

BOARD OF EDUCATION PRAIRIE-HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF WORK SESSION DISTRICT PROFESSIONAL CENTER
3015 WEST 163RD STREET MARKHAM, ILLINOIS
March 26, 2014

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

President Mrs. Barbara Nettles called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The Board then completed the pledge of allegiance.

2. Roll Call

The following members were present: Juanita R. Jordan, Dr. Gregory Jackson, Dr. Becky Adams, Elaine Walker, Sharron Davis and Barbara Nettles. Absent: Dionne Freeman-Cooper.

Also, present were: Superintendent, Dr. Kimako Patterson, Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Julia A. Veazey, Director of Business Affairs & Human Resources, Dr. Alicia Evans, and Director of Student Services, Mrs. Carrie Ablin.

3. Review of Bids for the Highlands Project

Dr. Evans informed the board that a request for proposals went out for the Highlands Project. There were two companies that submitted proposals ESG (Energy Systems Group) and Amerisco. She stated that the architect is in the process of reviewing the bids at this time. She stated that this is part of the grant process.

A brief discussion followed

4. Let for Bids for the Markham Park Project

Dr. Evans informed the board that this project is being completed from the School Maintenance Grant that has been approved. This project is a for tuck pointing. It will be completed during the summer months.

5. Let for Bid for the Nob Hill Project

Dr. Evans stated that this project is also a part of the School Maintenance Grant. This is the third School Maintenance Grant the district has received. This project is a door project and it will also be completed during the summer months.

A brief discussion followed.

6. Baker Tilly Virchow

Dr. Evans informed the board that we have had Baker Tilly for a while. She stated that the audits have been going well as the district progresses. She stated that

they are asking for a renewal. They are willing to change their fee schedule to a flat rate fee instead of hourly. The fees are as follows: 2014 - \$38,500.00, 2015 - \$39,500.00 and 2016 - \$40,500. She stated that the district has paid as much as \$105,000.00 for the hourly audits.

7. Resolution authorizing the prevailing wage

Dr. Evans informed the Board that the prevailing wage must be approved every year at this time.

8. Bremen Township Treasurers Office Interest Allocation

Dr. Evans stated that this the annual interest allocation that happens every year at this time. She stated that Mr. McDonald will give a presentation at the April 21, 2014 Board Meeting.

A brief discussion followed

9. Depositories and Signatories

Dr. Evans stated that Depositories and Signatories are also completed annually. She stated that the district has another account at Suburban Bank and Trust that has a small balance in the account. She stated that the district will use the account to collect money for the Math Bowl. Dr. Evans stated that disbursements will be taken from this account for awards, t-shirts and etc. She stated she did not want to co-mingle funds.

Dr. Evans stated that once the Math Bowl is completed the account will be used for similar projects since the district did have money in the account before Math Bowl funds were collected.

Dr. Patterson stated that this account will be used for future Math Bowls as well. She stated that District 144 will host the Math Bowl going forward.

A brief discussion followed

10. PTAB-CB Chicago Partners

Dr. Evans stated that she will be asking the board to approve intervention for the CB-Chicago Partners PTAB. She stated that they are asking for a substantial refund.

11. 2014-2015 School Calendar

Mrs. Veazey presented to the Board the proposed 2014/2015 school calendar. She explained that the only change is that the union voted to complete a full week of instruction the week before Veterans Day. Parent Teacher Conferences will be on the following Monday for a full day with the students having a non-attendance day. The staff will then be off on Tuesday for Veterans Day.

A discussion followed regarding parental participation.

12. Subscriptions/Licenses

Mrs. Veazey informed the Board that she will present online subscription renewals at the April 21st board meeting. She stated that this will be part 1 of the subscription renewals. The price increases are as follows: Discovery Education increased by \$200.00, Info Based Learning increased by \$294.00, Inventive Communication has no increase, News Bank the increases is \$500.00 more because there are more resources geared towards parents and Accelerated Reader which had no increase.

There was a brief conversation about News Bank flip classrooms and higher order thinking skills.

13. Updated Textbook Adoption Cycle

Mrs. Veazey informed the Board that she wanted to wait for the companies to align their textbooks to the common core before updating the textbooks.

She stated that the gym teachers want to upgrade their equipment instead of textbooks. She stated that she does not want to buy books for the sake of buying books. She stated that if equipment was needed she would rather replace equipment.

There was a brief conversation about the health textbooks.

14. Date Selection for Committee of the Whole (Legal Counsel Search)

Dr. Gregory Jackson inquired about the contract for our current law firm (Robbins Schwartz). Dr. Patterson informed the Board that the original contract date for Robbins Schwartz was September 19, 2005. Dr. Evans stated that the board issued a request for proposal for an attorney in 2005. After interviews were completed Robbins Schwartz was selected. She stated that there is no binding contract.

Mrs. Nettles and Dr. Patterson discussed with the board if they wanted to create a RFP with expectations for the company chosen.

They agreed to stagger the interviews for the attorney's the RFP will be sent out in May.

A brief discussion followed regarding Robbins Schwartz

15. Written reports by Board Committee Members

Mrs. Davis informed the board that she was referring to receiving a verbal report from board committee members prior to the vote on items that need clarification.

16. Transportation Resolution

Dr. Patterson informed the board that district 152 is attempting to get other districts to join them in presenting a resolution to the bus companies for a flat rate for special and regular education students.

The board discussed the benefits of joining in this resolution. The consensus was that a resolution would not be written in support.

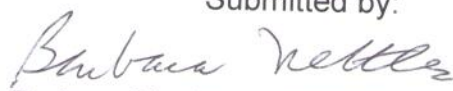
17. New Business

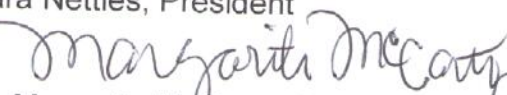
18. Executive Session

19. Adjournment

Motion Carried in 9:30 p.m.

Submitted by:


Barbara Nettles, President


Margarita McCarty, Secretary

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