

**Board OF EDUCATION
COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 64
Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting held at 7 p.m.
September 21, 2023
Jefferson School - Hendee Rooms
8200 Greendale Ave, Niles, IL 60714**

Board president Pearl called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m. Other Board members in attendance were Phyllis Lubinski, Demetri Touzios, and Monica Milligan. Also attending were: Superintendent Dr. Ben Collins, Director of Student Services Alicia Schmeisser, Board legal counsel Jessica Nguyen. Board members Matthew Doubleday, Rachel Georgakis, Gareth Kennedy and were absent from the meeting at the start.

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's Office at 8182 W Greendale Ave, Niles, IL 60714.

BOARD RECESSES & ADJOURNS TO A CLOSED MEETING

At 5:40 p.m. it was moved by Board member Lubinski and seconded by Board member Touzios to recess from the regular Board meeting and adjourn to a closed meeting to discuss the following: the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors, or specific volunteers of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor, or a volunteer of the District or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)]; and the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10)].

The votes to adjourn to the closed meeting were cast as follows:

Ayes: Milligan, Pearl, Lubinski, Touzios

Nays: None

Present: None

Absent: Doubleday, Kennedy, Georgakis,

The motion carried.

Board member Georgakis joined the closed session of the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

BOARD ADJOURNS FROM THE CLOSED MEETING & RESUMES THE REGULAR MEETING

The Board adjourned the closed meeting and resumed the regular meeting at 7:11 p.m. Also joining the meeting were: Board Member Garreth Kennedy, Chief School Business Official (CSBO) Dr. Adam Parisi, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Dr. Joel T. Martin; Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning Dr. Samantha Alaimo; Director of Student Services Alicia Schmeisser; Director of Facility Management Noel Mendoza; Assistant Director of Facility Management Frank Borkowski, Director of Technology Matthew Tombs; Communications Specialist Christopher Lilly; Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Christine Bednarek; Franklin School Principal Kristin Williams and Franklin School Assistant Principal Margaret Burke. Approximately 10 members of the public were present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OPENING REMARKS FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

Dr. Pearl noted this is the first meeting since the start of the school year and that she heard from a current teacher, a retired teacher and a parent who recently transitioned to the district how it has been a great start to the year. She thanked everyone present for making that happen.

BOARD ADJOURNS FROM REGULAR MEETING & CONVENES TO A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2023-2024 BUDGET

AT 7:13 Dr. Parisi asked for a motion to convene to a public hearing on the budget. Board member Lubinski made the motion and member Pearl seconded. The motion was approved by all present. Dr. Parisi summarized the steps necessary to get to tonight's budget approval and cited the cash balances by fund as of June 30, 2023. He then asked for comments from the administration; none were received. Dr. Parisi then asked for comments from the board; none were received. He then asked for comments from the public; none were received.

BOARD ADJOURNS FROM PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2023-2024 BUDGET & RESUMES REGULAR MEETING

At 7:16 p.m. Dr. Parisi asked for a motion to adjourn the public hearing and resume the regular meeting. Board member Milligan made the motion, member Kennedy seconded the motion; the motion was approved by unanimous voice votes by all present.

SPOTLIGHT ON FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal Kristin Williams and Assistant Principal Margaret Burke along with three 5th grade students shared a presentation on what is happening at Franklin School. The focus this year for Franklin is finding joy in their journey for students, in the classroom, in the community and with each other. The purpose of the program is to build connections and belonging, set the tone for a respectful learning environment and increase engagement in the classroom community. The program includes professional development for teachers in creating a joyful classroom. There are community connections with Park Ridge Library, internally during morning meetings with collaboration across grades, and through PTA school events. Board members participated in an activity where they wrote down something about the district that brings them joy; they were then paired up with another participant to share their thoughts. Throughout the year all these moments of joy will be collected at morning meetings and other meetings so at the end of the year they can reflect on these joyful moments and how it has impacted their learning and growth and sense of community.

Board President Pearl stated we started off the year on a high note with Franklin School.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Ryan Maxwell from Silver Lining Chiropractic addressed the Board and thanked the Board members for their service. He addressed the board regarding the health and wellness of teachers and students in schools. He is interested in seeing how his office can help students in the District.

Michael Koch, a parent at Lincoln Middle School and Washington Elementary addressed the Board on the effects of Radon. He stated he wanted to get the message across that there is a need for testing in both private homes as well as in schools.

At 7:47 p.m. Board Member Kennedy joined the meeting via phone.

Board President Pearl at the suggestion of Board Member Kennedy moved the agenda item for the recommendation for school board members expense reimbursement amount ahead of the budget presentation.

RECOMMENDATION FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT AMOUNT

Superintendent Collins made a recommendation for a maximum allowable reimbursement amount of \$120 per day for meals and incidental expenses for Board members while attending conferences on behalf of the school district.

ACTION ITEM 23-09-5

It was moved by Board Member Milligan and seconded by Member Georgakis that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, approve a maximum allowable reimbursement amount per diem of \$120 for meals and incidental expenses for board members attending conferences on behalf of the school district.

The votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Touzios, Lubinski, Pearl, Milligan, Georgakis, Kennedy

Nays: None

Present: None

Absent: Doubleday

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION OF FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS

Chief School Business Official (CSBO) Dr. Adam Parisi presented the Board with four scenarios including: scenario one a true balanced budget including two million dollars for capital improvements; the second scenario keeps everything the same without charging Kindergarten tuition; scenario three keeps the kindergarten tuition off however increases the capital improvements to \$3 million the first three year and \$4 million the last two years; scenario four keeps kindergarten tuition in the budget using the same capital improvements amounts as scenario three.

Dr. Collins stated that we currently do not know what the future holds for the ability to continue charging Kindergarten tuition. He also asked Dr. Parisi when the TIF from uptown Park Ridge will end. Dr. Parisi stated that the Uptown TIF will end in 2027. Currently the EAV for the TIF is frozen. When the TIF ends those dollars will add to the total EAV of the district. As of right now we do receive payments from the City from this TIF.

President Pearl stated as other members suggested this is the start of conversations as to how things may need to change.

ADOPTION OF DISTRICT BUDGET FOR 2023-24

Chief School Business Official (CSBO) Dr. Adam Parisi stated the changes from the tentative budget presented last month were new staff hired since early August 2022 reflect actual salaries and benefits and fund budgets were more closely monitored and adjusted where necessary.

ACTION ITEM 23-09-1

It was moved by Board member Milligan and seconded by Board member Georgakis that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, adopt the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024, as presented.

The votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Touzios, Lubinski, Pearl, Milligan, Georgakis, Kennedy

Nays: None

Present: None

Absent: Doubleday

The motion carried.

RESOLUTION #1318 TO APPROVE A PUBLIC HEARING DIRECTING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM THE EDUCATION FUND TO THE OPERATIONS FUND AND THEN TO THE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND OF THE DISTRICT

Chief School Business Official (CSBO) Dr. Adam Parisi stated this is a procedural motion to move money to help fund capital projects which requires a public hearing be conducted prior to the transfer of funds.

ACTION ITEM 23-09-2

It was moved by Board member Milligan and seconded by Board member Georgakis that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, approve Resolution #1318 to conduct a public hearing directing the transfer of \$19,385,685 from the Education Fund to the Operations and Maintenance Fund and then to the Capital Projects Fund of the District.

The votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Touzios, Lubinski, Pearl, Milligan, Georgakis, Kennedy

Nays: None

Present: None

Absent: Doubleday

The motion carried.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT UPDATE

Dr. Samantha Alaimo, Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning, presented the student achievement data to the Board sharing a snapshot of K-8 student performance.

Dr. Alaimo shared that student performance indicators show a return to pre-pandemic levels for most assessment data and that, as a District, we continue to report high achievement data. Dr. Alaimo stated that this is a major celebration for us.

As a goal, our focus is on a higher rate of growth for all students while keeping achievement stable.

Dr. Alaimo gave a thoughtful explanation of how our growth may have gone down just a little bit at some grade levels, but our achievement numbers continue to stay high.

OPENING ENROLLMENT & STAFF REPORT

Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Dr. Joel T. Martin stated that enrollment was down which is not really a surprise however it is greater than projections. As of August 31, D64's enrollment is 4,465, a decrease of 45 students from the start of the 2022-2023 school year. He commended Dr. Parisi and the tech department for pushing registration efforts which helped with sectioning.

President Pearl asked if the district will use a demographer again. Dr. Martin stated that he thought there would be a time in the not so distant future that it would be a good idea to do it again. He also stated that the demographer was pretty accurate with his projections. Dr Collins added that the housing market being in such flux now also affects enrollment making it is hard to predict at the current time. Dr. Parisi also stated that the interest rates play a role as well.

APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDED PERSONNEL REPORT

Dr. Martin stated this should be the last of the large personnel reports and that it should be pretty straightforward from here on out

Stephanie Bell - Employ as .2 Social Worker at Franklin School effective August 31, 2023 - MA+24, Step 1 - \$13,930.19
Pauline Cabe - Employ as Science Teacher at Emerson School effective August 21, 2023 - MA, Step 1 - \$66,331

Angelica Calumet - Employ as Educational Support Professional at Lincoln School effective August 21, 2023 - \$19.77 hourly

Daniela Colosimo - Employ as .925 Special Education Teacher at Franklin School effective August 21, 2023 - MA, Step 1 - \$61,356

Francesco Cullotta - Employ as .46 Physical Education Teacher at Washington School effective August 21, 2023 - BA, Step 1 - \$26,527.74

Richard Drake - Employ as English Language Arts Teacher at Emerson School effective August 21, 2023 - MA, Step 1 - \$66,331

Erin Ellis - Employ as Social Worker at Emerson School effective August 28, 2023 - MA+36, Step 1 - \$75,025.95

Chloe Guerra - Employ as .69 Music Teacher at Carpenter and Franklin Schools effective August 21, 2023 - BA, Step 1 - \$39,792

Zonia Gutierrez - Employ as Night Custodian at Field School effective August 28, 2023 - \$19.60 hourly

Miranda Irizarry - Employ as Educational Support Professional at Lincoln School effective August 21, 2023 - \$19.77 hourly

Melissa Kabel - Employ as Special Education Teacher at Washington School effective August 21, 2023 - MA, Step 1 - \$66,331

Mary Kirpanos - Employ as .2 Channels of Challenge Teacher at Washington School effective August 21, 2023 - MA, Step 1 - \$13,266.20

Daniel Mulhall - Employ as Skilled Maintenance Worker effective September 5, 2023 - \$29.38 hourly

Lori Paxson - Employ as Social Worker at Emerson School effective August 28, 2023 - MA+48, Step 1 - \$81,316.22

Josephine Patras - Employ as Educational Support Professional at Roosevelt School effective September 11, 2023 - \$19.77 hourly

Mary Roberts - Employ as LRC Educational Support Professional at Lincoln School effective September 18, 2023 - \$19.77 hourly

Randi Skilling - Employ as Educational Support Professional at Franklin School effective August 21, 2023 - \$19.77 hourly

Roberta Stavrides - Employ as .5 Intervention Teacher at Franklin School effective August 21, 2023 - BA, Step 2 - \$29,373

Julian Douglass - Rehire as Educational Support Professional at Emerson School effective August 21, 2023 - \$20.83 hourly

James McDunn - Rehire as .89 Industrial Technology Teacher at Lincoln School effective August 21, 2023 - MA+48, Step 3 - \$76,317

Kristin Eiken - Rehire as .6 English Learners Teacher at Franklin School effective August 21, 2023 - MA+12, Step 2 - \$42,387

Teresa Gamble - Rehire as .5 School Psychologist at Jefferson School effective August 21, 2023 - MA+24, Step 8

Joshua Kriss - Rehire as .76 Physical Education Teacher at Lincoln and Roosevelt Schools effective August 21, 2023 - BA+24, Step 4 - \$58,706.10

Tim O'Brien - Rehire as Educational Support Professional at Roosevelt School effective August 21, 2023 - \$20.12 hourly

Sylvia Sagat - Rehire as Educational Support Professional at Emerson School effective August 23, 2023 - \$20.12 hourly

Kristie Welke - Rehire as .81 FACS Teacher at Emerson School effective August 21, 2023 - MA, Step 3 - \$55,493.91

Kellie Shutter - Request Leave of Absence, personal - Language Arts Teacher at Emerson Middle School for the 2023-24 school year

Joe Tsikretsis - Resign as Level IV Transportation Administrative Assistant effective September 29, 2023

Krista Weil - Retire as 2nd Grade Teacher at Washington School effective at the end of the 2025-26 school year

Jennifer Jaros - Terminate as Probationary Level IV Administrative Assistant at District Office effective September 21, 2023

ACTION ITEM 23-09-3

It was moved by Board member Milligan and seconded by Board member Kennedy that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, approve the Personnel Report dated September

21, 2023, 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: Kennedy, Georgakis, Milligan, Pearl, Lubinski, Touzios

Nays: None

Present: None

Absent: Doubleday

The motion carried.

PRESENTATION & APPROVAL OF SUPERINTENDENT GOALS

Superintendent Dr. Ben Collins presented a document with his goals for the year. In addition to the goals listed in his contract, Dr. Collins created some additional goals and shared them with the community. The key focus areas for the additional goals are: Learning district procedures, district and building personnel, and execute the entry plan; lead and execute major areas of the strategic plan; connect with the larger community

Member Lubinski stated the past few months have been a very different experience and thanked Dr. Collins for being in the role. President Pearl mentioned that she really likes the KPIs in the goals as it will help the board evaluate the Superintendent.

ACTION ITEM 23-09-4

It was moved by Board member Milligan and seconded by Board member Lubinski that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge-Niles, Illinois, approve the Superintendent Goals as presented tonight and agreed upon.

The votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Pearl, Milligan, Kennedy, Georgakis, Touzios, Lubinski

Nays: None

Present: None

Absent: Doubleday

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION ON BOARD PROTOCOLS

Board member Milligan stated there were two discussion points to get to alignment on and make changes for approval at the next meeting. First was protocol on how board members handle concerns from the community for things that are of concern to the board. Specifically on communication protocol norms. It was agreed that all board members will copy all members on a reply so everyone is aware of the concern. Discussion point two was alignment on protocols on closed session meetings. It was agreed to streamline the language and remove some language to accomplish that

APPROVAL TO ACCEPT, REVERSE OR AMEND THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DECISION REGARDING A UNIFORM GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE COMPLAINT FILED BY A TEACHER.

ACTION ITEM 23-09-6

It was moved by Board member Milligan and seconded by Board member Georgakis that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge-Niles, Illinois, [approve/reject/amend] the Superintendent's decision to deny the Uniform Grievance Procedure Complaint filed by a teacher.

The votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Touzios, Pearl, Milligan, Georgakis

Nays: None

Present: Kennedy, Lubinski

Absent: Doubleday

The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MEDIATION AGREEMENT WITH STUDENT 2023-2024 (1)

This agenda item was discussed in closed session and there was no action item on this topic at this time.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION DISMISSING AN EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL EMPLOYEE FOR REASONS OTHER THAN REDUCTION IN FORCE

ACTION ITEM 23-09-8

It was moved by Board member Milligan and seconded by Board member Pearl that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge-Niles, Illinois, adopt this formal Resolution authorizing the dismissal of an Educational Support Personnel employee for reasons other than reduction in force.

The votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Milligan, Georgakis, Lubinski, Touzios, Pearl

Nays: None

Present: Kennedy

Absent: Doubleday

The motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Bills

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Fund Total</u>
10 - Education Fund	\$1,871,055.56
20 - Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$345,356.07
30 - Debt Services	\$14,008.70
40 - Transportation Fund	\$156,063.80
60 - Capital Projects Fund	\$19,500.00
Total:	<u>\$2,405,984.13</u>

Payroll & Benefits (August)

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Fund Total</u>
10 - Education Fund	\$2,565,249.92
20 - Operations and Maintenance Fund	\$263,607.81
40 - Transportation Fund	\$1,750.16
50 - IMRF/FICA Fund	\$61,772.90
51 - SS/Medicare	\$77,001.90
80 - Tort Immunity Fund	\$ -
Total:	<u>\$2,969,382.69</u>

The Accounts Payable detailed list can be viewed on the District 64 website's business services page at www.d64.org.

- Bills, Payroll and Benefits
- Approval of Financial Update for the Period Ending July 31, 2023

- Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement between the Northwest Suburban Special Education Organization & Park Ridge-Niles Community Consolidated School District 64 for the Provision of Certain Special Education Services
- Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement between the Niles Township District for Special Education 807 & Park Ridge-Niles Community Consolidated School District 64 for the Provision of Certain Special Education Services and the Provision of Certain Staff
- Destruction of Audio Closed Recordings (none)

ACTION ITEM 23-09-9

It was moved by Board member Milligan and seconded by Board member Georgakis that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64, Park Ridge – Niles, Illinois, approve the Consent Agenda for September 21, 2023, which includes: bills, payroll & benefits; approval of financial update for the period ending July 31, 2023; approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with the Northwest Suburban Special Education Organization; approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with the Niles Township District for Special Education 807; and destruction of audio closed recordings (none).

The votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Pearl, Milligan, Georgakis, Kennedy, Touzios, Lubinski

Nays: None

Present: None

Absent: Doubleday

The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION ITEM 23-09-10

It was moved by Board member Milligan and seconded by Board member Lubinski that the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 64 Park Ridge-Niles, Illinois approve the minutes from the closed meeting on August 17, 2023; and the regular meeting on August 17, 2023.

The votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Touzios, Lubinski, Pearl, Milligan, Georgakis

Nays: None

Present: Kennedy

Absent: Doubleday

The motion carried.

OTHER DISCUSSIONS & ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Superintendent Collins thanked the district administrators as well as the staff on a great start to the school year. He also commended the PTO/A groups for the great back to school events for the students. He announced that the District will be bringing back the Parent University kicking off with a presentation by Dr. Justin Patchin about how to safely navigate social media and prevent the misuse of technology. The next board meeting will be held at Lincoln Middle school including a tour of Lincoln and hopefully Washington Elementary School to see what type of facility issues the District is facing which will help with prioritization of financial and facility plans. All FOIA requests have been processed and the Employment Information System report is available on the website. October is Principal appreciation month more to come on that.

NEW BUSINESS

Board member Lubinski informed the board of a new peer group for students dealing with grief or going through another difficult time. Funds were raised to help support the program. Any teachers/staff/community members that would like to

complete training they can contact Board member Lubinski. The group will meet for 12 weeks twice a month at two of the district schools. There are currently 36 students signed up to participate.

Dr. Pearl mentioned that she, Board members Milligan and Lubinski, Alicia Schmeisser and Michelle Barkley would all be present at community tent at the Farmer's Market over the weekend

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:32 p.m., it was moved by Board member Lubinski and seconded by Board member Touzios to adjourn the regular meeting. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Signed Date: October 19, 2023.

President

Secretary