Board to consider sending to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) from the District 41 Board voicing support for the 2020 budget. Following the initial discussion at the March 18th Board meeting, Mrs. Nelson sent the letter to Board members for a final review as requested. She asked if Board members had any questions or suggested changes to the letter. Board members discussed the letter and provided their perspectives. There was no consensus for the Board to send the letter to ISBE. Mrs. Nelson thanked the Board for their consideration and noted that she would be forwarding it on as a private citizen.

**Special Education Transition Discussion:** Prior to any discussion, Mr. Bruno motioned for the proposed conversation to be moved out of the discussion section of the agenda and added as an item for a future agenda. It was his perspective that the item was not properly brought forward to the Board for discussion.

Mrs. Nelson agreed that she was surprised to see the item on the agenda and that protocol has been for an item to be presented under Future Agenda Items before being brought forward. She noted that the next Strategic Planning Committee meeting is on May 15th and questions or concerns should be addressed there. Mrs. Nelson stated she does not feel this is a discussion that can be productively had without the administration playing a part in it. Mrs. Nelson recommended Board members find and read the minutes from the Strategic Planning Committee meetings.

Mrs. Clark stated that she asked for a Board discussion on the special education transition discussion. She outlined her concerns and reasons for bringing the discussion to the Board and requested the Board have a discussion about upcoming special education changes before changes are made. Mrs. Clark does not feel she had enough information to be comfortable in having the District moving forward with their timeline when she still has unanswered questions about the process.

Mr. Loebach said he believes the discussion Mrs. Clark is requesting the Board to have and the discussion described on the agenda are different. He also noted how the Special Education Strategic Plan Committee has operated and reported back to the Board since it was convened.

Dr. Gordon asked Mrs. Clark to clearly define her request for the Board and for the Board to provide consensus as to what she is seeking to be voted upon. Mrs. Clark clarified that she was not interested in turning the discussion into a vote. She noted that is was important for administration to hear the concerns from families and from the Board before making final decisions on moving forward with their plans. She also asked for the data which supported making these decisions. Dr. Gordon noted that Ms. O'Brien was in attendance to address Board concerns and questions.
The Board continued their discussion and debate on the plans presented by Administration and the Special Education Strategic Plan Committee (SESPC) also addressing the Early Childhood to Kindergarten supports and transition. The Board also discussed whether or not the transition occurring in special education should require Board action.

Mrs. O’Brien addressed Board member questions and Mrs. Clark’s concerns. She specifically noted that staff is prepared to support students who move from a structured program in preschool to their home school in kindergarten. This is consistent of the inclusionary principles. This includes staff development at the early childhood level. Mrs. O’Brien also noted that the plans developed by SESPC and staff are aligned to the law which requires the District to always consider the student received services in their home school first. She also noted that the principals and Administration have been working with staff for the last two years to support these types of transitions. They keep both students and parents in mind in meeting their needs.

Mrs. D’Ambrosio requested Board members be able to send any remaining questions they have to the administration. Mrs. Nelson encouraged parents, staff and administration with questions to continue to seek answers in the appropriate manner.

Dr. Gordon agreed and asked Board members to send questions to him to be answered by the next regular Board meeting on April 22nd.

**Action Items**

**Consent Agenda:** Board members Loebach motioned and Bruno seconded to approve the consent agenda which included:

**Personnel Report**
- Employment Recommendations
- Resignations and Retirements
- Termination
- Appointment of Position - Principal of Abraham Lincoln Elementary

**Finance, Facilities & Operations:**
- School District Payment Order - March 12, 2019 - April 1, 2019
- FOIA Report - March 12, 2019 - April 1, 2019

**Approval of Board Meeting Minutes**
- March 7, 2019 - Special Meeting Minutes
- March 7, 2019 - Closed Meeting Minutes
- March 8, 2019 - Special Meeting Minutes
- March 8, 2019 - Closed Meeting Minutes
- March 9, 2019 - Special Meeting Minutes
- March 9, 2019 - Closed Meeting Minutes
- March 12, 2019 - Special Meeting Minutes
- March 12, 2019 - Closed Meeting Minutes
- March 13, 2019 - Special Meeting Minutes
- March 13, 2019 - Closed Meeting Minutes
- March 14, 2019 - Special Meeting Minutes
- March 14, 2019 - Closed Meeting Minutes
- March 18, 2019 - Regular Meeting Minutes
- March 18, 2019 - Closed Meeting Minutes
- March 19, 2019 - Special Meeting Minutes
- March 19, 2019 - Closed Meeting Minutes

Prior to roll call Dr. Gordon noted that the personnel report includes a recommendation for Abraham Lincoln Elementary Principal to replace Linda Schweikhofer, who is retiring at the end of this school year. He noted his recommendation for this position current Benjamin Franklin Assistant Principal Sarah Rodriguez. He provided an overview of the search process and spoke to Mrs. Rodriguez’s experience as a teacher and assistant principal.
Mr. Buchholz noted that he would be voting present on the report. This was due to the substitute recommendation covering his wife’s long-term leave.

On a roll call vote:
Aye: Bruno, Currie, D’Ambrosio, Nelson, Loebach, Clark
Nay: None
Present: Buchholz
Motion passed.

**Superintendent Recommendations**

**Last Day of the 2018-2019 School Year:** Board members Nelson motioned and Bruno seconded to approve the last day of student attendance for the 2018-2019 school year as presented.

Dr. Gordon stated the final day for student attendance will be June 6, 2019.
Mrs. Clark clarified that the Hadley graduation date will remain on June 6th should additional emergency days be used.

On a roll call vote:
Aye: Bruno, Buchholz, Currie, D’Ambrosio, Nelson, Loebach, Clark
Nay: None
Motion passed.

**Network and Wireless Refresh:** Board members Bruno motioned and Buchholz seconded to approve the purchase of network switch equipment and wireless networking hardware as presented.

Dr. Gordon explained that the information was presented at the March 18th regular meeting by Director of Technology Mike Wood and the Board was comfortable with the requested equipment.

On a roll call vote:
Aye: Bruno, Buchholz, Currie, D’Ambrosio, Nelson, Loebach, Clark
Nay: None
Motion passed.

**Approval of Professional Services Contract with HealthPRO Pediatrics, LLC.:** Board members Bruno motioned and Currie seconded to approve the professional services contract with HealthPRO Pediatrics, LLC.

Dr. Gordon explained that similar requests have come before the Board previously. Ms. Conlin has been unable to find a candidate through the normal hiring processes. The district has therefore opted to secure a replacement through a contract to cover for a long-term leave.

On a roll call vote:
Aye: Bruno, Buchholz, Currie, D’Ambrosio, Nelson, Loebach, Clark
Nay: None
Motion passed.

**Resolution Authorizing the Abatement of a Portion of the 2018 Taxes Levied:** Board members Currie motioned and Buchholz seconded to approve the resolution calling for an abatement of a portion of the debt service levy contained within the 2018 tax levy.

Dr. Gordon explained that based on the intent of the Board vote in December this abatement will bring the final levy amount in line with the December decision.

On a roll call vote:
Aye: Buchholz, Currie, D’Ambrosio, Loebach, Clark
Nay: Bruno, Nelson
Motion passed.
Items for Consideration for Future Agenda
None.

Other
Mr. Loebach apologized for his use of foul language. He noted that the members of the Special Education Strategic Plan Committee do good work and are dedicated to this work. He noted that if communication with the Board about the committee’s work was lacking, he takes responsibility for it. Mr. Loebach also expressed his frustration with his feeling that a Board member was using his son as a “pawn” in this discussion. Mr. Buchholz disagreed with Mr. Loebach’s perspective but reiterated that he believes that the discussion on special education is very personal to Mr. Loebach.

Mrs. Nelson corrected a comment made earlier about the referendum vote in 2017.

Upcoming Meetings
● Monday, April 22, 2019, Regular Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m. - Central Services Office
● Thursday, April 25, 2019, Special Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m. - Central Services Office

Adjournment
Board members Bruno motioned and Nelson seconded to adjourn the April 8, 2019, regular Board of Education meeting at 9:57 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Schillinger
Administrative Assistant
Finance, Facilities and Operations
(on behalf of Nancy Mogk, Board Recording Secretary)

Stephanie Clark, Board President
Minutes approved: April 22, 2019

Jason Loebach, Board Secretary