

**NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
May 16, 2016
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 16, 2016 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
Mr. Paul Sally, Associate Superintendent
for Curriculum & Instruction
Mr. Tim Hayes, Assistant Superintendent for
Student Services
Mr. Christopher Johnson, Assistant Superintendent
for Finance & Operations
Ms. Denise Dubravec, Principal –
Winnetka Campus
Mr. Paul Waechtler, Principal –
Northfield Campus

Also Present

Ms. Niki Dizon, Director of Communications; Mr. Gerry Munley, Assistant Principal, Winnetka Campus; Mr. Peter Tragos, Assistant Principal, Northfield Campus; Ms. Ellen Ambuehl, Director of Special Education; Mr. George Sanders, Director of Human Resources; Ms. Athena Arvanitis, Director of Student Life; Ms. Stephanie Helfand, Chief Technology Officer; Mr. Myron Spiwak, Business Services Director; Mr. Alfred Estberg, Mathematics Department; Ms. Christine Estberg, Science Department; Mr. Spiro Bolos, Social Studies Department, President New Trier Education Association; Mr. Colby Vargas, Social Studies Department; Mr. Erik Saszik, Mathematics Department; Mr. Matt Temple, Music Department; Mr. Mike Hill, Technology Department; Mr. Eric Johnson, Technology Department; Mr. David Powell, Wight & Co.; Mr. Rob Martinelli, Pepper Construction Co.; and 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. All members were present. Mr. Dolinko moved to 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. Mr. O’Donoghue 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.

Adjournment to Closed Session – 6:31 p.m.

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

BUSINESS MEETING

III. Open Session – 7:30 p.m. – C234

Mr. Harris re-called to Order the meeting of May 16, 2016 of the New Trier High School Board of Education at 7:34 p.m. Mr. Harris noted that the Board had returned from a Closed Session meeting. Roll call was taken. All Board members were present. He welcomed those in attendance and extended the invitation to speak to the Board during the Communications portion of the meeting. He directed those so interested, to fill out the yellow speaking request form at the back of the room and pass it forward to the Board table.

IV. Minutes

Mr. Harris asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Dolinko moved and Ms. Goldstein seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on April 18, 2016 open and closed session and the Special Meeting of April 28, 2016 open session. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Ms. Goldstein, Mr. O'Donoghue, Ms. Albrecht, Mr. Robitaille, Mr. Dolinko,
Mr. Harris for April 28, 2016

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Mr. Myefski, Mr. Harris for April 18, 2016

The motion passed.

V. Communications

Mr. Harris invited anyone from the audience that wished to speak to the Board to come forward. Hugh and Charyl Parry addressed the Board on Student Suspension Hearing Recommendations.

VI. Special Orders of Business

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

Mr. Paul Waechtler, Principal of the Northfield Campus, shared news and events from the freshman campus which included the Fourth Quarter Service Learning Projects of Springfest on May 4 and Music and Muffins that provided canned food to the Winnetka Food Pantry. The Shakespeare Festival was today, May 16, with over 500 students performing works by the Bard around campus. Trevia Day also occurred today. Final exams are Thursday, Friday this week and Monday of next week and the last day of school is May 25.

Mr. Dean Pinos was honored as a Distinguished Educator in Washington D.C. at the Teacher of the Year ceremony. The National Debate Coaching Association honored New Trier's Season Debate Opener with the William Woods Tate Jr. Tournament Host of the Year award. After the Academics activities fair took place on May 9 for incoming freshman.

Ms. Denise Dubravec, Principal of the Winnetka Campus, reviewed activities happening as the school year winds down. Friday, May 13 was the last day of attendance for seniors; today, May 16 was Trevia Day where yearbooks were distributed; Friday, May 20 is the Commencement Concert; Sunday, May 22 is Commencement and the Graduation Party. Ms. Dubravec thanked Kevin Bond and the students on the Yearbook Staff for producing this year's wonderful yearbook. Other student and teacher honors were mentioned for the Power Lifting team, the National Merit Finalists, Andy Milne in the Kinetic Wellness Department, Steve Viktora in the Mathematics Department, Garrett Forbes in the Science Department, the Junior Awards, the Science Olympiad team, Journalism students, Film students, and Gretchen Stauder for the GAP Year Program and Senior Projects. Ms. Dubravec commented on what a pleasure it is to hear alumni students at the All School Forum speak about their time at New Trier and their transitions to college life.

Mr. Tim Hayes, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, shared news how New Trier student Alex Singh who is transgender, was interviewed on the CBS News Hour and by the Chicago Tribune. Alex spoke of how embraced he feels from students and teachers alike. He feels accepted and supported at New Trier.

Mr. Hayes noted that Mr. Waechtler presented at the ECGC Round Table how to develop teens' moral compass. The next FAN presentation will be on May 19 at 7 p.m. in the Cornog Auditorium. Dr. Dacher Keltner will speak on the Power of Paradox: How we gain and lose influence.

Mr. Paul Sally, Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, reported that the state and federally mandated Science Assessment was completed. All first year biology students were tested which were about 900 students. It was administered during a double period science class. Mr. Sally thanked Mike Lee the Science Department Chair, Robin Ward the Science Department Coordinator, Elaine Kollar of the Science Department and Technology Department members Angel Villaluz, Jorge Gonzalez, Pam Asplund and Mike Valadez.

Mr. Chris Johnson, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations reported that there were several FOIA requests since the last Regular meeting of the Board. The two completed requests were concerning perfunctory information requests from the Illinois Fair Contractors Foundation regarding our contractors and the other completed request was for information on tuition reimbursement for employees. The last request that is still in progress is for records of lead testing in the school.

B. Board Officer Elections

Mr. Harris introduced the Board Officer Election agenda item with acknowledgement of the significant transitions in the coming months and years for the Board. He noted the search for a new Superintendent, township elections for new Board members and the completion of the Winnetka Campus Facility Project. He noted it is a time for new leaders to guide and carry the District through and he stated that this Board adjourn sine die.

Board Secretary, Lou Anne Kelly asked for nominations for the office of President of the Board of Education, for the period of May 16, 2016 through the April 2017 Regular meeting. Mr. Dolinko nominated Greg Robitaille for President. Mr. Myefski seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations for the office of President; therefore Mr. Robitaille is the new President of the Board of Education by acclamation.

Mr. Robitaille, as President, asked for nominations for the office of Vice President of the Board of Education for the period of May 16, 2016 through the April 2017 Regular meeting. Ms. Albrecht nominated Lori Goldstein to be the Vice President. Mr. Dolinko seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations for the office of Vice President; therefore Ms. Goldstein is the new Vice President of the Board of Education by acclamation.

Mr. Robitaille also asked for nominations for the office of Secretary of the Board of Education for the period of May 16, 2016 through April 2017 Regular meeting. Mr. Dolinko nominated Lou Anne Kelly to be the Secretary of the Board. Ms. Albrecht seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations for the office of Secretary; therefore Ms. Kelly is the Secretary of the Board of Education by acclamation.

Mr. Robitaille and Dr. Yonke thanked Mr. Harris for his seven years of service and stewardship of the Board and this past year as President.

Mr. Robitaille called to order the meeting of the New Trier Township District 203 for May 16, 2016. Roll call was taken and all members were present.

C. Foreign Exchange Students

Ms. Athena Arvanitis, Director of Student Life, introduced three of the four Foreign Exchange students for this year and invited them to share their experiences of the past year with the Board. Tobias Rodat from Germany was unable to attend and Ms. Arvanitis read a thank you note from him to the Board. Ms. Ilaria Nardella from Italy, Mr. Lucas Carvalho from Brazil and Ms. Essi Roininen from Finland all addressed the Board, sharing their thoughts, experiences and gratitude to the Board and their host families for the opportunity to study and learn at New Trier.

D. Presentation of Gift from Girls Club and Tri-Ship

Ms. Arvanitis introduced students Matt Gallo, Jake Paschen, Nicole Alston and Kailey Patterson, representing officers of the Girls Club and Tri-Ship organizations. These two clubs, with their long traditions of service and fundraising, are pleased to provide the District with a check for \$100,000 to complete the work for a green rooftop garden in the new Winnetka Facility Project. Dr. Yonke shared the landscape and patio plans for the 3,000 square foot area. Mr. Robitaille graciously accepted the donation

and Board members were overwhelmed by the generosity of the student clubs. Mr. Dolinko moved and Mr. Myefski seconded the motion that the Board accept the Gift of \$100,000 from the Girl's Club and Tri-SHIP for the north green roof. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

VII. Administrative Items

A. Construction Update

Dr. Yonke provided the monthly construction project update report sharing news from the Neighbors meeting in April and reviewing the progress on the schedule. From the Neighbors meeting she highlighted concerns over dust and noise. Pepper is aware of the issues during last year's demolition and is ready to address the demolition dust more aggressively this summer. The project is on track to meet the set milestones of May with the ceiling grid installation and decommissioning the Cafeteria and Music Buildings for demolition. The Phase I completion is on track for August this summer. Phase II demolition should be done by late June. She noted that a full report is planned for the June Regular Board meeting which marks the half-way point of the project. Status of the contingency costs will be included in that report. Mr. Rob Martinelli reviewed the project's progress with photos of the construction work. Mr. Martinelli responded to Board members' comments and questions on project delays, the construction road and the schedule chart.

B. Treasurer's Report – April 2016

Mr. Robitaille requested that Mr. Chris Johnson review the Treasurer's Report and the Monthly Financial Reports first and then Board discussion and questions would follow. Mr. Johnson noted for the Treasurer's Report, that the new reporting format has been fully implemented, showing District current information. He stated that all cash is invested for four-year terms with liquidity to provide cash when needed and maximize interest income.

C. Monthly Financial Reports – April 2016

Mr. Johnson noted that the Monthly Financial Report showed the District finances to be trending well. Operating Revenues were higher compared to last year and the Operating Expenditures were lower. Fund balances for all accounts were \$186,734,180. Mr. Johnson invited comments and questions from Board members. Mr. Robitaille inquired about the Student Activities account, how it is used and the average balance in the account. Board discussion followed on the use of the account with the more than 300 student groups depositing and accessing the funds. Mr. Johnson will present a more detailed report on the Student Activity accounts at a future regular meeting.

VIII. Consent Agenda

- Bill List for the Period April 1-30, 2016
- Personnel Report and Addenda
- Ratification of Change Orders #8
- IASA Annual Dues
- New Textbooks for 2016-2017
- Resolution Accepting Gift to Scholarship Trust Fund
- Vending Contract Approval
- Student Suspension Hearing Recommendations

Mr. Robitaille asked if any Board member would like to remove any items from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion. None of the Consent Agenda items were singled out for discussion. Mr. Dolinko moved that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Bill List for the Period April 1-30, 2016; the Personnel Report and Addenda; that the Board of Education of New Trier Township High School District 203 ratifies Budget Change Order Number 8 to the contracts managed by Pepper Construction Company; and furthermore, deducts the amount of \$60,368.00 from the West Side Project Construction Contingency line item, all in the best interest of the District; that the Board approves the IASA Annual Dues; the New Textbooks for 2016-2017, as presented; the Resolution Accepting a Gift from the Last Will and

Testament of Corlies Maynard dated October 6, 1987; the three year vending agreement with Mark Vend and authorize the Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations to execute the contract subject to final attorney review; and that the Board vote to uphold the student suspension. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

IX. Board Member Reports

Ms. Goldstein reported for the *Parents Association*, noting their planning for the Graduation Party and end-of-year activities. They are also reorganizing their Parents Press newsletter into a magazine format.

The *All School Forum* provided discussions with present and past New Trier students on the transitions to college life and preparedness for it. NSSED honored five high school students including New Trier peer mentor, Kara Charpentier. NSA elementary is out of space and urgently in need of transition space for their Northbrook facility.

Ms. Albrecht echoed the previous report for the *ECGC* Round Table discussions on Teens Moral Compass. The *NTEF* Executive Committee met on April 26 and is planning the implementation of the recommendations by their consultant. These recommendations include a legacy society for planned gifts. The next full Board meeting is on June 8 when they will consider the recommendation to include the Superintendent as a voting member.

Mr. Dolinko reported for the *Booster Club* which earlier in the evening hosted a ceremony at the football field to honor and thank retiring Athletic Director, Randy Oberembt. He reviewed payments of the club which included requests from the swim, baseball and softball teams and an approved Tackle the Turf payment of \$120-140,000 for this year. A manageable final payment will be made next year to complete the Club's commitment of \$1M to the District for the playing fields. Mr. Dolinko noted that the Club membership has grown to 920 families and new board officers have been elected. He commended Susan Theiss for her fine job of stewardship and welcomed Midge Hano as the new President.

Mr. Harris praised the Booster Club for their membership growth and echoed Ms. Goldstein's comments on the All School Forum student feedback.

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

- Calendar of Events

Dr. Yonke reviewed the last items and events for the school year which included Final Exams on Thursday, Friday and Monday, May 19, 20 and 23, 2016; the last day of student attendance is Wednesday, May 25 and the School is closed on Monday, May 30 for the Memorial Day holiday. The next Regular Board meeting is on Monday, June 6 with the Spring Board Recognition Program beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Cornog Auditorium that day. Summer School begins on June 13.

- Board Members' Requests for Future Agenda Items

Mr. O'Donoghue inquired if the Policy Committee was considering changes to the Student Suspension Policy. Dr. Yonke responded yes and the Parry's will be included in a meeting with Dr. Yonke for their feedback. Dr. Yonke also noted that that and more policy revisions will be presented to the Board at the June Regular meeting. New Board Committee and Liaison assignments were discussed. Mr. Robitaille requested that members provide their preferences for assignment, which will then be announced at the June meeting.

XI. ADJOURN to Closed Session

Mr. O'Donoghue moved 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. Mr. Dolinko seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as

follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

Adjournment to Closed Session – 9:02 p.m.

Closed Session — A201A

Open Session – 10:05 p.m. – C234

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Robitaille re-called to Order the meeting of May 16, 2016 at 10:05 p.m. Roll call was taken. All members were present. Mr. O'Donoghue moved that the Board adjourn the open meeting. Mr. Dolinko seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote being taken, all members indicated they were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 10:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Anne Kelly, Secretary

Gregory Robitaille, Vice President