

NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
April 27, 2015
New Trier Township High School
7 Happ Road, Room C234
Northfield, IL 60093

A **Special 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, and Room C234 on Monday, April 27, 2015 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. 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, Associate Superintendent
for Curriculum & Instruction

Members Absent

Mr. John Myefski

Also Present

Ms. Niki Dizon, Director of Communications; Mr. Christopher Johnson, Chief Information Officer; Mr. Dave Conway, Facility Manager, Northfield Campus; Mr. Steve Linke, Facility Manager, Winnetka Campus; Mr. Jay Ripsky, Pepper Construction; Mr. David Powell, Wight & Co.; Mr. Robert Martinelli, Pepper Construction; Mr. Craig Dannegger, Pepper Construction; Ms. Pat Sumrow, Winnetka Campus Project Facilitator; Ms. Cathy Albrecht.

BUSINESS MEETING

I. Call to Order – 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Dolinko called the Special Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:31p.m. Roll call was taken and all members were present except Mr. Myefski.

II. Public Comment

Mr. Dolinko invited anyone in the audience to address the Board at this time. No one came forward to speak.

III. Earthwork Bid Package

Dr. Yonke reviewed the Earthwork Bid Package which was opened last week for work on the west side of the Winnetka Referendum Project as well as the Essex Road work and an alternate bid for the Boiler Plant parking lot. Three bidders submitted bids and the low bid was significantly over budget by \$1,108,744. Dr. Yonke highlighted that there are two funding sources for the work to be done and that the Boiler Plant parking lot, an amount of \$49,000, will be funded through the Capital Projects fund. She noted that while this now brings the overall project budget to \$103.2M, it only represents approximately 13% of the total bid packages. Board discussion followed with members querying Pepper representatives Rob Martinelli, Craig Dannegger, and Jay Ripsky on the discrepancy between bids and estimates. They responded by stating that while their estimates may have been aggressive, the market for earthwork has increased greatly in a short time and become very expensive, citing the volatility of the market. They noted they had invited many more than the three firms who actually bid and there would be no benefit to sending the package out for re-bid. Costs would more likely increase further and it would delay the project by at least one month. Board members shared their frustration with these early results and expressed concerns over the added pressure to bring in future bid packages at or below their estimates. Mr. Dolinko also noted the market volatility was not forecasted by Concord, the firm providing the District with independent estimates. Mr. Martinelli and Mr. Ripsky assured the Board that Pepper Construction is working hard for the District and anticipates more competitive bidding for future project packages. Mr. Fischer moved and Mr. Robitaille seconded the motion that the Board award the Prime Trade Agreement for Earthwork for the Winnetka Campus West Side Addition Project and the Essex Road Project to Lenny Hoffman Excavating as indicated in the Bid Result. 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. Dolinko

NAY: None.

The motion passed.

IV. Consent Agenda

- Personnel Report

Mr. Dolinko asked if any Board member wished to remove items of the Consent Agenda for separate discussion. There were no requests for discussion. Mr. Fischer moved and Ms. Goldstein seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda which included the Personnel Report. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

Discussion followed

V. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Anne Kelly, Secretary

Alan R. Dolinko, President