

Committee of the Whole
September 13, 2023, 6:00 PM
Thornton Fractional Center for Academics & Technology
1605 Wentworth Ave.
Calumet City, IL 60409
MINUTES



1. Welcome

President Stepp called the committee of the whole meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present: Ballard, Dust, Jackson, Newman, Stepp, Wilson **Absent:** Terrazas

2. Absent: Terrazas Communication/Public Comment

- Elvis Slaughter—Voiced concern about racism being depicted with the display of the confederate flag at South in historical photos, etc. He specifically cited a plaque with a former principal's likeness from 1959 which includes confederate flag clothing.
- Dulce Gonzalez—Is a member of the South SEL Club and is sharing that pictures around the building have the confederate flag in them. She added these outdated photos have an impact on students. She suggests a conversation should be had about it and have more oversight over what is on display. It does not represent the students and the school.

3. Buildings Grounds/Safety Committee--Member Stepp

- A. Stadium Community Usage—Mr. Stephan shared it is appropriate to have a conversation now because of the financial investment and concerns for the safety of students. He added that the goal is to always have what is best for students. Most districts in the conference do not allow the community to use facilities. Factors include the cost of workers, finding the workers is hard, and the ability to monitor usage is impossible. There are tougher rules for maintenance of turf fields than grass fields. There is a lot of community usage of the track at North. Agreement was that although taxpayer money is involved, the district needs to do its best to preserve facilities for our students. Discussion included that there could be district liability if someone gets injured using district facilities. A decision does not have to be made immediately.
- B. Displaying PRIDE Flag—June is PRIDE month and Member Stepp asks the board to adopt a resolution to display the PRIDE flag during PRIDE month. Discussion included members wanting to be sure any action is inclusive of all students and suggested getting attorney input on the question before further discussion.
- C. Building Usage Report—The district needs to consider its rental to outside organizations. When the district rents out a facility, no one from the district is responsible except for the custodian and it is difficult to get coverage at times in addition to their regular shifts. The district does not charge to rent fields.
- D. Confident the South field will be ready October 6th.

4. Finance Committee--Member Jackson

- A. School Resource Officers Intergovernmental Agreements--Lansing and Calumet City—The district engages in an annual agreement which is approved by the village. Last year language was added for use of cameras during business hours. This year it is desired based on discussions with police chiefs to do an addendum, so the police department charges the district for extra duty. It is hard to get officers to cover because they want to get higher pay. According to the chiefs, they can then require them to cover events. Ms. Bishop will check how many are being used; Discussion included if districts were hiring private security and she is not aware of that.
- B. School Maintenance Grant—\$50,000 will support replacing a large section of TF South gym next year; this year it funded a section of TF North roof.

C. P-card rebate--\$4,342.93

D. First Student Busing Update—Ms. Bishop reported it has been a rough roll out which is partially due to drivers leaving for higher pay. Discussion included that the district cannot keep making concessions for a vendor we are paying more to. This is a regional issue, and all conference districts are struggling. Administration is continuously monitoring it. Consensus was the company needs to find solutions.

5. Curriculum Committee--Member Ballard

A. Summer School Summary—Ms. Szuba shared the district has never offered this number of advancement classes and it was great to be able to offer for free this last year. Over 60 students participated—thanked Kim Nichols and counselors for making it happen.

B. MOU Gloria J. Taylor Foundation—The district has worked with them 7-8 years bringing the upward bound program to students. It offers free intense support for students. Data will be tracked through Naviance.

C. SAT Prep for Students—This received very positive feedback from students and staff last year and priority is to reserve dates which will be hosted on North and South campuses.

D. SAT Prep for Staff—Since the SAT will now be all digital, administration wants to provide official professional development for staff.

E. Post Secondary Success Grant Vendor—The board was thanked for approval and will bring it officially to the September meeting.

F. CTE Division Leaders—Last year division leaders in five subjects were brought back. Based on input, it is a need for the CTE department and if approved there would be one for North and one for South/Center. Want to implement it in January to adjust the master schedule.

6. IT Committee--Member Wilson

A. Voice Services Contract—Mr. Wakefield shared this would be a new contract with ATT and offer more resiliency and capabilities for disaster for approximately \$3,000 less per year.

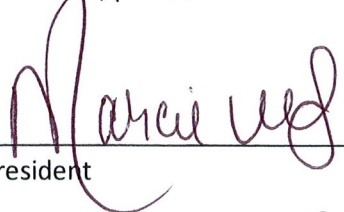
B. IT School Year Student Workers—This summer the district had four incredible student interns. The program was so successful the desire is to implement during the school year. Funding is from ESSER 3 for seven students. There is benefit to students and the technology department. The department will be vigilant about privacy and will have to look at other funding sources going forward.

7. Policy Committee--Member Newman

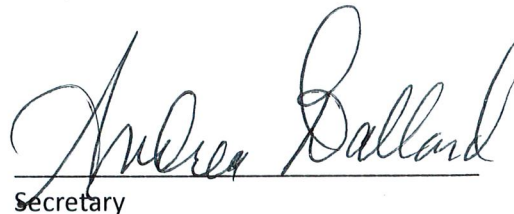
A. Communication of Policy & AP Updates/IASB Administrative Procedures Project (AAP)—Ms. Howard shared IASB has announced a service for districts who are subscribed to PRESS Plus and are updated on their policies to develop a personalized district administrative procedures manual which will be directly aligned with our policies, collective bargaining agreements, etc. IASB will provide a policy director who works with the administrative team to answer questions and review, edit, and further customize the administrative procedures manual. Ms. Howard will coordinate the process for the district.

8. Adjourn

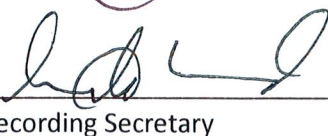
I move to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. This motion, made by Member Wilson and seconded by Member Jackson, passed.



President



Secretary



Recording Secretary