

**Board of Education  
Worth School District 127**

Dr. Rosemary Lucas Administrative Center, Conference Room  
11218 South Ridgeland Avenue  
Worth, Illinois 60482

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 13, 2014**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

President Drew Sernus called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Drew Sernus, Rebecca Roti, Carol Kats, Dave Blanks, Marty Flanagan, Meghan Sisk

Absent: Vince Flores

Administrators: Dr. Rita Wojtylewski, Cindy Dykas, Lisa Lyke, Tim Hathhorn, Joe Zampillo, Linda Esposito, Sinéad Chambers

Others Present: Bob Moyer, Debbie Woods, Brenda Miller (Recording Secretary)

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Sernus led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

A. Staff and Student Recognition

Dr. Wojtylewski read excerpts of a letter from the Illinois State Board of Education recognizing that the Preschool For All program at Worthridge has achieved the Gold Circle of Quality. She congratulated and thanked Lois Vaughan and all the staff involved in the education of the Pre-K population. Dr. Wojtylewski also recognized Regina Garrity and students on their first place finish at the South Suburban Junior High School Conference Scholastic Bowl. State Representative Kelly Burke also sent a letter of congratulations to Ms. Garrity and the scholastic team.

B. Facility Projects Update

Dr. Wojtylewski and Cindy Dykas provided an update on facility projects. The damage and repair of the flooded 4<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms at Worth Elementary went well. ServePro Restoration removed and replaced all damaged wallboard, baseboards and wooden storage units. The classrooms have been sanitized and painted. The condition of the floor tiles is being monitored, as the tiles may loosen over time. Dr. Wojtylewski thanked the 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers for inventorying the damaged educational materials and equipment for submission to the insurance company. The preparation for the heating/air conditioning unit ventilators for Worth Elementary has been completed and the units are scheduled to arrive in early September. The pavement projects throughout the district are almost complete. After the completion of the repaving of 112<sup>th</sup> Street authorized by the Village, the administration was notified that the Village felt the district could restripe the parking area. Dr. Wojtylewski met with Mayor Werner and both agreed that it was the Village's responsibility to restripe the area as it was Village property. Dr. Wojtylewski commented on how positive and helpful the communication with the Village and Mayor Werner has been. The removal of diseased and dying trees will be completed in early September. The unfinished work by FBG on the vestibule projects has been completed by Chicago Heights Construction. After school starts, LaForce will activate the communications component between the security locks and the phone system.

- C. TIF Meeting Update  
Dr. Wojtylewski reported that Ed O'Malley represented the district at the July 18<sup>th</sup> Chicago Ridge TIF meeting, as discussed with the Board during the July Board meeting. A vote was taken to authorize Chicago Ridge to proceed with developing the property at 103<sup>rd</sup> and Harlem.
  
- D. Enrollment Data Update  
Dr. Wojtylewski reported that 80 new students have registered. There is a contractual agreement in place which states "every reasonable effort shall be made to maintain grade level class sizes of no more than 30 pupils." There is some concern with two grade levels approaching 30 students in a class. Dr. Wojtylewski stated it is difficult to evaluate at this time, as it is not known how many students will report for school on the first day. Some parents may have reported that they were transferring out of the district and then their plans changed. Some parents may have moved from the district and did not notify the schools in advance. She stated that once class sizes are confirmed, if necessary, she will meet with Debbie Woods, the WEA President, to discuss a mutually agreeable solution. Dr. Wojtylewski added that it is a pleasure working with the WEA and its leadership. Dr. Wojtylewski accepted the Board's support in authorizing the posting for additional staff should it be necessary.
  
- E. Tentative Budget FY15  
Cindy Dykas presented an overview of the tentative budget. She provided the Board with a summary of revenues and expenditures beginning July 1, 2014, and a projected fund balance as of June 30, 2015. A legal notice will be published stating that a public hearing on the FY15 budget will be held on September 17, 2014, and the budget will be on display for 30 days at the Administrative Center during normal business hours prior to the public hearing.
  
- F. Details on Board Agenda Items
  - A. Consent Agenda - A revised agenda was given to the Board members at the beginning of the meeting. Personnel items that were listed as TBA on the agenda were updated and highlighted in yellow. The Board was also given vita information on the individuals.
  
  - C. Approval of Summer School Contracts – Two teachers were added for summer school. The teachers will be paid from federal Title I funds.
  
  - D. Approval of Application for Extension of Time to Complete Health/Life Safety Work Items – This is an annual approval to request an extension of time to complete items for which the district did not have the time to complete the work and/or the funds available to complete the work.
  
  - E. Approval of Interschool Agreement for Lunch Services – The administration met with Quest Food Services on providing student lunches. Quest will prepare the lunches through an agreement with Marist High School. The administration has submitted an application to the Illinois State Board of Education to be a part of the state and federal lunch program which will make the district eligible for reimbursement for the free lunches provided to qualifying students. The lunches will meet all state and federal nutritional guidelines. The lunches will be transported by district staff directly to the schools in cooling units, and additional refrigeration units have been purchased for each of the schools to store the lunches. It is hoped that once the lunches are in place for eligible students that the district can offer the lunches to all students at a cost of \$3.00 per lunch.
  
  - F. Approval of Contract with Alpha Bus – This is a renewal of the contract with Alpha Bus for the transportation of special education students. The renewal provides a 1.7% increase for services over the prior year.

5. CITIZENS' REMARKS – AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no remarks made.

6. BOARD MOTIONS

A. Consent Agenda

Carol Kats moved that the Board of Education approve the following consent agenda items:

Marty Flanagan seconded the motion.

- |    |  |  |                             |                               |
|----|--|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1) | <u>Accounts Payable</u>  |  | July 28, 2014               | \$48,704.15                   |
|    |  |  | August 13, 2014             | \$225,988.04                  |
| 2) | <u>Payroll Summary</u>   |  | Education Fund              | \$87,357.82                   |
|    |  |  | Building Fund               | \$28,936.91                   |
|    |  |  | FICA/IMRF/Medicare/TRS      | \$19,075.63                   |
| 3) | <u>Leave of Absence</u>  |  |                             |                               |
|    | Peggy Sandrzyk   | ELL Teacher (1.0 FTE)  | Worth Elementary            | Effective 2014-15 School Year |
| 4) | <u>Employment of Certified Staff</u>   |  |                             |                               |
|    | Michael Miles  | Music Teacher (.5 FTE)   | Worth Elementary/Worthwoods | Effective August 14, 2014     |
|    | Brian Prosapio   | Bilingual/ELL Spanish (1.0 FTE)                                    | Worth Elementary            | Effective August 14, 2014     |
|    | Sarah Catt   | Reading Teacher (1.0 FTE)  | Worth Junior High           | Effective August 14, 2014     |
|    | Emily Herbold  | Pre-K Teacher (1.0 FTE) (2014-15 School Year Only, Leave Position) | Worthridge                  | Effective August 14, 2014     |
|    | Rafah Abu-Hayyeh   | ELL Teacher (1.0 FTE) (2014-15 School Year Only, Leave Position)   | Worth Elementary            | Effective August 14, 2014     |
| 5) | <u>Resignation of Classified Staff</u>   |  |                             |                               |
|    | Shaun Tallon   | PT Custodian   | Worth Junior High           | Effective July 10, 2014       |
| 6) | <u>Employment of Classified Staff</u>  |  |                             |                               |
|    | Gerald Allen   | PT Custodian   | Worthridge                  | Effective August 14, 2014     |
| 7) | <u>Call List of Substitute Teachers, Instructional Aides, Office and Lunch Supervisors</u><br>(end consent agenda) |  |                             |                               |

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent – Motion Carried

B. Approval of Minutes – Board Meetings

Rebecca Roti moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the July 9, 2014 regular meeting.

Dave Blanks seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent – Motion Carried

C. Approval of Summer School Contracts

Marty Flanagan moved that the Board of Education approve contracts for Title I summer school employment, as presented in Attachments D1-D2.

Carol Kats seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent – Motion Carried

D. Approval of Application for Extension of Time to Complete Health/Life Safety Work Items

Marty Flanagan moved that the Board of Education approve the Application for Extension of Time to Complete Health/Life Safety Work Items for Worth Elementary, Worthwoods, Worth Junior High, and Worthridge Schools, as presented in Attachments E1-E4.

Dave Blanks seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent – Motion Carried

E. Approval of Interschool Agreement for Lunch Services

Rebecca Roti moved that the Board of Education approve the Interschool Agreement between Marist High School and Worth School District 127 for the provision of food services for the 2014-15 school year, as presented in Attachments F1-F4.

Marty Flanagan seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent – Motion Carried

F. Approval of Contract with Alpha Bus

Carol Kats moved that the Board of Education approve the renewal of the contract with Alpha School Bus Company, Inc. for special education transportation with an increase of 1.7% for all route transportation categories in the 2014-15 school year, as presented in Attachments G2-G3.

Rebecca Roti seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 1 Absent – Motion Carried

7. BOARD DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION

A. Tri-Conference

Board members were asked to contact the recording secretary if they would like to be registered for the Tri-Conference in Chicago on November 21-23, 2014.

B. Committee Meeting

The Board members agreed with Dr. Wojtylewski's suggestion that the Finance Committee meet with members of the Park District to discuss an intergovernmental agreement. Dr. Wojtylewski will confirm the meeting dates Carlo Capalbo provided her are still available and then the recording secretary will poll the Finance Committee members.

8. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND REQUESTS

Dr. Wojtylewski stated that mid-October would be the best time for the Education Committee to meet. This will allow the schools time to have met on the new school improvement structure, Rising Star, as required by the Illinois State Board of Education, and report on the new math series for Grades K-5. In addition to the purchase of a new math series, new computers have been ordered; a quote is being reviewed for purchase of iPads; and scientific probe materials will be ordered for Worth Junior High. Dr. Wojtylewski will continue with plans to meet with representatives from Follett regarding the upgrading of the media management system at Worth Elementary, Worthwoods and Worth Junior High.

Dr. Wojtylewski invited the principals to comment on the school improvement team meetings held thus far. The principals thanked Peg Reipsa for her leadership in mentoring and introducing the process to the administrators and teachers who have volunteered to serve on the committees. The teams will function similar to how they have in the past, but will meet more frequently and will be documenting the process in a different format through ISBE. At this initial stage, the groups have begun identifying relevant indicators.

9. CITIZENS' REMARKS – AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no remarks made.

10. CLOSED SESSION

A closed session meeting was not held.

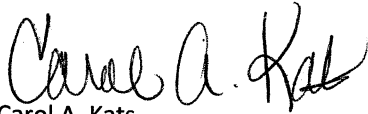
11. ADJOURNMENT

Dave Blanks moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Rebecca Roti seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: All Aye - Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,



Carol A. Kats  
Secretary, Board of Education



Drew Sernus  
President, Board of Education