

**NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
September 17, 2018
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, September 17, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present

Mr. Greg Robitaille, President
Mr. Keith Dronen
Ms. Carol Ducommun
Dr. Marc Glucksman
Ms. Lori Goldstein
Mr. Patrick O’Donoghue

Administrators Present

Dr. Paul Sally, Superintendent
Dr. Timothy Hayes, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services
Mr. Christopher Johnson, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations
Ms. Joanne Panopoulos, Assistant Superintendent for Special Education
Mr. Peter Tragos, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
Mrs. Denise Dubravec, Principal – Winnetka Campus
Mr. Paul Waechtler, Principal – Northfield Campus

Members Absent

Ms. Cathy Albrecht, Vice President

Also Present

Mr. Myron Spiwak, Business Services Director; Mr. George Sanders, Director of Human Resources; Ms. Gail Gamrath, Assistant Principal of the Northfield Campus; Mr. Scott Williams, Assistant Principal for Student Services, Winnetka Campus; Ms. Niki Dizon, Director of Communications; Ms. Athena Arvanitis, Assistant Principal for Student Programs and Operations; Mr. Mike Lee, Assistant Principal for Administrative Services at the Winnetka Campus; Dr. Chimille Dillard, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Mr. Jason Dane, Kinetic Wellness Department faculty, New Trier Education Association Past President; Mr. Dave Conway, District Director of Physical Plant Services; Ms. Jessica Reineck, Special Education Department Faculty; Ms. Raquelle Brennan, Library Department Faculty; Mr. Alf Estberg, Mathematics Department Faculty; Ms. Christine Estberg, Science Department Faculty; Ms. Hilerre Kirsch, Media, Speech and Theatre Interim Department Chair; Ms. Lindsey Ruston, Board of Education Secretary; Mr. Mike Hill, Technology Department; Mr. Eric Johnson, Technology Department; and members of the press and community.

BUSINESS MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:00 p.m. – Rm. C234

II. CLOSED SESSION – There was no Closed Session.

III. BUSINESS MEETING

Open Session – 7:00 p.m. – C234

Mr. Robitaille called to order the Open Session, Regular Business Meeting of the New Trier High School Board of Education of August 27, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Albrecht was absent, but all other members were present.

IV. Minutes

Mr. Robitaille asked for any comments or adjustments on the Minutes for the Regular Meeting on August 27, 2018. There were no questions or comments. Mr. O’Donoghue moved and Ms. Goldstein seconded, the motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 27, 2018, open and closed sessions. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Ms. Goldstein, Mr. O’Donoghue, Mr. Dronen, Ms. Ducommun, Dr. Glucksman, Mr. Robitaille

NAY: none

The motion passed.

V. Communications

Mr. Robitaille invited anyone from the audience who wished to address the Board to come forward and fill out a yellow communications request form from the back table. No one came forward to address the Board.

VI. Special Orders of Business

A. Report from Campus Principals

Mr. Paul Waechtler, Principal of the Northfield Campus, shared information and events happening at the freshman campus, which included:

- **Adviser Rooms:** Adviser Rooms are spending time completing various community-building activities together.
- **Observations:** Mr. Waechtler noted that he has done some informal classroom observations of teachers and that the dynamic in the classrooms has been positive.
- **Extracurricular Assembly:** This occurred during adviser room so students could get a better understanding of the opportunities available to them in regards to performing arts, clubs and athletics.
- **The Identity Project Assemblies:** The Assemblies occurred on Monday, September 17th and Tuesday, September 18th as a way to launch the year-long initiative on social-emotional education.
- **Homecoming:** There will be a pep rally on each campus for Homecoming on Friday, September 28th.
- **Concession Stand:** Mr. Waechtler has received numerous positive comments from students and parents in regards to the new concession stand.
- **Holidays:** Students are enjoying the breaks that have been built back into the calendar.
- **Freshman Adviser Parent Night:** This evening was held as a way to allow parents to get to know their student's adviser better. Speeches were given by Mr. Waechtler, Ms. Gamrath, Assistant Principal at the Northfield campus, Mr. Mark Howard, Freshman Boys' Adviser Chair and Ms. Sue Ellen Haak, Freshman Girls' Adviser Chair.

Mrs. Denise Dubravec, Principal of the Winnetka Campus continued sharing student events and programs at the Winnetka Campus, which included:

- **National Merit Semifinalists:** The principal's office received information about New Trier's National Merit Semifinalists. There are 31 semifinalists, the index score was 221 (which is the same as the previous year, 2018) and there are twenty girls and eleven boys. The next step is to work with Post-High School Counseling and in the spring, New Trier will learn who the finalists are and receive more information about the scholarships.
- **Transfer Students Breakfast:** About fifty students attended the breakfast. Mrs. Dubravec anticipates that at next month's meeting, the Board will hear from some of the students in the club.
- **Concession Stand:** Mrs. Dubravec thanked the Board for the dedication to Miss Mac (Ms. Jane McNamara). Miss Mac had about one hundred people escort her out onto the field; Mr. Augie Fontanetta, Athletic Director, then gave a brief speech in which he honored Miss Mac and her work and dedication to New Trier.
- **ELS and Transition Families Barbeque:** Ms. Joanne Panopoulos organized a barbeque for ELS and Transition families and was a nice way to spend time with these families.
- **Visitor Check-In Processes:** Mrs. Dubravec thanked Ms. Athena Arvanitis, Assistant Principal for Student Programs and Operations, for her work on the visitor check-in process and communicating those changes to parents.
- **Emergency Procedures:** On September 20th, at the beginning of each period, teachers will review the various emergency procedures as it relates to the space that they are in.
- **Adviser Presentation:** Ms. Arvanitis put together a presentation for advisers to share with students on being kind to fellow students, forming relationships with others and "see something, say something" if a student notices that someone or something does not seem right.
- **Junior Year Timeline** is on September 20th and provides an overview of the college planning process.
- **Homecoming** is on September 28th with pep rallies at each campus. New Trier will play Evanston in the Homecoming Game and the theme for the dance is outer space.
- **Activities Fair:** On September 18th, there will be an Activities Fair. This is a nice opportunity for students to find out more about the 150 plus clubs offered at New Trier and encourage them to participate.
- **Vaping:** There has been a lot of positive feedback from parents. Mrs. Dubravec mentioned the website that Ms. Dizon created as an informative link to parents and the various parent groups. Parent

University, the New Trier Parents' Association educational group, is also hosting a Straight Talk in October that will go more in depth on this issue. The police department, social work department and the student assistance program coordinator will all participate in this event. Some of the YRBS (Youth Risk Behavior Survey) will be presented.

- **Alumni Tours:** One hundred people from the class of 1968 will tour the building during their 50-year reunion.

A. FOIA Report

Mr. Chris Johnson, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, noted that there were two FOIA requests received since the last Board of Education Regular meeting. Both of those requests have been closed. They were:

1. Information relating to the Seminar Day a year ago.
2. Numbers of students trying out for football over the past fifteen years.

B. Foreign Exchange Students

Ms. Athena Arvanitis, Assistant Principal for Student Programs and Operations, welcomed the four foreign exchange students that are attending New Trier for the 2018-2019 school year. She introduced each student, as well as, the families who are hosting the students: Carl (David) Karlsson from Sweden, hosted by Elizabeth Brauen-Kamphuis and Henk Kamphuis of Winnetka; Pierre Rurak-Humblot from France, hosted by Christi Smith and Joe Ochoa of Winnetka; Isla Savola from Finland, hosted by Jackie and Ron Pomerantz of Wilmette and Nilas Schneekloth from Germany, hosted by Debbie Flapan and Jake Howard of Wilmette. Three of the students in attendance then gave a brief presentation about themselves, their home country and about their time thus far at New Trier. They also thanked the Board of Education for the opportunity to study at New Trier. Ms. Arvanitis thanked the families for hosting the students as well as the Board of Education and Administration for their support of the program. Mr. Robitaille wished the students well in their year at New Trier and encouraged them to take advantage of all that the school has to offer. He then went on to thank the host families for opening their homes to New Trier's foreign exchange students.

C. Superintendent 2018-2019 Goals

Dr. Sally, Superintendent, presented on his goals for the 2018-2019 school year. Dr. Sally's goals for this school year have been placed in the context of annual planning and strategic planning. He highlighted the importance of New Trier's mission and vision and that all planning is centered around those two statements. Dr. Sally then went on to introduce the framework areas related to Strategic Planning and how these areas will communicate what is important to the school and about our work. These areas are also key result areas that New Trier will measure and on which the administration will report progress to the Board. Dr. Sally reviewed the yearly timeline cycle in which the Strategic Plan will drive each year's annual plan. He then went on to describe each of the six framework areas and the goals under each area for the 2018-2019 school year. The framework areas include: student academic engagement, growth and readiness; student personal engagement, growth, and well-being; culture, climate, and equity; leadership throughout the school; community engagement, partnerships, and governance and facilities, finance, and human resources. Dr. Sally then asked for any questions.

Mr. Robitaille mentioned that these goals have been through several iterations in closed session and also asked for questions or comments. Ms. Ducommun noted that while the goals this year seem more tactical; they will have more flavor next year. Dr. Sally agreed and noted the bigger picture is not yet fully developed as strategic planning is ongoing with the framework committees. Mr. Dronen noted the importance of having a smaller amount of goals and doing them well and efficiently. Mr. O'Donoghue commented on the process of the superintendent's goals noting that this topic has not been previously discussed in open session publicly. He questioned how these goals would be quantified. Mr. Robitaille responded that for each goal, there is a deliverable to support it. Mr. Robitaille also noted that there will be an evaluation form that will require the superintendent to provide proof of obtaining each goal. Dr. Glucksman then commented on how this is a big first step and one of the most important items that the Board oversees. He also stated on how this helps to make New Trier more transparent and provide communication to the District's stakeholders. Ms. Goldstein agreed it was a good start and thought that this approach to the strategic plan was more organized and realistic. Dr. Sally then commented that presenting this information now allows the District to be transparent with the community regarding the strategic plan and where the District is headed and that a forum has now been established to communicate with the community. Dr. Sally then gave an example of how a goal may be

measured, not necessarily by metrics, but by deliverables. Mr. Robitaille concluded by stating that once there is context to the strategic plan, the conversation around the goals will be easier.

D. Strategic Communications Report

Ms. Niki Dizon, Director of Communications, reported on the communications department. She reported on where the department has been, reorganization that has taken place, and how the goals of the communications department will align with the strategic plan. She highlighted the responsibilities of the communications department, such as public relations, events, social media, website and publications. Two years ago, the department added a communications specialist position and that position is held by Ms. Lia Kass. Ms. Kass focuses on public relations and the District's social media. Ms. Renee Mosley, the department's assistant, focuses on administrative tasks and alumni relations. The creation of the communications specialist role has allowed Ms. Dizon to focus more on the higher level administrative discussions and decisions.

The department, over the past school year, has begun work on the theme, "The Value of a New Trier Education." This theme is meant to highlight the many benefits New Trier provides to its students, alumni, and community. A video, entitled, "New Trier: Build Your Own Adventure" was created to show the experiences of three different students. Continuing on themes and campaigns, Ms. Dizon noted that every Tuesday and Friday, social media highlights different aspects of the profile report. There is also a weekly alumni campaign that features past recipients of the New Trier Alumni Achievement Award as well as posts entitled, "New Trier Then and Now." The department also creates an Annual Report and that is sent to everyone in the community. Board Members and Administrators also receive the weekly Social Media Report.

Ms. Dizon then spoke about the Community Engagement Committee which has an important role in directing community engagement efforts around major initiatives such as the 2014 referendum, Winnetka Campus Construction and Renovation Project, and the search for the new superintendent. Ms. Goldstein and Ms. Albrecht serve on the committee and the committee will expand to include more faculty, administration and community representatives. The Community Engagement Committee will serve as the Framework Committee for the Strategic Plan area of Community Engagement, Partnerships and Governance. The department is currently focused on several items in relation to the Strategic Plan including the survey and the Community Engagement Focus Group evening. Updates are being made to the website and social media and once information is received from the survey and focus group event, the department will create printed and web versions. Ms. Dizon then concluded her presentation and encouraged questions.

Dr. Sally took a moment to mention the survey and as of Friday, September 14th, there were 1,795 responses to it. The responses were a good mix of alumni, community members, parents, teachers and students. Dr. Sally also emphasized the importance of transparency in the District's communication.

Ms. Ducommun inquired if any communication has been shared to let people know that the survey is legitimate and encouraged by the District. Ms. Dizon replied that emails have been sent and information posted to various social media platforms. Information was also going to be shared with the mainstream media such as the newspaper. Dr. Sally then responded to Ms. Ducommun's question about Hanover Research having email addresses of parents of former New Trier students and confirmed that the District did provide those to Hanover Research. Ms. Ducommun wondered if similar communication would be sent to those people as it was to parents to complete the survey. Ms. Ducommun also emphasized the importance of the transparency and communication. She also thought the video was well done. She then questioned when the survey results would be made public. Dr. Sally said that on October 25th, the Framework Committees would receive the information and it would be posted to the Strategic Planning portion of the District's website.

Mr. O'Donoghue noted that he felt as someone who does not use the services of the District, he does not receive much communication from New Trier which prompted his question to Ms. Dizon about how to change that. Ms. Dizon noted that it is an important question, but it can be difficult to connect with those who support the school through their taxes, but do not have a direct connection to the school. Ms. Dizon noted that the press releases are another way to get information out to the community. The Annual Report is one example of trying to maintain that connection with 24,000 households despite its cost. She also mentioned that the District does have partnerships with other governing bodies throughout the Township and attends community events. Discussion continued on the department being an ambassador for the school. Ms. Dizon noted that Ms. DeDe Kern, New Trier Extension Manager, is a member of some of the chambers of commerce and also attends area farmer's markets to share information.

Dr. Sally added, with a focus on the survey and community members (those with no connection to the school), that the hope is to hear from everyone. The school would think about flyers and using a New Trier Extension email list as other avenues for the survey to be highlighted and responded to. Discussion then centered around Mr. O'Donoghue's question regarding how many community members participate in committees or provide input to New Trier. Dr. Sally also noted a variety of ways for community members to get involved who do not have a direct connection to the school, such as through Senior Project. Ms. Ducommun then questioned that if New Trier does not have a person's email, how would they know to fill out a survey. Ms. Dizon responded a through the website or through the media release. Ms. Ducommun suggested a media blitz pertaining to the survey and Mr. Dronen also encouraged reaching out to those who do not have or will not have children at New Trier. Mr. Robitaille noted that the District should be aware of diminishing returns and when recipients might feel like they are being bombarded with messages. He noted, that for him, communications are divided into three different areas, the first being awareness or promotion, the second is pure information such as about an event and the third is issues, such as vaping. Mr. Robitaille encouraged using the District's various communication tools to discuss issues. Ms. Dizon replied that the department is careful to have clear objectives and to tailor the message.

E. Public Hearing: 2018-2019 Final Budget

Mr. Robitaille called to order the 2018-2019 final budget at 8:16 p.m. and asked for public comment. No one came forward to comment. Mr. Johnson, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, then presented the 2018-2019 Final Budget. Mr. Johnson then discussed how the budget supports various areas such as academics (curriculum and student course selections), student activities, performing arts and athletics. The budget also supports the individual needs of learners through the adviser program and special education. Mr. Johnson noted that the budget is balanced in operating funds with a small surplus. He notes that revenues exceed expenditures including transfers to other funds which primarily are for capital projects and debt service. On the revenue side, property taxes comprise 91% of the revenue, and that this support from the community is a key factor in presenting a balanced budget each year. The District last asked for an operating rate referendum in 2003 and made a 5-year no referendum commitment. That commitment has now stretched for 15 years, a decade past the original date.

On the expenditure side, salaries comprise the largest portion of the budget at 65%. Mr. Johnson noted that 95% of New Trier's faculty have a master's degree or higher which far exceeds the state average. Another large portion of the expenditures side are employee benefits which total 12% of the budget and include health insurance, 403b contributions, payroll taxes, and district contributions to employee retirement systems. The District is a member of the NIHIP Cooperative; health and dental costs decreased 0.7% for this fiscal year, which continues a trend of historically low renewal rates thanks to the health of New Trier's employees and strong management of the insurance cooperative. The District's IMRF rate, which is paid on noncertified payroll, will decrease by 2% due to strong investment returns in IMRF and the action taken by the Board two years ago to pay down the Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL). Modest increases were put in place for purchased services such as professional development, printing, and postage. Supplies and materials have increased 5.24% due in part to the installation of energy efficient light bulbs on both campuses, however this will ultimately slow the growth of our utility costs within one year. Capital outlay is also included on the expenditures side; it is expected to decrease slightly in operating funds. The budget includes funds for the conclusion of the improvements at Northfield and for the security improvements on both campuses. Finally, the Other category on the expenditures side include outplaced special education expenses. The District is seeing an increase in the number of outplaced students and will analyze trends in this area this year.

Mr. Johnson then noted several awards that have been received for work completed on the budget. They include the Certificate of Excellence Award in Financial Reporting and the Certificate of Achievement Award in Financial Reporting. This is the sixteenth consecutive year that the District has received both of these awards. Finally, the District received the Certificate of Financial Recognition for fiscal year ending June 30, 2017 from the Illinois State Board of Education.

At the conclusion of his presentation, Mr. Johnson thanked the administration and the Business Office for their assistance in developing the budget. He also thanked the community for their support and noted that the budget demonstrates the community's commitment to education at New Trier and in turn the District's commitment to strong fiscal stewardship. He then opened up the discussion for any questions.

Ms. Ducommun noted that when the budget process first started, there was a projected budget deficit for the year due to a lower projected revenue budget and a higher projected expenditure budget. At the current time, she noted that it seems that revenue budget increased in proportion to the new incremental property that was over the District's estimate. Mr. Johnson concurred and stated that on the revenue side that new property was over expectations, and that information was not available until June. He also noted that on the expenditure side the district carried 6% for the health insurance renewal, which ended up at -0.7%, which was an extremely favorable renewal compared to budget.

Mr. O'Donoghue then stated that just because there are funds available for use, does not mean that all funds should be used. Dr. Sally noted that the District does not have a use it or lose it budgeting approach. He also stated that money is spent because of an educational need, not simply because it is there. Mr. O'Donoghue also commented on the levy. Mr. Johnson said that the District does levy based on CPI annually, but the budget is balanced and the District has maintained the no operating rate referendum commitment, ten years past the original commitment. Mr. Johnson also noted that the Board will see a five-year projection at either the November or December Board meetings. He is anticipating that the projection will show a deficit next year as well as the following year, but by working with the Board, the District will be able to close that deficit and present a balanced budget. The District is in a position that does not allow it to reduce revenue on the levy side and still meet the needs of students.

Dr. Sally then noted that the presentation does not show the choices that are made to stay within the budget. Discussion then continued around this topic. Ms. Ducommun noted that 77% of expenses are salaries and benefits. She also noted that with the addition of important positions such as security, social workers and psychologists, there is less financial flexibility for FTEs in the classroom. She mentioned that the District is very conscious of the balance between the burden on taxpayers and meeting the needs of students.

Mr. Dronen also stated that students do pay fees, while families and individuals support the Booster Club and Foundation with donations, all of which helps to alleviate the burden on taxpayers. He did note the good work that is done by the administration. There is tremendous effort being made to provide a high quality education while still alleviating the burden on taxpayers. Dr. Glucksman noted that this is the most stringent Finance Committee he has witnessed on any Board he has sat on. It was then suggested that the January budget presentation include an overview of all the steps of the process leading up to the presentation of the budget.

Mr. O'Donoghue moved to adjourn the public hearing on the 2018-2019 final budget. Dr. Glucksman and Ms. Ducommun seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mr. O'Donoghue, Mr. Dronen, Ms. Ducommun, Dr. Glucksman, Ms. Goldstein, Mr. Robitaille

NAY: none

The motion passed and the public hearing was closed at 8:36 p.m.

F. 2018-2019 Final Budget Approval

Ms. Ducommun moved that the Board of Education approve the resolution to adopt the annual budget for the 2018-2019 fiscal year and the school district budget form, as presented. Dr. Glucksman seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mr. Dronen, Ms. Ducommun, Dr. Glucksman, Ms. Goldstein, Mr. O'Donoghue, Mr. Robitaille

NAY: none

The motion passed.

G. Security Update

Mr. Johnson updated the Board on security. There were several facilities-related security improvements presented at last month's Board of Education meeting that Mr. Johnson recommended for approval. They include updates to systems such the door open alarms, access control and lock down hardware. The projects total \$702,900 and funds to complete the work are included in the fiscal year 19 budget. The other major improvement discussed at last month's meeting was the Northfield campus welcome kiosks and fence plan,

however, this part of the plan was excluded from any approval pending further study. In November, Paul Timm, one of the District's security consultants, will present to the Board in Closed Session to provide best practices for systems, hardware and procedures to consider in the future, the role of student outreach, and how other schools are handling these challenges. The possible Northfield improvements will also be discussed. Mr. Johnson then asked for any questions. Mr. Robitaille noted that this is the companion to the security expenditures that were made in winter and spring and wanted to know the total cost. Mr. Conway noted that this was \$700,000 of \$1.7 million. Mr. Johnson clarified the improvements and asked for approval to move forward. Discussion then continued around this topic of the expenditures and phasing. Mr. O'Donoghue then asked if this is consistent with the culture of the organization. Mr. Johnson credited the work that Mr. Waechtler, Mrs. Dubravec, and Ms. Arvanitis have done to encourage cultural change which is supported by the students and staff. Dr. Sally commented that the culture regarding the perimeter of the school has changed, however, the culture inside the school remains mostly the same for students. Ms. Ducommun also noted that staff is concerned about security, it is not just parents and students. Dr. Glucksman moved that the Board of Education approve capital expenditures related to security upgrades totaling \$702,900 as presented. Ms. Goldstein seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Ms. Ducommun, Dr. Glucksman, Ms. Goldstein, Mr. O'Donoghue, Mr. Dronen, Mr. Robitaille

NAY: none

The motion passed.

VII. Administrative Items

A. Treasurer's Report for August 2018

Mr. Chris Johnson presented the August Treasurer's Report. On the investment side, the overall weighted portfolio yield increased from 2.02 to 2.09 for the PMA accounts and from 1.7 to 2.16 in other District investments. That indicates that rates continue to rise and the District's new investment strategy has been implemented to ensure the District's receives the maximum return on the District's cash. The overall interest revenue for the year is at \$234,000. The overall cash balances in all accounts has increased from \$133 million to \$146.8 million. The primary driver of this increase is due to the significant and timely property tax collections in July. Mr. Robitaille and Ms. Ducommun wanted to know how to tie the \$146.8 million to the cash flow statement. Mr. Johnson noted that there will be some aligning in future months. The amount does not tie right now because listed are all funds that the District has custody of which the District is required to show it manages, but it is not legally the District's money. Mr. Johnson will work with Mr. Myron Spiwak, Business Services Director, to tie the summary to the amount.

B. Financial Reports for August 2018

Mr. Johnson reviewed the Financial Reports for August 2018. The overall operating revenue at this point in the year is \$47.4 million which is a 6.8% increase over last year. The budget assumes a 3% increase in revenue. \$47.4 million out of \$110 million has been collected, which is almost at the 50% mark of the budget collected. This is due to the on-time property tax collections in July and August. Overall expenditures were \$6.9 million for August, which is a decrease of 2.6% from last year. The early months of the school year show variances due to the purchasing of supplies and equipment. Mr. Johnson then inquired about any questions from the Board members.

VIII. Consent Agenda

- Bill List for the Period, August 1 – 31, 2018
- Personnel Report (Appointments, Resignations and Retirements)
- Reciprocal Reporting Agreement with the Winnetka Police Department
- Reciprocal Reporting Agreement with the Northfield Police Department
- Board Policies – Second Reading (7-190, 7-195, 7-200, 8-30)
- Approval of the adjusted 2018-2019 school calendar (October 10, November 15 and April Testing)
- ISBE Compensation Report
- Paper Bid

Mr. Robitaille asked if any Board member would like to remove items from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion. No one wished to do so. Ms. Ducommun moved that the Board of Education approve the Consent

Agenda which includes: Bill List for the Period, August 1 – 31, 2018; Personnel Report (Appointments, Resignations and Retirements); Reciprocal Reporting Agreement with the Winnetka Police Department; Reciprocal Reporting Agreement with the Northfield Police Department; Board Policies – Second Reading (7-190, 7-195, 7-200, 8-30) as presented; Approval of the adjusted 2018-2019 school calendar; ISBE Compensation Report; and that the multipurpose paper bid be awarded to Garvey’s in accordance with the bid specifications and that the Board of Education authorize the Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations to execute the contract subject to final attorney review. Mr. Dronen seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Dr. Glucksman, Ms. Goldstein, Mr. O’Donoghue, Mr. Dronen, Ms. Ducommun, Mr. Robitaille

NAY: none

The motion passed.

IX. Board Member Reports

Mr. O’Donoghue noted that he was not able to attend the *Booster Club meeting* due to illness.

Mr. Dronen noted that the picnic with the *Special Ed Parents Group* on Thursday, September 6 went well.

Mr. Dronen also noted that *All School Forum* met on Wednesday, September 12. Potential meeting topics were discussed, they included: vaping and the policy regarding no technology in adviser room, among others. He anticipates the topics will be narrowed down at the next meeting.

Ms. Ducommun noted that she was not able to attend the *Strategic Planning Committee, Finance Committee, Parents’ Association and Fine Arts Association* due to vacation. She did mention an upcoming program on opioid addiction scheduled for Thursday, October 11, called “Raising a Healthy Teen in an Opioid World: Opening Eyes.” Mr. Jim Davis, founder of The Good Athlete Project and New Trier’s staff and student wellness director and coach; Ms. Marsha Pesavento, a north shore mother whose son became addicted after a sports injury; Brian King, former Wilmette Police Chief and Jim DeFrancesco, who is Loyola University’s world-renowned expert on opioid access and distribution will all participate on the panel. The event will take place at the Kenilworth Union Church from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. It is funded by the Alison Tobey Smart Memorial Foundation.

Mr. Robitaille noted that items from the *Finance Committee* were already covered earlier in the meeting.

Mr. Robitaille also noted that *New Trier Educational Foundation Golf Outing* is scheduled for Monday, September 24 followed by a dinner. He encouraged people to attend if they are able.

Ms. Goldstein noted that for *Community Engagement*, the Board heard a great presentation from Ms. Niki Dizon.

Ms. Goldstein noted that *NSSSED* has partnered with the Special Education District of Lake County (SEDOL) to do a community presentation on mental health. They are also looking to partner with MIDAS on a new student information system.

Dr. Glucksman had no report for the *Policy Committee* as that meeting was cancelled for September.

X. Calendar of Events & Board Members’ Requests for Staff Research and Future Agenda Items

Calendar of Events: Dr. Sally highlighted the following dates, which included:

- No school on Wednesday, September 19 due to Yom Kippur.
- New Trier Educational Foundation Golf Outing on Monday, September 24
- 2031 Consortium, a gathering of high performing high schools, is scheduled for Wednesday, September 26 through Friday, September 28 in Manhattan Beach, California. Dr. Sally will share information from the Consortium at the October Board Meeting.
- Homecoming is scheduled for Friday, September 28.
- Freshman-Go-To-School Night will be held on Thursday, October 4 at the Northfield campus.

- There will be no school on Friday, October 5 and Monday, October 8 due to Fall Break.
- There will be a testing day on Wednesday, October 10. Juniors will take the PSAT and Sophomores will take the Pre-ACT.
- The next Board Meeting is Monday, October 15.

Ms. Ducommun asked if there will be a Freshman Mixer. Mr. Waechtler noted that the mixer will take place on Wednesday, October 3 and there is usually phenomenal turnout with 600-700 freshman in attendance.

Requests for Staff Research & Future Agenda Items: Mr. Robitaille asked members for any new items for staff research or for a future agenda. Mr. O'Donoghue and Dr. Glucksman requested that Mr. Johnson report on the detailed budget creation process and how the budget is built. Dr. Glucksman would like the report to focus on the people aspect, starting with the departments through the Board Finance Committee. Dr. Glucksman likened it to an organizational chart for the budget process.

Mr. Robitaille then noted an article titled "Continuous Improvement," that he received from Ms. Goldstein and in turn circulated to the rest of the Board. The concept discussed in the article was adopted at a high school district in Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin. Mr. Robitaille explained the continuous improvement system. This has been used in the private sector effectively. It requires an organization to have a system to deal with problems and run those problems to the ground until they are solved. He would like someone to contact Menomonee Falls and do some research to see how this system works for a school. Once the research has been gathered, Mr. Robitaille has requested that a presentation be given to the Board on why this may or may not work for New Trier. It is an interesting way to organize around problem-solving and getting better as an organization and driving it forward. Mr. O'Donoghue noted that revenues are different in Wisconsin, but is an interesting exercise. Dr. Glucksman mentioned that this sort of system is used in post-high school educational institutions for continuous quality improvement for accreditation. Dr. Glucksman further explained the system he is familiar with. Mr. O'Donoghue also mentioned that it could be burdensome, which Mr. Robitaille acknowledged.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. O'Donoghue moved and Ms. Ducommun seconded the motion to adjourn. Upon a voice vote being taken, all members indicated they were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsey Ruston, Secretary

Gregory Robitaille, President