

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING & WORKSHOP
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
LAKE FOREST SCHOOL DISTRICT 67
LFHS WEST CAMPUS, 300 S. WAUKEGAN RD, LAKE FOREST, IL 60045
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Lake Forest School District 67, County of Lake, State of Illinois was held on Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at Lake Forest High School West Campus, and called to order at 5:16 p.m. by Ms. Helms.

Board members present at roll call were:

Mark Remus, Member
Megan Engelberg, Member
Alice LeVert, Vice President
Anne Helms, President

Emily Bernahl, Secretary
Carl Kirar, Member
Monica Yaun, Member

Absent: None

Administration Present:

Matthew Montgomery, Superintendent
Jeff McHugh, Deputy Superintendent
Melissa Oakley, Chief Communications Officer
Charles Walsh, Director of Safety & Security

Staff Present: Tiana Adams, Board Clerk

Guests: None

Adjourn to Executive Session:

Motion: Mrs. LeVert moved, seconded by Mrs. Bernahl that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, adjourn to Executive Session at 5:17 p.m. to discuss matters related to the appointment, employment, compensation, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony or a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) and security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property; 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8).

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Bernahl, Kirar, Engelberg, LeVert, Yaun, Helms, Remus

Nays:

Absent:

The motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn from Executive Session:

Motion: Mr. Kirar moved, seconded by Mrs. LeVert that the Board of Education of City of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, adjourn Executive Session at 6:45 p.m.

On voice vote, motion carried.

Re-Open Meeting:

Ms. Helms called back to order the regular meeting of the Lake Forest School District 67 Board of Education, Lake Forest, Illinois at 6:47 p.m. Ms. Helms turned the meeting over to Vice-President LeVert.

Board members present at roll call were:

Anne Helms, President

Mark Remus, Member

Emily Bernahl, Secretary

Monica Yaun, Member

Alice LeVert, Vice President

Carl Kirar, Member

Megan Engelberg, Member

Absent: None

Administration Present:

Matthew Montgomery, Superintendent

Jeff McHugh, Deputy Superintendent

Melissa Oakley, Chief Communications Officer

Staff Present: Tiana Adams, Board Clerk

Whitney Draegert, Director of Business Services

Phil Georgia, Director of Human Resources

Jenny Sterpin, Director of Special Education

JoAnn Ford-Halvorsen, Director of Student Services

Michelle Shinn, Director of School Improvement

Sam Paulsen, Deer Path Middle School 7-8 Principal

Susan Milsk, Sheridan Elementary School Principal

Renee Fitzsimmons, Everett Principal

Guests: None

Workshop

Board Retreat Discussion

Ms. Helms spoke on an upcoming Board Retreat that will take place in a separate special meeting to determine how the Board wants to move forward with goals and objectives.

Student Discipline

Dr. McHugh discussed the purpose of the presentation is to educate the Board on how student discipline happens in the District. Parents have been questioning how discipline works as well. Members of the District 67 Leadership Team provided an overview of the Foundations Continuum of Behavior Support, along with common community questions. Members of the Board asked questions and a discussion ensued. A full presentation will be given later in the meeting tonight.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Board and members of the community stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

School Spotlight

Susan Milsk provided an update on the Early Childhood Education program at Sheridan Elementary School, Community of Learners. The Board thanked Mrs. Milsk for her hardwork in growing the program over the past five years.

President's Report

President Helms discussed some of the recent activities taking place within the District such as the 100th Day of School. She touched on the three key areas of focus for the Board which are student outcomes, community engagement, and strategic plan progress. The Board is grateful for the support of the community.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Montgomery's report consisted of the following topics: Mandarin Plans, Strategic Plan Update, Administrative Staffing Update, Superintendent's Advisory Council, Winter Joint Board Community Coffee, Newcomers Club School Update, LF/LB Realtor Breakfast, Let's Talk AI, Community Book Talk, and Student Shadow Day at DPM.

Dr. McHugh provided an update on the Strategic Plan. Currently in the process of developing action steps at the building level that align to the metrics. One of the biggest lifts has been the implementation of Amplify, there is a campaign to reduce chronic absenteeism, and ongoing data meetings to monitor progress and inform instruction and interventions.

Pending Board Approval at the March meeting, the following changes will be made to the Administrative Team effective July 1, 2024: Phil Georgia, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources; Renee Fitzsimmons, Assistant Superintendent Teaching, Learning, and Accountability; Megan Eigenrauch, Principal Everett Elementary School; and Dr. Michelle Shinn, Principal Deer Path Middle School 5-6.

Due to an emergency tornado watch at 7:34 p.m., the District 67 Board of Education meeting was moved to the lower level of the building to ensure the safety of all in attendance. The meeting agenda was shifted to accommodate this change.

Action Items:

Approval of Formative Psychological Services for Counseling Services and Psychological Evaluations at Cherokee Elementary

Motion: Ms. Engelberg moved, seconded by Mrs. Bernahl that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, approve the Formative Psychological Services for Counseling Services and Psychological Evaluations at Cherokee Elementary.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Yaun, Kirar, Engelberg, Bernahl, Remus, LeVert, Helms

Nays:

Absent:

The motion carried unanimously.

Acceptance of 2022-2023 Financial Audit

Motion: Mr. Kirar moved, seconded by Ms. Engelberg that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, accept the 2022-2023 Financial Audit.

Brief explanation provided Mrs. Draegert and Mr. Kirar; discussion ensued.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Helms, Remus, Bernahl, Yaun, LeVert, Kirar, Engelberg

Nays:

Absent:

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of 2024-2025 Student Fees

Motion: Mr. Remus moved, seconded by Mrs. Bernahl that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, approve the 2024-2025 Student Fees.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Engelberg, Helms, LeVert, Remus, Kirar, Yaun, Bernahl

Nays:

Absent:

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval to Waive the First Reading of PRESS Issue 113

Motion: Mrs. LeVert moved, seconded by Mr. Remus, that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, approve the waiving of the First Reading of PRESS Issue 113.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Kirar, Bernahl, Remus, Yaun, LeVert, Helms, Engelberg

Nays:

Absent:

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of PRESS Issue 113 - Second Reading

Motion: Mr. Kirar moved, seconded by Mrs. Bernahl, that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, approve the Second Reading of PRESS Issue 113.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: LeVert, Helms, Yaun, Kirar, Engelberg, Remus, Bernahl

Nays:

Absent:

The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Any item may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of a Board Member.

1. Approval of Disbursements, Payrolls, and Financial Statements, Oct|Nov|Dec 2023
2. Approval of Human Resources Report

- Hires
 - Termination
 - Resignations
 - Retirements
 - Changes of Assignment
 - Leaves of Absence
 - Stipends/Activities/Athletics/Test Prep Assignments
3. Minutes of a Tax Levy Hearing December 12, 2023
 4. Minutes of an Executive Session, December 12, 2023
 5. Minutes of a Regular Meeting and Workshop, December 12, 2023
 6. Minutes of a Special Meeting, December 13, 2023

Motion: Mr. Remus moved, seconded by Ms. Yaun, that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, approve the Consent Agenda items, as presented.

Votes were taken by roll call. Votes were cast as follows:

Ayes: Yaun, Kirar, Helms, Bernahl, Remus, LeVert, Engelberg

Nays:

Absent:

The motion carried unanimously.

Committee and Liaison Reports

Reports are linked to the meeting agenda that is posted on the District's website.

Public Participation

A District 67 parent recommended a gun safety storage resolution be passed by the Board similar to peer districts.

A parent from Cherokee Elementary discussed the Mandarin program offering and requested more information be provided to families so they can know the benefits and availability to students.

A parent from Cherokee Elementary expressed disappointment that the Mandarin program may be cut since they moved to the area based on the curriculum offering.

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA):

Christopher Cortese | 1 of 1 | Completed

Alexandra Hulvalchick | 1 of 1 | Completed

Frank McCormick | 3 of 4 | Completed

IRTA | 1 of 1 | Completed

Alfredo Lozano-National Hispanic Institute | 1 of 1 | Completed

Illinois Policy Research | 1 of 1 | In Progress

Jim Tait | 1 of 1 | Completed

Parents Care | 1 of 1 | In Progress

Samir Vhidra | 1 of 1 | In Progress

Jeff Brincat | 2 of 3 | Completed

Jacqueline Ponzetti | 1 of 1 | Completed

Christy Walker | 1 of 1 | In Progress

**FOIA Requests will not be made available on the website until completed*

Announcements:

Thursday, February 29, 2024

Education Committee Meeting
LFHS West Campus - 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 7, 2024

Finance and Operations Meeting
LFHS West Campus - 7:30 a.m.

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Board of Education Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
LFHS West Campus Board Room

Adjournment:

Motion: Mr. Kirar moved, seconded by Ms. Engelberg, that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, adjourn the regular meeting.

On voice vote, motion carried.

The regular meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Anne Helms, President Date

Emily Bernahl, Secretary Date