

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
CITY OF LAKE FOREST SCHOOL DISTRICT 67
JANUARY 25, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the City of Lake Forest School District 67, County of Lake, State of Illinois was held on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at Lake Forest High School West Campus, and called to order at 6:47 p.m. by Mr. Engelland.

Board members present at roll call were:

Suzanne Sands, Vice President	Carl Kirar, Member
Justin Engelland, President	Emily Bernahl, Member
Alice LeVert, Secretary	Richard Chun, Member
Anne Geraghty Helms, Member	

Absent: None

Administration Present:

Dr. Matthew Montgomery, Superintendent
Ms. Rebecca Jenkins, Deputy Superintendent
Dr. Jennifer Hermes, Chief Operating Officer/CSBO
Mrs. Melissa Oakley, Chief Communications Officer

Also Present: Mr. Michael Sanchez, Business Services Coordinator
Ms. Tiana Adams, Board Clerk

Guests: None

Adjourn to Executive Session:

Motion: Mrs. Sands moved, seconded by Mrs. LeVert that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, adjourn to Executive Session at 6:47 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.

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

Ayes: Kirar, Sands, Engelland, Chun, Helms, LeVert, Bernahl
Nays:
Absent:

The motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn Executive Session:

Motion: Mrs. Bernahl moved, seconded by Ms. Helms that the Board of Education of City of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest Illinois, adjourn Executive Session at 7:29 p.m.

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

Ayes: Chun, Engelland, LeVert, Kirar, Bernahl, Sands, Helms

Nays:

Absent:

The motion carried unanimously.

Re-Open Special Meeting:

Mr. Engelland called back to order the regular meeting of the Lake Forest School District 67 Board of Education, Lake Forest, Illinois at 7:36 p.m.

Board members present at roll call were:

Anne Geraghty Helms, Member
Alice LeVert, Secretary
Justin Engelland, President
Suzanne Sands, Vice President

Emily Bernahl, Member
Carl Kirar, Member
Richard Chun, Member

Absent: None

Administration Present:

Dr. Matthew Montgomery, Superintendent
Ms. Rebecca Jenkins, Deputy Superintendent
Dr. Jennifer Hermes, Chief Operating Officer/CSBO
Mrs. Melissa Oakley, Chief Communications Officer

Also Present: Ms. Tiana Adams, Board Clerk

Guests:

Pledge of Allegiance

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

President's Report:

Mr. Engelland thanked everyone who joined the meeting in person and virtually. He thanked the teachers, principals, building and grounds staff, and administrators for their efforts and commitment to being "All-in, everyday" for the Lake Forest students. The last few weeks have made this especially challenging, as the staff has had to be nimble and creative to support classes and school activities. He is impressed by the dedication and teamwork; as well as grateful.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Montgomery discussed COVID-19 updates, reading and math reviews, Portrait of a Graduate, District 115 Facilities Master Plan Community Forum, and school spotlights.

Regarding COVID-19 updates, he shared local COVID-19 incidence rate data and in-building metrics including numbers of quarantines and confirmed cases. He discussed the lawsuit, *Austin v. Pritzker* which was brought by a group of Illinois parents against approximately 150 school districts including Districts 67 and 115. The lawsuit questioned COVID-19 mask mandate and a possible temporary restraining order nullifying the mask mandate. The ruling is expected as soon as Friday, January 28.

Dr. Montgomery discussed curriculum reviews, following the year end assessment report, administration took a closer look at the data and curriculum. Based on that, there are two major curriculum reviews underway with a focus on K-8 Reading and grades 6-8 math. There will be a four phase approach. Phase 1: Research, Phase 2: Develop, Phase 3: Implement, and Phase 4: Evaluate. From now until May, Dr. Jeff McHugh, Director of Teaching and Learning, along with Denise Glatsianos, Literacy Coach; will be working with staff to ensure the most current best practices are being used. Administration is also working with the Regional Office of Education to examine data to help conduct a needs assessment. During the school year 2022-2023, a transition to Phase 2 will take place. This phase will examine resources, schedules, curriculum calendars assessments and professional learning needs. Math review is in Phase 2 led by Dr. McHugh and Becky Saxena, Math Coach in coordination with the D67 Math Committee and the DPM math department. Math teachers will pilot materials in February and March, these resources are an improvement over current resources. A recommendation will be brought to the board in April.

Dr. Montgomery provided an update on the Portrait of a Graduate design team that is intended to reflect the many different kinds of stakeholders that comprise our Lake Forest, Lake Bluff, and Knollwood communities. Over 100 community members, parents, and stakeholders applied to be a part of the design team and there is excitement in the community among staff and students. The final design team roster will be shared on the website this Friday. The first meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 3.

The Facilities Master Plan is a road map for future facilities improvements at the Lake Forest High School. Dr. Montgomery thanked members of the community who currently serve on the Facilities Master Plan Oversight Committee. Members of the Lake Forest, Lake Bluff, and Knollwood communities are invited to a presentation about the evolution of the Lake Forest High School Facilities Master Plan on March 1, guided tours will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Beginning in February, there will be a new opportunity for board members to hear from the students and staff about what is happening in each building. The first school to be featured will be Deerpath Middle School.

Dr. Montgomery congratulated the DPM Spellers from Grades 5-8.

Public Participation:

There was no public participation.

Board Committees:

Education Committee - Suzanne Sands, Carl Kirar, Anne Geraghty Helms

Mrs. Sands, committee chair, reported that the committee would meet on February 3 at noon at West Campus.

Board Finance and Operations Committee – Alice LeVert, Richard Chun, Carl Kirar

Mrs. LeVert, committee chair, reported that the committee had not met yet.

Board Policy Committee – Richard Chun, Emily Bernahl, Anne Geraghty Helms

Mr. Chun, committee chair, reported that the committee would meet on February 7.

Liaison Reports:

True North Education Cooperative 804 - Suzanne Sands

Mrs. Sands reported the cooperative has moved into its pre-forecasting meeting stage of the year, where they meet with administrative leaders from each district to determine which services or spots are needed and this is how the budget building process begins. After meeting with the districts, True North hosted an innovative showcase for the first time to share the type of services that will be offered in response to the needs of the districts. She further discussed some of the other work happening at TrueNorth such as facility planning work and cyber security which led to significant recommendations that would have some financial implications moving forwards. Mrs. Sands recommended that the three articles attached to her report be read. The next meeting is scheduled for February 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Legislative Liaison – Carl Kirar

Mr. Kirar reported on Ed-Red's current lobbying efforts and provided an update on IASB's current legislative items. Ed-Red has been successful in pushing a veto on House Bill 2778 which is COVID school employee benefit and wage protection. Another bill that is coming will require school districts to implement a plan for instructional services and or special accommodations for students who suffer from trauma related to experiencing the death of a family member by suicide or homicide. D115 has approved the state legislative priorities but D67 reviewed them and will approve in an upcoming meeting.

Spirit of 67 - Richard Chun

Mr. Chun reported that the Spirit of 67 is excited about the promise of 2022. He is thrilled to report that Cherokee and Everett had exceeded their annual school year goal of 80 family participation in donations. DPM has exceeded their annual goal of 70 family participation. By achieving these goals, the schools earned discretionary funds to support the Spirit's needs. Sheridan just needed a handful of families to donate to reach their goal. Mr. Chun thanked the families that contributed. A new event is being kicked off in February, Spirit is Sweet on Students, is an online auction where students can bid for a special experience with teachers,

administrators, or school events. During these events there will also be open house opportunities for parents. He reminded everyone that the deadline for grant applications is January 27.

Executive APT – Emily Bernahl

Mrs. Bernahl reported that the APT has a lot of upcoming events and activities. The first is a visiting author series, February 1 - 3. She thanked the Spirit of 67 for funding the opportunity to have the author event. The second event is a motivational entertainer, Tom Coverly, an illusionist. He is to present his anti-bullying program destroying illusions to DPM students. The third event is for Valentine's Day. During the first weeks of February, students would be able to make valentine cards for residents at local nursing homes, city hall, police department, fire department, and other local community organizations. The fourth event is a district wide EPT program with Dr. Erin Lenart, LFHS Principal. She would be meeting with the D67 community to talk about tips for transitioning to high school. This is an opportunity to welcome Dr. Lenart and to get to know her. The final event is the Fine Arts Programming Quiz Show, it is a game show style assembly that allows students from DPM to show what they know. Mrs. Bernahl thanked students, staff, and community for continued dedication, special thanks to nurses. Next meeting to be held February 9 at West Campus.

Action Items:

Approval of DPM Chiller Replacement

Motion: Mrs. Sands moved, seconded by Mr. Kirar, that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, approve the DPM Chiller Replacement.

A member of the board requested a full report of the facilities work needed, similar to the report that was completed for the high school.

An update will be coming with top ten recommendations from the administrative team for facility updates.

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

Ayes: Bernahl, Engelland, LeVert, Chun, Sands, Helms, Kirar

Nays:

Absent:

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Human Resources Items

Motion: Mrs. LeVert moved, seconded by Ms. Helms, that the Board of Education of Lake Forest School District 67, Lake Forest, Illinois, approve the Human Resources Items, as presented.

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

Ayes: Kirar, Helms, LeVert, Chun, Sands, Engelland, 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.

Minutes of a Joint Special Meeting, December 14, 2021

Minutes of an Executive Session, December 14, 2021

Minutes of a Regular Meeting, December 14, 2021

Motion: Mrs. Sands moved, seconded by Mrs. LeVert, 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: Engelland, Bernahl, Chun, Helms, Kirar, Sands, LeVert

Nays:

Absent:

The motion carried unanimously.

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA):

Genesis Technologies, Status Complete

Steven Goldman, Status Complete

Andrew Vitt, Status Complete

Joe Severino, Status Complete

Jonathan Fagg, WLS-TV, Status Complete

Public Participation:

Colleen Gustafson discussed the board's mission statement that she discovered on the website. She requested that students and parents be able to advocate for themselves in making decisions.

Ryan Martin discussed an email he sent the board. He requested that the board and administration act proactively in communications to allow parents the ability to act on changes that may be taking place and to communicate the changes to their children. He further discussed the pending lawsuit and mask mandates.

Paul Markov discussed the mitigation measures that have been implemented and how well they work for reducing the spread of COVID-19.

Shayna Fullerton discussed her expertise as a film maker for documentaries, on immersive sscre. She recommended that the documentaries she has completed be watched.

Jay Connelly discussed that strongly recommending a mask be worn is the same as enforcing it because the students will wear it out of respect to their instructors request.

Announcements:

Monday, February 21, 2022

No School - President's Day

Tuesday, February 22, 2022

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

Adjournment:

Motion: Ms. Helms moved, seconded by Mrs. LeVert, 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 8:26 p.m.

Justin Engelland, President Date

Alice LeVert, Secretary Date