

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**LAKE FOREST SCHOOL DISTRICT 67**  
July 23, 2013

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held at Lake Forest High School West Campus in the Board Room and called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mr. Andersen.

Board members present at roll call were:

Bill Andersen	Jeff Folker
Lesley Fisher	Mike Borkowski
Rob Lemke	Beth Clemmensen
Rick Schuler	

Absent: None

Administration Present:

Mr. Michael Simeck, Superintendent  
Mr. Allen Albus, Deputy Superintendent  
Ms. Lauren Fagel  
Dr. Lori Wilcox

Staff Present: Eileen Faller, Board Clerk

Guests Who Signed In: Ben Gray, LFEA.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Andersen reported on the role of the Board of Education and stated that he was very pleased with the performance so far of our new Board members they have been respectful, energetic, ethical, open minded and eager to learn. Mr. Andersen commended Mike Simeck and his team on devoting substantial time towards making the process a success.

Mr. Andersen commented on the challenges of serving on a Board of Education in that there is often substantial disagreement about what the role of the Board should be, and anyone familiar with organizational behavior could tell you that it is hard for a group to be effective if there is not substantial buy-in about the nature and scope of the overall mission. Mr. Andersen commented that these challenges could arise from a number of factors that may include Board members who are inexperienced with their roles, administrators who work to minimize the role of the Board, and community members who look to the Board for functions that are properly the role of the school district staff. It is clear that two proper roles for a Board of Education are 1) developing a vision for the district and 2) maintaining oversight of the operations of the district, both of which can

only be performed by the Board. The District alone cannot properly develop a vision, it is ultimately funded by the community, for the education of the community's children. The District also cannot be charged with its own oversight, as there is an obvious conflict of interest.

Mr. Andersen spoke about Vision and Oversight in relation to the Board.

Mr. Andersen stated that both he and the board members look forward to working with Mr. Simeck and the District to build an effective Board/District relationship that will serve all of our constituencies.

Mr. Andersen asked board members for feedback on the Food Service that was discussed as last month's Board meeting. As it has been six(6) years since the District has had a new food service provider it is felt that it might be a good time to re-bid the contract.

Mr. Borkowski stated that he thought six(6) years was a long time to have a contract and thought it was time to re-bid the food service and have the community and the administration redefine the program especially regarding nutrition. One of the things he had learned at the last Board meeting was that the District defines the food service versus the food provider. Mr. Borkowski stated that there are two(2) factions within the community, one that would like good, healthy, high quality, food and would be willing to pay for it and one that is more price conscious. Mr. Borkowski suggested two options one higher priced healthy option and one less expensive option.

Mrs. Fisher stated that based on the presentation last month Quest seem very amenable to working with the Board and she felt more confident in them. The presentation last month had been enlightening and she felt that Quest would be great to work with now that the District and the Board are aware that the onus is on them. The Board needs to take responsibility and work with Quest, Jennifer Hermes and Anne Whipple. Quest is very sensitive to children with allergies and nutrition and has a nutritionist on their staff. Mrs. Fisher stated that many people want the nutritional values to go along with the high educational values. There are many studies that state what goes into your body goes into your mind and then comes out of your mind, so if we are truly involved with the whole child we need to be focused on what that is.

Mr. Folker stated that he was pleased with Quest, with the way they have worked with our District and the way they have listened, however he felt that the Board needs to have a policy regarding how long before a contract needs to be re-bid and with that in mind he felt there should be a policy with regard to any supplier, no matter how good they are, so that the Board is following the financial stewardship. The second thing is that there should be a Community Committee to help provide that direction, with Jennifer Hermes and Board participation as that would help achieve the best solution.

Mr. Lemke stated that he agreed with the previous comments especially with Mrs. Fisher's comments, due to the fact that the District was very happy with Quest, but was in full favor of re-examining the food service for next year whether that is re-bidding, going to see what food is served in Gurnee or wherever the District wants to see. Mr. Lemke stated that he did not know if \$3 was high or not, or whether the amount of fresh fruit that

is served is high or low. Mr. Lemke felt that the Board needed more information, whether it mean a re-bid or a re-examination.

Mrs. Clemmensen stated it was time to re-examine what the District is looking for from the food service provider, whether it is Quest or not, there should be one voice as to the direction on what the Board wants from them. Mrs. Clemmensen thought that six years was a long time for a contract and stated that a lot has changed in that time. Mrs. Clemmensen agreed with Mrs. Fisher that there is a co-relation between what goes into our bodies and what comes out of our minds. There is a large faction in the community that feels that we are a high quality school district and having high quality food should be one of our pillars. Whether it is a vocal minority or majority should be found out and the Board should be looking at it.

Secondly from a business standpoint re-evaluating all suppliers on an on-going basis, whether it is five years, six years, eight years, whatever the right time is, however, that does not mean you make a change, if you are perfectly happy and there is nothing better out there, you stay with who you have. Re-bidding after six years is a good option.

Mr. Schuler agreed with the consensus and stated that there is a lot of upside and very little down side to getting a new process. The Board should look at two things, cost savings and, equally as important, new fresh ideas. Mr. Schuler did not agree that there should be two cost menus as all students should eat quality food, he is open to new ideas, he agreed with Mr. Lemke that the Board needs more information with regard to the cost and the quality so hearing more about it could only lead to good changes.

Mr. Andersen stated that he thought six(6) years was too long, it is a field that is developing rapidly, and that it could not hurt to look at other options. Mr. Andersen observed that as the food service is closely linked to education, different to other things that are out-sourced, as it ties into the curriculum and other things that are being modeled for the students. There was a need to take responsibility for the food program, it is only going to be as good as is demanded. Mr. Andersen felt there were opportunity costs, there is a terrific staff but only so much time available and that it was a good time to look at the options, the District may end up in the same place but it would be in a better place for doing that.

Mr. Simeck asked Mr. Albus for his comments.

Mr. Albus stated that the school code recognizes bidding. He stated that Quest is very responsive and that the cost of the program is the cost of the food. Mr. Albus observed that there are very divergent opinions in the community and that there are a lot of ways that the resources in the community could be used in conjunction with Quest.

Mrs. Fisher suggested that there were many good ideas and felt that the food service should be re-examined and re-bid at a later date.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Simeck commented that following on Mr. Andersen's report he felt the Board members were smart, open and honest. The orientation that the Board members participated in involved a significant amount of time, including Saturday, evening

and community meetings. The Board's responsibility above all else is to the children and the organization. Mr. Simeck observed that schools are the most important civic responsibility, that board members are trustees of the community and thanked them for their diligence.

Mr. Simeck welcomed Lauren Fagel, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Integration, Technology and Assessment and Lori Wilcox, Executive Director of Growth and Talent Development to the meeting.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

## **REPORTS**

No reports were presented

## **BOARD COMMITTEES**

Board Education Committee – Lesley Fisher, Jeff Folker, Beth Clemmensen  
The Education Committee had not met. The next meeting is scheduled for September 17<sup>th</sup> at 8:15 a.m. Mrs. Fisher stated that the selection process had been completed and welcomed Lauren Grieve and Shridhar Krishnaswamy to the Committee.

Board Finance & Operations Committee – Rick Schuler, Rob Lemke, Mike Borkowski  
Mr. Schuler reported that the Finance and Operations Committee met on July 17<sup>th</sup>. Items discussed included benchmarking expenses with comparable districts, the healthcare insurance co-operative that the district is involved in, the tentative budget requirements, the FY 14 budget, and monitoring declining enrollment.

Board Policy Committee - Mike Borkowski, Jeff Folker  
Mr. Borkowski reported that the Policy Committee met on July 18 and discussion involved an overview of the committee purpose, process and structure. The committee will review and discuss policy revisions. A review of policy 2:150 that lists standing committees took place and will be further examined to develop a template for the purpose of each committee. A discussion took place regarding the state mandated Parent Teacher Advisory and the Behavior Interventions Committees. A recommendation was made to add an Audit committee and Compensation Committee and will be brought to the Board of Education for a full vote. The Board Clerk will update names and titles listed in the policy manual, caused by recent staff changes. The next Policy Committee meeting will take place in early September.

Joint Shared Services Committee – Lesley Fisher, Bill Andersen  
Mrs. Fisher advised that the next Joint Shared Services Committee meeting is scheduled for August 19<sup>th</sup>.

## **DISTRICT COMMITTEES**

### North Suburban Special Education District - Mike Borkowski

Mr. Borkowski reported that a meeting had not taken place, however he had met with Dr. Julie Cooley to discuss District 67 matters related to NSSSED including cost structures and utilization of NSSSED services. Mr. Borkowski will meet with Dr. Sophie, Superintendent of District 65 and Mr. Moorman, District 115 to discuss common priorities and how to best work together to achieve their goals.

### Illinois Association of School Boards/ED-RED – Bill Andersen

No report was presented.

### Curriculum Coordinating Committee – Lesley Fisher

No report was presented.

### Spirit of 67 Foundation – Lesley Fisher

No report was presented.

## **ACTION ITEMS:**

### Adoption of Resolution to Display Tentative Budget

Mr. Albus advised that School Code requires a district to place the tentative budget on public display for at least 30 days, publish a notice in the newspaper, conduct a public hearing, and adopt a budget prior to the end of the first quarter of the fiscal year. A budget can be adjusted or modified up until the time the Board votes on its final approval. A discussion took place with the Board regarding various aspects of the tentative budget.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Fisher moved, seconded by Mr. Schuler that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, approve the Resolution to Display Tentative Budget.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Schuler, Folker, Clemmensen, Fisher, Lemke, Borkowski, Andersen

Nays: None

Absent: None

The motion carried unanimously.

### Approval to Remove Siemens Contract Renewal

**MOTION:** Mr. Borkowski moved, seconded by Mr. Folker, that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, remove the Siemens Contract Renewal from the agenda.

On voice vote, motion carried.

### Approval of Food Services Fees

Mr. Albus advised that due to the program review, piloting of program enhancements and investment in equipment, he recommended a \$.50 increase in

the current meal price. A discussion took place with the Board regarding the cost increase.

**MOTION:** Mr. Schuler moved, seconded by Mrs. Fisher, that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, approve the Food Services Fees, as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Borkowski, Lemke, Andersen, Fisher, Schuler, Folker  
Nays: Clemmensen  
Absent: None

Motion carried.

Approval of Board Policy 2:150 Update – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Mr. Borkowski advised that following on the Policy Committee meeting it was recommended that Policy 2:150 be amended to include an Audit Committee and a Compensation Committee with a second reading taking place at the September Board meeting.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Fisher moved, seconded by Mr. Schuler, that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, approve Board Policy 2:150 update - 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Lemke, Borkowski, Schuler, Clemmensen Andersen, Fisher, Folker  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Release of Executive Session Minutes, December 2012-May 2013

**MOTION:** Mr. Folker moved, seconded by Mr. Borkowski, that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, approve the release of Executive Session Minutes from December 2012 – May 2013.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Folker, Schuler, Clemmensen, Fisher, Lemke, Borkowski, Andersen  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Removal of Discipline of Tenured Teacher

**MOTION:** Mrs. Clemmensen moved, seconded by Mr. Folker that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, remove the Discipline of Tenured Teacher from the agenda.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Fisher, Lemke, Andersen, Folker, Borkowski, Schuler, Clemmensen

Nays: None  
Absent: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Human Resources Items

Mr. Simeck recommended the approval of the Human Resources Items, as presented.

**MOTION:** Mr. Borkowski moved, seconded by Mr. Schuler, that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, approve the Human Resources Items as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Borkowski, Lemke, Clemmensen, Andersen, Fisher, Schuler, Folker  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Approval of Disbursements, Payrolls, and Financial Statements for June 2013  
Approval of Minutes of A Regular Meeting - June 18, 2013  
Approval of Minutes of An Executive Session – June 18, 2013  
Approval of Minutes of An Executive Session – July 9, 2013  
Disposal of audio recordings – December 13, 2011

**MOTION:** Mr. Folker moved, seconded by Mrs. Clemmensen, that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, approve the Consent Agenda items, as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Andersen, Fisher, Schuler, Clemmensen, Borkowski, Lemke, Folker  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

The motion carried unanimously.

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA)**

Aaron Neff, Schoolwires Inc., Commercial  
Laura Rukavina, Resident

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

An executive session was held prior to tonight's meeting. No action was taken.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Monday, August 19, 2013

Friday, August 23, 2013

Monday, August 26, 2013

Tuesday, August 27, 2013

Wednesday, August 28, 2013

Friday, September 6, 2013

Tuesday, September 24, 2013

DPM New Family Orientation – 9 am.

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation – 8 a.m.

Institute Day – No student attendance

Institute Day – No student attendance

First Day of School Grades 1-8

Kindergarten First Regular Day of School

Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

LFHS West Campus, Board Room.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Mrs. Clemmensen moved, seconded by Mrs. Fisher, that the Board of Education of Lake Forest District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, adjourn the meeting.

On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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Mike Borkowski, Secretary      Date

