

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 64  
Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting held at 7:00 p.m.  
August 20, 2020  
VIRTUAL MEETING DUE TO COVID-19  
Alternate Remote Attendance at Emerson Middle School (Multipurpose Room)**

Board President Rick Biagi called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. All participants attended via remote participation unless otherwise noted. Other Board members in attendance via remote participation were Dr. Denise Pearl, Fred Sanchez, Rebecca Little, and Larry Ryles. Board member Tom Sotos was absent from the meeting. Superintendent Eric Olson attended in person in the Emerson School multipurpose room, along with Director of Student Services Dr. Lea Anne Frost and Board member Carol Sales. Also attending remotely were Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Joel T. Martin; Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning Dr. Lori Lopez; Chief School Business Official Luann Kolstad; Director of Facility Management Ronald DeGeorge; Director of Innovation and Instructional Technology Mary Jane Warden; Public Information Coordinator Peter Gill (attending but not participating); Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Natasha Nedeljkovic; and Board Legal Counsel Tony Loizzi. 3 members of the public were physically present at the alternate remote location and approximately 11 attended virtually.

Board of Education meetings are videotaped and may be viewed in their full length from the District's website at <http://www.d64.org>. The agenda and reports for this meeting are also available on the website or through the District 64 Educational Service Center, 164 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, IL 60068.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Board member Larry Ryles led the pledge.

**OPENING REMARKS FROM PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD**

President Biagi reminded everyone that it is prudent to hold the meetings remotely in light of the pandemic, and noted the alternate remote attendance location.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Public comments were invited through a posted email address on the District website and in the Board report. President Biagi reminded the public that there is a 3-minute time limit and comments should adhere to Board policy 2:230, respecting personnel and student privacy and respecting decorum. Dr. Olson also reminded the public that any emails received would be read out loud with the commenter's name. No public comments were received via email. Public comments were also welcomed at the alternate remote location and received as follows:

- Sarah Asson: District student, addressed the Board to voice her opinion on the need for more racial diversity awareness in the District and the need for a curriculum that would include learning about diversity.

- Megan Dalby-Jones: Lincoln Middle School parent, spoke up in support of the previous comment and to reiterate the need for more racial diversity and a supportive curriculum.
- Ryan Neumman: District 64 parent, echoed the comments and wanted to express his support in the need for more racial diversity and a curriculum reflecting it.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

No changes were made to the agenda.

**BOARD ADJOURNS FROM REGULAR MEETING AND CONVENES TO A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2020-21 BUDGET**

Board president Biagi asked for a motion to convene a hearing on the 2020-21 budget. Board member Pearl made the motion, which was seconded by Board member Sanchez.

The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Ryles, Sales, Little, Sanchez, Biagi, Pearl

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Sotos

The motion carried.

President Biagi noted this was a budget hearing conducted by the Board pursuant to Section 17-1 of the School Code. He stated that the Board approved the 2020-21 budget in tentative form on July 9, 2020 and made the tentative budget available for public inspection for more than 30 days prior to any final action. On July 16, 2020 notice of tonight’s public hearing and of the availability of the tentative budget for public inspection was published in the Chicago Tribune Pioneer News North. Notice of this hearing was also posted on the District’s website. President Biagi asked if the administration had any comments, Chief School Business (CSBO) Kolstad noted that there had been no significant changes to the budget since the Board reviewed it in its tentative form, and it would be brought to the Board for approval at the September 10 meeting.

The Board members had no comments and none were received from the public. President Biagi asked for any more comments or clarifications from the administration or Board but none were made or requested.

**BOARD ADJOURNS FROM PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2020-21 BUDGET AND RESUMES THE REGULAR MEETING**

Board member Little made a motion to adjourn the public hearing on the 2020-21 budget and return to regular session, which was seconded by Board member Pearl.

The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Ryles, Sanchez, Pearl, Biagi, Sales, Little

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Sotos

The motion carried.

A public comment was received after the hearing but the Board agreed to hear it. The public comment was received via email, as follows:

- Patrick Manieri: inquired about possible staff cuts, buildings remaining open and any refunds for the unused facilities or programs.

Dr. Olson explained that a lot of that would depend on the staff needs and whether we are in a remote or in-person format. CSBO Kolstad noted that student fees cover mainly curriculum and learning materials so a reduction was not recommended. Food service and bus fees are separate companies. In addition, custodians are working hard to keep buildings clean. President Biagi inquired about abating a portion of taxes, Mrs. Kolstad explained that Illinois had not changed its law so the following year would start lower and the loss of revenue would perpetuate for years to come.

### **2019-20 YEAR-END BUDGET RESULTS**

CSBO Kolstad stated that the District finished the 2019-20 budget year with a positive balance as revenues had exceeded expenditures by \$2.94 million. The Operating Fund Balance is about 6.23 percent lower due to the transfer of about \$6 million from both the Education Fund and the Operations and Maintenance Fund into the Capital Projects Fund. Kolstad also reported that local revenue was down by \$696,000, partly due to a loss of \$278,000 from the closing of the Worlds of Wonder summer program. State and federal revenue was up \$515,000. These are unaudited numbers; the audit is due in September. She said she was currently finalizing the 2020-21 budget.

### **2020-21 LEARNING PLAN UPDATE**

Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning, Dr. Lori Lopez, told the Board that the administration learned a lot from the spring and had worked hard to craft a better plan. She said the District had offered 73 workshops in 6 key areas for staff and had over 700 registrants. This professional development will continue during the upcoming Institute Days before the start of the school year. The focus is on planning how to support students while in remote format. She also stated that parents will be offered “parents universities” to help them and prepare them to support their students as well. She explained synchronous and asynchronous learning, shared an example of what a daily student schedule would look like, and took a moment to thank parents for the cooperation. Dr. Lea Anne Frost, Director of Student Services, noted that the same support was offered to teachers and parents of special education students. She said an FAQ had been created for all staff and parents to help navigate through the remote or in-person process. She stated that updates would be regularly provided to parents. Dr. Lopez stated that the District will continue to survey parents and students and will send out a survey after the first month to evaluate the remote learning process. The remote learning committee will reconvene to make adjustments as needed. Responding to a question from the Board, Dr. Martin confirmed that a cohort of substitute teachers had been identified and a professional development designed for them as well to prepare them for this year.

A late public comment was received via email after this item concluded. Dr. Lori Lopez agreed to respond via email to the questions. The public comment was received as follows:

- Karen Hein: inquired whether teachers would be holding Zoom sessions from classrooms or from home. She also inquired about breaks between classes in the middle school schedules, and lunch breaks.

#### **APPROVAL OF DONATION FROM HEWLETT PACKARD ENTERPRISE**

Director of Innovation and Instructional Technology, Mary Jane Warden, explained that the District had been approached by Hewlett Packard with this donation, as Aruba products are already used by the technology department. This donation and kit would allow the District to explore wireless use and reach outside of the school buildings. Warden responded to the Board members' questions. She explained that there is no obligation to purchase any of the products, but it will help inform future steps to expand wireless infrastructure to outdoor spaces. The District would not be locked into any commitment; this is simply a trial.

#### **ACTION ITEM 20-08-1**

It was moved by Board member Little and seconded by Board member Pearl that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, approve the donation from Hewlett Packard Enterprises of the Aruba Education Connectivity Kit in the total amount of \$4,238.50

The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Little, Biagi, Pearl, Sales, Sanchez, Ryles

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Sotos

The motion carried.

#### **FIRST READING OF POLICIES FROM PRESS ISSUE 104**

The policies were reviewed by the District policy committee and subsequently by the Board policy committee. No changes occurred to the policies as drafted or revised by PRESS during those meetings. Board secretary Carol Sales noted that policy 4:180 *Pandemic Preparedness; Management; and Recovery* required further review and discussion by the Board members. President Biagi noted that he and Dr. Olson believed that the policy, in case of emergency closings during a pandemic, does not require the Board to adopt the learning plan and that the Superintendent has full authority to make the decision *without* the Board's action. Board members discussed the policy and requested attorney Loizzi's opinion about the plan approval and adoption process, which would be provided at the next meeting. Board members Ryles, Sanchez, and Pearl concurred with President Biagi that the Board was not required to adopt the plan. Board members Sales and Little believed revised policy 4:180 and state law required the learning plan to be adopted by the Board. President Biagi was interested in obtaining Board member Sotos' opinion (who was absent).

**APPROVAL OF FIRST AMENDMENT TO SUPERINTENDENT’S EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT**

President Biagi stated that the Board met with and without Dr. Olson within the last months to discuss his evaluation. While little can be shared publicly about the process, Mr. Biagi noted that the Board had met its obligations to evaluate the Superintendent’s performance. He confirmed that the Board had agreed to grant Dr. Olson a 2.9% raise, and that they had discussed his goals for the year, which will be presented at an upcoming meeting.

ACTION ITEM 20-08-2

It was moved by Board member Sanchez and seconded by Board member Ryles that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, approve the first amendment to the Superintendent’s 2019-22 employment contract dated July 28, 2020 as attached hereto.

The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Sanchez, Little, Ryles, Sales, Biagi, Pearl

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Sotos

The motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDED PERSONNEL REPORT**

It was noted that the Board is relying upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and administration in their professional judgment as to the hiring of these individuals per Policy 2:130.

Alannah Baresky - Employ as .8 EL Teacher at Field and Washington Schools effective August 24, 2020 - BA+12, Step 1 - \$44,120.

Paige Dalton- Employ as Science and Social Studies Teacher at Lincoln School effective August 24, 2020 - BA, Step 1 - \$53,166.

Natalie Nuzzo - Employ as .65 Physical Education Teacher at Washington School effective August 24, 2020 - BA, Step 1 - \$34,557.90.

Molly Petray - Employ as .7 EL Teacher at Franklin Elementary School effective August 24, 2020 - BA, Step 1 - \$37,216.20.

Alexis Schumacher - Employ as C of C Teacher at Washington School effective August 24, 2020 - MA, Step 1 - \$61,151.

Ashley Stange - Employ as .5 Special Education and .5 Intervention Teacher at Franklin School effective August 24, 2020 - MA, Step 1 - \$61,151.

Jillian Coen - Change in Assignment from Office Associate at Lincoln School to Office Associate at Field School effective August 24, 2020 - \$18.26 hourly.

Julie Bartoski - Rehire as .9 Occupational Therapist for Jefferson and Washington Schools effective August 24 - \$70,240.50.

Aimee Bergeron - Rehire as .54 Foreign Language Teacher at Carpenter School effective August 24, 2020 - MA+12, Step 2 - \$35,169.87.

Jennifer Buti - Rehire as .91 Channels of Challenge and Intervention Teacher at Roosevelt School effective August 24, 2020 - MA, Step 17 - \$77,398.23.

Zachary Beyer - Rehire as .78 Physical Education Teacher at Field School effective August, 24, 2020 - BA, Step 3 - \$43,032.60.

Helen Gossel Pasley - Rehire as .5 C of C Teacher at Carpenter School effective August 24, 2020 - MA, Step 2 - \$30,575.50.

Richard Hobson - Rehire as .92 Foreign Language and ASC Teacher at Emerson and Lincoln Middle Schools effective August 24, 2020, MA, Step 7 - \$61,829.95.

Ilona Hutter - Rehire as .84 Instrumental Music and General Music Teacher for District and Carpenter School effective August 24, 2020 - MA+12 Step 2 - \$54,708.36 .

Roxanne Kieme - Rehire as .7 Instrumental Music Teacher for the District effective August 24, 2020 - MA, Step 2 - \$43,503.60

Colleen McCloskey - Rehire as .4 Occupational Therapist for the District effective August 24, 2020 - \$22,397.80

Cheryl McNally - Rehire as .6 Psychologist at Jefferson School effective August 24, 2020 - MA+24, Step 2 - \$40,865.40.

Marie Murphy - Rehire as .5 Kindergarten Teacher at Franklin School effective August 24, 2020 - BA, Step 2 - \$27,079.50.

Samantha Neumer - Rehire as .86 Health Teacher at Emerson School effective August 24, 2020 - BA - Step 4 - \$48,301.90.

Brandon Perl - Rehire as .72 Art Teacher at Emerson School effective August 24, 2020 - MA, Step 2 - \$44,746.56.

Sue Sirvinskas - Rehire as Office Associate at Lincoln School effective August 19, 2020 - \$20.62 hourly.

Lisa Trunek - Rehire as .5 EL Teacher at Washington School effective August 24, 2020 - MA, Step 1 - \$30,575.50.

Jamie Zimniok - Rehire as .6 Instrumental Music Teacher effective August 24, 2020 - MA, Step 16 - \$50,134.80

Selviye Dzolovic - Resign as Teaching Assistant at Field School effective August 20, 2020.

Casey Gibbons - Resign as Special Education Teacher at Lincoln School effective June 4, 2020.

Mary Granquist - Resign as Teaching Assistant at Field School effective August 17, 2020.

Sara Frank - Resign as Language Arts Teacher at Emerson School effective August 12, 2020.

Jennifer Sherman - Resign as Social Worker at Franklin School effective August 19, 2020.

Andrew Duerkop - Leave of absence request, personal - Teacher at Lincoln School effective 2020-21 school year.

Jennifer Fragale - Leave of absence request, personal - Teacher at Field School effective 2020-21 school year.

Matthew Keating - Leave of absence request, personal - Teacher at Emerson School effective 2020-21 school year.

Ron DeGeorge - Retire as Director of Facility Management effective January 5, 2021.

Rosemary Montejo - Retire as Teaching Assistant at Jefferson School effective August 18, 2020.

ACTION ITEM 20-08-3

It was moved by Board member Pearl and seconded by Board member Little that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, approve the Personnel Report, noting that the Personnel Report is based on the recommendation of the Superintendent and not upon the Board’s direct knowledge regarding any of the specific individuals selected for employment.

The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Little, Sanchez, Pearl, Ryles, Sales, Biagi

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Sotos

The motion carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- Bills, Payroll and Benefits

Bills

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Fund Total</u>
10 - Education Fund	\$ 1,737,884.59
20 - Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$ 256,942.78
30 - Debt Services	\$ -
40 - Transportation Fund	\$ 6.74
50 - Retirement (IMRF/SS/MEDICARE)	\$ -
60 - Capital Projects	\$ 1,397,169.14
61 - Capital Projects-2017 Debt Certificates	\$ -
80 - Tort Immunity Fund	\$ 198.00
90 - Fire Prevention and Safety Fund	\$ -
<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$ 3,392,201.25</u>

Payroll & Benefits

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Fund Total</u>
10 - Education Fund	\$ 1,974,510.55
20 - Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$ 532,572.32
30 - Debt Services Fund	\$ 25,718.10
40 - Transportation Fund	\$ 1,636.06
50 - IMRF/FICA Fund	\$ 40,457.35
51 - SS/Medicare	\$ 28,636.80

60 - Capital Projects Fund	\$ 1,627,562.99
61 - Cap Projects Fund - 2017 Debt Certs	\$ 0.00
80 - Tort Immunity Fund	\$ 313,677.50
	<u>Total: \$ 4,544,771.67</u>

The Accounts Payable detailed list can be viewed on the District 64 website's business services page at [www.d64.org](http://www.d64.org).

- Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement between the Governing Board of the Niles Township District for Special Education 807 and Park Ridge-Niles Community Consolidated School District 64 for the Provision of Certain Special Education Services
- Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement between the Governing Board of the Niles Township District for Special Education 807 and Park Ridge School District 64 for the Provision of Certain Staff
- Approval of Maine Township School treasurer depositories
- Destruction of Audio Closed Recordings (none)

ACTION ITEM 20-08-4

It was moved by Board member Pearl and seconded by Board member Sanchez that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, approve the Consent Agenda for August 20, 2020, which includes: Bills, Payroll and Benefits; Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement between the Governing Board of the Niles Township District for Special Education 807 and Park Ridge-Niles Community Consolidated School District 64 for the Provision of Certain Special Education Services; Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement between the Governing Board of the Niles Township District for Special Education 807 and Park Ridge School District 64 for the Provision of Certain Staff; approval of Maine Township School treasurer depositories; and the Destruction of Audio Closed Recordings (none).

The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Sales, Biagi, Sanchez, Pearl, Little, Ryles

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Sotos

The motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

ACTION ITEM 20-08-5

It was moved by Board member Sanchez and seconded by Board member Little that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, approve the minutes from the Closed Meeting on July 9, 2020; the Regular Meeting on July 9, 2020; and the Special Meeting on July 28, 2020.

The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Little, Ryles, Pearl, Sales, Sanchez, Biagi

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Sotos

The motion carried.

### **OTHER DISCUSSION AND ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

Dr. Olson took a moment to thank the Board for completing his evaluation and awarding him a raise, but also for their service especially during the pandemic and the difficult decisions. He took a moment to reflect on the July 28 special board meeting and presentation of the school reopening plan, noting that it could have been a town hall style meeting. President Biagi said that he had insisted on a Board meeting for transparency but agreed that it could have been a town hall meeting. The Board members discussed their opinions about the procedure for the July 28 meeting and provided suggestions for improvement. Board member Pearl suggested an online question and answer format in which the most popular questions were brought to the forefront. Board member Sales stated that a public meeting was necessary to the extent that three Board members would be discussing the reopening plan and that both a town hall meeting and a board meeting could have taken place. Dr. Olson also gave the Board an update on the ongoing enrollment process, stressing that this was a unique year and various changes were happening daily and rapidly. CSBO Kolstad explained that although some families had unenrolled, the District was very close to its enrollment projections. The year will begin with 121.5 sections at the elementary schools level and 61 sections in middle schools, but this could change at any moment. The administration would have more accurate information at the next meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Board secretary Sales suggested live-streaming the Board meeting even after the meetings return to an in-person format.

CSBO Kolstad responded to a question from Board member Ryles to confirm that the District was running its own food distribution out of Emerson Middle School, and was working with Quest to provide the free lunches and female sanitary supplies with pick up options a couple of days a week.

Board member Pearl requested to confirm that the District is focusing and understanding the pandemic's impact on the mental health of students and staff. Dr. Olson stressed that the social-emotional aspect was particularly important this year.

Board President Biagi inquired about the voting procedure for virtual meetings, in light of the discussion at the prior board meeting. Board attorney Loizzi confirmed that a roll call vote was required for all motions during virtual meetings.

Board member Pearl requested Board President Biagi to keep the board members apprised of his communications on behalf of the Board, similar to Dr. Olson's method of informing the board of such communications. Board President Biagi explained that he confers with Dr. Olson and requests Dr. Olson to

respond to such communications. Board President Biagi could not remember the last time that he responded to a communication himself because he wanted the messages to remain consistent.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:20 p.m. it was moved by Board member Ryles and seconded by Board member Sanchez to adjourn.

The votes were cast as follows:

AYES: Pearl, Little, Sanchez, Sales, Biagi, Ryles

NAYS: None

PRESENT: None

ABSENT: Sotos

The motion carried.

Signed Date: September 10, 2020.

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President

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Secretary