

August 24, 2006

The Board meeting of the Board of Education of the Oak Park and River Forest High School was held on Thursday evening, August 24, 2006 in the Board Room of the high school.

Call to Order

President Dr. Barry S. Greenwald called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m. The following members were present: Jacques A. Conway; Barbara P. Fernandez (arrived at 7:48 p.m.), Valerie J. Fisher, Dr. Barry S. Greenwald, Dr. Dietra D. Millard, Yasmin A. Ranney, and John P. Rigas. Also present were: Dr. Susan J. Bridge, Superintendent/Principal; Jason Edgecombe, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Jack Lanenga, Assistant Superintendent of Operations; Philip M. Prale, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Amy Hill, Director of Instruction; James Paul Hunter, Faculty Senate Executive Committee Chair; Loie Davis, Student Council Board Liaison; and Gail Kalmerton, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board.

Visitors

The Board of Education welcomed the following visitors: Lori Cerceo, O.P.R.F.H.S. Supervisor of Finance; Terry Burke, Meg Reynolds, Pat Nassano and her daughter, Catherine, Wyanetta Johnson, Meg Reynolds, Edyth Rodriquez, Richard Miller, and Burcy Hines, community members; Kimberly Werner of S.E.A., Barbara Nelson, P.T.O.; Donna Cotton Cornelius, A.P.P.L.E.; Deborah Kadin of the *Chicago Tribune*; Terry Dean of the *Wednesday Journal*; and Christopher LaFortune of the *Oak Leaves*.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Bridge announced that Gloria Ladson-Billings had been selected as Minority Student Achievement Network's (M.S.A.N.) interim executive director. M.S.A.N. is now headquartered in Madison, Wisconsin and it has an official collaboration with the University of Wisconsin.

Dr. Bridge presented the Board of Education with the five-year-summary report on O.P.R.F.H.S.'s ACT test scores. The report shows that O.P.R.F.H.S.'s composite scores and each score in the content area are up considerably. Ms. Ranney was informed that more than 95 percent of the juniors take this test.

Dr. Bridge reported that senior Charles M. Muller is one of the only twenty-five (25) Illinois students, out of approximately

thirty thousand (30,000), who took the ACT last April and achieved the highest possible composite score.

Dr. Bridge announced that O.P.R.F.H.S. has twenty-one National Merit Semi-Finalists this year, versus last year's 17.

Dr. Bridge expressed her gratitude to the Villages of Oak Park and River Forest for once again supporting the School's Resource Officers' Program. Mr. Conway applauded Dr. Bridge's insight in starting this program.

Visitor Comments Dr. Greenwald welcomed visitor comments and asked the speakers to observe a three-minute limit.

Kimberly Werner, parent and resident of 125 N. Taylor Avenue, Oak Park, addressed the Board of Education as the representative of Supported Education Association (S.E.A.) of Oak Park and River Forest.

Ms. Werner's purpose was to provide some updates regarding S.E.A.'s activities relating to District 200. They were:

- 1) SEA representatives have met with Special Education staff on a monthly basis for the last three years. The high school staff believes the greatest accomplishment of these meetings has been the willingness to continue to meet and communicate. While willing to continue to do that, it also hopes that the meetings this year will be focused on specific issues and identifiable outcomes. SEA wants to report to the Board of Education on those outcomes.
- 2) SEA's program plan for this year is called the Year of the IEP. Its monthly meetings will be used to educate parents about various aspects of the IEP process because a District 200 staff member said the school needs more parents who are familiar with the regulations and willing, and able to take the necessary steps to assure that their student's education meets standards. District 200 staff members are welcome to attend the monthly meetings.
- 3) SEA has heard the perception that the I.S.B.E. holds District 200 to a different and higher standard than other districts and this was greatly concerning. While the community and the school often chooses to hold

themselves to a higher standard, SEA did not believe that it would be appropriate to have the state expect a higher standard. In order to obtain more information, SEA F.O.I.A.'ed the I.S.B.E. for a number of documents to determine if the I.S.B.E. expected other districts to have general education teacher participation in IEP meetings. Discovery showed that I.S.B.E. has found other districts "in violation" of not having regular education teachers in IEP meetings. Thus, I.S.B.E. has been consistent in its expectations for districts throughout the state in this regard. The future may hold new regulations and lead to a situation in which I.S.B.E. departs from past practices and decides to apply expectations for District 200 that are above and beyond those required of other districts. If that should happen, SEA is prepared to join with District 200 in a formal complaint to I.S.B.E. or, if need be, the U.S. Department of Education, regarding any discriminatory action.

- 4) S.E.A. members were pleased that District 200 was intent on involving key school and community constituents in the search for a new superintendent, as stated in the August District newsletter. SEA has contributed to many searches at District 97, including those for principals, the Director of Special Education, the Assistant Superintendent and the Superintendent and looks forward to the opportunity to contribute to the upcoming District 200 search.

Pat Nassano, parent and resident of 507 Edgewood, River Forest, addressed the Board of Education.

Ms. Nassano voiced a complaint about her child being on the bus after school for one hour and forty minutes, from 2:45 to 4:20 p.m. Law mandates that students cannot be on a bus longer than one hour. She did not know whether it was because this was a new bus company or because there were more students on this bus route. She was not able to get an explanation from her daughter's teacher, Christine Rose, nor Ms. Cada as to why her daughter was on the bus so long. Her intent was to ask Ms. Witham about why this bus company had been hired at this meeting. No parent input had been sought regarding the hiring of a new bus company. Ms. Witham was absent from this meeting in order to be able to attend a Township Assessor's Forum on property taxes. Ms Nassano continued that Ms. Cada had informed her that when she called the bus

company, all personnel were gone and she could not get any further information. Ms. Nassano was dismayed about the same problems that continue to occur year after year and likened it to the movie "Ground Hog Day." Ms. Nassano reported that last year the transportation fund had a balance of \$271,000. She felt that because this funding comes from the federal government, O.P.R.F.H.S.'s transportation of students needed review. She asked how she could get that information.

The Board of Education and the administration were sympathetic to her daughter being on the bus that length of time. Regarding the selection of the bus company and why this bus company was selected, Dr. Greenwald explained that O.P.R.F.H.S. is obliged to put transportation contracts out for bid and then obliged to choose the lowest bid that meets the qualifications and specifications. They assured her further investigation would take place.

Mr. Prale added that he had spoken with Ms. Cada. She had called Ms. Nassano to find out how her daughter was. She had also directed the general manager to call Ms. Nassano. Ms. Nassano acknowledged that she had received a message on her answering machine while she was out of the house. Mr. Prale will make sure that person contacts her directly again.

Ms. Nassano concluded by saying that someone needed to review the routes that were chosen. Students should not be getting out of school at 2:45 p.m. as they should be in school until 3:00 p.m. There needs to be a better way of dealing with transportation.

Terry Burke, parent and resident of 1180 Clinton Avenue, Oak Park, addressed the Board of Education.

Ms. Burke was glad to hear that Policy 1200, Board of Education, was not changed.

She continued that from reading the previous Board of Education minutes regarding the discussion of the superintendent search, there had been no discussion about the achievement gap. Only Mr. Rigas had focused on achievement and had alluded to the achievement gap.

"In a March meeting on splitting the superintendent/principal position, there was actually discussion of how a superintendent would have time to raise the visibility and reputation of OPRF

nationally. How can we even discuss that when 71% of African Americans did not make Annual Yearly Progress in Math and 47% did not make AYP in Reading?

“I believe most of us are well intentioned but, if we accept the achievement gap, we are unconsciously accepting the racist premise that African Americans cannot learn as well as whites. I completely disagree. It is a complex problem but I know there are so many ways we could do a much better job of educating African Americans. There are pages and pages of notes from last year’s committee to study splitting the superintendent/principal position - discussions about important issues concerning OPRF and its leadership, and the achievement gap is off the radar.

“We are also not making AYP with special education students - students are not receiving accommodations and are not learning at their potential. The special education administration is not working well with special education parents.

“It is clear that the new principal and superintendent have to have more than financial, communication and leadership skills. They must have a sensibility for urban problems, must be creative problem solvers and must be committed to reducing the achievement gap and to a Free and Appropriate Education for special education students. OPRF must maintain its excellent programs for the top 30% and improve the educational programs for African Americans, low-income students, and for special education students. There is no contradiction in providing an excellent education for ALL those students. It is not a zero sum game.

“We cannot continue depending on public relations. Public relations for the outstanding achievements of the top 30% do not compensate for failing African American and special education students.

“Over two years ago, the University of Wisconsin consultant made recommendations for improving the troubled relationship between the special education department and parents. The department did not follow her recommendations. Instead, special education leadership implemented minor PR measures – six poorly attended, one-hour meetings a year and a cheery newsletter that avoided complex issues. They have focused on the positive results of a questionnaire that asked easy questions; more PR. We want substance.

“For example, we have been asking repeatedly for disability rights training for the staff and have gotten nowhere. We are embarking on another year where a teacher can ask a parent why this student with an auditory processing disorder is in a music program if the student cannot hear. (Note: An auditory processing disorder does NOT mean the student cannot hear.) Another year when parents are going to have to beg, plead, cajole, harangue, argue and fight for classroom notes when that is the student’s legal right in his IEP – a common accommodation at high schools and colleges across the country.

“We have to stop riding on the coattails of the top 30%. Many other schools consistently meet AYP goals for African American, low income, and special education students. OPRF consistently fails them. We have to own our failures and accept the challenge of tackling them. We cannot keep relying on public relations. We have to focus on real problem solving and substantive change to make Oak Park River Forest High School a truly outstanding institution. We can do better.”

Meg Reynolds, parent and resident of 1166 S. Clinton Avenue, Oak Park, addressed the Board of Education.

Speaking as a 14-year resident and a parent with a son at the high school, she reiterated past comments and complaints that parents have made at Board of Education meetings regarding the Special Education Department. She informed the Board of Education of a new law that was effective June 20, 2006, the Board of Education now has the power to effect action on administrators who break the law. After reviewing O.P.R.F.H.S.’s Policy Book, she found no Board policy regarding dismissal, retention or hiring of employees and nothing in the Superintendent job description about this either. There was no accountability in the policy book concerning these issues. The Board of Education is not in a position to carry out duties stated in new state law. While she has not had the opportunity to study it at length, she urged the Board of Education to adopt policies to make school employees accountable.

Wyannetta Johnson, 729 S. Oak Park Avenue, Oak Park, addressed the Board of Education.

Ms. Johnson remarked on the parents’ desire to be involved with their children. She stated that both the school and the

parents have to work together and that parents must be included. A.P.P.L.E. has been meeting and making plans for all children, but especially African-American children. She hoped to start this year in a forward motion. She plans to retire in 2007 and vowed to make a difference and bring everyone together this year.

Donna Cotton Cornelius, resident of 932 N. Oak Park Avenue, Oak Park, addressed the Board of Education as a A.P.P.L.E. representative.

Dr. Cornelius noted that A.P.P.L.E. was planning a collaborative effort to work with parents. It will start with freshman students and freshman parents. They have devised a program for the education of parents that will cover all aspects of Special Education and teaching them how they can advocate for their children, including practical ideas in terms of maneuvering the high school, computer literacy, keeping abreast of their children's academic progress, child developmental issues, i.e., communication and anger management. These topics will be covered over a minimum of a 10-workshop series, which will start in September. Plans are to measure the results in a joint effort with the mentoring and tutoring program offered to the same students of these parents. A.P.P.L.E. is taking the approach, "It takes a village." She asked for the high school's support and she offered A.P.P.L.E.'s support to the high school. A.P.P.L.E. is excited and serious about this effort. Dr. Greenwald wished A.P.P.L.E. great success.

**Comments by
Board of Education
Members**

Dr. Greenwald reported that the high school had responded to four F.O.I.A. requests. Three had been resolved and one was in progress.

Consent Items

Mr. Conway moved to approve the consent items as follows:

- The open minutes of June 7, 13, 15, 20, 22, July 25, and August 16, 2006;
- Personnel recommendations (attached and made a part of the minutes of the meeting);
- Resolution Ratifying and Confirming Execution of certain vouchers and payment of certain bills and expenses, fund transfers and list of bills for August 24, 2006, (attached to and made part of the minutes of this meeting);

- Resolution Authorizing Execution of Certain Vouchers for the Month of September 2006;
- Approval of Disbursement List of August 24, 2006;
- an Intergovernmental Agreement with District 97 to provide food service to Oak Park Elementary District 97 Schools;
- the purchase of eight copiers and the Master Lease Agreement between American Capital Financial Services and O.P.R.F.H.S.;
- a contract between Peters and Associates to assess O.P.R.F.H.S.'s current technology infrastructure and provide detailed recommendations for the design and investment required for migration from the current Novel based environment to an environment based on Microsoft Active Directory 2003 and Exchange 2003 technologies;
- a contract between District 200 and Triton College for its Evening School;

seconded by Ms. Fisher. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

ACT 2005-06
Placement Exams

Ms. Hill presented Mr. Fred Galluzzo's report on the Advanced Placement Exams of 2005-06, as follows:

"The May, 2006 administration of the Advanced Placement exams produced consistent numbers across a spectrum of categories when, viewed from various perspectives, provide cause for both satisfaction and concern.

"Five hundred and ninety five students (19 percent of the student body) sat for eleven hundred and eighty exams (1180). This amounts to a 4 percent increase in exam candidates over 2005 completing a 10 percent decrease in examinations taken during that administration. Scores of five (5), four (4), or three (3) (scores that may qualify for college credit) were achieved in 89 percent of exams. This is up 5 percent over last year (84 percent) and up 2 percent over 2004. This is very good news. In fact, our score percentages are better than the national average by approximately 20 percent, as, typically, 65 to 68 is the percent of scores five, four, and three. The teachers are excellent and the students are bright, eager and industrious.

These are two reasons for this level of achievement. This is very positive, if the goal is strictly product.

“This year brought a drop in minority participation in our AP program. Three percent less African-American, two percent less Hispanic, one percent more API, and two percent less multi-ethnic (racial) took Advanced Placement exams. There was a seven percent increase in white students, accounting for the overall increase in students, even as there was a decrease in the total number of exams. Sadly, these numbers reflect the lowest participation by minority students in our AP program in years. The numbers are also more similar to numbers from 2004 and 2003, suggesting that last year’s large increases were anomalous. At this time I can not say what caused either the large increase or the precipitous drop, but I can be certain that it bears some direct relationship to the number of minority students enrolled in AP courses at the beginning of the school year and this number is a product of course recommendations that teachers make for all students at the end of first semester.

“Given our exceptional performance overall on AP exams when measured against the national population of exam candidates, and diminishing number of minority candidates sitting for AP exams, perhaps it is time to assess our recommendation process, our academic counseling process, and our parental course waiver process. These three “controls” on course registration are having some effect on the number and type of student populating our AP courses.

“These and other factors are limiting who gets this opportunity. Certainly, the initial placements based upon information from the junior high schools along with our exams for incoming students are critical in placing freshman in course tracks from which they rarely move. Is there something else we can do in these college prep and transition courses to facilitate movement to higher course levels? Is there a way to insure a broader population in certain courses and or sections, such as “no rec” sections or courses, in effect, non-tracked courses? There are certainly other possibilities. I believe it is time to start developing them in earnest.

“Finally I would like to thank individuals in the building who make this enterprise work. Phil Prale has provided philosophical and practical help with analyzing and organizing, and Jim Miller and his crew have made tables, chairs and desks appear overnight and on schedule. And then there are the

people from outside the building—our group of volunteer proctors, organized and led by Ms. Laura Gruber, who give us their time and careful attention to detail that makes this work without a glitch. These volunteers make each exam day work perfectly, and I would like to honor them by listing their names in this summary. They are: Doris Angell, Dorothy Baggio, Charlene Baloun, Rita Brady, Alice Brezon, Joyce Carey, Mary Jean Connelly, Mary Erkins, Carol Ferguson, Judy Finley, Lenora Heavrin, Kay Hickey, Maureen Jeffries, Kathy Laskey, Lois Malcak, Fran Petterson, Sandra Pyrz, Mileva Ruvarac, and Charlotte Walsh.”

**District Committees
Liaison
Representative
Reports**

Faculty Senate—Mr. Hunter noted that the best part of being a teacher is being able to start fresh every year. He enjoys the beginning of the year. The building looks great, including the field house. The courses that were offered this summer in Summer school, including the programs in the named initiatives, were groundbreaking and provided an opportunity to work on programs to achieve the District’s goals. He looked forward to meeting the new faculty, as they appeared to be young, talented and amazing. He felt the beginning of school was going well, aside from the bus incident noted by Ms. Nassano. He vowed to find out what the problem was because there was no excuse for that to happen. He also was excited about the initiatives and A.P.P.L.E. The faculty pledges to be in support of their efforts. There are a wide range of issues that affect faculty and community.

Mr. Hunter was taken aback when Ms. Johnson announced she would be retiring. He complimented her on being a great spark and it was a shame she was retiring.

He also commented on Mr. Conway’s retirement from the Oak Park Police Department. His being the first school resource officer was groundbreaking. Mr. Hunter knew Mr. Conway to wear many hats and he felt it a shame that Mr. Conway was no longer a police officer. He wished him success in his new role.

He also noted that this was an important year, and that everyone needed to celebrate the achievements of Dr. Bridge. All faculty members are appreciative of her work and her efforts and they will continue to remind her of their gratitude this year.

Dr. Greenwald noted that he looked forward to keeping the faculty’s partnership, as the year progresses.

Student Council—Ms. Davis reported that Student Council was excited to get started on Homecoming. The first Student Council meeting will be held Wednesday, August 29. Student Council's biggest goal is to keep its attendance up throughout the year. Ms. Ranney suggested serving food.

A.P.P.L.E. & Huskie Boosters—Mr. Conway looked forward to working with A.P.P.L.E. and the Huskie Boosters this year. He was excited about finding ways to get support for each organization.

Citizens' Council—Citizens' Council will hold its first meeting of the year on September 14. The topic of discussion will be the superintendent search process. Dr. Greenwald and Ms. Ranney will attend this meeting.

P.T.O.—The first P.T.O. meeting is scheduled for August 29. Its discussion will include homecoming and getting volunteers to help. There will also be a discussion period about tutoring opportunities available to parents.

ED-RED—Ms. Ranney received a calendar of meetings for the year from ED-RED.

Alumni Association—Ms. Fernandez reported that the Alumni Association was setting its calendar for Monday meetings. Ms. Ranney reported that the Alumni Association was in touch with the school about utilizing the school mall for its Homecoming Event on September 30.

West 40—Dr. Greenwald reported that West 40 received funding to renovate and expand its H.A.R.B.O.R. Academy facilities thus making it possible to increase its student capacity. West 40 is now in good financial shape. Mr. Edgecombe added that he had met with H.A.R.B.O.R.'s director, Esther Lieber, and she reported to him that the facility was expected to open on Monday.

**Class of 2006-
Post Secondary
Plans**

Mr. Edgecombe presented a summary report compiled by the Dean Counselor Division of the Class of 2006 Post Secondary Plans. It was noted that 656 final transcripts were mailed post graduation. However, during the 2005-06 school year, 3,746 transcripts were mailed to two- and four-year colleges and universities. Mr. Edgecombe thanked Ms. Kyrias, Director of Guidance and the members of her staff for compiling this report.

The breakdown as to where the students plan to go next year was as follows:

	4-year Colleges	Junior Colleges	Military	Career Choice	Work
Boys	33.2% 240	7.4% 53	.3% 2	2.5% 18	3.3% 24
Girls	42.9% 310	7.4% 53	0% 0	1.5% 11	1.4% 10
Total	76.1% 550	14.8% 106	.3% 2	4.0% 28	4.7% 34

The report also included Class of 2006 number of applications by college, the number of students attending a college by state, post graduate plans by ethnicity, and the 2005-06 School Profile.

Approval of Closed Session Minutes

Ms. Fernandez moved to approve the Closed Session minutes of June 7, 13, 15, 20, 22, and August 16, 2006, as presented; and declared that the closed session audiotapes of February 2005 be destroyed; seconded by Ms. Ranney. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion and Approval of Superintendent and Principal Structure

Mr. Rigas moved to approve the split of the superintendent and principal positions; seconded by Ms. Fernandez. A roll call vote resulted in five ayes and two nays. Ms. Ranney and Mr. Conway voted nay. Motion carried.

Some Board of Education members reiterated the following thoughts before the vote was taken.

Ms. Ranney, opposed to the splitting of the positions from the beginning, tried to be mindful of everything that was said. Still, she could not support splitting the positions, because O.P.R.F.H.S. is a one-building district and there would be many areas of overlap, a duplication of efforts. Of course, in the hiring of the superintendent, the Board of Education would allow the new superintendent to bring suggestions as to his/her needs to fulfill his/her responsibilities. To split the position is a huge responsibility, an important step in charting the school's course beyond the next decade. She was uncomfortable splitting the position and would not vote to do so.

Dr. Millard felt the high school needed a CEO to help with the visionary process to carry it into the future. O.P.R.F.H.S. received a significant sum of money approved in 2002. If the school intends to focus its efforts to narrow the gap, the Board

of Education needs someone who will hold the school accountable in achieving that goal. Thus, there needs to be one person for that and one person for running the building. O.P.R.F.H.S. has been struggling with the achievement gap for over ten years. She looked forward to finding someone for students and for the faculty to help them increase their accomplishments.

Ms. Fisher noted that the Board of Education has held long meetings on this subject and she wanted to reiterate the statement she made at the June 22 meeting. She read the following:

“It is important to know that as Board of Education members, we have come at this issue from a variety of directions and over a long period of time. I talked about this when I was on GMOS for four years, prior to being on the Board of Education in 1998. The GMOS committee issued a report where it recommended splitting the position and the Board accepted that recommendation. I was on the Board of Education that accepted Dr. Bridge’s recommendation that she continue as Superintendent/Principal. I want to say here that she has done a wonderful job over her tenure. However, I feel this job has just mushroomed to the point where it is not possible for one person to be both a superintendent and a principal in this District. While we continue our number one goal of academic achievement for all students in a comprehensive high school, that is why I believe we should have a separate position, but it will require looking at the two positions. We would need to clearly define the outline/ responsibilities of the two positions. After serving on GMOS and the Superintendent/Principal Review Committee and having attended site visits at many local high schools that have the positions separated, I found that they do not have difficulty with overlaps. It works well. I feel it is the Board of Education’s responsibility to define that role clearly. I also think that it means additional administrative reorganization. The Board of Education can undertake that structure in terms of and in conjunction with the administrative team the best use of talents and time. That is something we will look at with our new superintendent.”

Ms. Fisher was sorry that Ms. Berman was no longer in attendance, because she understood from meetings’ discussions about the position different things than what Ms. Berman expressed. She heard that a new superintendent would address primarily the District’s number one goal and that is clearly in

the forefront for every Board of Education member and has been all along. She also heard that although there is a superintendency model that would have a national presence, the Board of Education has no strong interest in going in that direction. It is clear that the Board of Education wants a superintendent who can identify, fine tune and assess the initiatives, and at the same time, a principal who can focus on the individuals issues.

Mr. Conway was unsure about adding another layer of administration. He believed that if the positions were separate, another administrator would have to be added to the team—a costly position—a superintendent, a principal, and another administrator. He was unclear how that would work. He knew it would cost more. He had more questions than answers.

Ms. Fernandez stated that it was true that there have been various meetings pertaining to the topic of separating the positions and she had been clear in stating that definitely the positions need to be separate. O.P.R.F.H.S. must hire a superintendent. She agreed that the new superintendent should hire the person whom he/she felt would help O.P.R.F.H.S. to address not only the academic achievement of students and narrowing the gap, but also be someone who could keep the District fiscally sound and provide communication and public relations that this District has been based on for a long period of time. Even though this is a one-school district, it is involved with many constituencies. Whoever is the new superintendent will have to keep that level of excellence, be it community, village, business, political, etc. She has heard Dr. Bridge and has seen how hard she has worked in the District. The Board of Education concurs that O.P.R.F.H.S. is fortunate to have had a professional person to bring this District a long way from where it was. While she wanted to see the Board of Education duplicate Dr. Bridge, she knew that no two people were exactly alike. She was open to whoever the new superintendent would be. It is a great responsibility. This District constantly grows and these communities are growing communities. The Board of Education needs to separate the positions and allow the new superintendent to choose whom he/she wants. Her hat goes off to Dr. Bridge. She has done a wonderful job for this district.

District Goals for the 2006-07 School Year Ms. Fisher moved to approve the District Goals for the 2006-07 School year list below; seconded by Ms. Fernandez. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

Goal I: Intensify the campaign to use data with increasing effectiveness and efficiency to eliminate the academic performance and discipline gap within O.P.R.F.H.S. and to assure that it sustains the programs supporting the maximum achievement of each and every student served.

Goal II: Hire a new superintendent and determine the administrative structure for the 2007-2008 school year.

Goal III: Continue to identify and implement all available and appropriate means of sustaining District 200's financial stability well into the future to assure the fair and equitable use of district resources to achieve the main goals of the district.

Goal IV: Complete the research and development phases of several key projects and implement them, as appropriate and possible, during the 2006-07 school year.

Goal V: Through a variety of events throughout the school year, engage the students, staff, and communities in wishing this handsome, vintage building a very Happy 100th Birthday!

Closed Session

Ms. Fernandez moved to enter closed session at 9:35 p.m. on Thursday, August 24, 2006, for the purpose of discussing the 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 probable 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); 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)(1), as amended by PA.93—57; seconded by Ms. Ranney. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

The Board of Education reconvened its open session at 10:15 p.m., on Thursday, August 24, 2006.

Adjournment

At 10:20 p.m. on Thursday, August 24, 2006, Ms. Fisher moved to adjourn the Board of Education meeting; seconded by Ms. Ranney. A roll call vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

Dr. Barry Greenwald
President

Barbara P. Fernandez
Secretary