

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION, ZION-BENTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL  
DISTRICT 126, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 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. 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Zion, Illinois, commencing at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Members excused: Secretary Leech and Member Karner.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY PRO TEMPORE**

Due to the absence of Secretary Leech, Member Roberts served as secretary pro tempore.

**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 13:

Leaves of Absence: Laura Schuda (NT Guidance Counselor) and Steve Tennant (ZBTHS English Teacher).

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF, GUESTS, AND DISTRICT RESIDENTS**

New Tech student Christopher Castellanos addressed the Board regarding the Love Thy Neighbor initiative. He thanked the Board for their support of last year's competition and requested the Board's and Administration's support of the Love Thy Neighbor event on August 3, 2019, by hosting or sponsoring classes for the community to participate in.

**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 4-1 (Member Richards voted no). Included in the Consent Agenda are the following:

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting – February 28, 2019
- Activity Report – February 2019, **EXHIBIT “A”**.
- Bills Paid Report – February & March 2019, **EXHIBIT “B”**.
- Bills Payable Report – March 2019, **EXHIBIT “C”**.
- School Treasurer’s Report – February 2019, **EXHIBIT “D”**.
- Revenue & Expenditure Report – February 2019, **EXHIBIT “E”**.
- Annual Approval of IHSA Membership, **EXHIBIT “F”**.
- 2019-20 New Book Requests, **EXHIBIT “G”**.
- FOIA Requests, **EXHIBIT “H”**.
- Technology Equipment Disposal Request, **EXHIBIT “I”**.
- Contractor Payout Requests, **EXHIBIT “J”**.
- Destruction of Closed Session Minutes – March 23, 2017.
- Overnight S2S Fieldtrip, **EXHIBIT “K”**.

### **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Dr. Clark’s report contained the following:

- The Calendar of Events (**EXHIBIT “L”**, District 126 Activities, is included and made a part of these minutes.)
- All Board Members were encouraged to sign up for and sponsor a student for the annual Senior Honors Banquet on Thursday, May 2, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.
- The next Regular Board of Education Meeting, which is also the biennial Organizational Meeting, will be held Thursday, April 25, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at Zion-Benton Township High School.
- Beyond Diversity Training has been scheduled for June 17-18 and August 20-21. Board members are encouraged to join staff in this training, which ties to the strategic plan.
- The District received confirmation from the ISBE that all requirements for the \$1.8 million Property Tax Relief Abatement Grant have been received and the grant will be awarded. The County Clerk will implement the abatement this spring when calculating the tax extension.
- The state’s new ESSA Accountability Model includes an allocation for the percentage of students enrolled in the arts. ISBE is still determining which courses in the arts will be counted towards this metric. ESSA will also be including a metric based on the percentage of students who participated in the 5Essentials survey. District 126 is striving to maintain both schools’ “Commendable” ratings or higher, as each new metric is added to the formula.
- Senate Bill 28 is making its way through the legislature. This bill would require that the minimum school day include 5 instructional clock hours.

Included in the Bill are provisions that would allow e-learning on days schools is cancelled.

- Senate Bill 1189 provides that high school students engage in physical education for a minimum of 225 minutes per week. District 126 would meet this requirement based on its current scheduling of PE courses.

## **REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

### **Principals' Report**

#### **Zion-Benton Township High School**

Dr. Pawelczyk reported on the following:

- Final completion rates for the Illinois 5Essentials Survey are expected to be 84% of students, 80% of staff, and 21% of parents. The data will be available in the next few months.
- Between Dr. Pawelczyk, Dr. Barker, and the Division Chairs, District 126 was represented at five education recruitment fairs.
- The partnership with Equal Opportunity Schools is working very well and has helped secure a significant increase in the number of students enrolling in Advanced Placement courses.
- Almost all of the classroom and summative evaluations have been completed. The data will be used to inform instructional needs and future professional development that will be offered.
- Dr. Pawelczyk met with Juniors on March 15, 2019, for an annual SAT pep talk.
- Mr. Niemi and Dr. Pawelczyk met with Seniors on March 20, 2019, to prepare them for the end of the year and to remind them of upcoming dates.
- During the monthly faculty meeting on March 20, 2019, Mrs. Will provided a brief in-service on the dangers of vaping.
- Dr. Pawelczyk took a moment to encourage Board members to participate in the upcoming summer *Beyond Diversity* professional development.

**EXHIBIT "M"**, Zion-Benton Township High School Board of Education Report – Thursday, March 20, 2019, is included and made a part of these minutes.

#### **New Tech High @ Zion-Benton East**

Dr. Frusher reported on the following:

- Parent teacher conferences and academic awards night were successful with good parent attendance. New Tech had 34 students qualify for honor roll and 64 students qualify for high honor

roll. Dr. Frusher thanked Member Nieto for joining them for the awards presentation.

- Thursday staff professional development time continues to focus on the areas of SAT alignment and SAT prep, grades/failure rates, and school safety.
- Preparations continue for the PSAT and SAT assessments on April 9, 2019.
- Students Emily Nguyen and Deandre Alexander will be recognized during the Illinois Principals Association Student Recognition Breakfast.
- Seniors are making their final selections of which universities they will attend next fall.

**EXHIBIT “N”**, New Tech High @ Zion-Benton East Board of Education Report – Thursday, March 20, 2019, is included and made a part of these minutes.

## **RECESS**

No recess was taken.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Approval of Inter-Fund Loans**

CSBO Liddle reported the interfund loan approval requests are precautionary and currently not anticipated to be needed. The loans to the operating funds would be transferred back to the Working Cash Fund upon the receipt of taxes. A motion was made by President White, seconded by Member Nieto to approve the following:

- A resolution to approve an interfund loan between the Working Cash Fund and the Education Fund, as necessary, to cover any shortfall due to the late receipt of taxes.
- A resolution to approve an interfund loan between the Working Cash Fund and the Operations and Maintenance Fund, as necessary, to cover any shortfall due to the late receipt of taxes.
- A resolution to approve an interfund loan between the Working Cash Fund and the Transportation Fund, as necessary, to cover any shortfall due to the late receipt of taxes.

Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 4-1. Member Richards voted no.) (**EXHIBIT “O”**, Interfund Loans, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **Approval of Auditors for FY2019 and FY2020**

CSBO Liddle asked for a renewal of Eder Casella's services for Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020, which will include preparing the new GASB reports. A motion was made by President White, seconded by Secretary Pro Tempore Roberts to approve hiring Eder Casella & Co. for the fiscal year 2019 and 2020 audits at the all-inclusive rates of \$32,800 for 2019 and \$33,925 for 2020. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 5-0. (**EXHIBIT "P"**, Auditor Services for FY19 and FY20, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **Approval of Lake County Indemnification Agreement**

A motion was made by Vice President Nordstrom, seconded by Member Richards to approve the Resolution Authorizing Approval of the Indemnification Agreement, County of Lake. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 5-0. (**EXHIBIT "Q"**, Resolution Authorizing Approval of Indemnification Agreement, County of Lake, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **Approval of Hazardous Walkway Recertification**

A motion was made by Secretary Pro Tempore Roberts, seconded by Vice President Nordstrom to approve the Certification to the State Superintendent of Education verifying that all current hazardous walkways remain unchanged. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 5-0. (**EXHIBIT "R"**, Hazardous Walkways, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **Approval of School Fees for 2019-20**

CSBO Liddle reported the 2019-20 school year school fees will be the same as last year. A motion was made by President White, seconded by Member Richards to approve the school fees for School Year 2019-20. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 5-0. (**EXHIBIT "S"**, 2019-20 School Fees, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **Approval of Athletic Photography Bid**

CSBO Liddle reported only one bid was received, which was from Visual Image Photography (VIP), and she recommended to award the bid to VIP rather than going back out to bid. A motion was made by Vice President Nordstrom, seconded by Secretary Pro Tempore Roberts to award the bid for Athletic Photography to Visual Image Photography beginning with the FY20 school year. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 4-1 (Member Richards voted no). (**EXHIBIT "T"**, Athletic Photography Bid, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

## **Intergovernmental Agreement for Transportation with District 6**

CSBO Liddle reported that she was advised by District 6 administration that the District 6 School Board did not adopt the three-year intergovernmental agreement for transportation services because the District would prefer a one-year agreement rather than a three-year agreement. Because of this there is nothing for the District 126 Board to approve at this time. CSBO Liddle will continue to work on a revised agreement and report back to the Board on the progress with District 6.

## **Approval of 2019-20 Equal Opportunity Schools Agreement**

Dr. Clark reported that the District's partnership with Equal Opportunity Schools (EOS) has provided significant value as is shown by an increase of 257 student placements in Advanced Placement courses for FY20. Dr. Clark is requesting that District 126 continue with the next phase in the EOS partnership, "Continue onto Experience Success." A motion was made by Member Nieto, seconded by Secretary Pro Tempore Roberts to approve the 2019-20 Collaboration Agreement Renewal between the Board of Education and Equal Opportunity Schools in the amount of \$17,000, and to authorize Dr. Clark to execute the agreement on behalf of the district, pending legal counsel's finalization of the contract. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 5-0. (EXHIBIT "U", Equal Opportunity Schools Agreement, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Capital Projects Update**

CSBO Liddle reported on the following:

- Landscaping of the New Tech parking lot will begin in April, with the laying of the final layer of asphalt occurring in June.
- Construction on the theater lobby area is moving along on schedule, and the precast panels for the performing arts center will be installed in four phases.
- On March 26, 2019, ZBTHS will be shutting off power for electrical work. Water will also be shut off on that day in order to work on a fire hydrant.
- There have been two meetings with the architect and construction manager for the natatorium renovation project. There will be another meeting after spring break.

### **Update on Winthrop Harbor TIF Action**

CSBO Liddle reported that she attended another meeting regarding the Winthrop Harbor TIF. One item discussed was the timing of certification of the TIF, which would affect which EAV is used for the calculation. She requested that they

certify after August 1, 2019, because it would be at a higher EAV and better for the District. She reported that when asked to vote on whether or not the information provided met the legal requirements, she and all others voted yes.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

President White thanked the Boarded Members and Administration for their support of him as District 126 Board President over the past two years and for their commitment and hard work.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

A motion was made by Vice President Nordstrom, seconded by Member Nieto to go into closed session at 7:35 p.m. for consideration of appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific personnel. (ILCS 120/c(c) (1)). Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 5-0.

Member Richards left the meeting before Closed Session began.

### **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

A motion was made by Vice President Nordstrom, seconded by Member Nieto to return to open session at 8:02 p.m. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 4-0.

### **PERSONNEL APPROVALS**

A motion was made by Vice President Nordstrom, seconded by Member Nieto to approve the personnel approvals as amended. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 4-0. Included in the amended personnel approvals were:

-Appointment:

Ryczek, Mike (Girls' Assistant Soccer Coach).

-Leaves of Absence:

Aguero, Teresa (Attendance Secretary),

Meyer, Tina (NT PE Teacher),

Schuda, Laura (NT Guidance Counselor),

Tennant, Steve (ZBTHS English Teacher).

-Resignations:

Arzate-Rosales, Karen (Bilingual Instructional Aide),

Baum, Jessica (Math Lab Interventionist),

Eisenberg, Karen (ZBTHS Special Education Teacher),

Goike, Bryan (ZBTHS Science Teacher),

Jarrell, Stephen (ZAP PE Teacher),

Lopez, Ryan (ZBTHS Spanish Teacher).

-Retirement:  
Lucke, Margaret (ZBTHS Math Teacher).

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

## **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE ITEMS**

### **Approval of 2019-20 Certified Staffing Levels and Recommendations**

Dr. Clark presented and reported on the administration’s recommendations for 2019-20 staffing levels based on student enrollment choices and a desire to use Evidence Based Funding to provide appropriate class sizes. A motion was made by President White, seconded by Member Nieto to approve the 2019-20 Certified Staffing Levels and Recommendations as presented. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 4-0. (**EXHIBIT “W”**, 2019-20 Staffing Recommendations, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **Approval of 2019-20 Staffing Renewals**

Dr. Clark presented the administration’s recommendations for 2019-20 staffing renewals of non-tenured staff. A motion was made by President White, seconded by Member Nieto to approve the 2019-20 Staffing Renewals as presented. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 4-0. (**EXHIBIT “X”**, Non-Tenured Teachers and Administrators for 2019-20, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **Approval of Reduction in Force – Bus Aides**

CSBO Liddle explained that due to District 6 not renewing the intergovernmental agreement for transportation services, there is a need for the Board to approve a reduction in force in bus aides until such time as an agreement is reached and staffing needs are known. A motion was made by Vice President Nordstrom, seconded by Member Nieto to approve the Resolution Authorizing Notice of the Honorable Dismissal of Educational Support Personnel (Bus Aides) as presented. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 3-1 (President White voted no). (**EXHIBIT “Y”**, Resolution Authorizing Notice of the Honorable Dismissal of Educational Support Personnel (Bus Aides), is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **Approval of Reduction in Hours – Bus Drivers**

CSBO Liddle explained that due to District 6 not renewing the intergovernmental agreement for transportation services, there is a need for the Board to approve a resolution notifying bus drivers of a likely reduction in hours for the 2019-20 school year until such time as an agreement is reached and staffing needs are



known. A motion was made by Vice President Nordstrom, seconded by Member Nieto to approve the Resolution Authorizing Notice of the Reduction in Hours of Educational Support Personnel (Bus Drivers) as presented. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 3-1 (President White voted no). (**EXHIBIT "Z"**, Resolution Authorizing Notice of Reduction in Hours of Educational Support Personnel (Bus Drivers), is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **Approval of Constructive Resignation**

A motion was made by President White, seconded by Vice President Nordstrom to accept the constructive resignation of bus driver Renea Alexander. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 4-0. (**EXHIBIT "AA"**, Constructive Resignation of Renea Alexander, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **CONSIDERATION OF NEW TECH HIGH PRINCIPAL HIRE**

A motion was made by Vice President Nordstrom, seconded by Member Nieto to approve the hire of Christopher Kubic as principal of New Tech High effective July 1, 2019. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 4-0. (**EXHIBIT "BB"**, Recommendation for Principal Hire, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **ADJOURN**

A motion was made by President White, seconded by Member Roberts to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Motion was approved by a voice vote of members present voting 4-0.

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SHAWN WHITE, President

ATTEST:

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GINA ROBERTS, Secretary Pro Tempore

SW/GR/rw: MNMarch2019R

