

**TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**September 21, 2009**  
**New Trier High School - Northfield Campus**  
**Northfield Campus Cornog Auditorium & Multipurpose Room C234,**  
**7 Happ Road, Northfield, Illinois**  
**Closed Session – 6:30 p.m. Open Session – 7:30 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, September 21, 2009 at 7:33 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  
Ms. Jan Borja, Principal – Northfield Campus  
Mr. Timothy Hayes – Assistant Superintendent for  
Student Services  
Mr. Paul Sally – Assistant Superintendent for  
Curriculum and Instruction

**Also Present**

Mr. John Neiweem, Director of Physical Plant Services; Mr. Paul Waechtler, Assistant Principal Northfield Campus; Mr. Chris Johnson, Director of Technology; Mr. Doug Springer; Mr. George Sanders, Director of Human Resources; Ms. Laurel Burman, Director of Special Education; Ms. Athena Petmezas, Director of Student Life; Ms. Michele Slav, Director of Business Services; Mr. Jay Rosenberg, Department of English and NTEA President; Mr. Matt Ottaviano, Assistant Principal, Winnetka Campus; Ms. Nicole Dizon, Director of Communications; Ms. Maureen Magee, Co-President NTESP; Mr. Mark Jolicoeur, Perkins + Will; Mr. Bill Bennett, Pepper Construction; and members of the Community.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Koch called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:33 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 vote 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. Minutes**

Mr. Koch requested a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Merrick moved and Mr. Myefski seconded the motion that the Board approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 24, 2009 (open session and closed session) and the Special Meeting of August 31, 2009 (open session and closed session). Upon a roll call vote 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. Communications**

There were no Community members wishing to comment.

### **III. Special Orders of Business**

#### **A. Lagniappe/Potpourri Preview**

Mr. Tim Hayes invited students performing in this year's Lagniappe/Potpourri to come forward for a preview the show. The all student production this year is "Well, There is an 'I' in Win" and will be performed October 21, 22, and 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the Gaffney Auditorium on the Winnetka Campus. Students Tyler Balkin, Doug Pemberton, Gabby Rodriguez, Shane Simpson, Elizabeth Whitelaw, and Anna Zhang performed the original song "My Kid".

#### **B. Report from Campus Principals and Assistant Superintendents**

Ms. Jan Borja reported on activities taking place at the Northfield Campus, including preparations for Homecoming and Spirit Week as well as Freshman and Sophomore Parent Night. Ms. Borja thanked the Community for their feedback on the President's Education Speech. Students equally responded in classes on the speech, offering different perspectives.

Mr. Tim Hayes shared similar news of Homecoming events and Pep rallies occurring at the Winnetka Campus on Thursday, October 1 and Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup> at both campuses. The Homecoming football game is on Friday, October 2 and the annual staff picnic will take place just before the game. Mr. Hayes also announced the opening of the fall play, "Taming of the Shrew" on October 14.

Ms. Athena Petmezas, Director of Student Life introduced the students participating in this year's Foreign Exchange Program. Greta Schmulling, Johanna Braenig and Veronika Dolling from Germany, and Lara Green from Spain greeted the Board and shared their first impressions. Joan Esteve Magrane and Rosalie Peree were unable to attend. Ms. Petmezas also thanked the host families for giving the school and these students this international academic opportunity.

Mr. Paul Sally presented an update report on the Integrated Global Studies School (IGSS). The new "school within a school" program is doing very well with both students and parents excited about the classes. Current enrollment is 35, comprised of junior and senior students at the Winnetka Campus. IGSS faculty, Colby Vargas, Jeff Markham and Tracy Smith have begun the recruitment process for next year with new brochures and a target enrollment of 80.

Mr. Sally also reported on the first of three of the late start/early dismissal paired faculty meetings. This newly allocated time, replacing seven late starts from previous years, was well received for faculty to focus together on departmental goals.

#### **C. Facilities Update**

##### **- Winnetka and Northfield**

Dr. Yonke introduced Mark Jolicoeur of Perkins + Will. Mr. Jolicoeur presented an update report of the schematic design planning process, reviewing the meetings and tours to date and those scheduled for the near future. General Public tours will be held October 1, 15, 27 and November 10 at the Winnetka Campus starting at 6:00 p.m. in room 359. Open session Board meetings are scheduled for October 19, November 3, 9(tentative) and 16. Mr. Jolicoeur reported on the current status of the plans for the Northfield Campus and the site plan and schematic design of the Winnetka Campus. Design and budget presentations will be made to the Board at the regular October meeting and a final recommendation to the Board will occur in November.

Dr. Yonke responded to Board members questions about the research conducted by the Community Engagement Committee. Results gathered from the research will assist the Committee in getting information back out to the Community. Ms. Ducommun requested that a summary be shared with the Board. Mr. Jolicoeur responded to Board member questions regarding presentation materials and the formats available.

Mr. Goers presented a report on financing 2009-10 facility projects, specifically at the Northfield Campus. The estimated cost for schematic design work including consultants, at the Winnetka Campus is approximately \$1.5 million. The Northfield renovation costs, which mostly include the restoration of the B Building is \$6.3 million. Of the total \$7.8 million, \$2.9 million would come from the Building Capital Improvement Fund (painting sale proceeds) and approximately \$1 million of the cost would be paid with Life, Health Safety funds. The balance of \$3.9 million would be paid out of the District's cash reserves. Mr. Goers reviewed the projected revenue and expenditures for 2009-10 and noted the current balance of eight months in reserve. Due to the timing and the opportunity to complete the Northfield renovations by the fall of 2010, Mr. Goers recommended to proceed with the renovation work at Northfield, funding it in the manner noted above. Mr. Goers and Dr. Yonke responded to Board members comments and questions. After further discussion, the Board agreed by consensus to proceed with the administrative recommendation.

**IV. Routine/Recurrent Items** (consent agenda)

- *Bill List for the Period, August 1 – 31, 2009*
- *Intervene on Property Tax Appeal*
- *Application for Recognition of Schools ISBE*

Mr. Goers presented the Bill List for the period August 1-31, 2009 detailing certain line items. Mr. Goers responded to Board members' questions. A resolution to intervene on a property tax appeal and the annual Application for Recognition of Schools for the Illinois State Board of Education were included with the recurrent items. Mr. Harris moved and Ms. Ducommun seconded the motion that the Board approve the Bill List for the period August 1-31, 2009. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed unanimously.

**V. Board Member Reports**

Mr. Harris reported on the first Booster Club meeting of the year. Membership recruitment is underway as well as support of the golf and tennis seasons. Mr. Harris noted that there will be a presentation at the next Booster Club meeting on October 6 of the Winnetka Campus Facilities Plan with a tour included.

Mr. Harris also reported on the New Trier Education Foundation's annual golf outing "Pitch In" which took place on September 14. The successful fund raiser advanced the Foundation budget by more than \$70,000.

Mr. Myefski reported for the Fine Arts Committee and the Facilities Committee and recommended that with the increased efforts in reaching out to the school committees regarding the facilities project to keep them better informed and current with the process. Dr. Yonke reported that there is an informational meeting scheduled with the Fine Arts Department which will be similar to that which was presented to the Parents' Association.

Dr. Yonke was pleased to announce that New Trier was awarded a Blue Ribbon School by the Department of Education. Schools are nominated by the Illinois State Board of Education and New Trier was honored along with Deerfield High School and Whitney M. Young Magnet High School. Tim Dohrer and Peter Tragos will represent New Trier at the ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Koch reported that the North Shore Academy facilities project for NSSSED was under budget and their Board was beginning contract negotiations.

**VI. Administrative Items**

**A. Personnel Report**

Dr. Yonke presented the Personnel Report which included several appointments for support staff positions, change of status positions and some requests for leave. The motion to approve would include the addenda and the published Administrator Salaries, which is newly required by state law. Dr. Yonke also introduced Ms. Nicole Dizon, Communications Director who started with the District last week, replacing Laura Blair. Mr. Dolinko moved that the Board approve the Personnel Report as presented and with the Addenda extending the employment contract for Jan Borja for the 2010-2011 school year and the posting of the Employee Compensation Report on the New Trier website by October 1, 2009. Mr. Myefski seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motions passed unanimously.

**VII. Business Reports**

- *Financial Reports for August 2009*

Mr. Goers reviewed the financial reports for August 2009 which is early in this fiscal year

and reported more detail will follow at the next Board meeting in October. Mr. Goers noted that the tax bills will be mailed in mid October, which is later than normal. Board discussion followed as Mr. Goers responded to Board member's comments and questions.

**VIII. Board of Education**

- **Calendar of Events**

Dr. Yonke noted her email communication to the Board reserving October 8 for a Joint Board of Education meeting with the township elementary school sender district Boards and Superintendents. The meeting will be held at the Winnetka Campus, in Room 301 EPI Center at 7:00 a.m. to provide updated information regarding the possible Winnetka facilities project. Dr. Yonke also noted that November 3 was recommended by the Steering Committee to be an additional meeting at which project materials will be available as well as tours and an opportunity for Community comments.

- **Board Members' Requests for Information and Staff Research and Suggested Agenda Items**

There were no new requests for information.

**IX. Communications – Citizens' Comments**

There were no requests for citizen's comments.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Dolinko moved and Mr. Merrick seconded the motion that the meeting be adjourned.

Mr. Koch adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lou Anne Kelly, Secretary

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James B. Koch, President