

LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 204
 BOARD OF EDUCATION
 MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
 BOARD-CONFERENCE ROOM
 MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2018
 7:00 P.M.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

PRESENT

ABSENT

Mr. Thomas W. Cushing, President	<u>X</u>	_____
Mr. George R. Dougherty, Vice President (arrived 7:07 PM)	<u>X</u>	_____
Mr. Philip Palmer, Secretary	<u>X</u>	_____
Mrs. Molly Murphy Bruton	<u>X</u>	_____
Mrs. Jessica McLean	<u>X</u>	_____
Dr. John T. Polacek	<u>X</u>	_____
Ms. Barbara J. Rosinsky	<u>X</u>	_____
Ms. Natalie Pabijan (arrived 7:30 PM)	<u>X</u>	_____

STAFF PRESENT

Dr. Timothy Kilrea	Mr. Scott Eggerding	Mr. Edward Piotrowski	Mr. Brian Stachacz
Ms. Jennifer Bialobok	Mr. Joseph Maffey	Ms. Jessica Roessler	Mr. Ed Tennant
Ms. Lisa Dombro	Ms. Cynthia Murray	Ms. Katherine Smith	Dr. Brian Waterman

VISITORS PRESENT

Ms. Heather Alderman	Mr. Ricardo Martinez	Mr. Donald Stewart	Mr. Andy Taylor
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Other community members were also in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by President Thomas Cushing at 7:00 p.m.

ACTION NO. 1: Agenda Approval/Order of Business

Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Mr. Palmer, to approve the agenda as presented. By unanimous voice vote, the motion was adopted.

ACTION NO. 2: Adjournment into Closed Session

Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Mr. Palmer, to adjourn the meeting into Closed Session to discuss pending or probable litigation against, affecting or on behalf of the public body; collective negotiating matters or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; and the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee or legal counsel for the public body.

On roll call:

Ayes: Mr. Palmer, Mrs. McLean, Ms. Rosinsky, Dr. Polacek, Mrs. Bruton, Mr. Cushing
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Mr. Dougherty

The motion was adopted. At 7:01 p.m., Mr. Cushing adjourned the meeting into Closed Session.

At 7:32 p.m., the meeting reconvened in Open Session with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2018 PROPERTY TAX LEVY

At 7:33 p.m., Mr. Cushing opened the Public Hearing on the Lyons Township High School District 204 2018 Property Tax Levy and requested comments from the public.

ACTION NO. 3: Close Public Hearing

There being no comments from those in attendance, Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Mr. Palmer, to close the Public Hearing. By unanimous voice vote, the motion was adopted.

COMMUNICATIONS

Community member Donald Stewart addressed the Board regarding the issue of open swim. Mr. Stewart has regularly used the pool facilities for five or six years. Since December 2017, the open swim schedule for Sunday and Thursday has been erratic, and the website is not always updated. Mr. Stewart asked if the Sunday and Thursday swims could be restored and placed on a consistent schedule, noting the senior citizens in the community would appreciate it.

Community member Heather Alderman addressed the Board, thanking them for their public service and all they do for our children. Ms. Alderman expressed concern about the item on tonight's agenda regarding the substitution of AP US Government for the Civics requirement. Ms. Alderman stated her belief that the problems in our country from a civics standpoint require civic discourse and that Civics should be taught at a single level across our high school. Ms. Alderman urged the Board not to allow AP US Government to substitute for the Civics requirement.

Mr. Cushing thanked both community members for sharing their comments.

LTEA President Joseph Maffey noted that despite the anxiety of finals and last-minute revisions of grades, this time of year is one of his favorites as students had opportunities to shine at recent events such as the holiday Madrigal concert, Fanfares and Carols, and "Lend Me A Tenor." Winter sports teams are also hitting their stride. Additionally, it gives teachers an opportunity to see how much students have grown in the last four months and really appreciate what we have accomplished. Mr. Maffey concluded by wishing everyone happy holidays.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD REPORT

Student Representative Natalie Pabijan reported exemption forms are due tomorrow; hot chocolate Friday was enjoyed by the student body, especially caroling by staff and teachers; holiday movies are showing on the TVs during lunch periods; and December 4 was Fanfares and Carols at St. Cletus and Holiday Write Night at South Campus. Ms. Pabijan also noted that on December 6, band members visited and performed at middle schools as a way to encourage kids to continue music in high school. Student Council is collecting donations for Taylorville, Illinois, a town struck by a tornado on December 1. Counselors will be giving presentations on course selection in mid-January. In conclusion, Ms. Pabijan wished everyone happy holidays.

SUPERINTENDENT'S DISTRICT REPORT

Dr. Kilrea opened his report by expressing thanks and holiday wishes to the Board of Education from our Transition Team – students, teachers, and paraprofessionals – and passed out coffee from Transition Perks and dog treats made by the students at the Bone Appetit Bakery.

Dr. Kilrea noted that 278 seniors have been named Illinois State Scholars. The list of scholars was provided to the Board and is also posted on the District's website. Congratulations to the students and their families on this academic achievement.

Final exams begin this Wednesday and end Friday. Dr. Kilrea wished students good luck on their tests and also wished students and staff a restful winter break and a great holiday season. Staff will attend Institute Day on January 7, and students will return to school on January 8, 2019.

Dr. Kilrea noted two FOIA requests were received since the last Board meeting, one of which was rescinded.

On behalf of the staff, Dr. Kilrea wished the Board members a safe and happy holiday season.

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Cushing extended holiday wishes to the administrative team, faculty, and students.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ACTION NO. 4: Adoption of 2018 Property Tax Levy Resolution

Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Mrs. Bruton, to adopt the Resolution Levying Tax for the Year 2018, including all supporting materials.

On roll call:

Ayes: Mrs. Bruton, Mr. Palmer, Mrs. McLean Ms. Rosinsky, Dr. Polacek, Mr. Dougherty,
Mr. Cushing
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Stachacz reported no changes since the estimated property tax levy was approved in November. The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2018 are \$70,525,610. This represents a 3.56% increase over the previous year.

NEW BUSINESS

ACTION NO. 5: Resolution Authorizing a Supplemental Tax Levy to Pay the Principal of and Interest on Outstanding Limited Bonds of the District

Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Mrs. McLean, to approve the resolution authorizing a supplemental tax levy to pay the principal of and interest on outstanding limited bonds of Township High School District 204, Cook County, Illinois.

On roll call:

Ayes: Ms. Rosinsky, Mr. Dougherty, Dr. Polacek, Mr. Palmer, Mrs. McLean, Mrs. Bruton,
Mr. Cushing
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Stachacz stated the approval increases the bond and interest levy by 2.1% and allows for an additional \$50,116 to be added to the levy for Tax Year 2018.

ACTION NO. 6: Property Tax Relief Grant

Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Ms. Rosinsky, to approve the submission of the Property Tax Relief Grant application to the Illinois State Board of Education.

On roll call:

Ayes: Mrs. McLean, Mr. Dougherty, Dr. Polacek, Mrs. Bruton, Ms. Rosinsky, Mr. Palmer,
Mr. Cushing
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Stachacz explained with the new process for school funding, the State of Illinois has created a Property Tax Relief Grant, which would allow school districts to reduce their tax levy and receive a grant to replace some or all of the lost revenue in the tax levy. The State has allocated \$50 million in possible grants for the current year. District 204 is ranked 80th on the list, and we may not receive any

money. With the Board’s approval, we will submit the application so the District can be considered for a grant if money is available.

ACTION NO. 7: Resolution Authorizing Intervention in Proceedings before PTAB

Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Mr. Dougherty, to approve the Resolution Authorizing Intervention in Proceedings before PTAB as presented.

On roll call:

- Ayes: Mr. Palmer, Mrs. McLean, Mr. Dougherty, Dr. Polacek, Mrs. Bruton, Ms. Rosinsky, Mr. Cushing
- Nays: None
- Abstain: None
- Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Stachacz explained that Franczek Radelet P.C., the firm that represents the District in proceedings before the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board, has a conflict of interest with one of our cases. This revised resolution authorizes the Law Office of Kory Atkinson as an additional law firm to represent the District in at least one current PTAB case.

Mr. Palmer thanked Mr. Stachacz for all of his work in preparing for the recent Finance Committee meetings.

Revised/Updated District Policies – 1st Reading

The Board was presented with a first reading of policy updates recommended by the Illinois Association of School Boards. Two policies include minor revisions that include updates to legal references and terminology. Twelve policies were reviewed by the District’s legal counsel. Mr. Piotrowski highlighted some of these policy changes. Policy 2:260, Uniform Grievance Procedure, has been revised as part of ISBE’s compliance review for vocational cooperatives conducted earlier this school year. Policy 5:20, Workplace Harassment Prohibited, has been revised and includes the adoption of a mandatory resolution prohibiting sexual harassment. Mr. Piotrowski noted other changes, including updates of contact information for District personnel. These policies will be brought to the Board for a second reading in January, along with a first reading of additional policy updates which the District recently received.

ACTION NO. 8: Approval of AP US Government to Substitute for Civics Graduation Requirement

Mrs. Bruton moved, seconded by Dr. Polacek, to approve AP US Government as a substitute for the Civics graduation requirement beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.

On roll call:

Ayes: Dr. Polacek, Ms. Rosinsky, Mr. Palmer, Mrs. Bruton, Mr. Cushing
Nays: Mrs. McLean, Mr. Dougherty
Abstain: None
Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Eggerding provided some background information on the option to offer AP US Government as a substitute for Civics. Mr. Eggerding noted that the state has allowed schools to incorporate civics into existing courses, and 51 high schools in the Chicago area currently offer this option. Mr. Eggerding stated as part of the curriculum mapping process we will continue to review course offerings and recommend courses that can be offered at either campus to allow students more choices, whether AP or not. Mr. Eggerding believes the AP US Government change would be a step in the right direction in providing students flexibility in their schedules. Discussions ensued regarding (1) benefits of making the change, (2) concerns about course rigor, (3) the value of the shared experience, and (4) timelines for implementation.

School Board Calendar for January 2019

The Board scheduled upcoming committee meeting dates for the month of January.

ACTION NO. 9: Approval of Consent Agenda

Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Mrs. McLean, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

On roll call:

Ayes: Dr. Polacek, Mrs. McLean, Ms. Rosinsky, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Dougherty, Mrs. Bruton,
Mr. Cushing
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

LTHS Monthly Financials

Approval of Lyons Township High School monthly bills in the amount of \$6,211,251.89

Approval of Lyons Township High School financial statements for the month ending November 30, 2018

LADSE Financials

Approval of LaGrange Area Department of Special Education (LADSE) monthly bills in the amount of \$1,990,611.24

Approval of LaGrange Area Department of Special Education (LADSE) financial statements for the month ending November 30, 2018

Human Resources

LTHS Administrative and Certified Staff Employment Recommendations

Employment

Christopher Bourjaily, Global Studies, 0.4 FTE, effective January 7, 2019 (MA-1)

Luke Jansen, Global studies, 0.4 F TE, effective January 7, 2019 (BA-1)

Leaves of Absence

Stacy Ambrozich, Mathematics, effective January 7, 2019 through April 9, 2019

Emily Fellmann, World Languages, effective September 17, 2018 through December 14, 2018

Gretchen Jochum, Physical Education, effective March 20, 2019 through May 31, 2019

Brian Keller, Science, effective January 7, 2019 through February 11, 2019

Kathryn Oetting, Student Services, effective March 9, 2019 through May 31, 2019

Request for Part-Time Assignment

James Milkert, Global Studies, from 1.0 FTE assignment to 0.8 FTE assignment, effective January 7, 2019

LTHS Buildings and Grounds, Classified/Non-Contractual, and ParaEducator Staff Employment Recommendations

Employment

Heidi Quinn, Part-Time Bookstore Clerk, effective December 18, 2018; hourly rate \$15.50

Kristen Sisto, ParaEducator, effective January 8, 2019; hourly rate \$15.07

Resignations

Sara Hillyard, ParaEducator, effective November 23, 2018

Luisa Hughes, ParaEducator, effective December 21, 2018

William Schulenberg, ParaEducator, effective December 7, 2018

Termination

Michele Buonicore, Student Assistant, effective November 20, 2018

LADSE Staff Employment Recommendations

Employment

Temicka Clay, 1.0 Paraprofessional, effective November 28, 2018; hourly rate \$14.71

Christina Thomas, 1.0 Paraprofessional, effective November 28, 2018; hourly rate \$14.71

Kathryn Preedin, 1.0 Paraprofessional, effective November 28, 2018; hourly rate \$14.71

Andres Mosquera; 1.0 Paraprofessional, effective November 28, 2018; hourly rate \$13.33

Heather Davis, 1.0 Paraprofessional, effective November 28, 2018; hourly rate \$14.71

Tina Griffin, 1.0 Paraprofessional, effective December 12, 2018; hourly rate \$14.35

Karissa Bustos, 1.0 Paraprofessional, effective December 18, 2018; hourly rate \$13.33

Retirement

Kerrin Tom, 1.0 Speech Language Pathologist, effective end of 2022-23 school year

Resignation

Christina Thomas, 1.0 Paraprofessional, effective December 7, 2018

Leaves of Absence

Anna Jezyk, 0.8 School Psychologist, effective approximately May 1, 2019

Minutes

Regular Meeting – November 19, 2018 – Open and Closed Sessions
Negotiations Committee – December 4, 2018 and December 12, 2018
Facilities Committee – December 12, 2018
Finance Committee – December 12, 2018
Curriculum Committee – December 13, 2018

Overnight Student Travel

Model UN: Notre Dame MUN, South Bend, IN, February 2019
Latin Club: Illinois Junior Classical League Convention, Itasca, IL, February 2019
Model UN: Illinois XXIV Conference, Urbana-Champaign, IL, March 2019
Business Professionals of America: BPA National Leadership Conference, Anaheim, CA,
April/May 2019

Donation to Science Department: Telescopes

ACTION NO. 10: Adjournment

Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Mr. Palmer, to adjourn the meeting. By unanimous voice vote, the motion was adopted and the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

President:

Secretary: