

**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 December 9, 2015

1. CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of President Drew Sernus, Vice-President Rebecca Roti called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

In the absence of Secretary Meghan Sisk, Vince Flores served as Secretary Pro-tem.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Rebecca Roti, Dave Blanks, Michelle Egan, Vince Flores, Meghan Sisk (arrived at 6:40 p.m.), Bernadette Strama

Absent: Drew Sernus

Administrators:	Dr. Rita Wojtylewski, Superintendent	Cindy Dykas, Business Manager/CSBO
	Lisa Lyke, Worth Elementary Principal	Tim Hathhorn, Worthwoods Principal
	Joe Zampillo, Worth Junior High Principal	Linda Esposito, Worth Junior High Assistant Principal
	Sinéad Chambers, Special Education Director	

Others Present: Bob Moyer, Technology Coordinator Brenda Miller, Recording Secretary

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice-President Rebecca Roti led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Wojtylewski recommended that the Finance Committee report be given prior to the Public Hearing on the 2015 Tax Levy. The Board members agreed.

6. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. 11/23/2015 Finance Committee

Finance Committee member Vince Flores shared an overview of the following topics discussed at the Finance Committee Meeting.

Worthwoods 2016 HVAC Project: The architect and engineer presented drawings outlined with an estimated mechanical replacement cost of \$1,139,000 for the demolition and installation of a new boiler system, unit ventilators and thermostats at Worthwoods. The Committee requested that testing be done of the existing piping mains to check for corrosion.

Worthridge 2016 HVAC Project: The architect and engineer presented drawings with an estimated mechanical replacement cost of \$833,301 to convert the Worthridge facility to gas heating compared to a replacement cost of \$490,021 to continue heating using electricity. The Committee recommended that the district proceed with the projects and have specifications drawn so that bids can be requested in early January. Due to the prohibitive cost of converting the Worthridge building to gas, the Committee recommended the building

remain using an electrical source for heating. Due to the mislabeling of some of the descriptors contained within the drawings, the Committee requested that Dr. Wojtylewski direct Concept 3 and AMSCO to review the information and figures for accuracy and provide corrected documents.

2015 Levy

The Committee heard a presentation from Cindy Dykas outlining the 2015 tax levy process. The Committee agreed with the administration's recommendation to levy for all revenue legally available to the school district.

2016 Facility Projects

The administration reported that some exterior doors and door frames in school buildings throughout the district will be replaced as they are old and rusting out. Several security cameras will also be replaced.

Update on FY16 Budget

The Committee was provided with a summary of fund balances as of October, 2015 showing the budget is on target for mid-year balances.

Meghan Sisk arrived during the discussion.

4. PUBLIC HEARING ON 2014 TAX LEVY

Bernadette Strama moved that the Board of Education conduct a public hearing regarding the 2015 Tax Levy.

Dave Blanks seconded the motion.

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

Cindy Dykas stated that the Finance Committee met on November 23rd and reviewed documentation for the 2015 Tax Levy. All requirements of the levy have been met and are in compliance with the law. The purpose of the hearing is to give interested parties an opportunity to comment on the 2015 Tax Levy. Cindy Dykas invited audience members to comment and or ask questions regarding the 2015 Tax Levy.

Hearing no comments or questions, Michelle Egan moved that the Board of Education close the public hearing and return to regular session.

Dave Blanks seconded the motion.

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

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Staff and Student Recognition

Dr. Wojtylewski acknowledged a card from Robert Burns' daughter thanking Dr. Wojtylewski for attending the service for her father. Dr. Wojtylewski asked that a moment of silence be observed in memory of Mr. Burns and his many contributions to the Worth community.

Dr. Wojtylewski explained the reauthorization of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB - 2002) formerly Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA -1965) to the now ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act). The reauthorization preserves Title 1 funds; focuses on continued

services for high need students; calls for universal proficiency in preparing all students to succeed in college; requires accountability and change for low performing schools and schools with low graduation rates; and provides new preschool funding.

Dr. Wojtylewski noted that Massachusetts has announced that they will no longer administer PARRC testing. Massachusetts is developing their own testing document based on standards they have developed. New York has announced they will eliminate the student growth component from their teacher evaluation criteria. Illinois remains committed to PARRC testing.

B. School Report Cards

Dr. Wojtylewski distributed copies of the 2015 Illinois District Report Cards which have been made available to superintendents. The information will be released to the public on December 11th and it is anticipated that the larger newspapers will follow with articles analyzing the results throughout the state. Dr. Wojtylewski is preparing a letter that the principals will send home to parents with a copy of their school's individual report card. The report cards will also be posted on the district's website. Dr. Wojtylewski stated that she will be meeting with area superintendents later in the week to discuss how each of the districts will be addressing the distribution of the individual student reports to parents.

Dr. Wojtylewski reported that the PERA (Performance Evaluation Reform Act) Committee comprised of five administrators and five teachers will be meeting with the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA), the developer of Measures of Academic Progress (MAP). MAP is a personalized assessment experience that adapts to each student's learning level. The administration is investigating the purchase of an 18 month license of MAP.

C. Facility Project Updates

Dr. Wojtylewski reported on several topics. She spoke with Rich Kumnick about the errors on the Worthwoods and Worthridge drawings and accompanying paperwork for the HVAC projects. As soon as corrected documents are received, copies will be sent in a Friday memo. The schools were without power for the start of the school day on December 7th, necessitating the use of the flashlights located in the classrooms and office areas. Every three years the district is required to have an asbestos inspection. The notice of required inspection has been received and Rich Kumnick from Concept 3 will complete the inspections. The report from the Health and Life Safety visit that was conducted on November 17th cited minor areas in need of correction. In addition to removing storage space clutter, electrical cords, and aerosol cans, was the removal of Purell Hand Sanitizers, as they contain flammable ingredients. The district is currently investigating botanical based hand sanitizer products.

D. Details on Board Agenda Items

2015 Tax Levy – Having met the requirements for the 2015 Tax Levy, the Board will take action on several resolutions, allowable under the provisions of the law.

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

There were no remarks made.

8. BOARD MOTIONS

A. Consent Agenda

Dr. Wojtylewski noted that there are no additions to the call list. Item #4, Additions to Call List of Substitute Teachers, Instructional Aides, Office and Lunch Supervisors should be removed from the consent agenda.

Megan Sisk moved that the Board of Education approve the following consent agenda items:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <u>Accounts Payable</u> | December 9, 2015 | \$167,018.78 |
| 2) <u>Payroll Summary</u> | Education Fund | \$516,833.88 |
| | Building Fund | \$32,109.59 |
| | IMRF and FICA/Medicare | \$44,175.30 |
| 3) <u>Rescind Employment of Certified Staff</u> | | |
| Mitchell Means | Leave of Absence Position, WJH | Effective December 7, 2015 |
| | | For the Remainder of the 2015-16 School Year Only |

(end consent agenda)

Dave Blanks seconded the motion.

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

B. Approval of Minutes – Board Meetings

Michelle Egan moved that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the November 18, 2015, regular meeting.

Vince Flores seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 5 Aye, 1 Abstain (Strama), 1 Absent – Motion Carried

Bernadette Strama moved that the Board of Education approve the closed session minutes of the November 18, 2015, regular meeting.

Meghan Sisk seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 5 Aye, 1 Abstain (Strama), 1 Absent – Motion Carried

C. Approval of Minutes – Committee Meetings

Dave Blanks moved that the Finance Committee approve the minutes of the November 23, 2015, Finance Committee meeting.

Vince Flores seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: 2 Aye (Blanks, Flores), 1 Absent (Sernus) – Motion Carried

D. 2015 Tax Levy

Bernadette Strama moved that the Board of Education adopt the Resolution Providing for 2015 Tax Levy for Working Cash, as recommended by the Business Manager/CSBO and the Superintendent.

Michelle Egan seconded the motion.

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

Vince Flores moved that the Board of Education adopt the Resolution Providing for 2015 Tax Levy for Special Education, as recommended by the Business Manager/CSBO and the Superintendent.

Rebecca Roti seconded the motion.

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

Michelle Egan moved that the Board of Education adopt the Resolution Providing for 2015 Tax Levy for the Year 2015, as recommended by the Business Manager/CSBO and the Superintendent.

Vince Flores seconded the motion.

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

Dave Blanks moved that the Board of Education authorize the President to sign the Certificate of Compliance with the Truth in Taxation Law, as recommended by the Business Manager/CSBO and the Superintendent.

Bernadette Strama seconded the motion.

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

Bernadette Strama moved that the Board of Education adopt the Resolution Authorizing Reduction of Certain Fund Levies for the 2015 Levy Year, as recommended by the Business Manager/CSBO and the Superintendent.

Dave Blanks seconded the motion.

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

9. BOARD DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION

There was no Board discussion and/or action.

10. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND REQUESTS

A. Tri-Conference

Several Board members reported on sessions they attended at the Tri-Conference. The exhibit hall provided an opportunity to talk with vendors offering a variety of services and products.

A Board member requested an enlarged copy of the option drawings sent to Dr. Wojtylewski by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) on the proposed use of the Worthwoods property to alleviate a flooding problem. Dr. Wojtylewski stated she spoke with Tom Melody and they agreed that the Board may entertain option #2, but another meeting would need to be scheduled with the Village of Worth and the MWRD. The Board suggested that the meeting be held at the Administrative Center and during a time convenient for Board members to attend.

A Board member stated she had an opportunity to collaborate with two Worth Junior High teachers during a District 218 Feeder District Articulation meeting. She thanked the administration for allowing the teachers to represent District 127. Joe Zampillo noted that the staff members were also appreciative and found the collaboration informative.

Cindy Dykas responded to a question regarding a list of District 230 salary ranges and names that was published in the Chicago Tribune. This information is an Annual Statement of Affairs that all districts are required to publish. District 127 has its Statement of Affairs published in The Reporter Newspaper.

A Board member reported that she attended the Tree Lighting Ceremony and Mr. O'Shaughnessy acknowledged the school district in his opening remarks. Dr. Wojtylewski noted that this year she was regretfully unable to attend due to a prior commitment. She sent a letter to Mr. O'Shaughnessy with her regrets.

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

Dave Blanks thanked Dr. Wojtylewski for attending the services for Robert Burns, and for sending flowers on behalf of the district.

12. CLOSED SESSION

Michelle Egan moved that the Board of Education adjourn to closed session at 7:22 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District, and collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees.

Dave Blanks seconded the motion.

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

The Board members took a short break before entering closed session.

13. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Michelle Egan moved that the Board of Education, upon completion of its discussions in closed session, reconvene in public session at 8:10 p.m.

Dave Blanks seconded the motion.

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

14. ADJOURNMENT

Dave Blanks moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Michelle Egan seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: All Aye - Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,



Meghan Sisk
Secretary, Board of Education



Rebecca Roti
Vice-President, Board of Education