

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

June 6, 2016

**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, June 6, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

Members Present

Mr. Greg Robitaille, President
Ms. Lori Goldstein, Vice President
Ms. Cathy Albrecht
Mr. Alan R. Dolinko
Mr. F. Malcolm Harris
Mr. John Myefski
Mr. Patrick O'Donoghue

Administrators Present

Dr. Linda L. Yonke, Superintendent
Mr. Paul Sally, Associate Superintendent
for Curriculum & Instruction
Dr. Tim Hayes, Assistant Superintendent
Student Service
Mr. Christopher Johnson, Assistant Superintendent
for Finance & Operations
Ms. Denise Dubravec, Principal –
Winnetka Campus
Mr. Paul Waechtler, Principal –
Northfield Campus

Also Present

Ms. Niki Dizon, Director of Communications; Mr. Gerry Munley, Assistant Principal, Winnetka Campus; Mr. Peter Tragos, Assistant Principal, Northfield Campus; Mr. George Sanders, Director of Human Resources; Ms. Stephanie Helfand, Chief Technology Officer; Mr. Myron Spiwak, Business Services Director; Mr. Scott Williams, Assistant Principal, Winnetka Campus; Mr. Dave Conway, Northfield Campus Facility Manager; Mr. Spiro Bolos, Social Studies Department, President New Trier Education Association; Mr. Colby Vargas, Social Studies Department; Ms. Mary Lappan, Mathematics Department; Ms. Tiffany Myers, Department Chair, Social Work Department; Mr. John Miller, Science Department; Mr. Brett Rubin, English Department; Mr. Terry Phillips, Mathematics Department; Mr. Ed Zwirner, Department Coordinator, English Department, Northfield; Ms. Aileen Geary, Social Studies Department; Mr. Mike Hill, Technology Department; Mr. Eric Johnson, Technology Department; Mr. David Powell, Wight & Co.; Mr. Rob Martinelli, Pepper Construction Co.; Mr. Wes Baumann, and members of the press and community.

BUSINESS MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER – 5:30 p.m.

Ms. Goldstein called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order at 5:34 p.m. Roll call was taken. All members were present except Mr. Robitaille. Mr. Dolinko moved to 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 for the purpose of discussing 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. O'Donoghue seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

Adjournment to Closed Session – 5:36 p.m.

II. Closed Session – 5:30 p.m. — A201A

BUSINESS MEETING

III. Open Session – 7:30 p.m. – C234

Mr. Robitaille re-called to Order the meeting of June 6, 2016 of the New Trier High School Board of Education at 7:55 p.m. Roll call was taken and all members were present. Mr. Robitaille noted that the Board had returned from the Cornog Auditorium where the Board's Student and Staff Spring Recognition Program took place. He apologized for the delayed start of the Business Meeting; however, he praised the work and talent of the scores of award recipients for state and national competition.

IV. Minutes

Mr. Robitaille asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Dolinko moved and Mr. Harris seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on May 16, 2016 open and closed session. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

V. Communications

Mrs. Malka Lichtor addressed the Board on bus transportation issues, specifically expressing concern about the location of her son's bus stop. Mr. Johnson, who oversees Transportation, indicated that he will follow up with the bus company about the bus stop location.

VI. Special Orders of Business

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

Mr. Paul Waechtler, Principal of the Northfield Campus, shared news and events from the freshman campus that included highlighting Trevia Day on May 16 and Second Semester Exams on May 19, 20 and 23. He thanked the Parents Association for the power snacks during finals. The last day of school attendance was May 25. Mr. Waechtler thanked Peter Tragos and Natalia Katsinis for their work reconciling any schedule conflicts for next year before students left for the summer. Summer School starts on Monday, June 13. He also thanked Mark Howard and Gail Gamrath for organizing 41 freshman adviser rooms for next year and providing information for over 1000 students. Mr. Waechtler also congratulated Kinetic Wellness teacher Brian Van Mersbergen who is the President Elect for the Illinois Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. Mr. Waechtler noted it is another example of New Trier teacher leadership at the state level.

Ms. Denise Dubravec, Principal of the Winnetka Campus recapped the last weeks of events at the east campus that included the 2016 Commencement Ceremony at Northwestern University on May 22 for 982 graduates. She thanked the Parents Association for the successful Graduation night party with the Arabian Nights theme. Her athletic report included congratulations for Jeanne Boehm who is the first New Trier student athlete to participate on the USA team. Jeanne heads off to Chile for the world competition. Ms. Dubravec noted it was an outstanding athletic season as noted by the award ceremony in the Cornog Auditorium prior to tonight's meeting, with numerous teams placing 1st, 2nd and 3rd in state competitions. The Girls' Soccer team took 1st place for the third year in a row.

Mr. Tim Hayes, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services noted this time of year he often hears from parents and students about their appreciation for all the work and attention by teachers, coaches, and sponsors. He stated that Student Services has received the survey data from the 2016 Youth Risk Behavior Survey. This is important information to comb through as the department plans for student health projects next year.

Mr. Paul Sally, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction remarked that many teachers are busy with new curriculum ideas with their summer grant work. Also, the IT staff is very busy with the summer iPad training sessions.

Mr. Chris Johnson, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, noted there was one FOIA

request since the last Regular Board of Education meeting in May. The request was looking for District policies on Homebound Tutoring in effect over the previous two years. The response is in process and will be completed soon.

B. Teacher Leadership Report

Mr. Paul Sally noted the primary role of educators at New Trier is the direct instruction and support of students to promote their academic, social, and emotional development. Continual professional improvement is fostered and encouraged as our teachers make connections to the larger educational community. The comprehensive Teacher Leadership Report includes teachers who are authors, award winners, presenters, and attendees to hundreds of opportunities to lead, share, and learn. Spiro Bolos, Tiffany Myers, and Julie Smith provided short presentations on their roles in sharing their professional development endeavors with fellow New Trier teachers. Mr. Bolos shared information on the professional development workshops that focus on co-teaching. The workshops feature best practices for instruction in technology, visual literacy, and skill development. Julie Smith, Speech Language Pathologist and Tiffany Myers, Chair of the Social Work Department, created a program to enhance the social thinking skills of students. Success in this work has resulted in their being asked to present social thinking at a national conference in San Francisco later this month. Mr. Sally commented that this type of leadership shows up in many different areas from attending conferences, adopting new teaching methods, and modifying our curriculum. Mr. Robitaille noted the impressive list of leadership work and highlighted how important this enrichment is for our students' classroom experience.

C. NTEA Contract Approval

Dr. Linda Yonke congratulated and thanked the two negotiating teams for their leadership and hard work during the time-consuming, but extremely beneficial and productive sessions. An Interest Based Bargaining (IBB) process was employed for the first time and was positively viewed by both negotiating teams. Mr. Dolinko, who was on the District's negotiating team, recounted the process and made positive comments about both negotiating teams. He noted that the sessions were productive, respectful, collaborative, fair, and balanced. He acknowledged the team members and thanked them all. He reviewed the eleven sessions taking place from February to May. Mr. Dolinko endorsed the benefits of the IBB format for negotiating. He reviewed the salary increases for teachers noting a 1.05% increase to the base the first year; 1.2% increase to the base the second year, and the third year is to be determined based on the CPI for the 12 months ending December 31, 2016. Mr. Dolinko went on to explain other changes to the salary schedule structure, retirement benefit modifications, and the health insurance changes. He supports the new contract as fair and balanced. Administration negotiating team members Lori Goldstein, Paul Sally and Chris Johnson echoed Mr. Dolinko's remarks, praising the process and thanking the Association team's efforts in achieving a positive result. Board discussion followed with members' comments of support and appreciation and extended discussion on the CPI and the budget uncertainty in Springfield. Mr. Robitaille thanked both negotiating teams for a contract that supports a market wage for quality teachers and a balanced budget that continues to avoid a tax rate referendum. Mr. Dolinko moved and Ms. Goldstein seconded the motion that the Board approves the new three year agreement with the New Trier Township Education Association for the period of 2016-2019 as presented.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Ms. Goldstein, Mr. Harris, Mr. Myefski, Ms. Albrecht, Mr. Dolinko, Mr. Robitaille

NAY: Mr. O'Donoghue

The motion passed.

D. Public Hearing FY 2016 Amended Budget

Mr. Robitaille called the Public Hearing to order on the FY 2016 Amended Budget and invited comment from the audience. No one wished to address the Board on the Amended Budget. Mr. Robitaille opened the floor to Board member comments or questions. There were no further comments or discussion on the FY 2016 Amended Budget. Mr. Dolinko moved and Mr. Myefski seconded the motion to adjourn the Public Hearing on the FY 2016 Amended Budget. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

E. FY 2016 Amended Budget Approval

Mr. Christopher Johnson reviewed the reasons for amending the FY 2016 Budget which is to record that the District sold bonds in February 2016 to account for health-life-safety and renovation construction work that will occur this year. He also noted that minor adjustments were made to the classification of administrative costs. Mr. Johnson noted that all the changes were revenue neutral to the budget. There was no further Board discussion on the FY 2016 Amended Budget and Mr. Dolinko moved that the Board of Education approves the Resolution Adopting the 2015-2016 Amended Budget. Mr. O'Donoghue seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

F. Integrating Student Growth into Teacher Evaluation (PERA)

Mr. Robitaille noted that this agenda item will be postponed to the July 2016 Regular Board meeting.

VII. Administrative Items

A. Construction Update

Dr. Yonke began the Construction report with news of the work stoppage at the Winnetka Campus. Sheet Metal workers of Union Local 73 went on strike June 1-3. Negotiations were with the Union and the trade group representing the owners. All work stopped on the Winnetka Project during this time. Contract issues were resolved on Friday, June 3 and all work resumed on Monday, June 6. Any budget impact from the strike is still under review. Dr. Yonke noted that the owner's costs continue to be in alignment with the budget and relations with the Winnetka neighbors remain positive. Mr. Rob Martinelli provided narrative to the project's progress photos. Dr. Yonke and Mr. Martinelli responded to Board members' comments and questions. Discussion followed on labor contracts, project management and Phase II.

B. Executive Search Firm Approval

Mr. Robitaille and Mr. Harris were directed by the Board in April 2016 to interview and make a recommendation on a search firm to assist the District in finding the next Superintendent after Dr. Linda Yonke retires in June 2017. Mr. Robitaille recounted the process by which he and Mr. Harris researched six firms, interviewed and reference-checked three and brought forward one firm to recommend to the Board. He noted that the references were very positive and the firms were highly experienced in finding local, regional and national candidates. Mr. Robitaille outlined the internal processes involved in gathering input from all stakeholders which include the community, parents, students, faculty, and administrators. He indicated the task should start immediately in developing the profile for the ideal candidate. He and Mr. Harris were pleased to recommend School Exec Connect for their knowledge of New Trier culture and their strategic insights and experiences. Mr. Harris concurred and highlighted that a most critical part of the next steps is to thoughtfully prepare the profile to aide in the search. Mr. Robitaille noted that the search will also integrate any internal candidates into the recruitment process. Board questions and discussion followed with members expressing their positive experiences with the selection as well as inquiries on the timing range of starting interviews and the sensitivity to a confidential process. Mr. Dolinko moved and Mr. Myefski seconded the motion that the Board employs the services of School Exec Connect to assist the Board in searching for a Superintendent to begin on July 1, 2017, for a fee of \$21,500 plus expenses up to \$1800. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

C. Board Committee Assignments – 2016-2017

Mr. Robitaille thanked fellow Board members for their assistance with the various Committee assignments. He announced the new liaison assignments for the next school year, 2016-2017 as follows:

The New Trier Parent's Association: Lori Goldstein; *the Booster Club:* Greg Robitaille; *ECGC Parent Committee:* Mac Harris; *the New Trier Education Foundation:* Cathy Albrecht; *the New Trier Fine Arts Association:* John Myefski; *the Special Education Parent Group:* Mac Harris; *NSSED:* Lori Goldstein; *the Technology Committee:* John Myefski; *the Facilities Committee:* Patrick O'Donoghue; *the All School Forum:* Patrick O'Donoghue; *Traffic & Parking Committee:* Al Dolinko; *the Facilities Steering Committee:* Patrick O'Donoghue and Al Dolinko; *the Naming Committee:* Lori Goldstein and John Myefski; *the Community Engagement Committee:* Mac Harris and Cathy Albrecht; *the Finance Committee:* Greg Robitaille and John Myefski; *and the Policy Committee:* Cathy Albrecht and Lori Goldstein.

D. Board Policies

Dr. Yonke prefaced the discussion of policies noting that these all are included in the Student Handbook. Many are requiring updates due to changes in state law. Mr. Hayes provided a brief overview of the eight policies under consideration. The first four policy revisions were recommended by the Discipline Review Committee. This committee is comprised of students, parents, and staff members who meet annually to review disciplinary policy. Board Policy 7-25 Harassment and Bullying was changed to make it clear that students may report harassment to any staff member. It also changes the steps delineated in the investigation process. Board Policy 7-160 Student Appearance is reorganized so that there is a more general statement regarding disruptive clothing and more specific statements about unacceptable messages or images on clothing. Board Policy 7-190 Substance Abuse contains an additional statement explaining the primary purpose of this policy. Board Policy 8-30 Conduct on School Property is revised to make it clear that electronic cigarettes and other tobacco products are not allowed on school property. School property was expanded to include any property or vehicle owned by the District. State Senate Bill 100 significantly changed regulations regarding suspensions and expulsions by eliminating the "zero tolerance policies" and requiring schools to provide additional disciplinary interventions. Also, the Illinois' *Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act* requires all schools to have a detailed policy regarding concussion management. Board Policies 7-200 Student Discipline/Behavior; 7-210 Suspension; 7-220 Expulsion and 7-306 Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries were all revised to address the new requirements. This is the First Reading of the proposed changes. Mr. Hayes invited comments and questions from the Board members. Discussion followed on suspensions, concussions and state guidelines. Board approval is required after the Second Reading at the July Regular meeting.

VIII. Consent Agenda

- Bill List for the Period April 1-30, 2016
- Personnel Report and Addenda
- Ratification of Change Orders #9
- IASB Annual Dues
- Prevailing Wage
- Memorandum of Understanding With NTPPSA
- No. Cook Young Adult Academy 2016-17 Intergovernmental Agreement

Mr. Robitaille asked if any Board member would like to remove any items from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion. None of the Consent Agenda items were singled out for discussion. Mr. Dolinko moved that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Bill List for the Period, May 1 through May 31, 2016; the Personnel Report and Addendum; that the Board of Education of New Trier Township High School District 203 ratifies Budget Change Order #9 to the contracts managed by Pepper Construction Company; and furthermore, deducts the amount of \$212,285.00 from the West Side Project Construction Contingency line item, all in the best interest of the District; the IASB Annual Dues; the Resolution of the New Trier Township High School District 203, Cook County, Illinois ascertaining the prevailing rate of wages for laborers, workmen and mechanics employed on Public Works of said district; the Memorandum of Understanding between New Trier Township High School District and New Trier Physical Plant Services Association; and the Intergovernmental Agreement between New Trier High School District 203 and North Cook Intermediate Service Center for the 2016-17 Young Adult Academy. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

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

NAY: None

The motion passed.

XIII. Board Member Reports

Ms. Goldstein expressed thanks to the *Parents Association* for all the end of the year events that they sponsor and support.

Ms. Albrecht attended the *Policy Committee* on May 22. Policies under consideration have been addressed and discussed earlier in the meeting.

X. Board Members' Requests for Research & Calendar of Events

- Calendar of Events

Dr. Yonke reviewed the calendar and highlighted that NSED has a meeting on June 8 and the New Trier Education Foundation meets on June 8 also. Summer School begins on Monday, June 13 and continues through July 29. The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be on July 18.

- Board Members' Requests for Future Agenda Items

XI. ADJOURNMENT

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 10:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Anne Kelly, Secretary

Gregory Robitaille, President