

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Hawthorn Community Consolidated School District Number 73, Lake County, Illinois, held in the Conference Room at 841 West End Court at 7:30PM on the 23rd day of July 2007.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Tim Shanahan, President, at 7:30PM. Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Debbie Limer called the roll, with the following members of the Board of Education answering present: Jeff Bard, Michelle Comitor, Lisa Jay, John Sonnenberg, Donna Gaidamak, Anne Hoffman, and Tim Shanahan.

Public Comment period: None

Student and Staff Accomplishments, Recognitions:

Dr. Yomtoob told the Board that we have the final ISAT scores for this year. As reported before, 88% of our students met or exceeded state standards for reading; 91% for math and 94% for science. That is tremendous. All buildings at every level have met their Annual Yearly Progress. He added that we want the numbers at 100%. He thanked the teamwork of the teachers and staff. Tim Shanahan read a letter from the Bright Apple Award. Only 84 schools out of 872 have received this award in Illinois. The award is based on school performance, teacher: student ratio, education level of teachers, and amount of money spent per student. Anne Hoffman asked about the Annual Yearly Progress (AYP). Dr. Yomtoob stated this is the second year in a row that we have met our AYP. Every year the bar goes higher.

Staff Presentations: None

Consent Agenda:

Donna Gaidamak moved to approve the consent agenda. John Sonnenberg seconded the motion.

07/07.8 Board Minutes, regular session, 7/9/07

07/07.9 Expenditure Report, July 2007

07/07.10 Financial Statement

07/07.11 Personnel Report

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Gaidamak, Sonnenberg, Bard, Jay, Comitor, Hoffman, Shanahan,

Nays: None

Motion carried – 7– 0

Dr. Yomtoob told the Board that there are some new teachers to introduce. Joy Mullaney introduced James Ciecwiwa, math/science teacher at Middle School South. Dr. Yomtoob introduced Rachel Smith, literary resource teacher at Elementary North. He also introduced Mary Hoyland, first grade dual language teacher at Townline. The new teachers came forward to shake hands with board members and sign their contracts.

Action Items:

Dr. Yomtoob stated that we have a tentative budget and a final budget summary. He went over the fund balances as of 7/1/07 with estimated receipts and disbursements. We have a balanced budget through 6/30/08. Alan Hahn explained that real estate taxes are the bulk of our revenue. 85% of our revenue comes from local sources, 10% comes from the State, and about 1.5% comes from federal sources. New construction will add to our tax base. There is an estimated \$24M in new construction for the coming year. He commented that number is down from years past. The majority of the residential units in Gregg's Landing have been built. We do not know what is going to happen with the money coming in from the State. He stated that he put the same amount we received from the State and federal government last year in to this year's budget. Alan Hahn commented that with the reconfiguration complete, the budgeting is easier. The wild card is Special Education costs. They are up significantly. Lisa Jay asked if we know the new students we will have coming in who need special education services. Joy Kane stated that we know the students who receive services now. New students move in and others move out. We are seeing increasing levels of disability this year. We are watching it closely. Dr. Yomtoob added that after we set up the budget last year, we had a new student move into the District who required \$200K in services for residential treatment. John Sonnenberg asked about federal funds to help out with a situation such as that. Dr. Yomtoob responded that some of the costs are reimbursable, but the funds lag. Joy Kane stated that room and board costs are reimbursable, but educational costs are not. Dr. Yomtoob indicated that we never get the full cost back. There has been a big push for funding from the State. We have a good reputation here. Parents know that we will take care of our kids.

Alan Hahn told the Board that the Operation and Maintenance Budget is up. We are working at a planned deficit because of the additions. Utilities have gone up by 7%. We belong to a co-op and have done very well with it, but costs will eventually go up. In the transportation section, Special Ed transportation costs have gone up, but the rest of the transportation budget is steady. We have saved a lot of money with Lakeside. Alan Hahn stated that half of our budget is salaries. He went through the packet of information that Board members received. The legal budget form is what is approved at the end of the process. Board members are getting the budget for the first time. He suggested that they study it. The Finance Committee will be meeting.

The final budget needs to be approved at the September 24th meeting. There are two motions that need to be approved. The first is for the public display of the budget at the District Office for 30 days before the public hearing. The second is to approve the legal notice for the newspaper.

Donna Gaidamak moved to recommend that the Board of Education accept the tentative budget as presented for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008, and that the budget be placed on file for public inspection from August 10, 2007 to September 10, 2007 at the District Office located at 841 West End Court, Vernon Hills, Illinois, and that a public hearing of said budget be held at 7:30PM on September 10, 2007 in the District Office Board Room located at 841 West End Court, Vernon Hills, Illinois. John Sonnenberg seconded the motion. Voice Vote: 7 ayes: 0 nays. Motion carried

Lisa Jay moved to recommend that the Board of Education publish the following legal notice in the Pioneer Press: Notice is hereby given by the Board of Education of School District #73 in the county of Lake, State of Illinois, that a tentative budget for said school district for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007 will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at the District Office located at 841 West End Court, Vernon Hills, Illinois after 8:00AM on the 10th day of August 2007. Notice is further hereby given that a public hearing on said budget will be held at 7:30PM on the 10th day of September 2007; in the District Office Board Room located at 841 West End Court, Vernon Hills, Illinois. John Sonnenberg seconded the motion. He asked if there will be any other notices with this information. He suggested the website. Alan Hahn stated that it can be put on the website. John Sonnenberg asked about the improvement of the park district areas. Dr. Yomtoob stated that the park district is not ready for a partnership yet. Voice Vote: 7 ayes: 0 nays. Motion carried

President's Report: None

Superintendent's Report: None

Discussion Items:

Dr. Yomtoob stated that we had a rocky start with Lakeside. The situation has improved dramatically. We want to extend the contract for two years with a 4.5% yearly increase. He commented that there is no vote scheduled for tonight. Districts 70, 120, and 73 formed a cooperative for a better package, saving us about \$1M over three years. Anne Hoffman asked if there was any consideration of adding other districts to make the cooperative bigger. Alan Hahn explained that the three districts occupy the same geographic region, so the routes are intertwined. Making the group bigger than the existing three districts is not going to keep it compact as it is now. Jeff Bard asked how the routing is done. Alan Hahn stated that it is a combined effort using Versitran software. Lakeside does the routing first based on our parameters. We then review the routes and make what we feel are necessary changes. Our parameters allow a student no more than 45 minutes on the bus for either route. We want no more than two kids in a seat. We want the stops to be in safe locations. Jeff Bard asked who is responsible for behavioral issues on the bus. Alan Hahn explained that the bus driver is in charge, but he or she has to concentrate on driving the bus. The bus driver will write up and report any problems on the bus and give it to the building principal. Behavior is our responsibility, so the school staff deals with the issue.

Committee Reports:

John Sonnenberg told the Board that they had a good Finance Committee meeting with good interactions. They are working on their goals and will meet again on August 23rd and September 10th.

Donna Gaidamak stated that Lynn Brandl came to their Communications Committee meeting for an overview of the communication channels within the District. They discussed having Town Hall meetings and doing surveys. She added that she will have a full report at the next meeting. Tim Shanahan reported that he is happy to report that all of the committees have met at least once.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

Announcements: None

Informational Items: None

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Tim Shanahan requested a motion to adjourn.

Anne Hoffman moved to adjourn the meeting. John Sonnenberg seconded the motion. Voice Vote: 7 ayes: 0 nays. Motion carried

Adjourned: The meeting was adjourned at 8:20PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie Limer

Timothy Shanahan, President

Anne Hoffman, Secretary