

Hawthorn Board of Education

Hawthorn C. C. District 73

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MINUTES **REGULAR BOARD MEETING** **HAWTHORN BOARD OF EDUCATION** **MARCH 24, 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 24th day of March 2003.

The meeting was called to order by President Paul at 7:30 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. Mr. Hernandez was present through telephone conferencing.

Mr. Price joined the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Public Comment Period

Mr. Berzanski, a resident and parent, expressed concern regarding the cost of the construction of new schools and the high pace of the project, giving credit to the Board for seeking community input as part of its process to design the schools. Mr. Berzanski also questioned the accuracy of enrollment projections and stated the district may be over building to accommodate future enrollment. He also expressed concern with the amount and cost of staff development for teachers. Mr. Berzanski also informed the Board that the cable company is no longer airing Board Meetings in Mundelein or Libertyville, only in Vernon Hills.

Student and Staff Accomplishments/Recognitions

There were no matters of this nature on the agenda.

Staff Presentations - Junior High School Mid-Year Progress Report

Mrs. Wilson, Principal of the Junior High, stated the passion and persistence of the Junior High staff provides the forward movement in its goals to educate students. Teacher study groups are keys to student improvement and include: (1) common planning time, early release days and district release time permitting time for collaboration. (2) Goal is clearly stated: improvement of student achievement. (3) Teachers accept the responsibility to work together. Results of the study groups are: shared beliefs and attitudes and teachers believe and accept responsibility for classroom curricular decisions.

The math study group is focusing on geometry with teachers working through lessons to make connections with students. Language arts study groups provide group logs which contain information pertaining to classroom experiences noting discussion and activities for lessons, student results and examination of student work. By reviewing student work, adjustments in lessons can be made in the lesson plans. Logs are shared with other members of the language arts staff. These study groups are used as a vehicle for people who share best practice, available information and how we can better our teaching abilities. Three mysteries, authored by students from poster story starters, were shared. Prior to writing their mysteries, elements of a good mystery were studied to provide the student's foundation. Body biographies were also viewed, all developed through use of a rubric to challenge the student. In social studies, teachers are looking at units through the UbD approach, in particular, reworking the World War II unit. They allow the student to look at war through the perspective of an individual who experienced and was involved in the era. A student produced radio show from the World War II era, incorporating music and interview of The Andrew Sisters and reports on specific battles to include key players, was aired. A Holocaust survivor presented facts and personal experiences to students in Mr. Kleinschmidt's class. The science teachers are experiencing all new units this year. Teachers share materials, one group presents a unit, results are reviewed and modifications made with the next group presenting the modified unit. This process will proceed throughout the year with units modified three times. Next year, all units will be in a completed format.

Everything done at the Junior High must be done in a way which is developmentally responsible for junior high students. We believe (1) we must have curriculum that is challenging, integrative and exploratory, (2) varied

teaching and learning approaches; (3) assessment and evaluation that promotes learning; (4) flexible organizational structures; (5) programs and policies that foster health, wellness and safety, and (6) comprehensive guidance and support services. The Junior High has all these items in place.

Communication concerning the Junior High is available to all through the school website. Mr. Dvorak has provided his expertise to allow viewing of monthly calendars of events, clubs, sports, honor rolls, school newspaper, GEM, junior high student handbook, and teacher websites. In conclusion, she added the importance of extra curricular activities (sports, clubs, music, etc.) -- a very high percentage of students participate in various activities throughout the year; it is their outlet and connection as a student in the Junior High.

Consent Agenda

President Paul entertained questions concerning items contained in the Consent Agenda and requested the Expenditure Report for March be incorporated. Hearing no questions, he requested a motion for approval of the following:

- 03/03.97 Meeting Minutes, 3/10/03
- 03/03.98 Treasurer's Report - February 2003
- 03/03.99 Personnel Report - Approval of one certificated staff member, Jennifer Martinez, Dual Language Teacher.
- 03/03.100 Expenditure Report (excluding ETA/Cuisenaire) - March 2003

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

Ms. Cencula introduced Jennifer Martinez, a graduate of Wheaton College with a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education including a minor in Spanish and endorsements in Language Arts, Spanish and Middle School Education. Ms. Martinez's education and past experience reveals a positive and self-reflecting young educator who will be an asset to the District.

Action Items

The Expenditure Report was moved from the Action Items to the Consent Agenda.

President's Report

There were no items of this nature on the agenda.

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

Mrs. Rattner congratulated the PTO for a successful variety show in which 148 student participated.

Informational Items

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

Motion to Move Into Closed Session

President Paul requested a motion to move into a Closed Session of the Board.

Jose Hernandez moved and Annie Christie seconded the motion that the Board of Education move into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing The purchase of real property for use by the District. Voice Vote: 7 ayes; 0 nays. Motion carried.

The Board moved into Closed Session at 8:37 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn Closed Session and Return to Open Session of the Board

Having no further business to come before this Closed Session, President Paul requested a motion to adjourn and return to its regular meeting.

Annie Christie moved and Jose Hernandez seconded the motion to adjourn this Closed Session of the Board and return to its Regular Session. Voice Vote: 7 ayes; 0 nays. Motion Carried. The Closed Session adjourned at 9:07 p.m., and the Board immediately moved to its Regular Session.

Adjournment

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

Jim Batson moved and Kevin Price seconded the motion to adjourn. Voice Vote: 7 ayes; 0 nays. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned 9:08 p.m.

Richard Paul, President

Mary-Jane Rattner, Secretary

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