

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
LAKE FOREST COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL
DISTRICT 115
January 14, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

A Regular Business Meeting of the Board of Education of Lake Forest Community High School District #115, County of Lake, State of Illinois, was held on Tuesday, January 14, 2014 and called to order at 7:05 p.m. at West Campus in the Boardroom.

On Roll Call the following Members were found to be present:

Dick Block, Vice President
Nicki Snoblin, Secretary
Monty Edson, Member
John Powers, Member
Ted Moorman, Member
Dave Schreiber, Member
Todd Burgener, President

Absent: None

Administration Present:

Michael Simeck, Superintendent
Jennifer Hermes, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services
Allen Albus, Deputy Superintendent of Finance and Operations
Lauren Fagel, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, Technology & Assessment
Andy Henrikson Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
Barry Rodgers, Principal

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Board President, Todd Burgener, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Mr. Burgener wished everyone a Happy New Year. Mr. Burgener advised that the Holiday Calendar Hearing will be postponed until February in order to update the Calendar Hearing Agenda. An executive session took place prior to the meeting. No action was taken.

Mr. Burgener advised that last month the Board approved a contract with The Transformation Team, who will facilitate the development of Mission/Vision/Goals for District 115 and District 67. Since the December meeting, each Board member had been interviewed by Shani Harmon and a group meeting is scheduled for early February. In connection with the initiative, the D115 Board met with the D67 Board and received a presentation on the status of the current testing and assessment environment. They were asked to give their opinion on how they might better measure and communicate their progress on goal achievement. Mr. Burgener thought the meeting offered a lot of good information including knowledge about the number of publications that are currently doing assessments and providing rankings of schools. Each publication has a different focus and offers a different set of results. The data points all indicate that we are good but perhaps not nearly as good as we could be and they reflect on the amount of opportunity that the district has to grow. It is exciting to work with Superintendent Simeck as he adds new team members and cultivates

those who have been here for a while to develop building-wide enthusiasm for new initiatives including Principal Rodgers' initiative on scheduling. Mr. Burgener stated that he is enthusiastic about the changes that are coming to the school and the opportunities that will be presented to students.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Simeck acknowledged the amount of time and effort the Board spends in meetings and the weight of responsibility they have in determining the direction the School District should take.

Mr. Simeck introduced Mr. Barry Rodgers who reported that it is finals week and that teachers and students are working hard and feeling good. The annual spaghetti dinner and holiday music performances took place, other winter activities are underway and everyone is looking forward to a great semester.

Mr. Simeck pointed out the incredible amount of work Mr. Rodgers has done on the scheduling initiative including formulating the schedules, working with various groups including the department chairs, LFEA representatives and parents. Meetings with the community will soon be taking place.

Mr. Simeck stated that the Board has approved a project to create a long-term vision for the district and part of that vision is reflecting on the core values of the district and community. It is important that community members, parents and faculty share their thoughts and there will be a series of questions posted on the websites to engage everyone in the conversation. Mr. Simeck also invited all community members to read the book "The Smartest Kids in the World" by Amanda Ripley, that will be a springboard for conversations about what we value and how we measure success. Mr. Simeck will be on a "book tour" that includes the APT, the Spirit, the Village of Lake Bluff, the District 65 Board of Education and the City Council of Lake Forest, to generate conversation.

There was a two-day hiatus for snow days, which is very unusual for the District. A county-wide conversation among Superintendents about predicted weather conditions and expected wind chills was held prior to the decision to close school. The buses are a primary consideration, there were absolute assurances that busses would run and then assurances that they may not continue running and the District needed to be mindful of the amount of time students were standing in the cold waiting for buses. On Wednesday, a number of other districts had to cancel as the fuel jelled in the buses. School was cancelled just immediately prior to school starting time, causing a number of inconveniences. The decision regarding how and when the high school will make up days is tentative at this time.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Paul Hammann, resident, expressed concern about the magnitude of teacher pensions.

REPORTS/DISCUSSION

Mr. Simeck invited Mr. Rodgers to discuss the new school day that is being recommended. It is not a change in the length of the school day but a reconfiguration of the current schedule. One of the requirements that must be met prior to implementation of any change to the workday is approval by LFEA teachers. Per the collective bargaining agreement, teachers have a right, and an

opportunity to vote on the initiative and a two-thirds majority is needed. Mr. Rodgers had been working hard with the various groups and Mr. Simeck thanked him for all the work he has done.

Mr. Rodgers reported that approximately six (6) months earlier, the leadership team met to look at ways to help the school grow and impact students' lives. Mr. Rodgers worked with teachers and students, examined Board goals and their own goals and one of the key ideas that emerged was to re-envision the school day to provide students with opportunities to find their passion and be successful in high school and beyond. It was critical to identify attributes that should be present in the ideal school and that would provide balance and wellness in students' lives. Students have been an integral part of the team looking at the current school day schedule and sharing their ideas on how to engage beyond the classroom. Attributes and goals identified include supporting state-of-the-art best practices for learning, enabling inquiry, relevance, multiple modes of instruction and individualized attention, facilitating collaboration and promoting balance and wellness in student's lives. Building community by allowing more opportunities and the flexibility to work together in unique groups and have experiences beyond the classroom, building in more time for resource centers and tutoring is also desirable. Mr. Rodgers invited parents and community members to learn more about the specific schedules currently being examined by attending one of the open meetings on January 23rd at 1:00 pm and January 27 at 7:00 pm. He also reported that a new mailbox newschoolday@lfschools.org has been created to answer questions about the school day initiative.

BOARD COMMITTEES

Education Committee

Mrs. Snoblin reported that the Committee has not met. The next meeting is scheduled for February 5.

Finance/Operations Committee

Mr. Block reported that the Finance and Operations Committee has not met. A meeting will be scheduled for the end of January.

LIAISON REPORTS

No reports were presented.

ACTION ITEMS

Acceptance of 2013 Audit

Mr. Simeck invited Ms. Hermes to introduce the representative from Miller Cooper, Auditors. Ms. Hermes reported that the Board is required to engage in an annual audit and to file all the appropriate paperwork and reports as state subscribed. Ms. Hermes introduced Betsy Allen of Miller Cooper who advised that the Auditors were required to form and express an opinion about whether the financial statements prepared by management are presented fairly, in all material respects, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the provisions of the Single Audit Act. Ms. Allen stated that Miller Cooper have completed the audits for Lake Forest schools for six years, that the staff is always available which helps to deliver the audit in a timely manner. Ms. Allen advised the Board that if they had any questions they could contact her at any time. The Finance Committee met with the Auditors without staff being present.

MOTION: Mr. Powers moved, seconded by Mr. Block, that the Lake Forest High School District 115 Board of Education, accept the 2013 Audit, as presented.

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

ROLL CALL: Aye: Powers, Edson, Schreiber, Snoblin, Burgener, Moorman, Block
Nay: None

Motion Carried unanimously

Approval of PRESS Issue 83 Policy Update – 1st Reading

MOTION: Mrs. Snoblin moved, seconded by Mr. Moorman that the Lake Forest High School District 115 Board of Education waive the first reading of the PRESS Issue 83 Policy Update.

On voice vote motion carried

Approval of PRESS Issue 83 Policy Update – 2nd Reading

MOTION: Mrs. Snoblin moved, seconded by Mr. Block that the Lake Forest High School District 115 Board of Education approve the PRESS Issue 83 Policy Update on 2nd reading.

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

ROLL CALL: Aye: Block, Schreiber, Powers, Burgener, Moorman, Edson, Snoblin
Nay: None

Motion Carried unanimously

Approval of Release of Executive Session Minutes June 2013 – November 2013

Mrs. Faller reported that the Lake Forest High School District 115 Board of Education is required to examine the Executive Session minutes every six months to approve their release.

MOTION: Mr. Moorman moved, seconded by Mrs. Snoblin, that the Lake Forest High School District 115 Board of Education approve the release of executive session minutes.

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

ROLL CALL: Aye: Snoblin, Block, Edson, Burgener, Powers, Schreiber, Moorman
Nay: None

Motion Carried unanimously

Approval of Human Resources Report

Mr. Simeck recommended that the Board approve the Human Resources Report as presented.

MOTION: Mrs. Snoblin moved, seconded by Mr. Moorman, that the Lake Forest High School District 115 Board of Education approve the Human Resources Report as presented.

ROLL CALL: Aye: Schreiber, Burgener, Snoblin, Moorman, Block, Edson, Powers
Nay: None

Motion Carried unanimously

Approval of Consent Agenda

Mr. Burgener reported that the Consent Agenda includes:

Approval of Disbursements, Payrolls & Financial Statement December 2014:

Financial Reports: The List of Checks Written and Direct Deposit Payroll and Taxes for the period December 5, 2013 to January 8, 2014:

Education Fund	\$ 654,148.79
Building and Maintenance Fund	159,814.78
Debt Service Fund	426,765.00
Transportation Fund	47,948.64
Capital Projects Fund/ General	87,082.71
Procurement Card Expenses	349,346.87
Direct Deposit Payroll & Taxes	<u>1,925,563.65</u>
Total Expenditures	\$ 3,650,670.44

Minutes of a Regular Meeting, December 10, 2013

Minutes of a Special Board Meeting, December 10, 2013

Minutes of a Special Board Meeting January 9, 2014

Disposal of Audio Recordings: May 8, 2012

*Any item may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of a Board Member

MOTION: Mr. Powers moved, seconded by Mr. Block, that the Lake Forest High School District 115 Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

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

ROLL CALL: Aye: Edson, Powers, Snoblin, Burgener, Schreiber, Block, Moorman
Nay: None

Motion Carried Unanimously

FOIA REQUESTS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

NEXT MEETING DATE: February 11, 2014 Board of Education Meeting
7:00 pm – West Campus Board Room

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Mr. Block moved, seconded by Mr. Moorman, that the meeting be adjourned.
On voice vote, the motion carried

Mr. Burgener declared the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Nicki Snoblin, Secretary

Date