

**NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

June 4, 2012

**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, June 4, 2012 at 5:30 p.m.

Members Present

Mr. Alan R. Dolinko, President
Mr. F. Malcolm Harris, Vice President
Ms. Carol F. Ducommun
Mr. Peter Fischer
Ms. Lori Goldstein
Mr. John Myefski
Mr. Patrick O'Donoghue

Administrator Present

Dr. Linda L. Yonke, Superintendent
Mr. Donald Goers, Associate Superintendent
Mr. Paul Sally, Assistant Superintendent
for Curriculum & Instruction
Mr. Timothy Hayes, Assistant Superintendent
for Student Services
Dr. Timothy Dohrer, 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. Laurel Burman, Director of Special Education; Ms. Athena Arvanitis, Director of Student Life; Mr. Christopher Johnson, Director of Technology; Mr. Matt Ottaviano, Assistant Principal, Winnetka Campus; Mr. Randy Oberambt, Athletic Director; Mr. Terry Phillips, Mathematics Department, NTEA President Elect; Mr. Erik Saszik, Mathematics Department; Ms. Marianne Breen, Director, New Trier Education Foundation; Mr. Harry Secaras, President, New Trier Education Foundation; Mr. Mitch Jones, Social Studies Department, Service Learning Chair; Ms. Carolyn Muir, Social Studies Department; Mr. Josh Wenger, Aramark and members of the Community.

I. CALL TO ORDER – 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Dolinko called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to Order at 5:30 p.m. Roll call was taken. All members were present. Mr. Dolinko asked for a motion to move to Closed Session. Ms. Ducommun moved and Mr. Fischer seconded the motion that the Board move 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 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 lastly to discuss litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular District has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the District finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

Adjournment to Closed Session – 5:33 p.m.

II. Closed Session – Room A201A

The Closed Session meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Student/Staff Recognition Program – Cornog Auditorium – 7:00 p.m.

BUSINESS MEETING

III. Reconvene to Open Session — C234

Mr. Alan Dolinko reconvened the meeting, calling the open session meeting of the Board of Education to order in Room C234 at 7:46 p.m. Mr. Dolinko welcomed those in attendance, stating the Board has just come from the Student/Staff Recognition Program which caused the delayed start time and that the Board had been in Closed Session earlier in the evening. Roll call was taken and all Board members were present. He also noted that if anyone wished to speak to the Board, they should fill out a Communications Request Form found on the table at the back of the room.

IV. Minutes

Mr. Dolinko requested a motion to approve the minutes of the May meetings.

Ms. Goldstein moved and Mr. Fischer seconded the motion to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of May 21, 2012, open and closed sessions. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

V. Communications

Mr. Dolinko invited members of the Community to share their comments with the Board. No one came forward to speak.

Mr. Dolinko noted a slight adjustment in the agenda sequence. To accommodate special guest speakers for the New Trier Education Foundation, the report from campus principals and assistant superintendents will follow the Foundation's presentation.

VI. Special Orders of Business

Dr. Yonke noted the retirements of two Administrators this year, Ms. Laurel Burman, Director of Special Education and Mr. John Neiweem, Director of Physical Plant Services and shared her deep appreciation to both for their many years of service to the District.

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

Mr. Paul Waechtler, Principal of the Northfield Campus, reported on the activities taking place on the Northfield campus. This week the students are preparing for finals. Mr. Waechtler also thanked the Parents' Association for the breakfast and snacks they provided for the students during their exam week. He also thanked Mr. Josh Seldess for his many years of service at the freshman campus, serving as the Adviser Chair and welcomed Mr. Mark Howard to this important leadership position.

Dr. Timothy Dohrer, Principal of the Winnetka Campus, noted the farewell events for the senior class of 2012. A Senior Class Awards Ceremony took place on May 31 to honor many students with departmental awards, scholarships, and service and leadership awards. Commencement was held at Welsh-Ryan Arena at Northwestern University on Sunday, June 3, and was followed by the Graduation Party at the Northfield Campus. Dr. Dohrer also thanked the Administrators for their assistance at Commencement.

Mr. Timothy Hayes, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, thanked all the Senior Advisers for the tremendous effect that they have on their students. Their dedication and hard work is evident at Commencement in the young adults graduating.

Mr. Paul Sally, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, extended a personal note of thanks and appreciation to Laurel Burman. He commended her for the exceptional work she has performed for the District in the complex role of Special Education Director.

Mr. Don Goers reported that there were no FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) requests received since the last regular Board of Education Meeting on May 21, 2012.

Mr. Dolinko noted that the Board had received one written comment from Megan Schmidt regarding a staff member.

B. New Trier Education Foundation Presentation

Mr. Harry Secaras, President of the New Trier Education Foundation reviewed the many activities supported by the Foundation. Last year the Education Foundation presented the District with a pledge of \$100,000 toward two new innovative classrooms at the Winnetka Campus. Half of the pledge was presented last year; however, through careful planning and execution both rooms were completed for half of the anticipated cost. Mr. Secaras presented the Board with a \$50,000 check, the balance of the original pledge, to be used for the renovation of the EPI Center at Winnetka. This multipurpose room will provide both students and staff with current state-of-the-art technology for learning and communication. Mr. Dolinko thanked Mr. Secaras, Ms. Marianne Breen, and the Foundation on behalf of the Board and District. Dr. Yonke also expressed appreciation and gratitude to the Foundation's Board from the Administration and Staff.

C. Service Learning Reflection

Mr. Mitch Jones, retiring Service Learning Coordinator and Social Studies teacher, presented his reflections on Service Learning at New Trier. His comments focused on the current state of service in the District, what service does for students, the transition from service to Service Learning, and his hopes for Service Learning in the future. Mr. Jones noted that New Trier has a strong culture of service, particularly at the freshman campus and often other schools seek to emulate our successes in Service Learning and our Social Service Club. Experiences in Service Learning have provided opportunities for students to build their self-confidence and expand their vision of themselves as part of the broader communities. The transition from service to Service Learning has been occurring over the past several years. Service learning is preferred because it involves student choice, pre-service research, service work, and a reflection component at the end. Mr. Jones noted the various service works of the classes at New Trier and the increased interest in Service Learning. It is his hope to recruit more teachers to add Service Learning to their classwork, to expand into more areas of service, and to look for more opportunities for service throughout students' high school years. Mr. Jones is encouraged that the school's motto places service as an integral part of student life at New Trier. Board members shared their comments with Mr. Jones and Dr. Yonke thanked him for his efforts and the thoughtful direction of the program under his guidance. Ms. Carolyn Muir, a Social Studies teacher, will assume the position of Service Learning Coordinator.

D. Driver's Ed Waiver/Modification IL School Code 105 ILCS5/27-24.3 – Public Hearing

Mr. Fischer moved and Mr. Harris seconded the motion that the Board move to open the Public Hearing for the Driver's Education Waiver/Modification for IL School Code 105ILCS5/27-24.3. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed. Mr. Dolinko noted that the Public Hearing was in session.

Mr. Paul Sally explained the context for the Public Hearing, noting that the current waiver/modification will expire at the end of the 2012-13 school year and a new waiver needs to be approved by the Illinois General Assembly. The Illinois School Code states that a driver education course shall consist of at least 30 hours of classroom instruction and at least 6 hours of behind-the-wheel individual instruction. The current

waiver/modification, which the District hopes to continue, provides for 30 hours of classroom instruction, at least 3 hours of behind-the-wheel individual instruction, and 12 hours of driving simulator experience. The simulator instruction (which is the target of the waiver) allows students a safe environment to learn about diverse driving conditions as well as increased communication in this important area of learning. Mr. Dolinko confirmed that this is not a new request but rather is a continuation of the driver's education program that we offer now. Mr. Dolinko invited public comment on the subject of the waiver/modification for the District's driver education program; however, no one came forward to speak. He also invited the Board to comment.

Mr. Myefski spoke in favor of the use of simulators as an excellent educational tool for the driving experience. Ms. Ducommun moved to close the Public Hearing for the Driver's Education Waiver/Modification, and Mr. Myefski seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

Mr. Dolinko noted that the Public Hearing was closed and invited further discussion from Board members. No further comment was made. Ms. Ducommun moved that the Board renew the previously approved modification of the School Code from the General Assembly for a five-year period beginning in the 2013-2014 school year related to a change in the Driver Education code which became effective July 1, 2008. Mr. Myefski seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed and the waiver is approved.

E. Board Policy Revisions – First and Second Readings

Dr. Yonke reviewed the four technology policies and the Gifts, Naming and Tribute policy that were presented at the May 21, 2012 Regular Meeting, including Policy 5-90 Staff Use of Technology; Policy 7-245 Student Use of Cellular Telephones; Policy 7-250 Student Use of Technology; Policy 7-255 Student Publishing on the Website; and Policy 8-80 Gifts, Naming, Advertising & Tribute Policy. There were no subsequent changes made to these policies and they are presented here for a second reading and approval by the Board. Policy 7-305, Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries is presented for its first reading and discussion. This is a new policy that is mandated by the State, requiring that a Board policy be in place to cover concussion management. This draft was drawn from a sample of the IASB Policy Service with some revisions from recommendations by our staff and the IHSA. Much discussion centered on who should be allowed to grant permission for an injured athlete to return to play. Dr. Yonke noted the already rigorous process in place for injured students, which include a baseline ImPact test administered before freshmen play and follow-up tests if an injury occurs. Also, a physician works with our Head Trainer to examine students before they can return to play. Dr. Yonke responded to questions and comments from the Board. Discussion included concerns on who has the final decision on whether an injured student can return to play and not limiting the concussion management to practice or games. The general consensus among members was to have the policy state that the school makes the final decision for return to play.

The policy was referred back to the Policy Committee for this addition and more clarity.

Mr. Dolinko invited discussion on the four previously reviewed changes for the technology policies and the Policy 8-80 for gifts and naming. There was no further discussion. Mr. O'Donoghue moved and Ms.

Goldstein seconded the motion that the Board approve the policy revisions to Board Policies 5-90, 7-245, 7-250, 7-255, and 8-80 as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

F. Textbook Approval – E-books

Mr. Paul Sally reviewed the three new e-textbooks to be used as part of the iPad pilot for the 2012-2013 school year as well as a print text adoption for the new senior math course. He also noted previously adopted texts for eight courses are moving from print text to an e-text version in the iPad pilot. This move from print to e-text is estimated to save students on average \$40 - \$50. Another significant reduction in cost is realized with the purchase-by-chapter option for the Topics of Psychology and Sociology course. Mr. Sally explained the ownership of the texts for the students is with their iTunes account and they will retain them as long as they have their account. Board discussion followed with Mr. Sally responding to their questions. Mr. Myefski moved that the Board approve the textbooks for 2012-13 as presented. Mr. Fischer seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

VII. Administrative Items

A. Lease Financing

Mr. Don Goers reviewed the previous decision to partially fund the synthetic turf project through lease financing, anticipating that approximately \$2.3 million would be financed with repayment completed in five years. Also, the District is recommending the financing of the Network and Virtual Infrastructure Upgrade Project which was approved at the April Regular Board meeting as part of the Capital Projects presentation. The estimate for this project is approximately \$717,346. The administration is planning to continue the replacement of copiers and multi-functional printers through the lease-financing arrangement. The total cost of the three projects to be financed is \$3,000,000. The synthetic turf will be for \$2,195,218.66 and the copier replacement will be \$87,435.34. The District received three complete lease-financing proposals with interest rates ranging from 1.275% to 2.09%. Chase Equipment Financing provided the lowest rate and has worked well with the District in the past. Mr. Goers invited questions and responded to Board members comments and questions. Mr. Fischer moved and Mr. Harris seconded the motion that the Board approve the Resolution to Enter into a Tax Exempt Equipment Purchase Agreement with Chase Equipment Financing, Inc. to finance the recommended Synthetic Turf Project, the Network and Virtual Infrastructure, and Copier equipment for up to \$3,000,000 under the terms proposed, and to authorize the Associate Superintendent to execute all related documents, subject to final review by legal counsel. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

B. Resolution to Transfer Funds

Mr. Don Goers noted that the plan for financing the synthetic turf project as discussed over the last two months has been to transfer \$2.5 million in funds to the Capital Projects Fund. This transfer plus the \$1million donation from the Booster Club will cover the cost of the Synthetic Turf Project. The fund transfer will cover early expenses and the repayment of the lease financing. The transfer will come from the Working Cash Fund as it is the only fund approved by the Illinois Program Accounting Manual for transfer to the Capital Projects Fund. Mr. Goers responded to Board members' questions. Mr. Myefski moved that the Board approve the Resolution of the Board of Education Directing the School Treasurer to Partially Abate and Permanently Transfer Monies from the Working Cash Fund to the Capital Projects Fund. Ms. Goldstein seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

C. Action on Employment of Employee

Mr. Fischer moved that the Board approve the recommendation to terminate the employment and the 2011-2014 contract of employee #2217. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

VIII. Consent Agenda

- Bill List for the Period May 1-31, 2012
- Personnel Report & Addendum
- Towel Service Contract
- Prevailing Wage Approval

Mr. Dolinko noted the items within the consent agenda and asked if any Board member wished to remove any item for separate discussion. Mr. Fischer requested that the Personnel Report and Addendum be removed for separate discussion. Ms. Ducommun moved that the Board approve the Consent Agenda items which include the Bill List for May 1-31, 2012; a contract for Towel Services with ARAMARK Uniform Services for the Aternative Bid in the amount of \$31,386, subject to the terms and conditions of our Invitation to Bid; and the Prevailing Wage Act Resolution as presented. Ms. Goldstein seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

Mr. Fischer requested the Personnel Report and Addendum be removed for discussion of the Addendum, which is a new four-year contract for Superintendent Dr. Linda Yonke. Mr. Fischer noted that in his brief time on the Board he has been very pleased with Dr. Yonke for her strong leadership and sees the District's current strong position as a reflection of her leadership. The District will be seeing a number of retirements, two this

evening, and he feels this is a time for continuity in leadership. This new four-year contract will allow Dr. Yonke to assist the Board in future superintendent searches and in finding a replacement for Mr. Goers as Associate Superintendent in 2013. Mr. Fischer noted the District's fortunate opportunities of grooming internal candidates and was pleased to have Dr. Yonke's help and guidance through these transitions. Other Board members echoed Mr. Fischer's sentiments. Mr. Dolinko noted the extra two years to her contract will bring important stability for the District.

Dr. Yonke thanked the Board for their faith in her. She stated that New Trier is a wonderful place to be an educator, that her team is wonderful to work with, and that her relationship with the Association is also positive - all of which make it easy to stay. Mr. Fischer moved that the Board approved the Personnel Report and Addendum as presented. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

IX. Board Member Reports

Mr. Myefski reported for the "Food Service Committee". He and Mr. O'Donoghue sampled school cuisine at the Winnetka Campus. Both members were pleased with the food, but agreed the facility could improve the look of the offerings. Food Service is available in numerous places for students to purchase and the small cafeteria is scheduled for an update this summer.

Mr. Harris noted that the Booster Club has an upcoming dinner on June 7 to thank the outgoing Board officers and welcome the incoming Board.

Ms. Ducommun reported that the Parents' Association Graduation Party was the past weekend and it was a great success.

Ms. Goldstein noted there had been no meetings since the last Regular Board meeting; however, as the Board liaison for NSSD she expressed her thanks to Laurel Burman for her help and assistance provided to her as she learned about NSSD and its relationship to New Trier.

Dr. Yonke noted that the Commencement Ceremony was available to see by streaming online. This is the first time New Trier has done this and approximately 480 people from around the world viewed the graduation.

X. Board Members' Calendar of Events

- Calendar of Events

Dr. Yonke reported that final exams are the rest of this week, with Friday being the last day of student attendance. Monday, June 11 is the first day of Summer School. The next regular Board of Education meeting is on July 16, 2012. There may be another planning session meeting; additional details about that will be sent out.

- Board Members' Request for Staff Research
There were no requests for staff research.

XI. ADJOURNMENT to Closed Session

Mr. Fischer moved that the Board adjourn the meeting 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 collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. Mr. Fischer also mentioned that it was likely that the Board

would return to open session in Room C234 afterwards. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion carried and the meeting adjourned to closed session.

Adjournment to Closed Session – 9:24 p.m.

Closed Session – Room A201A

The Closed Session meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Reconvene to Open Session – C234

Mr. Dolinko reconvened the meeting to open session and requested a roll call. All members were present. Mr. Fischer moved that the Board approve the Personnel Addendum #2. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. No further discussion took place. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dolinko noted the conclusion of the meeting's agenda. Mr. O'Donoghue moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Ducommun seconded the motion. Upon a voice vote being taken, all members were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 10:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Anne Kelly, Secretary

Alan R. Dolinko, President