

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION, ZION-BENTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL
DISTRICT 126, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 2019 – 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.

Board President White presided.

ROLL CALL

Members present: President White, Vice President Nordstrom, Secretary Leech (arrived at 7:16), Member Karner, Member Nieto, and Member Roberts.

Member excused: Member Richards.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY PRO TEMPORE

Due to the absence of Secretary Leech, Member Roberts served as secretary pro tempore until Secretary Leech's arrival at 7:16 p.m. prior to consideration of the Consent Agenda.

AGENDA AMENDMENT

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

Employment: Camelia Ivan (Mathematics Teacher).
Resignation: Larry Mason (Program Attendant),
Angela Rodriguez (Bus Aide),
Gail Small (Bus Driver).

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Karissa Cepon was recognized for qualifying for the IHSA state girls swimming tournament.

COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF, GUESTS, AND DISTRICT RESIDENTS

Pam Idleberg, Clyde McLemore, Sameia Charity, Carlos Smith, Mike McCarley, James Sisson, Charles Duncan, Kathy Champine, and Kathy Charity implored the School

Board to discontinue its practice of making up school cancellation days on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Day. Reasons stated included: Dr. King's holiday is the only National Black Holiday; having school in session on this day is viewed by many as disrespectful and as a punishment to African-American students; the day should be reserved for voluntary service; holding school sends a message that Dr. King is not valued; and it would be better to have make-up days at the end of the school year. Roger Whitmore, Charles Duncan, and Kathy Champine presented concerns about high property taxes, which included: they would like more communication as to why taxes are high; people/retirees are leaving their homes and businesses; schools make up the largest portion of the property tax bill; and the District should have top schools based on the amount of funds collected.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Vice President Nordstrom, seconded by Member Nieto to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 5-1. (Member Karner voted no.) Included in the Consent Agenda are the following:

- Minutes of the Special Meeting – December 18, 2018
- Minutes of the Regular Meeting – December 20, 2018
- Activity Report – December 2018, **EXHIBIT “A”**.
- Bills Paid Report – December 2018 and January 2019, **EXHIBIT “B”**.
- Bills Payable Report – January 2019, **EXHIBIT “C”**.
- School Treasurer's Report – December 2018, **EXHIBIT “D”**.
- Revenue & Expenditure Report – December 2018, **EXHIBIT “E”**.
- Contractor Payout Requests, **EXHIBIT “F”**.
- 2019-20 *Course Guides*, **EXHIBIT “G”**.
- FOIA Requests, **EXHIBIT “H”**.
- Request for Disposal of Items, **EXHIBIT “I”**.
- Request for Overnight Band Field Trip, **EXHIBIT “J”**.
- Destruction of Closed Session Recordings – January 3, 2017 and January 26, 2017.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Member Karner left the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Dr. Clark reported on the following:

- The Calendar of Activities. (**EXHIBIT “K”**, District 126 Activities, is included and made a part of these minutes.)
- The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 28, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at Zion-Benton Township High School.
- District 126 will join the Zion Park District in celebrating and hosting its 29th Annual Black History Celebration on Saturday, February 23rd at 11:00 a.m. in the ZBTHS South Cafeteria.

- Professional development activities are scheduled for the February 6th Teacher Institute Day. Classified staff will also have an in-service on safety training that day.
- The topic for the IASB Lake Division Spring Dinner Meeting on March 13, 2019, is Understanding and Leading for Equity. Board Members should contact Dr. Clark or Rachel White if they wish to attend.
- The Department of Navy gave the District 126's NJRTOC unit outstanding ratings in every category following its recent inspection.
- Board Members should expect an email checking their availability for a needed Committee of the Whole meeting.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Principals' Report

New Tech High @ Zion-Benton East

Dr. Frusher reported on the following:

- Class of 2023 NT@ZB orientation nights have had steady increase in attendance. Next year's freshman applications are arriving.
- Staff professional development from January through April will focus on SAT planning and preparation for the spring assessment day on April 9th.
- A number of students have expressed interest in internships at NT@ZB. The majority of interest is in the following areas: engineering, business, veterinary science, physical therapy, law enforcement, interior design, nursing, physician, and architecture.
- Additional junior and senior students have qualified for dual credit courses beginning second semester.
- NT@ZB is administering the IL 5Essentials Survey to students, staff, and parents.
- New student projects are being launched for second semester.

(EXHIBIT "L", New Tech High @ Zion-Benton East, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

Zion-Benton Township High School

Dr. Pawelczyk reported on the following:

- District 126's partnership with Equal Opportunity Schools (EOS) is moving forward. EOS uses survey data to identify underrepresented students who possess AP potential characteristics. Along with Dr. DiGangi and Mr. Richter, Dr. Pawelczyk has been working to develop an outreach plan using the resources provided by EOS.
- The interventionists continue to provide much needed help to our students through day-to-day immediate assistance as well as being a valuable resource to long-term improvement efforts.

- The Supportive Environment Group of the SIP Committee created a supply room filled with basic needs for students. This ZB thrift store will be supplied through staff donations and will be kept confidential.
- Registration for next year will be opening soon. Student services and advisors will be working with current students as they pick classes for next year.
- ZBTHS has been administering the Illinois 5Essentials Survey to students, staff, and parents. Solicitation to participate in the survey continues in an effort to get as many responses as possible before the survey closes.

Member Karner returned to the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

(EXHIBIT “M”, Zion-Benton Township High School, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

Equal Opportunity Schools

Dr. Clark reported on the following:

- Dr. DiGangi put together a summary regarding the Equal Opportunity Schools (EOS) initiative.
- District 126 partnered with EOS as part of its effort to close the achievement gap among students. The mission is to ensure students of all backgrounds have access to the best educational programs and that they receive the appropriate encouragement and support to ensure they enroll and are successful.
- In its partnership with EOS, District 126 is currently beginning the process of recruiting underrepresented students who have been identified as having the potential to enroll and succeed in at least one AP course.
- EOS helped to identify these students who may have been otherwise overlooked via traditional measures.
- Insight cards that provide a more holistic view of the student have been distributed to various staff members who have contact with the students to encourage their enrollment in AP.

(EXHIBIT “N”, Equal Opportunity Schools Update, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

Internet Safety Policies Update

CSBO Liddle reported that every three years the District is required to have the Board review its internet safety policies, rules, and procedures in order to continue to receive e-rate funding, which offsets technology related expenditures. A copy of the District’s policies and procedures were shared with the Board. No needed changes were noted.

(EXHIBIT “O”, Internet Safety Policies Update, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

RECESS

No recess was taken.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Business/Bid/Finance Committee

Vice President Nordstrom reported that the following items were discussed at a Business/Bid/Finance Committee meeting on January 21, 2019.

- ISBE corrected errors in its statewide calculation of the Teachers Health Insurance Plan (THIS) liabilities and issued corrected amounts to school districts. Since the FY18 audit is already completed and dispersed, a note will be made in next year’s audit regarding ISBE issuing this correction;
- status of the property tax relief grant.

CSBO Liddle reported that the state calculated District 126 to be in the lowest tier for funding adequacy in the state under the Evidence Based Funding formula. The District was able to apply for a new state property tax abatement grant due to high property taxes and other financial considerations. If awarded, the District would abate \$1,835,424 of its 2018 levy and receive \$1,793,018.36 in return through state funding. While this represents ~\$42,000 loss of revenue to the district, it will provide much needed property tax relief to our community. An announcement of who will receive the grants is scheduled for January 31st.

Long Range Planning Committee

Member Roberts reported that the Long Range Planning Committee met on January 22, 2019, to discuss interior renovations that could be completed to improve programming using the new Evidenced Based Funding. Member Roberts indicated that a Committee of the Whole meeting would be scheduled to discuss these potential projects in more detail with the full Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of 2019-20 Calendar

Dr. Clark reported the proposed 2019-20 school year calendar meets all contractual agreements and that the law requires the inclusion of five emergency days at the conclusion of the school year. The Board has a long-standing waiver and practice of moving emergency days to winter and spring holidays when school cancellations occur. The Board has the option to continue to move the make-up days to holidays, to make-up cancellations at the end of the school year, or pick specific holidays for make-up purposes if needed. New legislation

may make it possible to consider e-learning as another way to make up school cancellations. A motion was made by Member Roberts to amend the calendar and exclude the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday as an emergency make-up day for the 2019-20 calendar. Motion died for lack of a second. A motion was made by Member Nieto, seconded by Secretary Leech to amend the 2019-20 Calendar to keep all emergency make-up days at the end of the school year. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 6-0. (**EXHIBIT "P"**, 2019-20 School Calendar, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

Approval of Contracted Service – Athletico Management, LLC

Dr. Clark reported that District 126 is requesting to use Athletico Management, LLC to provide athletic training services for District 126 on an emergency basis. A motion was made by Vice President Nordstrom, seconded by Secretary Leech to approve the contracted service with Athletico Management, LLC for athletic training services as presented. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of member voting 5-0-1 (Member Karner passed). (**EXHIBIT "Q"**, Contracted Service – Athletico Management, LLC, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

Approval of SEDOL Contractual Services for 2019-20

Dr. Clark reported that the annual list of recommended SEDOL contracted services remains limited to just one half-day of physical therapy per week. A motion was made by Secretary Leech, seconded by Member Nieto to approve the continuation of physical therapy contractual services through SEDOL for the projected 2019-20 cost of \$9,756 for the entire school year. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 5-0-1 (Member Karner passed). (**EXHIBIT "R"**, 2019-20 SEDOL Contractual Service Recommendations, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

Consideration of Summer School Breakfast Program

CSBO Liddle presented the annual request to waive the Summer School Breakfast Program. The Administration recommended opting out due to operational cost and safety concerns since anyone may enter the building for a free breakfast while students are in the building. Since some students could benefit from a free breakfast, the District will provide a cold, quick breakfast before summer school starts to those in need. Student breakfast costs will come from the food service budget. A motion was made by President White, seconded by Member Roberts to approve District 126 opting out of the summer breakfast program allowed under the Childhood Hunger Relief Act. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 5-0-1 (Member Karner passed). (**EXHIBIT "S"**, Annual Summer Breakfast Program Opt Out, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

Authorize Superintendent to Prepare 2019-20 Tentative Budget

A motion was made by President White, seconded by Vice President Nordstrom to approve Dr. Clark to prepare the 2019-20 tentative budget. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 5-0-1 (Member Karner passed).

Bond Exempt Compliance Report

CSBO Liddle reported that after reviewing the District's contracts and records she is happy to report that the district is currently in compliance with the applicable tax law requirements and no further action is needed at this time. A motion was made by Member Roberts, seconded by Secretary Leech to approve the Bond Tax Exempt Compliance Report. Motion was approved by a roll called vote of members present voting 5-0-1 (Member Karner passed). (**EXHIBIT "T"**, Bond Tax Exempt Compliance Report, is included and made a part of these minutes.) Secretary Leech thanked CSBO Liddle for her continual excellence in managing business matters for the District.

Approval of Life Safety Work

CSBO Liddle reported that the District has two major projects that she is requesting be submitted for state approval under the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Fund. The first project is HVAC repair work that needs to be done in the ZBTHS main gym, and the second involves moving the main ZBTHS fire alarm panel from the boiler room into the adjacent corridor to resolve ongoing concerns. The architect estimates the cost of these two projects at \$86,358. A motion was made by President White, seconded by Member Nieto to approve the request to submit the application to ISBE for Life Safety approval in order to proceed with these repairs under the Life Safety and Fire Prevention Fund. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 5-0-1 (Member Karner passed). (**EXHIBIT "U"**, Life Safety Amendment, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

OLD BUSINESS

Capital Improvements Update

CSBO Liddle reported that progress is well underway on the performing arts center project despite cold weather conditions. Productive bi-weekly meetings continue to be held with contractors and the District's construction manager.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Secretary Leech, seconded by Vice President Nordstrom to go into closed session at 7:57 p.m. for consideration of appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific 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.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Vice President Nordstrom, seconded by Member Nieto to return to open session at 8:53 p.m. Motion was approved by a voice vote of members present voting 6-0.

PERSONNEL APPROVALS

A motion was made by Member Nieto, seconded by Member Roberts to approve the amended personnel approvals as presented. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 5-0-1 (Member Karner passed). Included in the amended personnel approvals were the following:

-Employments:

Ivan, Camelia (New Tech Math),
Johnson, Sandra (Bus Aide),
McCleary, Molly (Instructional Aide),
Nelson, Savannah (Program Attendant).

-Resignations:

Frusher, David (New Tech Principal),
Johnson, Sandra (Bus Driver),
Mason, Larry (Program Attendant),
Ogunniyan, Julie (Instructional Aide),
Rodriguez, Angela (Bus Aide),
Small, Gail (Bus Driver),
Woods, Melissa (Bus Driver).

(EXHIBIT "V", Amended Monthly Personnel Report, is included and made part of these minutes.)

RESOLUTION TO DISMISS CLASSIFIED STAFF EMPLOYEE

No action was taken.

CONSIDERATION OF INTRA-DISTRICT TRANSFER APPEAL

Item died for lack of a motion.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Vice President Nordstrom, seconded by Member Roberts to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. Motion was approved by a voice vote of members present voting 6-0.

SHAWN WHITE, President

ATTEST:

KIM LEECH, Secretary

SW/KL:MNJan2419R