

July 17, 2013

A special meeting of the Board of Education of the Oak Park and River Forest High School was held on Wednesday, July 17, 2013 in the Board Room of the high school. President Phelan called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. A roll call indicated the following members were present: Thomas F. Cofsky, Dr. Steven Gevinson, Dr. Ralph H. Lee, Dr. Jackie Moore, Sharon Patchak-Layman, John Phelan and Jeff Weissglass. Also in attendance was Steven T. Isoye, Superintendent; Also, present were Dr. Isoye, Superintendent; Tod Altenburg, Chief Financial Officer; Michael Carioscio, Chief Information Officer; Dr. Tina Halliman, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services; Amy Hill, Director of Assessment and Research; Philip M. Prale, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Karin Sullivan, Director of Communications and Community Relations; and Gail Kalmerton, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board of Education and FOIA Officer.

Visitors: Jeffrey Cohn, Illinois Association of School Boards Field Representative

Visitor Comments None

Closed Session At 6:15 p.m., Mr. Phelan moved to enter closed session for the purpose of discussing self-evaluation, practices and procedures, or professional ethics, when meeting with a representative of a statewide association of which the District is a member. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(16); seconded by Dr. Lee.

Ms. Patchak-Layman noted that the Board of Education may go into closed session under Section 2(c) 16 for the purpose as stated, but as she had reviewed the agenda for closed session and she believed that many of the topics listed did not fall under the criteria required by law but rather under Board of Education policies. She felt any discussion that would review and interpret policy should be held in public. She enumerated several policies that would be discussed Policy 2:10, School District Governance; Policy 2:20, Powers and Duties of the Board of Education; Policy 2:10 School District Governance; Policy 2:240, Board Policy Development; Policy 2:130, Board-Superintendent Relationship; Policy 8:10, Connection with the Community; and Policy 2:280, Board Member Oath and Conduct. Mr. Phelan noted that the Board of Education could site reasons for closed session without reading the closed session agenda and concluded Ms. Patchak-Layman's readings of policies that could relate to the closed session agenda.

Mr. Cohn noted that it was the Board of Education's decision as to whether the self-evaluation should be held in open or closed session, but that the Board of Education would not be changing or amending policy: it would be commenting and reflecting to improve practices and procedures. The Board of Education had a legal right to have this discussion in closed session. Ms. Patchak-Layman argued that because the administration was included, the closed session exemption would not be met. Mr. Cohen continued that what would occur in this meeting was in the context of establishing communication expectations as to the Board of Education's process and procedures and discussing the elements of trust connected to this work. The Open Meetings Act allows for this discussion.

A roll call vote resulted in six ayes and one nay. Ms. Patchak-Layman voted nay. Motion carried.

At 9:36 p.m., the Board of Education resumed open session.

Adjournment

At 9:37 p.m., Mr. Cofsky moved to adjourn the Special Board meeting; seconded by Dr. Moore. A voice vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

John Phelan
President

Jackie Moore
Secretary