

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 28
HELD TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, District 28, Cook County, Illinois, was held in the Northbrook Junior High small gym in said district and streamed on the district's YouTube Channel on Tuesday evening, June 22, 2021.

President Tracy Katz Muhl called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. with the following members present at roll call:

DeShawn Arms
Matt Cassidy
Jennifer Gallinson
Shweta Jinkala
Mara Silver-Schack
Tracy Katz Muhl

Absent: Michelle Kohler

Also present were Dr. Larry Hewitt, Superintendent; Dr. Kris Raitzer, Assistant Superintendent; Jessica Donato, Chief School Business Official; Dr. Kelly Sculles, Director of Student Services; Michelle Jackson, Director of Learning; Terry Ryan, Communications Director; Ramsin Israel, District Computer Technician; Dimitri Vassilopoulos, Technology Support Staff; Ginny Hiltz, Greenbriar Principal; Megan Dames, Greenbriar Social Worker; Lisa Wernli, Canines 4 Comfort co-founder; Chris Olson, co-founder and head trainer; Lisa Crowley, Krieger's raiser; Krieger, the therapy dog; and John Gillard, district parent.

VISITORS COMMENTS

A District 28 parent shared concerns regarding the districts recently adopted Diversity, Equity and Inclusion statement.

PRESENTATIONS

(Greenbriar Canines 4 Comfort)

Dr. Ginny Hiltz, Greenbriar principal, introduced Krieger, the school's therapy dog, and the leaders of Canines 4 Comfort, the organization that was responsible for training him and placing him at the school. Lisa Wernli, Chris Olsen, and Lisa Crowley spoke about the mission of the organization, while Dr. Hiltz and Megan Dames discussed the positive impact Krieger has made at school. This is the first school therapy dog that the organization has placed, and it has since received several requests from other schools for therapy dogs.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Public Comment Response)

In response to public comment, Dr. Hewitt stated that the district's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion statement is intended to provide a continuous improvement mindset. Everything in the statement is for the benefit of students and it complements the district's strategic plan.

(Board Calendar, Enrollment Report and Community Health Metrics)

The Board reviewed scheduled topics and reports for upcoming board meetings. The enrollment report was accepted as presented. Dr. Hewitt presented the current health metrics as reported on the Northfield Township COVID-19 Elementary School Public Health Dashboard. It was noted that the number of cases and infection rate are the lowest they have been since data collection started.

(Strategic Plan End-of-Year Update)

Dr. Hewitt summarized this past year's work in the 2020-21 Strategic Plan Year-End Report, which documents strategic actions around five goal areas: student growth and achievement; learning environment; work environment; family and community connections; and resources. This year's plan was heavily focused on health and safety mitigation strategies, expanded use of technology, implementation of the new math curriculum, and preparing for remote learning. A member suggested that in future reports it would be helpful to separate which actions were "completed" and which were "well underway."

(2021-22 School Year Update)

Dr. Hewitt noted that all districts are in a holding pattern until the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Illinois State Board of Education release updated guidance for the next school year.

The district is considering logistics and costs of implementing a voluntary weekly saliva testing program for unvaccinated students that would eliminate quarantine requirements for participants. With a weekly testing program in place, only close contacts who are experiencing symptoms or test positive would be required to quarantine, according to state guidelines. An update will be provided in July.

(Ratification of New Staff, 2021-22)

It was moved by Member Silver-Schack and seconded by Member Cassidy that the Board of Education approve the following contract for employment for the 2021-22 school year, subject to the provisions of the Board policy pertaining to pension contributions, at the respective step and cash salary and TRS contribution (collectively known as "Salary"):

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>STEP AND LANE</u>
Mikayla C. Wandersee	WM	Occupational Therapist	M+30-02, \$60,349.00

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Silver-Schack, Cassidy, Arms, Gallinson, Jinkala and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Absent: Member Kohler.
Abstain: none. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Member Arms and seconded by Member Silver-Schack that the Board of Education approve the Regular Meeting minutes of May 25, 2021, and Closed Session Minutes of May 25, 2021, since members had each previously been sent copies.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Arms, Silver-Schack, Jinkala, Cassidy, Gallinson, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Absent: Member Kohler. Abstain: none. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

It was moved by Member Gallinson and seconded by Member Cassidy that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda:

(Payroll – last half of May 2021 and first half of June 2021)

the payment of employee salaries for the last half of May 2021, in the amount of \$1,247,672.74 and covered by check numbers 65432 through 65457, and deduction check numbers 65458 through 65475, inclusive, as outlined in detail on the Payroll Summary, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District Board of Education, and dated June 22, 2021;

the payment of employee salaries for the first half of June 2021, in the amount of \$1,251,107.18 and covered by check numbers 65476 through 65506, and deduction check numbers 65507 through 65515, inclusive, as outlined in detail on the Payroll Summary, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District Board of Education, and dated June 22, 2021;

(Bills)

vendor invoices totaling \$525,869.64 and Warrants listed as Numbers 56740 through 56925, confirmed by the signatures of the President and Secretary of the School District 28 Board of Education, and dated June 22, 2021.

(Personnel Report: Contract Changes, Employment of Staff, Leaves, Resignations and Dismissals)

Contract Changes

Kasey C. Ockerlund	GB	Special Ed. Teacher From Step B+12-08, \$60,362.00 to Step M+00-08, \$67,693.00.
Terese M. Rick	MB	First Grade Teacher From M+00-11, \$74,094.00 prorated to 53%, \$39,047.53, to Step M+12-11, \$75, 848.00 prorated to 53% \$39,971.89.

Re-Hires

Jennifer M. Remias	WM	EL Teacher Step B+24-11, \$66,723.
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Resignations

Mary Porcaro	GB	Kindergarten Teacher
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(Pupil Transportation Hazardous Area Resolution)

Directing the Pupil Transportation Reimbursement Division of the Illinois State Board of Education to continue with the approved eligibility of the students residing less than 1-½ miles from school and living in a previously approved vehicular hazardous area for the 2021-22 school year.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Northbrook School District No. 28, County of Cook, State of Illinois has determined that a serious safety hazard exists for certain children attending Greenbriar, Meadowbrook and Westmoor Elementary Schools and Northbrook Junior High School; and

WHEREAS, the serious safety hazardous areas identified by the Board of Education have been approved by the Illinois Department of Transportation with the following locations and sequential numbers; and

- Greenbriar Elementary: 28-94-01
- Meadowbrook Elementary: 28-85-01
- Meadowbrook Elementary: 28-81-04
- Meadowbrook Elementary: 28-81-03
- Greenbriar Elementary: 28-81-02
- Westmoor Elementary: 28-81-01
- Meadowbrook Elementary: 28-80-04
- Northbrook Junior High: 28-80-03

Greenbriar Elementary: 28-80-02
Westmoor Elementary: 28-80-01
Greenbriar Elementary: 28-04-01

WHEREAS, the serious safety hazardous conditions and the school children detailed in the aforementioned Serious Safety Hazard Findings have remained unchanged.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of School District #28, County of Cook, State of Illinois, that application be made to the State of Illinois for transportation reimbursement for the children transported in connection with the aforementioned.

(Workers Compensation Insurance Renewal)

It was moved by Member Gallinson and seconded by Member Cassidy that the Board approve the renewal of worker's compensation insurance coverage with Accident Fund Insurance of America for the period July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Gallinson, Cassidy, Arms, Silver-Schack, Jinkala, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Absent: Member Kohler. Abstain: none. Motion carried.

FINANCE
(Financial Report)

The Board of Education received copies of the District 28 Financial Report for the period ending May 31, 2021. Chief School Business Official Jessica Donato presented the financial report including monthly financials, food service sales, transportation cost increase, and local state and federal requirements. She noted that the Finance Committee will meet in July to review the tentative fiscal year 2022 budget. The transportation cost increase stems from an increase in bus routes due to the inability to pair junior high and elementary schools routes. The base contract also increases 3%.

It was moved by Member Silver-Schack and seconded by Member Jinkala that the Board approve the District 28 Financial Report for the period ending May 31, 2021.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Silver-Schack, Jinkala, Cassidy, Arms, Gallinson, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Absent: Member Kohler. Abstain: none. Motion carried.

(Resolution Authorizing Membership in the Illinois Energy Consortium - Action Item)

The Illinois Energy Consortium, which is an Illinois not-for-profit joint energy purchasing consortium sponsored by three Illinois education associations, is Illinois' largest electric and natural gas pool. The district already purchases electricity from this consortium.

It was moved by Member Gallinson and seconded by Member Silver-Schack that the Board approve the Resolution Authorizing Membership in the Illinois Energy Consortium, as presented.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Gallinson, Silver-Schack, Jinkala, Cassidy, Arms, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Absent: Member Kohler. Abstain: none. Motion carried.

BUILDINGS and GROUNDS

(Change Order 1 – Adler Roofing)

Dr. Hewitt noted that all summer projects are on schedule. Some work will not start until after summer school is over. There is a change order for work related to the Greenbriar roofing project which is being completed by J.L. Adler Roofing and Sheet Metal, Inc. The change order results in a savings of \$51,980 for the total contract amount of \$457,720.

It was moved by Member Cassidy and seconded by Member Silver-Schack that the Board accept the Change Order from J.L. Adler Roofing and Sheet Metal, Inc., for a deduction of \$51,980.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Cassidy, Silver-Schack, Jinkala, Arms, Gallinson, and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Absent: Member Kohler, Abstain: none. Motion carried.

LEGISLATION

(Legislative Update)

President Katz Muhl highlighted items of the past state legislative session, noting that the Asian-American History Act passed.

COMMUNICATION

Communications Director Terry Ryan recapped the month's activities, including the annual project of updating all student and staff handbooks and publishing the bi-annual district newsletter mailer.

NSSSED (True North Educational Cooperative 804)

The NSSSED Board Briefs for June was presented as information. Member Silver-Schack noted that beginning July 1, the new name for the cooperative is True North Educational Cooperative 804.

STANDING COMMITTEES

(SAF)

The SAF minutes of the May 19, 2021 meeting were presented as information.

NEW BUSINESS

President Katz Muhl noted that the next step in the superintendent search process is to hold a special meeting to interview executive search firms. Communication will be sent to members to set a date in July.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:50 p.m. it was moved by Member Arms and seconded by Member Jinkala that the Board go into Closed Session to discuss the following:

1. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees or of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity as authorized by 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1); and
2. Student disciplinary cases as authorized by 5ILCS 120/2 (c)(9).

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Arms, Jinkala, Cassidy, Gallinson, Silver-Schack and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Absent: Member Kohler. Abstain: none. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:11 p.m., it was moved by Member Silver-Schack and seconded by Member Cassidy that the meeting be adjourned.

On a roll call vote, the following voted Aye: Members Silver-Schack, Cassidy, Arms, Gallinson, Jinkala and Katz Muhl. Nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: Member Kohler. Motion carried.

Jennifer Gallinson, Secretary

Tracy Katz Muhl, President