

# Hawthorn Board of Education Hawthorn C. C. District 73

201 Hawthorn Parkway

• Vernon Hills, Illinois 60061 •

Phone (847) 990-4200

## **MINUTES** **REGULAR BOARD MEETING** **HAWTHORN BOARD OF EDUCATION** **MARCH 10, 2003**

MINUTES of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Hawthorn Community Consolidated School District Number 73, Lake County, Illinois, held in the Board Room of said School District at 7:30 p.m. on the 10th day of March, 2003.

The meeting was called to order by President Paul at 7:35 p.m., and upon the roll being called, the following members of the Board of Education answered present: Jose Hernandez, Annie Christie, Mary-Jane Rattner, Bill Coli, Jim Batson and Rich Paul. Absent: Kevin Price.

### **Public Comment Period**

There were no matters of this nature on the agenda.

### **Student and Staff Accomplishments/Recognitions**

There were no matters of this nature on the agenda.

Mr. Price joined the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

### **Staff Presentations - Option School Goals**

Mr. Ahlemeyer stated this is the fourth year for the Option School, whose existence would not be possible without the support of the Board and district administrators. To have a choice in the public school system is important and forward-thinking on the part of the Board. Learning for all: Whatever it takes includes: (1) New ideas/changes - change not for the sake of change. (2) Increase engaged learning and more data driven. (3) Some students not meeting expectations -- changes will address improving the standards of learning and (4) Taking all students beyond expectations -- quality and joyful learning.

Fifth grade teachers Eileen Conway and Joyce Schullian provided an overview of their Bernstein Artful Learning Model on math and geometry. A Bernstein/UbD unit template was created covering a three-Inquiry centers were set up in each classroom. A CD from the Chicago Architecture Foundation was utilized and students searched on computers for geometric shapes and patterns within the Chicago architecture. Other learning centers provided exposure to compass work and optical illusions. Kits were purchased for students to build bridges and domes to get a feeling of depth to design. Lindsay Gerjol incorporated the use of legos for students to recreate the Escher illustration. Using geometric shapes, students created a backyard design. Creation of geometric shapes through dance was viewed through a video presentation of the students' PE class.

Kindergarten teacher Debi Anderson explained DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills). Students are assessed three times a year to measure literacy growth with tracking levels of mastery taking place from grades K-3. Mastering of specific skills is critical to literacy. Early literacy indicators/skills include: initial sound fluency; letter naming fluency, phoneme segmenting fluency and nonsense word fluency. The Option School has added: rhyming, letter sound association and monthly home activity packets and books. Option School DIBELS is differentiation by flexible learning groups. After assessments are completed, lessons are created to enhance mastery level skill. The goal is to develop flexible learning groups to achieve mastery level as researched by the University of Oregon. The University has done research on what the target point(s) should be at what period in the year to make sure students have mastered skills to move forward to become successful readers, scores higher than research results. Letter naming will be calculated by school norms which will be developed over a period of years. The phoneme segmentation fluency goal is 35 per minutes by spring with winter test

scores resulting in 23. In nonsense word fluency, test scores are already over the goal for the year in kindergarten. Mrs. Rattner was pleased to note the difference between her older child's ability level when in kindergarten three years ago versus the level of her current kindergarten student. The same teacher has transformed the classroom to challenge the student's abilities. Ability growth is tremendous and measurable over a short period of time.

Tara Neville, Fourth Grade Teacher, and Lindsay Gerjol, Learning Center Teacher, presented Option School's HOSTS Program (Helping One Student To Succeed), a mentoring program providing one-on-one reading support, 30 minutes, four times a week, through volunteers in our school and community. This program provides the necessary three tiers: a structured reading program, progress monitoring and supplemental reading materials to assist in providing proper intervention tailored to meet the child's needs. With the program beginning in October, 17 students are currently participating with the assistance of 22 mentors comprised of parents, retirees, secretaries from the district office, community members and various sixth graders. Additional volunteers are needed. Aside from boosting the students' self-esteem, several students have improved their reading levels by two years since October, with one second grade student moving from a pre-primer to a third grade level.

### **Consent Agenda**

President Paul entertained questions concerning items contained in the Consent Agenda. Following his correction to the February 24 Minutes, he requested a motion for approval of the following:

- 03/03.94 Meeting Minutes, Closed Session - 2/24/03
- 03/03.95 Meeting Minutes - Regular Session - 2/24/03, as corrected
- 03/03.96 2003/04 School Calendar

Annie Christie moved and Bill Coli seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Consent agenda items. Voice Vote: 7 ayes; 0 nays. Motion carried.

### **Action Items**

There were no matters of this nature on the agenda.

### **President's Report**

President Paul and Mr. Hall noted architects met last week with various committees and staff members regarding building design. Architects met with two classrooms of students to explain how buildings are designed and asked students what they liked about their schools, in general, and what they would like to see incorporated into a new school. Approximately 50 staff members broken down into 10 specific groups met with architects to view schematic designs. A design for a particular space was viewed and the group was allowed to respond with suggestions. The meetings were very positive with the architects coming away with many good suggestions to consider. These suggestions will be discussed at a meeting on Wednesday, March 12. The process is very open, and the architects very willing to incorporate suggestions into revised designs.

### **Discussion Items**

There were no matters of this nature on the agenda.

### **Committee Reports**

There were no items of this nature on the agenda.

### **Unfinished Business**

There were no items of this nature on the agenda.

### **New Business**

There was no new business to come before the meeting.

## **Announcements**

There were no items of this nature on the agenda.

## **Informational Items**

Informational items were provided to the Board for their review with no action required.

## **Adjournment**

Having no further business to come before the Board, President Paul requested a motion to adjourn.

Annie Christie moved and Jose Hernandez seconded the motion to adjourn. Voice Vote: 7 ayes; 0 nays. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned 8:47 p.m.

---

Richard Paul, President

---

Mary-Jane Rattner, Secretary

/ao