

December 14, 2006

A special meeting of the Board of Education of the Oak Park and River Forest High School was held on Thursday, December 14, 2006, in the Board Room of the high school.

**Call to Order**

President Greenwald called the meeting to order at 9:19 a.m. The following members were present: Valerie J. Fisher, Dr. Barry S. Greenwald, Dr. Dietra D. Millard, Yasmin A. Ranney and John P. Rigas. Also present were: Susan J. Bridge, Superintendent/Principal; Jason Edgecombe, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Cheryl L. Witham, Chief Financial Officer; Jack Lanenga, Assistant Superintendent for Operations; Philip M. Prale, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Amy Hill, Director of Instruction; and Gail Kalmerton, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board of Education.

**Closed Session**

Mr. Rigas moved to enter closed session at 9:20 a.m. on Thursday, December 14, 2006, for the purpose of discussing student disciplinary cases 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10); the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2); Collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2); Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular District has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the District finds that an action is probably or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11); seconded by Ms. Fernandez. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

The Board of Education resumed its open session at 10:15 a.m.

**Visitors**

Kay Foran, Director of Community Relations and Communications, James Paul Hunter, F.S.E.C. Chair; Amy Hill, Director of Instruction; Dr. Connie Collins, Superintendent of District 97; Gail Krantz, Director of Public Relations of District 97, and Ralph Lee, Community Member.

**Visitor Comments**

None

**Approval of Student Discipline**

Ms. Ranney moved to expel student EXP 12/14/06-19, as of December 14, 2006, for the remainder of the 2006-07 school year, But to hold the expulsion in abeyance contingent upon completion of enrollment and regular attendance at an alternative school for the remainder of the 2006-07 school year, ongoing counseling, and verification and maintenance of residency in the District; seconded by Mr. Rigas. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Mr. Conway, Ms. Fernandez and Dr. Millard were not present for this vote.

**District 97 Strategic Plan**

Dr. Collins reported that District 97 is excited about embarking upon a strategic plan journey. The process started when twenty-eight people over three days came together and created the initial components of the plan. This is the first strategic plan that will have been instituted in seventeen (17). Many things in the community have changed in that time span, the makeup of the community, the teaching staff, finances, etc.

Dr. Collins reported that she and Ms. Krantz spent five intensive ten-hour days working with representatives from other school districts to learn how to be facilitators.

retreat in November. developed mission, beliefs, objectives, parameters and strategies.

Mission statement

the educational prism through which students realize meaning and purpose in their lives is to guarantee that each student achieves optimal intellectual growth while developing socially, emotionally, and physically, through a system distinguished by exemplary instruction focused on each student, commitment to the needs.....

Get the PowerPoint .

objectives; Parameters:

Strategies to achieve mission with action plans and they will need the assistance from the community and why taking this presentation on the road.

Next steps:

Ms. Krantz shared the next steps:

yesterday met with Rotary, Park Districts, the League, Village Board, communicating plan internally with administrative council, PTO council, copies of the draft plan and here on the website, along with action team member volunteer forms. We need to move from where we are to where we want to be and the action teams will help us get there. For 3 weeks we have been soliciting action team volunteers, 60 people and 7 strategies, 10 people teams and would like 15 per team. Meeting in January 17 first meeting and then will meet about 30 hours over four months to detail action plans and they then will go back to steering committee to make sure the action plans are true to the mission. Then administration team will work toward implementation. Action team has the distinction opportunity to ... do not have to be expert in the field. hoping to bring different areas on to those teams so that we can do our work without any flaws, wouldn't be needed as a strategy.

Finance  
Staff development  
communication  
instruction

will become experts through team research.  
cost analysis will be part of it.

hoping for district 200 input.

get notice to 200 parents about this opportunity and particularly for 200 staff who have expertise but not so locked into old ideas so that can explore other ideas.

huge undertaking and the first criticism is that it could be impossible. So if we dream it is impossible, it will be. Strategic team was encouraged to be in an ideal state thinking. Send ....

Dr. Greenwald Linked to website of 97 and link that. Have you talked with David Pope about community report card, interface, he will have an education component for that and may be some dovetailing. Waiting for Village board schedule and want this to be a community wide approach and conversation regarding the work to be done. Dr. Greenwald: very soon we may be involved in a similar strategic plan and any opportunity to dovetail with 97 in seamless articulation. Collins: concurred and look forward to it.

The strategies are broad, but the effort behind that was very board and have those notes that will be able to share with the action team. They asked in community, parent and student surveys to lists strengths and weaknesses and then put weaknesses on board and talked about them. every piece of information

Ms. Ranney: congratulated Gail & Connie about this plan and Dr. Bridge and others participated in this it was very worthwhile and support their .

team leaders will self select and have been. If not, then make those selections based on their facilitation skills. Do have a training for the team leaders, January 11, 8 to 12 and get full benefit of Dr. Cook's expertise. has done more than 1100 strategic plans. thanked for Dr. Bridge's participation.

Mr. Rigas hoped that faculty who live in the village to help in this process.

**Closed Session**

Mr. Rigas moved to enter closed session at 10:35 a.m. on Thursday, December 14, 2006, for the purpose of discussing student disciplinary cases 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10); the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2); seconded by Ms. Fernandez. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

The Board of Education resumed its open session at 11:03 a.m.

**Adjournment**

Ms. Ranney moved to adjourn the Special Board Meeting at 11:05 a.m. on Thursday, December 14, 2006; seconded by Ms. Fisher. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

Barbara P. Fernandez  
Secretary