

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION, ZION-BENTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL
DISTRICT 126, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2018 – 7:00 P.M.
ZION-BENTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL
SOUTH CAFETERIA**

The Board of Education of Zion-Benton Township High School District 126, Lake County, Illinois, met in Regular Session in the ZBTHS South Cafeteria, One Z-B Way, 3901 W. 21st Street, Zion, Illinois, commencing at 7:00 p.m.

President White presided.

ROLL CALL

Members present: President White, Vice President Nordstrom, Secretary Leech, Member Nieto, Member Richards, and Member Roberts.

Member excused: Member Karner.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF, GUESTS, AND DISTRICT RESIDENTS

There were none.

AGENDA AMENDMENT

President White asked Dr. Clark if there were any amendments to the agenda. Dr. Clark indicated that the following personnel approval item had come in since the agenda packet went out and needed to be added under Personnel Approvals Item 14:

Leave of Absence: Greico, Tina (Special Education Teacher)

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Secretary Leech, seconded by Member Roberts to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 5-1. (Member Richards voted no.) Included in the Consent Agenda are the following items:

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 25, 2018.
- Minutes of the Special Meeting of October 23, 2018.
- Activity Report – October 2018, **EXHIBIT “A”**.
- Bills Paid Report – October & November 2018, **EXHIBIT “B”**.
- Bills Payable Report – November 2018, **EXHIBIT “C”**.
- School Treasurer’s Report – October 2018, **EXHIBIT “D”**.
- Revenue & Expenditure Report – October 2018, **EXHIBIT “E”**.

- 2018 School Report Cards, **EXHIBIT “F”**.
- FOIA Requests, **EXHIBIT “G”**.
- Contractor Payout Requests, **EXHIBIT “H”**.
- Used Book Bid Sale, **EXHIBIT “I”**.
- Destruction of Closed Session Recordings—November 14, 2016 and November 17, 2016.

NOTE FROM PRESIDENT

President White informed the Board that Principal Pawelczyk would be presenting the Principals’ Report first this month because he is being excused early to attend the Fall Sports Awards. The Board concurred with reordering the agenda.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Principals’ Reports

Zion-Benton Township High School

Dr. Pawelczyk reported on the following:

- October 31 Teacher Institute Day activities included the second of a series of three workshop sessions prepared for our three Teacher Institute Days, an option for crisis first aid training, and provided staff time to complete the required Global Compliance Network Trainings.
- The Veterans Day Ceremony on November 12 was a great success.
- ZBTHS is closing out the survey stage of its partnership with Equal Opportunity Schools. EOS uses survey responses to help diagnose the AP culture of the school and create individual Insight Cards for each student. The EOS partnership intentionally identifies and encourages underrepresented students to enroll in advanced placement courses.
- Assistant Principal Jack Niemi has been coordinating efforts to integrate the free Khan Academy SAT Prep into the 10th and 11th grade advisories, which will begin at the end of this month.
- Rifle Team took gold at the 2018 Area 3 Championship. This is the 15th championship at this contest in the past 16 years.

(**EXHIBIT “J”**, Zion-Benton Township High School Board of Education Report, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

New Tech High @ Zion-Benton East

In Dr. Frusher’s absence, Dr. Clark reported on the following:

- Teacher Institute Day was held on October 31, 2018. In the morning, teachers participated in two teacher led wellness day

activities. In the afternoon, teachers attended two teacher led professional development sessions on best practices in teaching and learning.

- The all school Veterans Day Ceremony and Assembly held on November 12, 2018, was successfully led by Commander Schulte and the NT@ZB cadets.
- Thursday staff professional development time is targeted to focus on areas of grades/failure rates, discipline, tardies and attendance; and the Courageous Conversations About Race.
- Information mailing will be sent to all eighth grade families soon. School day eighth grade visits are being finalized. Recruitment nights for the Class of 2023 will be on December 3, December 12, January 10, January 22, and February 6.

(**EXHIBIT “K”**, New Tech High School @ Zion-Benton East Board of Education Report, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Clark reported on the following:

- Calendar of activities (**EXHIBIT “L”**, Calendar of Activities, is included and made a part of these minutes.)
- Dr. Clark recognized that tomorrow is School Board Members Day and publicly thanked the Board Members for their service.
- Dr. Clark thanked Member Richards for catching an error on the calendar that was sent in the electronic packet, which listed the incorrect name of the theater production. Dr. Clark clarified that “Cinderella” is the production that will take place on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of this week.
- Both campuses are closed on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of next week for the Thanksgiving holiday.
- NJROTC Pass and Review is on December 6th. Dr. Clark invited the Board Members to come out and see the troops parade.
- The Veteran’s Day Recognition was a success, with many veterans in attendance participating in a tour of the new facilities following the ceremony. The invitation to tour was much appreciated by the veterans and many commented on how happy they are that the District continues to make the NJROTC program an opportunity for our students.
- The next Regular Board of Education meeting is on Thursday, December 20, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. at ZBTHS.
- The IASB Conference is from November 16-18, 2018. Packets were provided to Board Member that will be attending with their agenda and passes for the weekend.
- The 2018 School Report Cards have been made available and reflect 2017-18 school year data. The Illinois Report Cards reflect the ESSA accountability model and the four designations available are exemplary, commendable, underperforming, and lowest-performing. Both campuses received commendable designations; however, the goal remains to close the achievement

gap. The District will continue to execute the action plan associated with its strategic plans to get students where they need to be. Dr. Clark provided Board Members with a document that provides information about changes to the 2018 school report cards. (**EXHIBIT “M”**, 2018 School Report Cards, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

SEDOL Report

Member Leech reported that there was no SEDOL report at this time.

RECESS

No recess was taken.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Curriculum Committee

Approval of Recommendations of 2018-19 Curriculum Changes

Member Richards reported the Curriculum Committee reviewed curriculum recommendations at the Curriculum Committee meeting on November 12, 2018. She asked Board Members if they would like her to review proposed changes to the 2019-20 curriculum or if everyone was clear on the curriculum recommendations. Board Members stated that they were clear on proposed changes and did not have any questions. Member Richards did highlight the following:

- Freshman Computer Tech is being replaced by Personal Finance.
- Driver Education will no longer be a graduation requirement. Students will have the option to take Physical Education or other courses instead.
- Personal Finance is going to cover Consumer Education requirement.
- Financial Algebra 1 and Financial Algebra 2 are being deleted.

Secretary Leech commented that the proposed changes will add career preparation course and opportunities that will better prepare students and give them more to put on their resume.

Member Richards stated that the intention is to give students a path and that the changes are an effort to create classes of interest that motivate students.

A motion was made by Member Nieto, seconded by Member Roberts to approve the 2019-20 curriculum recommendations as presented. Motion was approved by roll call vote of members voting 6-0. (**EXHIBIT “N”**,

2019-20 Curriculum Recommendations, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

First and Final Reading and Approval of Board Policy 6:135 – Accelerated Placement Program

Member Richards reported that a new board policy was brought to the Curriculum Committee. Dr. Clark explained that recent legislation requires school districts adopt an Accelerated Placement Program Policy, which ties to the Curriculum Committee’s work, and that the required policy being presented is the recommended ISBE PRESS policy.

A motion was made by Secretary Leech, seconded by Member Nieto to approve the adoption of new School Board Policy 6:135 – *Instruction: Accelerated Placement Program* as presented. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 6-0. (**EXHIBIT “O”**, Board Policy 6:135 – Accelerated Placement Program, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

Business/Bid/Finance Committee

Vice President Nordstrom reported the following items were discussed at a Business/Bid/Finance Committee meeting on November 12, 2018:

- Ongoing discussion regarding construction of the Performing Arts Center.
- Discussed minor issues CSBO Liddle is settling with the city regarding smaller projects that are already underway.
- Property Tax Relief Grant, which CSBO Liddle will report on later in the meeting.
- 2018 Levy recommendation.
- Heard a proposal from “Zion-Benton Times” to make an ongoing financial commitment for advertising, which Board Members will have the opportunity to look over in preparation to consider at the Boards’ regular meeting.

Approval of Guaranteed Maximum Price Amendment for Camosy Construction as Construction Manager for the Performing Arts Center

A motion was made by Vice President Nordstrom, seconded by President White to approve and authorize the administration to execute the planned final amendment to the construction manager contract with Camosy Construction for the Performing Arts Center, to include alternate #1 of the general trades package, and a guaranteed overall maximum price for this project not to exceed \$12,795,000. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 5-1. (Member Richards voted no.) (**EXHIBIT “P”**, Approval of Guaranteed Maximum Price Amendment for Camosy Construction as Construction Manager for the Performing Arts Center, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

NEW BUSINESS

Public Hearing for Interfund Transfer

CSBO Liddle stated the Board approved a Resolution during the October 25, 2018, Regular Meeting setting a hearing to discuss interfund transfers during the November Regular Meeting that will transfer funds from the Education Fund to the Operations and Maintenance Fund and then transfer funds into the Capitol Projects Fund. Two separate transfer approvals are requested: The first interfund transfer is from the Education Fund into the Operations and Maintenance Fund in the amount of \$3,000,000; the second procedure is an accounting transfer in the amount of \$4,000,000 from the Operations and Maintenance Fund into the Capitol Projects Fund.

A motion was made by Vice President Nordstrom, seconded by Secretary Leech to go into a public hearing regarding interfund transfers. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 6-0.

Upon no public comment, a motion was made by Secretary Leech, seconded by Vice President Nordstrom to close the hearing regarding interfund transfers. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 5-1. (Member Richards voted no.)

Approval of Resolution Authorizing Section 17-2A Interfund Transfer

A motion was made by Member Nieto, seconded by Member Roberts to approve the Resolution Authorizing an Interfund Transfer of \$3,000,000 from the Educational Fund to the Operations and Maintenance Fund in accordance with Section 17-2A of the School Code. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 5-1. (Member Richards voted no.) (**EXHIBIT "Q"**, Resolution Authorizing an Interfund Transfer, is included and made part of these minutes.)

Approval of Accounting Transfer to Capital Projects Fund

A motion was made by President White, seconded by Vice President Nordstrom to approve the Resolution Authorizing Accounting Transfer(s) to Capital Projects Fund in the amount of \$4,000,000 from the Operations and Maintenance Fund to the Capital Projects Fund pledged for capital projects. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 5-1. (Member Richard voted no.) (**EXHIBIT "R"**, Resolution Authorizing Accounting Transfer(s) to Capital Projects Fund, is included and made part of these minutes.)

Approval of Property Tax Relief Grant Application

CSBO Liddle reported that there is a Property Tax Relief Grant available to qualifying districts. This grant provides opportunity for schools to apply for funds

to replace a portion of local property taxes. The qualification and funding for the grant is based on the Unit Equivalent Tax Rate (UETR) for each District. The state has provided an overall ranking and District 126 is in a very strong position based on this ranking. If approved for the full amount, the property taxes abated would equal the \$1,835,424 and the grant would equal \$1,793,018. This would be a net loss of \$42,406 to the annual levy, which compounds in perpetuity.

A motion was made by Secretary Leech, seconded by Member Roberts to approve the Property Tax Relief Grant Application. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 6-0. (**EXHIBIT "S"**, Property Tax Relief Application, is included and made part of these minutes.)

2018 Levy Information

CSBO Liddle presented a recommended 2018 levy for District 126. Highlights include the following:

- The tax levy is required to be filed before the EAV is established. The levy is limited to the CPI from 2017, which was 2.1%.
- The levy is in the amount of \$31,180,465, which is a high estimate. The amount the District receives is limited to what is legally allowable based on 2.1% CPI, actual EAV, and new construction; therefore, the District estimates a higher amount in the levy knowing ultimately it will receive less.
- The dollars generated via the 2018 property tax levy will be the major revenue source for the 2019-20 budget.
- The levy does not include the Debt Service Fund, which is issued by the County.

2018 Tax Levy Public Hearing

A motion was made by Member Nieto, seconded by Member Roberts to go into a public hearing regarding the 2018 Tax Levy. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 6-0.

Beach Park resident, Sonolito Benson, addressed the Board with a question for CSBO Liddle. Mrs. Benson wanted to know what will the tax levy translate to in simple dollars for residents and will resident see an increase in taxes?

CSBO Liddle stated that the tax rate is estimated to drop a little over 18 cents but assessments will vary from home to home. Mrs. Benson commented that this sounded very promising and would be happy to lend her support for the tax levy. President White informed Mrs. Benson that District 6 should be able to apply for the Property Tax Relief Grant also. Dr. Clark confirmed that District 6 is in a very good position to apply for the grant.

Upon no further public comment, a motion was made by Secretary Leech, seconded by Vice President Nordstrom to close the public hearing. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 6-0

Approval of 2018 Levy Resolutions

A motion was made by Secretary Leech, seconded by Member Roberts to approve the 2018 Levy Resolutions that included the following:

- \$31,180,465 total levy across all funds.
- \$2,740,681 to be levied as a special tax for Special Education Program purposes.
- \$346,922 to be levied as a special tax for Working Cash Fund purposes.
- \$20,815 to be levied as a special tax for Fire Prevention, Safety and Environmental and Energy Conversation Fund purposes.
- \$40,086 to be levied as a special tax for Special Education District of Lake County for its employees for Illinois Municipal Retirement purposes.
- \$48,601 to be levied for the purpose of funding Technology Lease Purchase.

Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 5-1. (Members Richards voted no.) (**EXHIBIT "T"**, 2018 Tax Levy and supporting resolutions and certifications, are included and made a part of these minutes.)

Consideration of IASB Resolutions for Delegate Assembly

Member Richards explained to Board Members that the Resolution Committee is encouraging the Board to not adopt Resolutions #1 and #3. Member Richards stated that she does not see an issue with this and supports all of this year's recommendations. Member Nieto asked if this is just a matter of nuance. Member Richard explained that the committee is trying to make it simple and that of Resolution #1 through #3, they prefer Resolution #2. Member Nieto expressed his concerns with Resolution #2 and that it would allow school boards the option to arm staff members. Member Richards explained that this resolution gives school districts local control over what they would like to do. Member Nieto expressed that he does not agree that there should be an option to arm teachers because of the potential of harming a student in the process. Member Richards responded by saying that if people think the school is a soft target they are more likely to do damage, but if they know school staff are armed and trained then the school would be a scarier target. Member Nieto asked for clarification on whether the Board is voting to adopt or not adopt. Dr. Clark explained that each resolution is voted on separately and that some have a recommendation to adopt while others have a recommendation to not adopt.

Advisory Vote on IASB Resolution #1 Recommendation

A motion was made by Vice President Nordstrom, seconded by Member Nieto to approve IASB recommendation to not adopt Resolution #1 of Student Safety Protection as written. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 6-0.

Advisory Vote on IASB Resolution #2 Recommendation

A motion was made by Vice President Nordstrom, seconded by Secretary Leech to approve IASB recommendation to adopt Resolution #2 of Student Safety Protection as written. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 4-2. (Member Nieto and Member Roberts voted no.)

Advisory Vote on IASB Resolution #3 Recommendation

A motion was made by Secretary Leech, seconded by Vice President Nordstrom to approve IASB recommendation to not adopt Resolution #3 of Student Safety as written. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 6-0.

Advisory Vote on IASB Resolution #4 Recommendation

A motion was made by Secretary Leech, seconded by Vice President Nordstrom to approve IASB Resolution #4 recommendation to adopt Energy Savings Funding and Borrowing. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 6-0.

Advisory Vote on IASB Resolution #5 Recommendation

A motion was made by Member Nieto, seconded by Vice President Nordstrom to approve IASB Resolution #5 recommendation to adopt Position Statement 2.27 Charter School Funding. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 6-0.

Advisory Vote on IASB Resolution #6 Recommendation

A motion was made by Secretary Leech, seconded by Vice President Nordstrom to approve IASB Resolution #6 recommendation to adopt Local Authority in Safety Practices. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 6-0.

Advisory Vote on IASB Resolution #7 Recommendation

A motion was made by President White, seconded by Secretary Leech to approve IASB Resolution #7 recommendation to adopt Belief Statement 5 – Mental Health Services. Member Nieto pointed out that in the underlined portion of the first paragraph there is an end quotation but not a beginning quotation. He suggested that the committee rewrite it so it is clear when it is passed on to legislators. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 6-0.

Advisory Vote on IASB Resolution #8 Recommendation

A motion was made by President White, seconded by Vice President Nordstrom to approve IASB Resolution #8 recommendation to adopt Amending Belief Statement 2 – Student Voter Registration. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 6-0.

(**EXHIBIT “U”**, Advisory Votes on IASB Resolution Recommendations, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

Approval of FOIA Fee Schedule

Dr. Clark reported that the District’s FOIA attorney recommends that the Board adopt a FOIA Fee Schedule and that it be utilized with future FOIA requests when appropriate. A motion was made by President White, seconded by Secretary Leech to approve the FOIA Fee Schedule. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 6-0. (**EXHIBIT “V”**, FOIA Fee Schedule, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

OLD BUSINESS

Capital Improvements Update

CSBO Liddle updated the Board on the District’s capital improvements. Highlights included the following:

- The ZBTHS north parking lot is completed with the exception of the additional exit off of 21st Street, which will happen once the permit is received.
- Pearce Campus is completely razed. The entire project was completed with only one \$5,000 change order, which was for asbestos abatement.
- The contractor who was responsible for the demolition of Pearce Campus damaged New Tech’s canopy entrance. They are responsible for these repairs; however, they might not be completed until January.
- Parking lot east of New Tech is underway and expected to be completed before Thanksgiving weather permitting. CSBO Liddle recognized Dr. Frusher and his staff for the great job they have done accommodating these changes.
- ZBTHS security vestibule is open and being used on a daily basis.
- New Tech security vestibule is still under construction.
- The final punch lists for the ZBTHS and NT@ZB additions are being completed.
- Flooring in the rifle range will be corrected at the architect’s expense over winter break.
- Construction has started on the Performing Arts Center.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Clark reminded Board Members of the previous decision to support a recognition of pre-Title IX female athletes and coaches. In the October regular meeting the Board

supported the idea that District 126 work with the group to do something special to recognize them. Clarification is now needed on what criteria qualifies for recognition. The current Athletic Wall of Achievement has very specific, rigorous criteria for being inducted. There is concern about what standard of criteria might be used for the pre-Title IX wall of achievement.

Board member input ranged from recognizing all pre-Title IX female athletic participants, as they pioneered female athletics with less resources, to setting criteria to recognize a reasonable number of participants who met criteria to be determined. Dr. Clark suggested that if there isn't some type of criteria then this could become a touchy issue and she could not guarantee that recordkeeping was still available to ensure all athletes would be known.

Dr. Clark suggested that she meet with the women that brought this idea to the Board's attention and get their recommendation based on the Board's input.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Secretary Leech, seconded by Member Roberts to go into closed session at 8:15 p.m. for consideration of appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of personnel; collective bargaining; and confidential student matters. (5ILCS 120/2(c)(1,2,10)). Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 6-0.

Member Richards departed the meeting following the motion to enter Closed Session.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Member Roberts, seconded by Member Nieto to return to open session at 9:06 p.m. Motion was approved by a voice vote of members present voting 5-0.

PERSONNEL APPROVALS

A motion was made by Secretary Leech, seconded by President White to approve the amended personnel approvals as presented. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 5-0. Included in the amended personnel approvals were the following:

-Change of Status:

Harper, Shannon (Sophomore Assistant Basketball Coach to Freshman Assistant Basketball Coach),
Roderick, Henry (Freshman Head Basketball Coach to Varsity Assistant Basketball Coach),
White, MacArthur (Freshman Assistant Basketball Coach to Freshman Head Basketball Coach).

-Appointment:

Regnier, Warren (Assistant Tech Director for Encore Players Fall Production).

- Employment:
Calvert, Fred (Sophomore Assistant Basketball Coach).
- Leaves of Absence:
Grieco, Tina (Teacher)
Herrmann, Allison (Teacher),
Jordan, Amy (Instructional Aide),
Voss, Alison (Teacher).
- Resignation:
Baines, Timmothy (Paraprofessional).

EXHIBIT “W”, Amended Monthly Personnel Report, is included and made a part of these minutes.

APPROVAL OF MODIFICATIONS TO 2018-19 STAFFING PLAN

A motion was made by President White, seconded by Member Roberts to approve the administration’s recommendation to add up to three special education instructional aides to achieve appropriate student to teacher ratios in instructional classes. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 5-0. **EXHIBIT “X”**, Modification to 2018-19 Staffing Plan, is included and made a part of these minutes.

DISCUSSION REGARDING DISTRICT CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

Dr. Clark advised the Board that recent changes in legislation intended to relieve school districts from School Code mandates allow districts to consider entering into a contractual service relationship with an outsourced vendor to provide driver education instruction. Administration discussed with the Curriculum Committee whether the Board would be interested in having the administration research District 126’s Driver Education course being delivered differently and the benefits of doing so as a result of the legislation. Discussed was the potential of District 126 teachers providing the classroom portion of the course during the school day, and the behind the wheel (BTW) portion of the course being moved to outside the normal school day. Doing so could open up sophomore students’ schedules for the opportunity to take additional courses and/or receive interventions, which would be beneficial for many students. Other course recommendations approved by the Board for 2019-20 create the need for additional FTE in other content areas for which current Driver Education teachers qualify. The increase of Evidence Based Funding (EBF) also provides an opportunity for the District to redeploy some of its Driver Education teachers to other departments and achieve one of the recommendations of EBF—lower class sizes. School Board members discussed that the Board should do its due diligence in analyzing the opportunities the change in legislation provides school districts, particularly if there are benefits to students, and advised the administration to research the topic further for the Board’s future consideration.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Secretary Leech, seconded by Member Nieto to adjourn the meeting at 9:22 p.m. Motion was approved by a voice vote of members present voting 5-0.

SHAWN WHITE, President

ATTEST:

KIM LEECH, Secretary

SW/KL/rw: MNNov1418R

