

**TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**August 31, 2009**

**New Trier High School - Northfield Campus  
Northfield Campus Multipurpose Room C-234,  
7 Happ Road, Northfield, Illinois**

**Closed Session –6:00 p.m. Open Session – 6:30 p.m.**

A **Regular Meeting** of the Board of Education of New Trier Township High School District 203, Cook County, Illinois was held at New Trier High School – Northfield Campus, 7 Happ Road, Northfield, Illinois, Room C234, on Monday, August 31, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.

**Members Present**

Mr. James B. Koch, President  
Ms. Wendy Serrino, Vice President  
Mr. Alan R. Dolinko  
Ms. Carol Ducommun  
Mr. F. Malcolm Harris  
Mr. Robert Merrick  
Mr. John Myefski

**Administrators Present at Table**

Dr. Linda L. Yonke, Superintendent  
Mr. Donald R. Goers, Associate Superintendent  
Mr. Timothy Hayes – Assistant Superintendent for  
Student Services  
Mr. Paul Sally – Assistant Superintendent for  
Academic Services  
Mr. John Neiweem, Director of Physical Plant Services  
Mr. Chris Johnson, Director of Technology

**Also Present**

Ms. Jan Borja, Principal Northfield Campus; Mr. Tim Dohrer, Principal Winnetka Campus; Mr. Paul Waechtler, Assistant Principal Northfield Campus; Mr. Matt Ottaviano, Assistant Principal, Winnetka Campus; Mr. George Sanders, Director of Human Resources; Ms. Laurel Burman, Director of Special Education; Ms. Athena Petmezas, Director of Student Life; Ms. Katherine Schindler, Assistant Principal for Student Services; Dr. Debbie Stacey, Director of Academic Services; Mr. Randy Oberembt, Athletic Director; Mr. Jay Rosenberg, Department of English and NTEA President; Mr. Doug Springer.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Koch called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:50 p.m. and asked for a motion to call the meeting to Open Session. Mr. Merrick moved and Ms. Ducommun seconded that the Board move from Closed Session to Open Session. Upon a roll call being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mr. Dolinko, Ms. Ducommun, Mr. Harris, Mr. Merrick, Mr. Myefski, Ms. Serrino, Mr. Koch

NAY: None

The motion passed unanimously.

**I. Personnel Report**

Dr. Linda Yonke recommended that the Board employ Ms. Nicole Dizon as Director of Communications, effective September 14, 2009. Dr. Yonke shared Ms. Dizon's employment history and academic background and praised her accomplishments. Ms. Dizon is replacing Ms. Laura Blair. Mr. John Myefski moved and Mr. Merrick seconded the motion to approve the Personnel Report as presented. Upon a roll call being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Ms. Ducommun, Mr. Harris, Mr. Merrick, Mr. Myefski, Ms. Serrino, Mr. Dolinko, Mr. Koch

NAY: None

The motion passed unanimously.

**II. Budget Planning Workshop**

Dr. Yonke began the discussion with an introduction to the topic of this evening's workshop meeting, the budget planning process. As the Board ends one cycle of budget planning and begins the next cycle, the Board and administration need to examine the assumptions and variables that impact the budget process. She also noted that the proposed renovations to the Northfield Campus will have an impact on the budget, as will other factors. Mr. Goers reviewed the key variables that impact budget

planning which include: the tax cap and consumer price index; enrollment and the student/faculty ratio; salary projections based on current contractual commitments; capital expenditures and facilities. Assistant Superintendents Paul Sally and Tim Hayes addressed the student/faculty ratio variable, explaining its influence on budgeting and class sizes, instructional FTEs and other area such as social work. Board discussion followed with Mr. Sally, Mr. Hayes and Dr. Yonke responding to Board members' questions.

Mr. Chris Johnson, Director of Technology, reported on the personnel and operational expenses of his department with capital expenditures covering phone system updates, computer replacements, and changes in software. Future changes could include more frequent computer rotations, network upgrades, and expansion of the use of Smart boards. Mr. Johnson also responded to Board members' questions.

Mr. John Neiweem, Director of Physical Plant Services addressed budgetary issues for facilities in relation to the possible renovation projects on both campuses.

Board discussion followed regarding budget projections; Mr. Dolinko pointed out the unpredictability of economic factors beyond four to five years forward. Dr. Yonke noted that more specific plans for the Northfield renovations will be brought to the Board at the September 21 Regular Meeting, including details on the financing. Questions regarding the addition of turf fields were raised. Mr. Neiweem and Mr. Oberembt, Athletic Director, responded with the maintenance and scheduling needs of these fields for instructional and Athletic competitions. A more detailed report will be brought to the Board regarding the pros and cons of changing the athletic fields.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Koch adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lou Anne Kelly, Secretary

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James B. Koch, President