

**MINUTES OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL AND REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD  
OF EDUCATION, ZION-BENTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL  
DISTRICT 126, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 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 Organizational and Regular Sessions in the 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, Secretary Leech, Member Nieto, Member Richards, and Member Roberts.

Member excused: Member Karner

**PRESENTATION OF COLORS BY THE NJROTC COLOR GUARD**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**AGENDA AMENDMENTS**

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 21:

Employment: Robert Smith (ZBTHS Special Education Teacher)  
Resignations: Kaitlin Macanowicz (Interact Sponsor) and Alexis Malinowski (ZBTHS English Teacher)  
Retirement: Donita Burton (Bus Driver)

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

Kalinn White, Katrina White, and Lawrence and Diane White addressed the Board, expressing their appreciation for and pride in Shawn White for his excellent service to the community by serving as Board President for the last two years.

**DISTRICT 126 BOARD REORGANIZATION MEETING**

**CANVASS – APRIL 2, 2019, ELECTION RESULTS**

Dr. Clark read the results from the April 2, 2019, Consolidated Election as follows:

Four-Year Term – Jorge Nieto, 1,824 votes; Patricia Ayers Stephen, 2,380 votes; Shawn White, 31 write in votes.

Jorge Nieto, Patricia Ayers Stephen, and Shawn White were elected to the office of member of the Board of Education for four years.

A motion was made by Vice President Nordstrom, seconded by Secretary Leech to approve the April 2, 2019, Canvass of Election Results. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 6-0. (**EXHIBIT "A"**, Summary Report, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **OATH OF OFFICE**

Board members elect: Jorge Nieto, Patricia Ayers Stephen, and Shawn White recited the Oath of Office. (**EXHIBIT "B"**, Oath of Office and Board Officer Elections, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **ADJOURNMENT OF THE RETIRING BOARD SINE DIE**

A motion was made by Secretary Leech, seconded by Member Richards to adjourn the retiring Board sine die. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 6-0. New Member Stephen was welcomed to be seated at the Board table.

### **ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT**

Dr. Clark accepted nominations for the four-year term of President of the Board of Education of Zion-Benton Township High School District 126. Member White nominated Member Nordstrom to be President. After three requests for additional nominations without response, Dr. Clark closed the nominations for the office of President. Member Nordstrom was declared elected by acclamation as President of the Board of Education of Zion-Benton Township High School District 126 for a two-year term.

President Nordstrom acknowledged Loren Karner for his contributions and years of service as a Board member, including two years as Board President. Mr. White was recognized for his many contributions to the Board of Education and District 126 as Board President for the past two years. Mr. White thanked the Board and Administration for supporting him in his role as Board President.

### **ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS**

President Nordstrom accepted nominations for the two-year term of Vice President of the Board of Education of Zion-Benton Township High School District 126. Member Leech nominated Member Nieto to be Vice President. After three requests for additional nominations without response, President Nordstrom closed the nominations for the office of Vice President. Member Nieto was declared elected by acclamation as Vice President of the Board of Education of Zion-Benton Township High School District 126 for a two-year term.

President Nordstrom accepted nominations for the two-year term of Secretary of the Board of Education of Zion-Benton Township High School District 126. Member Nieto

nominated Member Roberts to be Secretary. After three requests for additional nominations without response, President Nordstrom closed the nominations for the office of Secretary. Member Roberts was declared elected by acclamation as Secretary of the Board of Education of Zion-Benton Township High School District 126 for a two-year term.

(**EXHIBIT “B”**, Board Officer Elections, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **ESTABLISHMENT OF TIMES AND PLACE OF REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS**

Following discussion, it was agreed that the Board would move its normal Thursday meeting dates to Tuesdays. A motion was made by Member White, seconded by Member Richards to approve the establishment of times and places of Regular Board Meetings as discussed. The specific needed motion was clarified to be that the Zion-Benton Twp. High School District 126 Regular Board Meetings for May 2019 through June 2020 be held in the south cafeteria of Zion-Benton Twp. High School on the fourth Tuesday of the month with the exception of November, December, and March when the meeting will be held on the third Tuesday of the month. Member White amended his motion, Member Richards seconded. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 7-0.

### **DESIGNATION OF BOARD REPRESENTATIVES AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

President Nordstrom suggested that the Board keep its current committee assignments, with Member Stephen fulfilling Member Karner’s assignments for the time being, and stated that he would reach out to Board members to seek their interest in committee assignments before finalizing assignments at the May Board meeting.

(**EXHIBIT “C”**, ZBTHS District 126 – School Board Standing Committees, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **DISTRICT 126 REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Member White, seconded by Member Leech to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 6-1 (Member Richards voted no). Included in the Consent Agenda are the following:

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 20, 2019.
- Minutes of the Special Meeting of March 28, 2019.
- Activity Report – March 2019, **EXHIBIT “D”**.
- School Treasurer’s Report – March 2019, **EXHIBIT “E”**.
- Bills Paid Report – March & April 2019, **EXHIBIT “F”**.
- Bills Payable Report – April 2019, **EXHIBIT “G”**.
- Revenue & Expenditure Report – March 2019, **EXHIBIT “H”**.
- NTAC Conference Approval, **EXHIBIT “I”**.

- FOIA Requests, **EXHIBIT “J”**.
- Contractor Payout Requests, **EXHIBIT “K”**.
- Disposal & Donation of Chromebooks, **EXHIBIT “L”**.

## **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Dr. Clark reported on the following:

- Calendar of Activities (**EXHIBIT “M”**, Calendar of Activities, is included and made a part of these minutes.)
- Senior Honors Banquet on Thursday, May 2, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. at Wedgewood Banquet Center. Dr. Clark thanked the Board Members for their donations and sponsorship of students for this banquet.
- Annual Board of Excellence Program on Tuesday, May 28, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. in the ZBTHS Lecture Hall.
- The next Regular Board of Education meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 28, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.
- The summer school dual credit pilot is moving forward in accordance with the strategic plan. In collaboration with the College of Lake County, District 126 will offer two dual high school and college credit classes this summer in Introduction to Sociology and Introduction to Criminology. The two courses are open to students from both campuses who meet CLC’s enrollment criteria.
- The Culture and Climate Committee is sponsoring another #SWARMITFORWARD community service project event. This year, participants will make seed balls with zinnia seeds (Zion’s official flower) that can be planted all over the community. The committee encourages all students, staff, and Board members to join them on Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup> from 2:45 p.m. until 3:45 p.m. for this community service project.

## **REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

### **2018 Tax Extension Report**

CSBO Liddle presented the 2018 Tax Extension Report. Highlights included the following:

- The extension is the outcome of the levy filed last December.
- The extension was limited by the 2017 CPI of 2.1%.
- The District’s EAV for calendar year 2018 increased by 4.89% to \$671,419,462. This is the third year of measurable growth out of the last ten, but is still less than the EAV 20 years ago.
- The EAV growth combined with the Board’s decision to abate \$1,835,424 in final extension has positively impacted the tax rate to be approximately .40 cents lower than last year.
- A breakdown of growth between existing homes and new construction is unavailable at this time, due to the new software program that was implemented at The Lake County Clerk’s Office. That information will be reported to the Board when it becomes available.

- The county has applied the \$1.8 million reduction/abatement to the District's levy, and the Illinois State Board of Education has received proof of that abatement by the required deadline for the Property Tax Relief Grant.

**EXHIBIT "N"**, EAV and Levy Extension, is included and made a part of these minutes.

### **Principals' Report**

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

Dr. Frusher reported on the following:

- Sixteen (16) new students were inducted into the National Honor Society on April 24, 2019, bringing total NHS membership to forty-one (41) students.
- NT@ZB participated in the State of Illinois and ZBTHS District 126 assessment day on April 9, 2019. Assessment procedures went very smooth and attendance rates were very good, exceeding the required 95% required participation rate.
- NT@ZB freshman students will be participating in a college visit day to Northeastern Illinois University on April 30, 2019, where they will tour the campus, meet with university representatives, and learn and visualize the college experience.
- Staff professional development time has been focusing on the areas of SAT prep; improving grades/failure rates; school safety updates, protocols, and procedures; and project based learning professional development.

**EXHIBIT "O"**, New Tech High @ Zion-Benton East Board of Education Report – Thursday, April 25, 2019, is included and made a part of these minutes.

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

Dr. Pawelczyk reported on the following:

- Last week ZBTHS hosted its annual Key Club Installation, National Honors Society Induction, and its first ever AP Parent/Student night.
- ZBTHS received a 2019 Support Music Merit Award presented by The NAMM (National Association of Music Merchants) Foundation as part of the Best Communities for Music Education program.
- Student attendance was good during SAT testing on April 9, 2019.
- The annual Healthy YOUth Safety Breakfast was held on April 18<sup>th</sup> where emergency responders from the community were invited to have breakfast with Health YOUth students.

- NJROTC closed out the year successfully with the rifle team earning a Bronze Medal at the 2019 JROTC All Service National Rifle Competition and the drill teams placing 16<sup>th</sup> in the Nation out of 600 teams at the Navy Nationals.
- Key Club students collected 75 units of blood during the annual blood drive on April 12, 2019.

Clarifications were provided on the following:

- SAT tests were mailed to SAT in two batches: one batch a few days after the April 9 assessment date and the second batch a few days after the makeup test.
- Dr. Pawelczyk will discuss with the administrative team ways to recognize students' good behavior during testing.

Dr. Clark thanked the principals for the time invested with students in preparation for them taking the SAT seriously.

**EXHIBIT "P"**, Zion-Benton Township High School Board of Education Report – Thursday, April 25, 2019, is included and made a part of these minutes.

### **SEDOL Update**

Member Leech reported that SEDOL worked on finalizing its budget in March.

### **RECESS**

No recess was taken.

### **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Business, Bid, Finance Report**

President Nordstrom reported that the Business, Bid, Finance Committee recently met and discussed several decisions related to technology, facility projects, transportation services with District 6, and installation of a new phone system. Many of the items discussed will be further explained by CSBO Liddle under New Business as action items.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Approval of Legal Fee Appropriation for Stranded Act Initiative**

Dr. Clark reported that the Board approved prorated share of the costs of 200 attorney hours in support of securing legislation for the STRANDED Act has been exhausted. The taxing bodies' attorney reports that the landscape for legislative approval has never been better and is encouraging one final "push" in support of it. A motion was made by Member White, seconded by Member Richards to

approve the appropriation of funds to cover up to an additional 100 hours of legal services and \$3,000 in travel expenses at District 126's prorated share in support of the joint taxing bodies' efforts to secure legislation to address stored nuclear waste and compensation for that storage. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 7-0. (**EXHIBIT "Q"**, Appropriation for Additional Shared Legal Costs, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **Approval of Bus Lease/Purchase and Activity Bus Leases for FY20**

CSBO Liddle reported that the District is seeking approval for trade-in and replacement of four large 71 passenger buses, and one small 26 passenger bus, with a lease/purchase agreement for four new 71 passenger buses and one small 29 passenger bus. The District would also renew two of the four one-year bus leases from last year and one spirit bus lease. A motion was made by Member White, seconded by Secretary Roberts to approve the 2019-20 bus leases as presented. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members voting 7-0. (**EXHIBIT "R"**, 2019-20 Bus Leases, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with District 6 for Transportation Services**

CSBO Liddle reported that the District 6 Board of Education approved the proposed three-year intergovernmental agreement for transportation services. CSBO requested approval of the agreement and authorization to execute the agreement on behalf of District 126. The agreement is substantially the same as prior agreements, with minor adjustments in rates and deadlines. A motion was made by Member White, seconded by Member Leech to approve the new Intergovernmental Agreement for Transportation Services dated March 28, 2019, between District 6 and District 126 for fiscal years 2020 through 2022 as presented, and authorize CSBO Liddle to execute the agreement on behalf of District 126. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 7-0. (**EXHIBIT "S"**, Intergovernmental Agreement with Zion Elementary School District 6 for Transportation Services, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **Authorize CSBO to Lease Vehicles for Driver Education for 2019-20 and Sale of 5 of 6 Driver Education Vehicles with Minimum Bids**

CSBO Liddle reported that Driver Education vehicles were last purchased during the summer of 2009. At the time, the District was unable to lease vehicles as leases were not available due to the recession. The District has been able to keep these vehicles in service for ten years; however, it is now time to replace them. A motion was made by Member White, seconded by Vice President Nieto to authorize the Administration to secure six new Driver's Education vehicles during the summer of 2019. The vehicles shall be secured through leasing, if possible. Further the Board authorizes the Administration to dispose of five of the existing Driver's Education cars at the end of this fiscal year, through a sealed

bid process. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 7-0. (**EXHIBIT “T”**, Drivers Education Vehicles, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

**Motion to Ratify Publication of Public Hearing Notice for the Purpose of Amending the 2018-19 Budget at the Regular June 25, 2019 Board of Education Meeting**

A motion was made by Member White, seconded by Member Stephen to ratify the publication of public hearing notice for the purpose of amending the 2018-19 Budget at the Regular June 25, 2019, Board of Education Meeting. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 7-0. (**EXHIBIT “U”**, Notice of Public Hearing, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

**Approval of Copier Replacement Purchases**

CSBO Liddle reported that the District purchased several copiers in 2011 that were anticipated to last for five years but have now been in service for eight years. A plan was reviewed with the Business, Bid, Finance Committee to replace six copiers, shift other copiers within departments, and to purchase three smaller copiers. The copiers would also be used to replace printers, which will be a more economical solution. A motion was made by Member White, seconded by Member Stephen to authorize the Administration to purchase six copiers from Techstar, as presented, for a total cost of \$96,850.11. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 7-0. (**EXHIBIT “V”**, District Copy Machines, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

**Approval of Transportation Department Software Purchase**

CSBO Liddle reported that the District needs to update its current transportation software to meet the needs of the Transportation Department. After reviewing with the Business, Bid, Finance Committee, CSBO Liddle recommended the Board approve the purchase of new Transfinder routing software for \$12,900, which includes all new maps, pay a one-time \$2,400 set-up and hosting fee, and pay an annual recurring maintenance fee of \$4,250. A motion was made by Member White, seconded by Member Stephen, to authorize the Administration to purchase TransFinder software for the District’s Transportation Department as presented. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 7-0. (**EXHIBIT “W”**, Transportation Software, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

**Approval of Purchase of New Phone System**

CSBO Liddle reported that the District’s current phone system was installed in the mid 2000s and was a used system at that time. Replacement parts are very difficult to secure. After researching, Ryan Faith, the District’s Technology Director, is recommending the District convert to a new VOIP 3CX system. Annual savings with this new system would be realized within one year. A

motion was made by Member Leech, seconded by Vice President Nieto to authorize the Administration to upgrade the District's phone system to a VOIP 3CX during the summer of 2019. Member Richards requested clarification on how phone service would be provided if the internet went down. CSBO Liddle clarified that redundancy has been built into the District's internet service by using two separate providers to ensure there will always be backup if one provider goes down. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 7-0. (**EXHIBIT "X"**, Direct Phone System, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **Approval of Security and Voice and Data Bids for Performing Arts Center**

CSBO Liddle reported that the District has rebid trade work for Voice and Data, Security Surveillance, and Security Access Control for the Performing Arts Center. The bids presented at this meeting more closely reflect the initial budget for these projects. A motion was made by Member White, seconded by Member Stephen to award the bid for the Voice and Data to the lowest bidder meeting the bid requirements, which was Pieper Electric for the bid amount of \$113,985; to award the bid for Security Surveillance to Applied Communications Group for the bid amount of \$17,114; and to award the bid for Security Access control to Krause Electric for the bid amount of \$12,170, for a total award amount of \$143,269. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 6-1 (Member Richards voted no). (**EXHIBIT "Y"**, Bid Award for Voice and Data/Security Surveillance/Security Access Control, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **Assignment of Security and Voice and Data Bids to Camosy Construction as Construction Manager**

CSBO Liddle reported that upon approval of the bids, the District needs to assign the bids to Camosy Construction as the District's construction manager for the Performing Arts Center project. A motion was made by Member Leech, seconded by Member White to assign the bids awarded for the Performing Arts Center trade work, as listed on the contractor report dated 04/25/2019, in the amount of \$143,269 to Camosy Construction as the District's construction manager for the Performing Arts Center project. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 6-1 (Member Richards voted no). (**EXHIBIT "Z"**, Performing Arts Center Bid Award Assignment, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Capital Projects Update**

CSBO Liddle reported on the following:

- The New Tech addition, ZBTHS addition, and demolition of Pearce Campus have been closed out this month.

- The awning that was damaged during the removal of the Pearce overpass has been replaced.
- Performing Arts Center has made great progress over the last month; however, several of the precast panels were built with the connection plates on the exterior instead of the interior of the building. The District's construction manager is requiring that the contractor replace all of the affected panels. The construction schedule has been adjusted and minimal delay is expected as a result.
- STR Architects and the District's construction manager have been working closely with the mechanical engineers and district staff on potential designs for the natatorium renovation project.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

A motion was made by Member White, seconded by Secretary Roberts to go into closed session at 7:59 p.m. for consideration of appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific personnel, and confidential student issues. (ILCS 120/c(c) (1,10)). Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 7-0.

### **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

A motion was made by Member White, seconded by Member Leech to return to open session at 8:23 p.m. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 7-0.

### **PERSONNEL APPROVALS**

A motion was made by Member White, seconded by Vice President Nieto to approve the personnel approvals as amended. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 7-0. Included in the amended personnel approvals were:

- Appointment:

Melchiorre, Kara (ZB Special Education Teacher),  
Norman, Linda (Head Fall Cheerleading Coach),  
Wall, Kevin (Assistant Golf Coach).

- Employment:

Carlson, Matthew (ZB Special Education Teacher),  
Carlson, Sara (ZAP Special Education Teacher),  
Cowart, Kelcy (Sophomore Fall and Winter Cheerleading Coach),  
Garrison, Haley (ZB Special Education Teacher),  
Garza, Cristo (ZB Social Science Teacher and Head Varsity Coach),  
Gibson, Lester (Bus Driver),

Kessel, John (Maintenance Technician),  
Lomibao, Jessica (ZB Science Teacher),  
Olivera, Normari (Bilingual Instructional Aide),  
Smith, Robert (ZB Special Education Teacher),  
Sullivan, Kayla (District Social Worker),  
Walton, Emmalisse (Bus Driver).

- Leaves of Absence:

McGovern, Jodie (School Psychologist),  
Schiappacasse, Tim (NT Social Science Teacher).

- Resignations:

Bonnivier, Matthew (Asst. Wrestling Coach),  
Gross, Whitney (School Social Worker),  
Macanowicz, Kaitlin (NTZB Interact Sponsor),  
Malinowski, Alexis (ZB English Teacher),  
Usher-Friar, Deondre (Bus Driver).

- Retirements:

Burton, Donita, (Bus Driver).

**EXHIBIT “A2”**, Monthly Personnel Report, is included and made a part of these minutes.

### **CONSIDERATION OF INTRA-DISTRICT TRANSFER REQUEST**

A motion was made by Member Leech, seconded by Member White to approve intra-district transfer request 2020-01. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 7-0.

### **APPROVAL OF MODIFICATION TO 2019-20 STAFFING RECOMMENDATIONS**

Dr. Clark reported that ongoing analysis of special education enrollment for the 2019-20 school year reveals a significant increase in the typical number of off campus special education students transitioning to ninth grade and an 81% increase in students who will be enrolled in the Transition Program (16 students to 29). A motion was made by Member Leech, seconded by Member Stephen to approve Dr. Clark’s recommendation to utilize Evidence Based Funding to modify the 2019-20 staffing plan to include the addition of one additional district wide psychologist. Motion was approved by a roll call vote of members present voting 7-0. (**EXHIBIT “B2”**, Modification to 2019-20 Staffing Recommendations, is included and made a part of these minutes.)

### **DISCUSSION**

Dr. Clark advised the Board that the May 28<sup>th</sup> Board of Education Excellence Awards will be the 25<sup>th</sup> annual program and that numerous people have received this award over the year. There was consensus that the Board would discontinue the annual program after this year and recognize people at regular Board meetings when appropriate in the future.

**ADJOURN**

A motion was made by Member White, seconded by Member Stephen to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m. Motion was approved by a voice vote of members present voting 7-0.

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JERRY NORDSTROM, President

ATTEST:

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GINA ROBERTS, Secretary

JN/GR/rw:MNApril2519OR