NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
September 16, 2013
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, Room C234 on Monday, September 16, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present
Mr. Alan R. Dolinko, President
Mr. F. Malcolm Harris, Vice President
Mr. Peter Fischer
Ms. Lori Goldstein
Mr. John Myefski
Mr. Patrick O'Donoghue
Mr. Greg Robitaille

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, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
Ms. Denise Hibbard, Principal – Winnetka Campus
Mr. Paul Waechtler, Principal – Northfield Campus

Also Present
Ms. Niki Dizon, Director of Communications; Mr. George Sanders, Director of Human Resources; Ms. Ellen Ambuehl, Director of Special Education; Mr. Matt Ottaviano, Assistant Principal, Winnetka Campus; Mrs. Linda Knier, Director of Academic Services; Mr. Peter Tragos, Assistant Principal, Northfield Campus; Mr. Christopher Wildman, Director of Business Services; Ms. Katherine Schindler, Assistant Principal, Student Services, Winnetka Campus; Mr. Christopher Johnson, Director of Technology; Ms. Athena Arvanitis, Director of Student Life; Ms. Mary Beth Barrett, Science Department; Mr. Alex Klein, Social Studies Department; Mr. Todd Maxman, Social Studies Department; Ms. Susan Holderread, Social Studies Department; Ms. Jenny Wexler, Mathematics Department; Mr. Erik Saszik, Mathematics Department, NTEA President; Ms. Kay Pothast, Kinetic Wellness Department; Mr. Dan Licata, English Department; Ms. Elizabeth Blodgett, Business Department; Mr. Paul Easton, English Department; Ms. Molly Lombardi, Social Studies Department; Ms. Jenny Niemi, Social Studies Department; Ms. Judy Macnab, Department Chair, Library Department; Mr. Mike Baeb, Social Studies Department; Ms. Debbie Johnson, Department Chair, Social Studies Department; Mr. Gerry Munley, Department Chair, Science Department; Ms. Robyn Ward, Science Department Coordinator: Ms. Mary Lappan, Mathematics Department; Mr. Steve Viktora, Department Chair, Mathematics Department; Mr. David Ladd, Department Chair, Music Department; Mr. Tim Estberg, Music Department; Mr. Matt Temple, Director of Bands, Music Department; Mr. Nick Meyer, Director of Jazz Ensembles, Music Department; Ms. Susan Vaughn, Music Department; Ms. Kristine Kelsh, Mathematics Department; Ms. Katja Steen, Modern and Classical Languages Department; Ms. Pam Beavin, Modern and Classical Languages Department; Mr. Jason Boumstein, Department Chair, Applied Arts Department; Mr. Daniel Paustian, Department Coordinator, Social Work Department; Mr. Paul Kermgard, Special Education Department; Ms. Michael Christensen, Social Studies Department; Ms. Sharon Weiner, Sophomore Girls Adviser Chair; Mr. Mark Howard, Freshman Boys Advisor Chair; Mr. John Miller, Science Department; Mr. Terry Phillips, Mathematics Department; Mr. David Heineman, Social Studies Department; Mr. Jay Rosenberg, English Department; Mr. Ed Zwirner, English Department Coordinator; Mr. Jason Dane, Kinetic Wellness Department; Ms. Anne James Noonan, Performing Arts Department Coordinator; Ms. Joan Liess, Health Services Department, Ms. Gretchen Stauder, Post High School Counseling Department; Mr. Matt Sloan, Science Department; Mr. Jim Burnside, Science Department; Mr. Paul Moretta, Social Studies Department and Athletic Coordinator; Ms. Elizabeth Plank, Social Studies Department; Ms. Susie Thorngren, Post High School Counseling; Mr. Pete Collins, Kinetic Wellness Coordinator; Mr. Robert Spagnoli, Applied Arts Department; Ms. Kaye Boling, Special Education Department; Mr. Brian Van Mersbergen, Kinetic Wellness Department; Mr. Wes Molyneaux, Science Department; Mr. Tom Shorrock, Post High School Counseling Department; Mr. Marc Garneau, Business Education Department; Ms. Debbie Lazar, Library Department; Mr. Dan Rogan, Post High School Counseling Department; Mr. Michael O'Connor, Post High School Counseling Department; Mr. Kerry Hall, Social Studies Department; Ms. Claudia Furman, English Department; Ms. Leslie Birdwell, English Department; Mr. Josh Wenger, ARAMARK Food Service Director;

Mr. Wes Bauman and additional members of the faculty, press and community.

BUSINESS MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER – 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Dolinko called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:32 p.m. Roll call was taken. All members were present. Mr. Dolinko asked for a motion to move to Closed Session. Mr. Fischer moved and Mr. Myefski 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 to discuss the collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment to Closed Session – 6:34 p.m.

II. Closed Session – 6:30pm — A201A

The Closed Session meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

BUSINESS MEETING

III. Re-Convene to Open Session – 7:30 p.m. – C234

Mr. Dolinko reconvened the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance. Roll call was taken and all members were present. Mr. Dolinko noted that the Board is returning from a closed session. He announced that if anyone wished to address the Board during the Citizen's Comments part of the agenda, he or she needed 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.

Mr. Dolinko also took the opportunity to share the news that the Board and the New Trier Township Education Association reached a tentative agreement on a new teachers' contract on the evening of September 12. The procedure going forward is that the Faculty Association will bring the agreement to the teachers for ratification before October 1. After ratification, the contract will be presented to the Board for discussion and a vote at a Special Board of Education Meeting, the date of which is still to be determined. The new contract will not be taken up by the Board this evening as the Faculty Association has not yet ratified the tentative agreement.

IV. Minutes

Mr. Dolinko requested a motion to approve the minutes of the August Regular meeting. Mr. O'Donoghue moved and Mr. Myefski seconded the motion to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on August 26, 2013, open session and closed session. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed unanimously.

V. Communications

Mr. Dolinko invited members of the Community to share their comments with the Board. Mr. Matt Tanner came forward to request that the Board share a copy of the tentative Teachers' Association agreement with the public before the Board approves it. Mr. Myefski noted that there will be a process where the agreement will be discussed in public session and the community will have an opportunity to view and comment on the terms of the new agreement at the soon-to-be-determined Special Meeting of the Board.

Mr. Dolinko also noted that there will be a Public Hearing later in this meeting on the Final Budget for 2013-2014. He invited anyone interested in speaking to the Board on the Budget should also fill out the yellow

request form at the back of the room and hand it forward. Citizen comments on the Budget will be addressed during the Public Hearing.

VI. Special Orders of Business

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

Mr. Paul Waechtler, Principal of the Northfield Campus, shared the various activities that are part of the start-up of the new school year which include a Freshman Parent Advisor Night; Activities Assemblies and an Activities Fair during student lunches; the Freshmen Mixer on Wednesday, October 9; and the Freshman-Go-To-School Night on Thursday, October 10.

Ms. Denise Hibbard, Principal of the Winnetka Campus, reported on events at the Winnetka Campus. She is visiting all the sophomore adviser rooms, welcoming and reaching out to them in this, her first year at the Winnetka Campus. Recruitment for the 150+ clubs and extra-curricular activities took place last week at the Student Activities Fair. Ms. Hibbard also shared happy news of thirty-seven New Trier seniors who qualified as National Merit Semi-Finalists, scoring 216 or better of a possible 240 point score on the PSAT exam, taken in the fall of the junior year. This exam is administered to 1.5 million students nation-wide, 50,000 of whom made the scholarship program in Illinois. Ms. Hibbard also reported on the scheduled Sophomore Parent Adviser nights on September 17 and 19; the Senior Project Parent meeting on September 18 and the FAN, ECGC and New Trier presentation by author Rosalind Wiseman in the Gaffney Auditorium on Friday, September 20 at 7:00 p.m. A new assembly for sophomores will take place on September 24 and 26 on bullying and cyber-bullying; the Lagniappe/Potpourri student production will be on October 15 – 17; and lastly, the Homecoming activities include the football game on October 18 and the Homecoming Dance on October 19.

Mr. Tim Hayes, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, noted that Ms. Hibbard, Mr. Waechtler and he have been working closely with the sender district principals and superintendents on the all township Institute Day on February 18. Staff from all the sender districts in the township will come together for collaboration on social and emotional learning issues. Mr. Hayes also noted that Ms. Kay Redfield will speak on October 8. She is the noted author of *The Unquiet Mind*. A panel discussion is planned for October 17 with Kris Schmitt and Tiffany Myers to provide parents and the community an opportunity to hear about the resources available on mental health, substance abuse, and body image.

Mr. Paul Sally, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, reported that the Mobile Learning Initiative transition is moving along well. Meetings are being held for parents to provide information about the transitions, costs, teacher training, and ongoing professional development.

Ms. Cheryl Witham, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, reported that there were no FOIA requests received since the last Regular Board of Education meeting.

B. Lagniappe/Potpourri Presentation

Ms. Anne James-Noonan, Performing Arts Coordinator, introduced students Claudia DeTrempe, Paige Campbell, Simira Mian, Dylan Lederer, and Rachel Goldfinger, who performed a skit from the upcoming Lagniappe/Potpourri. This all-student production will be on October 15, 16 and 17 in the Gaffney Auditorium at the Winnetka Campus. All were invited to attend.

C. Foreign Exchange Students

Ms. Katherine Schindler, Assistant Principal at the Winnetka Campus introduced the five foreign exchange students for this year and asked each to comment on their first impressions of New Trier. This year's students are Oskar Norstedt from Sweden, staying with host family Julie and Steve Kaiser; Hans Scheulien from Germany, staying with host family Julie and Hans Geyer; Karen Heggelund from Norway, staying with host family Kathy and Chris Tucker; Lucie Haignere from France, staying with host family Ranell and Scott Conine; and John-Erik Hansen from Norway, staying with host family Andrea and Glenn Ventrell. Mr. Dolinko welcomed all the exchange students and wished them well for the school year. Dr. Yonke thanked the host families for their important and integral part of the Foreign Exchange program.

D. Summer School Report

Mr. Tim Hayes, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, presented the Summer School Report for this past summer, 2013. He indicated that there has been a drop in enrollment for the second year in a row, though there has been an increase in registrations for academic courses and enrichment courses over the

same time period. He noted the statistics for the various courses offered and the demographic breakdown of the same. He highlighted the financial overview which showed slightly more revenue than expenses for the program. Noting the pattern of alternating fee increases or freezes over the past few years, next year would indicate freezing the summer school tuition fees. However, Mr. Hayes' recommendation would be a small increase to cover the expenses of Revtrak, the online registration service as 94% of summer school registrations are online. Board discussion followed with Mr. Hayes and Ms. Witham responding to Board members questions. Discussion included the topics of course offerings, course fees and enrollment. Board consensus agreed to freeze summer school fees for next year and look at future increases incrementally over time.

VII. Administrative Items

A. Financial Reports for August 2013

Ms. Witham presented and reviewed the Financial Reports which included Cash Flow Statements for 2011 through 2014, the Financial Statement for August and the August Investment Report. Ms. Witham reported that the August Cash Balances increased to $22 million due to the receipt of most of the Cook County tax payments. She also noted the District's investments are designed to mature in time for Accounts Payable and payroll purposes.

B. Public Hearing on 2013-2014 Final Budget

Mr. Dolinko reviewed the process of holding a Public Hearing on the 2013-14 Final Budget, noting the opportunity for public comment. Speakers must use the Communication Request Forms at the back of the room if they wish to speak about the Budget. Mr. Dolinko called the Public Hearing to order and asked Ms. Witham for a presentation of the 2013-14 Final Budget. Ms. Witham reviewed the budget and the budget process as she listed the sequence of steps of the Budget Calendar through to the Final Budget.

She noted the total revenues and expenditures by sources, funds and programs. Ms. Witham stated that there were no changes in this Budget from the Tentative Budget. Mr. Dolinko opened the Hearing to public comment, inviting anyone in the audience to come forward and address the Board. No one came forward to speak. Board discussion followed with some members noting their questions were answered at the July meeting when the Tentative Budget was approved. Mr. O'Donoghue repeated his frustration with the system under which school budgets are structured. Mr. Dolinko noted this was a sound budget, and effectively a balanced budget with reserves that have positioned the District with good bond ratings. With no further discussion, Mr. Myefski moved that the Board move to close the Public Hearing on the 2013-2014 Final Budget. Ms. Goldstein seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed unanimously.
The following estimate of amounts available in each fund represents the 2013-14 Final Budget:

Education Fund	$83,483,460.
Operations & Maintenance Fund	$ 7,338,678.
Transportation Fund	$ 1,950,775.
Municipal Retirement/Social Security Fund	$ 3,320,032.
Debt Service Fund	$ 4,528,901.
Capital Projects Fund	$ 567,650.
Fire Prevention and Safety Fund	$ 750,000.
Total:	**$101,939,496**.

C. Approval of 2013-2014 Final Budget

Mr. Fischer moved and Mr. Harris seconded the motion that the Board approve the Resolution setting the Fiscal Year and Adopting the 2013-2014 Budget, the Certificate of Revenue for the 2013-2014 Budget, and the School District Budget Form. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Consent Agenda

- Bill List for the Period August 1-31, 2013
- Personnel Report

Mr. Dolinko asked if any Board member wished to remove items of the Consent Agenda for separate discussion. There were no requests to remove items for open discussion. Mr. Dolinko requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Goldstein moved that the Board approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Bill List for the Period of August 1-31, 2013 and the Personnel Report. Mr. Fischer seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Board Member Reports

Mr. Myefski reported for the ***Facilities Steering Committee*** noting they are working on a facilities needs assessment.

Mr. O'Donoghue attended the ***New Trier Fine Arts Association*** meeting and reported that they are selling their yard signs and will continue through October 20. Parents may purchase these signs as a show of support for their students and the New Trier Fine Arts Program. Tickets are also on sale for Lagniappe/Potpourri and the Fall Play, and Mr. O'Donoghue encouraged all to attend.

Mr. Fischer reported for the ***New Trier Education Foundation***, noting that the Benefit Golf Outing was a successful day, bringing over $80,000 in gross revenue for the event. The ***All School Forum*** will have its first meeting tomorrow, September 17 and the ***Policy Committee*** will meet on Wednesday, September 18.

Ms. Goldstein announced that the first ***ECGC*** meeting for the year will be September 24 in Room C234 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. All parents are welcome. Ms. Goldstein noted that the ***Parents Association*** has been discussing fees and their fee structure. They are also busy producing the School Directory. It will be smaller this year and one directory will be distributed per household. More directories are available for purchase. The ***NSSED*** Board has approved its budget. She noted that High School District 203 has 22 students at the North Shore Academy. There are two new course offerings – STEM and Build and the school is planning a one-to-one Chrome Books initiative to launch soon.

Mr. Dolinko reported for the first meeting of the year of the ***Booster Club*** which included discussions on raising the balance of funds ($500,000) of the Tackle the Turf Campaign. They are looking at completing the campaign over the next two years with goals of $250,000 to be raised each year. Other requests for funding have been received from sports teams for items such as portable scoreboards. Mr. Dolinko praised the hard work of the Club members for the benefit of the students.

X. Board Members' Calendar of Events

- Calendar of Events

  Dr. Yonke reviewed the numerous activities going on in the next four weeks before the next regular meeting of the Board on Monday, October 21. She reiterated that the Policy Committee meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 18. The first of the paired early dismissal/late start days begin this Friday and next Monday in which faculty and administration hold department and learning cohort meetings. Dr. Yonke noted there will likely be a Special Board of Education called for the first week of October for the NTEA contract approval. Dr. Yonke also mentioned that she, Paul Sally, and Tim Hayes will be attending the fall meeting of the 21st Century Benchmark Consortium on October 2 through October 4. She is looking forward to discussing the graduate survey results among the attending school administrators. Freshman-Go-To-School Night is on October 10; Institute Day is on October 11, and Columbus Day is on October 14. The fall testing day is October 16, when the PLAN and PSAT tests are administered. The fall Performing Arts productions of Lagniappe/Potpourri and "As You Like It" also take place the week before the October Board

meeting. Lastly, Homecoming festivities start on Friday, October 18 with faculty and Parents Association hospitality tents providing food before the football game and the Homecoming Dance taking place on Saturday, October 19 in the Gates Gym.

- Board Members' Request for Staff Research and Future Agenda Items
  Mr. O'Donoghue requested an update report on the synthetic turf field usage and rentals.
  Mr. Myefski noted the earlier request made during the Communication portion of the meeting regarding a public viewing of the tentative agreement with the New Trier Education Association. Mr. Robitaille and Mr. O'Donoghue agreed. Board discussion followed. Mr. Dolinko suggested publishing a document or PowerPoint presentation before the Special Meeting for approval. Production on this can begin immediately; however it cannot be published until the teachers' association has approved the new agreement. The consensus decision was to publish the important highlights on the agreement on BoardDocs before the Special Meeting convenes. Mr. O'Donoghue noted that the current teachers' contract is on the school's website.

XI. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

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 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lou Anne Kelly, Secretary Alan R. Dolinko, President