

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

May 18, 2015

**New Trier Township High School
7 Happ Road, Room C234
Northfield, IL 60093**

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, in Room C234 on Monday, May 18, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present

Mr. F. Malcolm Harris, President
Mr. Greg Robitaille, Vice President
Ms. Cathy Albrecht
Mr. Alan R. Dolinko
Ms. Lori Goldstein
Mr. John Myefski
Mr. Patrick O'Donoghue

Administrators Present

Dr. Linda L. Yonke, Superintendent
Ms. Cheryl Witham, Assistant Superintendent
for Finance & Operations
Mr. Timothy Hayes, Assistant Superintendent
for Student Services
Mr. Paul Sally, Associate Superintendent
for Curriculum & Instruction
Ms. Denise Dubravec, Principal – Winnetka Campus
Mr. Paul Waechtler, Principal – Northfield Campus

Also Present

Ms. Niki Dizon, Director of Communications; Mr. George Sanders, Director of Human Resources; Mr. Gerry Munley, Assistant Principal, Winnetka Campus; Ms. Athena Arvanitis, Director of Student Life; Ms. Ellen Ambuehl, Director of Special Education; Mr. Christopher Wildman, Director of Business Services; Mr. Dave Conway, Facilities Manager, Northfield Campus; Mr. Steve Linke, Facilities Manager, Winnetka Campus; Mr. Scott Williams, Assistant Principal, Winnetka Campus; Mr. Peter Tragos, Assistant Principal, Northfield Campus; Mr. Todd Maxman, President, New Trier Township Education Association, Social Studies Department; Mr. Spiro Bolos, Social Studies Department; Mr. Christopher Johnson, Chief Information Officer; Ms. Elizabeth Blodgett, New Trier Educational Support Professionals Association; Ms. Kendra McCarthy, Transportation and Purchasing Coordinator; Ms. Carolyn Gerhardt, Social Studies Department; Mr. Robert Martinelli, Pepper Construction; Mr. Craig Danegger, Pepper Construction; Mr. Jay Ripsky, Pepper Construction; Mr. David Powel, Wight & Co.; Ms. Pat Sumrow, Winnetka Campus Project Facilitator; Mr. Steve Shearing, Pioneer Press; Mrs. Katie Seigenthaler, Mr. Andy McCausland, members of the press and community.

BUSINESS MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER – 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Harris called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:30 p.m. Roll call was taken. Five members were present, with Mr. Dolinko and Mr. Myefski absent. Mr. Harris asked for a motion to move to Closed Session. Ms. Goldstein moved and Mr. O'Donoghue seconded the motion that the Board adjourn to closed session for the purpose of discussing 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 and for the purpose of discussing collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees and for the purpose of discussing student disciplinary cases. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Ms. Goldstein, Mr. O'Donoghue, Mr. Robitaille, Ms. Albrecht, Mr. Harris

NAY: None

The motion passed.

Adjournment to Closed Session – 6:32 p.m.

II. Closed Session – 6:30 p.m. — A201A

The Closed Session meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

BUSINESS MEETING

III. Open Session – 7:30 p.m. – C234

Mr. Harris recalled to Order the meeting of May 18, 2015 of the New Trier High School Board of Education at 7:36 p.m. Mr. Harris noted that the Board had returned from a Closed Session meeting and welcomed those in attendance. Roll call was taken and all Board members were present. Mr. Harris announced that if anyone wished to address the Board during the Citizens' Comments part of the agenda, he or she would need to fill out a yellow Communications Request Form found on the table at the back of the room and pass it up to the Board table.

IV. Minutes

Mr. Harris requested a motion to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2015 Regular meeting, the Special Meeting on April 27 and the Special Meeting on May 5, 2015. Mr. O'Donoghue moved and Mr. Dolinko seconded the motion to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on April 20, 2015, open session and closed session; the minutes of the Special Meeting of April 27, 2015 open session; and the Special Meeting of May 5, 2015 open session. Mr. Harris asked if there were any further comments or

corrections to the minutes. None being presented, a roll call vote was taken and the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mr. Dolinko, Ms. Goldstein, Mr. O'Donoghue, Mr. Robitaille, Mr. Harris, Ms. Albrecht (May 5, 2015)
Mr. Myefski (April 20, 2015 and May 5, 2015)

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Ms. Albrecht for April 20, 2015 and April 27, 2015; Mr. Myefski for April 27, 2015

The motion passed.

V. Communications

Mr. Harris invited members of the Community to address the Board. No one came forward to speak.

VI. Special Orders of Business

A. Report from Campus Principals, Assistant Superintendents & Associate Superintendent

Mr. Paul Waechtler, Principal of the Northfield Campus, reported on year end activities which included a student concert and Spring Fest in the campus courtyards. Students raised \$4000 for the India Service Project. The Identity Project highlights older students performing skits for freshmen on what it is like to be a New Trier student. The Spring play "The Sparrow" was presented in a transformed Cornog Auditorium, when the stage of the Cornog was transformed to a black box theatre with seating for 200. The effect was spectacular as were the performances. Mr. Waechtler noted that the PARCC testing begins tomorrow and Wednesday this week and Friday is Trevia Day. Second semester exams will be on June 4, 5 and 8. After the Academics was last Monday for the incoming freshmen and was well attended by students interested in extracurricular activities.

Ms. Denise Dubravec, Principal of the Winnetka Campus began by honoring faculty and students. Ms. Susan Holderread of the Social Studies Department was named Distinguished Geographer for 2015 by the Illinois Geographical Society. Mr. Mark Garneau of the Library Department received Apple's Distinguished Educator Award. He is one of over 2,000 visionary educators and innovative leaders using Apple technology in and out of the classroom. Ms. Dubravec thanked Ted Koulentes and Susie Paunan for orchestrating the Sophomore Institute Day, in which our students participated in service work in the community. Our Boys and Girls Lacrosse teams joined with Loyola Academy's students to raise \$62,000 for Misericordia. The New Trier News and Trevia Yearbook captured 2nd place in the IHSA Journalism Sectional this past weekend, and are headed to the state tournament. She congratulated Carlo Trovato, Sarah Gompers and Kevin Bond, News and Yearbook sponsors. New Trier Chinese language students participated in MCTA's 7th Annual Midwest Chinese Speech Contest on April 25. One hundred fifty-five students participated, with nine New Trier students placing with gold, silver, and bronze medals. Junior Awards were presented to students on May 14 in the Gaffney Auditorium. One hundred thirty awards were given to one hundred seven juniors. May 22 is the last day for seniors and Trevia Day for all students to receive their yearbooks. The Senior Awards Ceremony will be on May 28. Three hundred one awards will be presented to one hundred ninety-one seniors. New Trier Scholarships total \$190,000 are to be distributed to approximately ninety students. The Metropolitan Community Project held their Action Day on May 9. The New Trier Service Board with sponsors Spiro Bolos and Dan Lawler join students from two CPS schools to advocate for fair funding of Illinois schools. Students from all three schools presented an Illinois Student Bill of Rights to teachers, families and legislators. Ms. Dubravec reviewed the numerous sports highlights which covered all the spring sports including girls' softball, boys' tennis, the rowing team, boys' volleyball, girls and boy's water polo, girls' soccer, girls' badminton, girls' lacrosse and track. She also noted that two sophomore and freshman sailing students placed first and second in the Admiral Hyman G. Regatta Cup.

Mr. Tim Hayes, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services reported that advisers were wrapping up their activities for the year and that Student Services is busy helping and supporting students as they prepare for their semester exams. He also commended Mr. Paul Waechtler for his presentation on "How to Define Success."

Mr. Paul Sally, Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction noted the Mobile Learning initiative is in full swing in providing iPads for incoming students. Approximately 15% of incoming freshmen have signed up. Five percent of students chose to use their own iPads. The cost to families for purchasing an iPad is the same as last year and the payment plans will also be the same for next year.

Ms. Cheryl Witham, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, noted there was one FOIA request for student data. The request was denied.

B. Foreign Exchange Students

Ms. Athena Arvanitis, Director of Student Life, introduced this year's foreign exchange students and their host families: *Monica Corcelli* from Italy was hosted by Kelly Costello and Mark Bickford; *Gianluca Furlan* from Italy was hosted by Natalie and Robert Kincaid; *Carmen Guasch* from Spain was hosted by Julia Mantice; *Joel Nikles* from Switzerland was hosted by Moira Fahey-Ullrich and Eugene Ullrich; *Teresa Baez Oyanedel* from Chile was hosted by Marcia and Jerry Osher and *Anja Ruckriegel* from Germany was hosted by Jackie and Ron Pomerantz. The students shared their experiences over the past year and expressed their gratitude to the Board, faculty, staff and their host families for the opportunity to attend New Trier High School. Dr. Yonke also thanked the host families for their generosity in opening up their homes to these wonderful students.

C. Food Service Bids

Ms. Denise Dubravec introduced the Food Service Bids agenda item by welcoming Food Service

Committee members Jacob Shaw and Danny Kogan as well as Kendra McCarthy, Transportation and Purchasing Coordinator. Sophomore students Jacob and Danny were invited to join the committee to evaluate food service at New Trier. The students were grateful for the opportunity to be part of the process as they assisted with student feedback and vendor profiles. The students shared their viewpoints of the process and the bid recommendation. Board discussion followed with responses from Ms. McCarthy and Ms. Witham.

Mr. Dolinko moved that the Board accepts the Bid submitted by Quest Food Management Services, Inc. and enters into a series of one-year contracts which will require mutual agreement and give authority to the Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations to execute the agreement with final attorney review. Mr. Myefski seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mr. O'Donoghue, Mr. Robitaille, Ms. Albrecht, Mr. Dolinko, Ms. Goldstein, Mr. Myefski, Mr. Harris

NAY: None

The motion passed unanimously.

D. Black Box Theatre Proposal Recommendation

Mr. Hayes reviewed the actions of the Naming Committee meeting of April 27 which considered the proposal for the renovation of the Black Box Theatre and possible naming rights per Board Policy 8-80. The committee reviewed the draft of the proposal, suggesting several edits and discussing specific aspects of the proposal. Using a model provided by the University of Michigan, it was recommended that an agreement be drafted, reviewed by District's counsel, and shared with the Black Box Theatre Committee. A revised estimate by Pepper Construction puts the cost of the theatre construction to be just over \$2M. Thus this project qualifies under the Board Policy 8-80, meeting the minimum donation of \$1M. The Naming Committee recommends that the Board agree to naming the black box theatre the Hayes-McCausland Theatre upon the receipt of a donation of \$1M from the Black Box Theatre Committee. The recommendation is contingent upon the creation of a formal agreement with the Black Box Committee, a copy of which is included in Board materials for this meeting.

Board discussion followed on whether this action sets a precedent for future naming proposals; the schedule of donations and payments; future proposals weighed on their own merits; and that the fundraising elements of the proposal may raise issues if goal not met. Mr. Dolinko raised concerns about the return of donations if the goal is not met. Mr. Myefski noted that the policy is clear; if the commitment is not met, than no naming takes place. Board members were in agreement that the proposal is good for all concerned and a great opportunity for the District. Ms. Albrecht noted there is a passion in the community to help in the fundraising for this purpose. Ms. Goldstein moved and Mr. Myefski seconded the motion that the Board agree to naming the black box theatre, the Hayes-McCausland Theatre upon the receipt of a donation of \$1million from the Black Box Theatre Committee, according to the terms of the agreement as approved by the Black Box Committee and the District, subject to final review by the Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations and the District's attorney. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mr. Robitaille, Ms. Albrecht, Mr. Dolinko, Ms. Goldstein, Mr. Myefski, Mr. O'Donoghue, Mr. Harris

NAY: None

The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Administrative Items

A. Preliminary Budget Update

Ms. Witham provided a Preliminary Budget Update Report for FY 2015-2016. She reviewed revenues, salaries, employee benefits, IMRF rates, facility capital projects, other expenditures and transfers. Ms. Witham highlighted there are decreases in the number of certified staff by 8 FTE, while non-certified numbers decreased by 5 FTE. Also Employee Benefits decreased by an estimate of \$290,000 with the actual renewal costs now posted. Based on this update report, the projected revenues increased by a net \$64,912 and projected expenditures decreased by roughly \$790,000. However \$500,000 of this is a transfer to the Capital Projects Fund. The net surplus after transfers is expected to be \$400,185. The District reported that cash on hand will equal 9.18 months. Ms. Witham responded to Board members comments and questions, noting another update will occur in June and the Tentative Budget will be presented in July.

B. Winnetka Campus Project Bid Package #6 Approval

Dr. Yonke summarized the memo from Pepper Construction for Bid Package #6 which included work for both the Winnetka Facility Project and District Capital Projects. All bids were included together to realize greater cost savings on the work slated for completion in both areas. She reviewed the schedule, the bid results, with the winning bids highlighted in green. Budget information was also included. The total amount for Bid #6 is \$20,278,831 which includes the estimate for concrete, masonry, steel, carpentry, roofing, aluminum and glass, elevators, and landscaping. This package came in under the estimated amount by \$423,231. The overall budget estimate for the Winnetka Project is now at \$102.8M. Dr. Yonke noted that 40% of the bidding has been done and sizable future bids are packets #7 and #8. The Facilities Steering Committee will meet next week to discuss further action to bring costs down. Board discussion followed regarding alternatives available, contingency costs, furniture, fixtures, and equipment costs. Mr. Rob Martinelli, Mr. Craig Dannegger and Mr. Jay Ripsky responded to Board members' questions. Mr. Myefski noted the need for teamwork effort with Wight and Co. to bring the project costs down the remaining 2-3%. Mr. Dolinko moved that the Board approves the award of the Prime Trade Agreements

exclusive of the bid award for the elevators for the Winnetka Campus West Side Addition and Capital Improvement Projects to those bidders highlighted in green in the Bid Results dated May 15, 2015. Ms. Goldstein seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Ms. Albrecht, Mr. Dolinko, Ms. Goldstein, Mr. Myefski, Mr. O'Donoghue, Mr. Robitaille, Mr. Harris

NAY: None

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Dolinko moved that the Board approve the award of the Prime Trade Agreement for the elevator work to be done to Kone, Inc. for the Winnetka Campus West Side Addition and Capital Improvement Projects as set forth in the Bid Results dated May 15, 2015. Mr. Robitaille seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mr. Dolinko, Ms. Goldstein, Mr. Myefski, Mr. O'Donoghue, Mr. Robitaille, Mr. Harris

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Ms. Albrecht

The motion passed.

VIII. Consent Agenda

- Bill List for the Period April 1-30, 2015
- Personnel Report
- Textbook Adoptions
- Transportation Services Bid
- Policy Revisions & Additions – Second Reading
- Asbestos Bid
- Winnetka Bell, Clock and PA System Bid
- Field Testing Contract Approval
- IASB Annual Dues

Mr. Harris asked if any Board member wished to remove items of the Consent Agenda for separate discussion. Mr. Dolinko requested the Transportation Services Bid be pulled for a separate vote. Mr. O'Donoghue requested the second reading of the Policy Revisions & Additions be pulled for discussion. Mr. Harris requested a motion on the remaining agenda items. Mr. Myefski moved and Mr. Robitaille seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda items which included the Bill List for the Period of April 1-30, 2015 as presented; the Personnel Report; the Textbook Adoptions for the 2015-2016 School Year; that the Board approve and award a contract to EHC Industries Inc. in the amount of \$63,670 for Summer 2015 asbestos abatement of areas of the North and Tower Buildings basements; that the Board approve and award a contract to First Security Systems in the amount of \$94,015.00 to provide and install the Carehawk control system upgrade to our current Bell, Clock and PA system on the Winnetka Campus; that the Board approve a contract for ECS Midwest LLC for the testing services detailed for the Winnetka Campus West Side Project; and that the Board approve the payment for the IASB Annual Dues. Mr. Robitaille seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Ms. Goldstein, Mr. Myefski, Mr. O'Donoghue, Mr. Robitaille, Ms. Albrecht, Mr. Dolinko, Mr. Harris

NAY: None

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Dolinko requested the Transportation Bid pulled for the reason that he worked with Alltown's president on District 39 Board and chooses to withdraw from discussion and voting on this item. Mr. O'Donoghue moved that the Board award the Transportation Bid to Alltown Bus Service in accordance with the bid specifications and subject to terms and conditions of the contract developed by legal counsel. Further that the Board of Education give authority for the Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations to execute the contract with final attorney review. Mr. Myefski seconded the motion. Mr. Harris requested any final discussion. No discussion followed. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mr. Myefski, Mr. O'Donoghue, Mr. Robitaille, Ms. Albrecht, Ms. Goldstein, Mr. Harris

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Mr. Dolinko

The motion passed.

Mr. O'Donoghue asked if there were any changes from the first reading. Dr. Yonke noted the definition of homeless students was added to Policy 7-65. Mr. O'Donoghue also asked about Policy 4-80. He noted that the policies had not been posted to BoardDocs. Mr. Dolinko motioned to table the discussion of the Second Reading of Board Policy Revisions and Additions to the June Regular meeting. Mr. Robitaille seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mr. O'Donoghue, Mr. Robitaille, Ms. Albrecht, Mr. Dolinko, Ms. Goldstein, Mr. Myefski, Mr. Harris

NAY: None

The motion passed.

IX. Board Member Reports

Mr. Harris shared the information that the new Board committee assignments are part of the Board packet for this month. He noted that Mr. Al Dolinko will be replacing Peter Fischer on the Facilities Steering Committee. He commended the citizen members of the Finance Committee, Ms. Gail Thomason and Mr. Bruce Lyon. Mr. Lyon indicated his desire to step down. Mr. Keith Dronan has indicated an interest for Board work and agreed to serve as the second community member on the committee.

Ms. Goldstein reported for the *New Trier Parents Association* which sponsored a Senior Adviser Chair and Post High School Counseling appreciation brunch. The Association also provided desserts at both campuses for teacher appreciation. A group of special needs parents would like to work collaboratively with the Parents' Association for these special student communities. The *New Trier Fine Arts Association* gave out a record number of summer scholarships. Forty-eight scholarships totaling almost \$24,000 were awarded to freshmen, sophomores, and juniors in Art, Band, Orchestra, Jazz, Debate, Chorus, and Theatre. \$10,500 was given out in confidential student assistance and support for various trips; \$28,000 in grants was given in Art, Theatre, Dance, Music and Speech; and \$6,000 for annual event sponsorships was provided. Paul Waechtler's presentation for *ECGC* was well attended with more than forty parents present. The committee is looking for new members for its student group. They provided new handouts at After the Academics for parents featuring all four of the parent Boards. The *NSSSED* Foundation has provided scholarships to six seniors who will be pursuing special education in their college careers. New officers have been elected and Ms. Goldstein will be the member-at-large for the new Advisory Committee. The NSSSED Board has approved the contract with School Exec Connect for their superintendent search.

Mr. O'Donoghue shared news of the *Technology Committee* which held their last meeting of the school year. Discussions focused on the application selection process for iPad use; new laptop selection; Cloud based computing and Microsoft 360; and the copier changes that will take place in the future. Facility changes were also discussed.

Mr. Robitaille noted he had no news to report other than the next *Facility Steering Committee* will be on May 27 and the next *Finance Committee* meeting will be June 2.

Mr. Harris reiterated that the Ground Breaking ceremony will be on June 1. He also commented on the terrific turnout of staff at the annual Recognition Dinner on May 15. Newly tenured teachers as well as ten and twenty-five year teachers and staff were all honored along with those retiring this year.

X. Board Members' Requests for Research & Calendar of Events

- Calendar of Events

Dr. Yonke reviewed the events of the next few weeks which included PARCC testing on Wednesday and Thursday of this week; Trevia Day and last day for seniors on Friday; Memorial Day Holiday on May 25; Senior Awards on May 28; Commencement on May 31; the Winnetka Facility Project Ground Breaking ceremony on June 1; semester exams on June 4, 5 and 8; the Board of Education Spring Recognition Program and June Regular Meeting on June 8; the last day of school on June 9 ; and the demolition of the Tech Arts Building begins on June 10.

- Board Members' Request for Staff Research and Future Agenda Items

No future requests were made, however Board discussion followed on the number of opportunities students were given to provide input on school climate and student issues. Mr. Hayes and Dr. Yonke responded noting the annual school climate survey, the Youth Risk Behavior survey that is administered every other year, and the soon-to-be implemented Consortium Senior Exit Survey.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. O'Donoghue moved that the Board adjourn the open meeting. Mr. Myefski seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote being taken, all members indicated they were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Anne Kelly, Secretary

F. Malcolm Harris, President