

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING,
BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL
DISTRICT #225, COOK COUNTY,
ILLINOIS, JANUARY 28, 2013**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, School District No. 225 was held on Monday, January 28, 2013, at approximately 7:00 p.m. at Glenbrook North High School Library, pursuant to due notice of all members and the public.

The president called the meeting to order. Upon calling of the roll, the following members answered present:

Boron, Doughty, Hanley, Martin, Regalbuto, Shein, Taub

Absent:

Also present: Caliendo, Nimke, Muir, Pryma, Riggle, Siena, Wegley, Williamson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING

Motion by Mr. Boron, seconded by Mr. Taub to approve the agenda for this meeting.

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Boron, Doughty, Hanley, Martin, Regalbuto, Shein, Taub

nay: none

Motion carried 7-0.

STUDENTS AND STAFF WHO EXCEL

Ms. Nimke recognized GBN students Nathan Salstone, Charlie Laughlin, Isabella Andrews and Eric von Holst for their performances in the All-State Musical, *Memphis*. Teachers Julie Ann Robinson and Andy Wallace were also recognized for their involvement.

Students performed an arrangement from the musical.

Students shared their experiences in working with students from across the state. They spoke of the benefits of being in a school with the resources of GBN.

Dr. Riggle and Board members commended students on their accomplishments.

Mr. Wallace and Ms. Robinson thanked the Board for their support.

RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY VISITORS

None.

BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Dr. Riggle stated that the Variety Show is coming up at both schools. He reminded Board members about ticket requests.

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mrs. Hanley to approve the following items on the consent agenda

- 1.) a. no appointment of certificated staff
- 1.) b. the appointment of the following educational support staff contained in the assistant superintendent for human resources memorandum

APPOINTMENTS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>
Hahn, Susan	IA SPED	01.29.13	GBN
Spadoni, Tim	IA SPED	01.29.13	GBN
Weiner, Justin	1:1 SPED	01.29.13	GBN

- 2.) a. the resignations/termination of the following certificated staff:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>
Bexes, Frank	Teacher, Applied Tech	01.22.13	GBS

- b. no resignation/termination of educational support staff

- 3.) the Board of Education review of the FOIA request contained in consent agenda item #6.3.

- 4.) the issuance of Vendor Checks Nos. 56327 through 56518 in the amount of \$2,416,664.58 as listed on the attached checks register dated January 22, 2013.

5.) the issuance of the electronic wire transfers for credit union, TRS, federal taxes, employee and employer portion of FICA and Medicare taxes and state taxes, and payroll check numbers 68318 through 68520, 68527 thru 68603 totaling \$148,187.52. Vendor Payroll check numbers 68521 through 68526 and 68604 through 68609 totaled \$6,534.38. With employees' Federal, State, and FICA/Medicare withholding taxes of \$1,229,209.97 TRS contributions of \$501,604.21 other deductions of \$430,960.50 and direct deposit of \$3,939,270.96 the gross payroll for the month of December was \$6,249,233.16. TRS employer contribution was \$492,359.92 and employer matching FICA and MED was \$162,048.64.

6.) No imprest

7.) the Open and Closed Session Minutes from the January 14, 2013 Regular Board Meeting.

8.) Board Policy and Procedure 9200 as contained in consent agenda item # 5.9.

Mr. Martin asked Mrs. Siena questions regarding the vendor bills. He stated that there were two substantial monthly taxi payments, one to American Taxi and the other to 303 Taxi. He asked why two taxi companies are being used.

Mrs. Siena stated that the district bid taxi services a couple of years ago. 303 and American Taxi are used for transportation of primarily special education students and Septran is used for transporting special education students who are in wheel chairs.

Mr. Martin asked why two companies are used.

Mrs. Siena stated that the different companies go to different locations. The bid provided a choice of companies based upon where students attend such as North Shore Academy.

Mr. Martin asked if an expense of nearly \$80k is a typical charge for monthly taxi service.

Mrs. Siena confirmed that this was the case. She explained that students' Individual Education Plans dictate that taxi service is required.

Mr. Martin asked about a vendor bill for NSSSED of over \$1M. He asked if this was the district's monthly cost for NSSSED.

Mrs. Siena explained that NSSED makes three payments a year and that this payment is greater than the other two payments.

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Boron, Doughty, Hanley, Martin, Regalbuto, Shein, Taub

nay: none

Motion carried 7-0.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION: DISTRICT - NCLB SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
FOR 2011-2013**

Dr. Williamson presented the District Improvement Plan.

Mr. Doughty asked about the percentage of schools making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) under No Child Left Behind (NCLB).

Dr. Williamson stated that only a handful of high schools in the state are making AYP. These are primarily magnet schools that are part of CPS or schools that are homogeneous and do not have a large enough special education population to constitute a subgroup.

Mr. Doughty asked if the requirements of NCLB take us away from other things.

Dr. Williamson indicated that to a certain extent the requirements of NCLB do take administrator and some teacher time that could be spent on district initiatives that focus more on student engagement, creativity, critical thinking and innovation. These things are more difficult to measure; whereas, NCLB has a narrow focus on student performance in the areas of reading and math as measured by a standardized test given once in the junior year.

Dr. Riggle provided information regarding how the testing company, ACT, is heavily invested in state testing in Illinois. He spoke of the new assessments that are coming as a result of the new Common Core State Standards and where ACT may still play a role in the future.

Mr. Doughty asked about the consequences to the district for not making AYP.

Dr. Williamson explained that for the district the main sanction is developing the District Improvement Plan. Part of this plan speaks to how the district will support GBS as they move into restructuring.

Dr. Wegley stated that the school has focused on the standards and student growth.

Dr. Riggle stated that the sanctions that the school has to choose from are quite severe. One of the sanctions could be to close the school, fire the principal and release all of the teachers. These sanctions are not reasonable based upon test scores.

Dr. Riggle explained how two years ago GBN made AYP through a provision of NCLB called Safe Harbor. This relates to how a previously "failing" subgroup of students can improve by a certain percentage, still not meet NCLB targets, but are considered to make AYP because of the growth in student achievement.

Mr. Shein asked if this causes stress for the staff.

Mr. Pryma indicated that NCLB provisions and sanctions can be discouraging to educators, in general.

Dr. Wegley expressed frustration in that nearly every student at GBS graduates and has an opportunity to be successful. Teachers are doing good things for students at GBS. However, under NCLB GBS is labeled as a failing school.

Dr. Riggle stated that soon test scores will be tied to teacher evaluations and administrator evaluations. ACT and AP test results are a by-product of quality work. Current research on AP coursework indicates that more AP does not create a better condition for students. Taking multiple AP classes can be a very heavy load and very stressful for everybody. The administration is not using AP to try to build a reputation for the district by pushing students in this direction.

Mr. Boron asked about the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) relative to the new exams measuring the same group of students as they progress across grade levels.

Dr. Riggle confirmed that this would be the case. He explained the Explore, PLAN and ACT growth model. ACT is aligning itself for a very big market.

DISCUSSION/ACTION: GBS - NCLB SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR 2011-2013

Mr. Muir, GBS Associate Principal, presented the GBS Improvement Plan. He reviewed the updates to the plan. He stated that the same factors are still fully implemented and some are still in

process. The curricular alignment process that satisfies the NCLB sanction related to reorganizing the school is underway. He explained the backward design process and how departments were using this in their review of curriculum. Mr. Muir stated that standards alignment, assessments and instructional strategies lead to differentiation for students.

Dr. Wegley stated that the three goals for GBS related to school improvement are the development of instructional norms, aligning the curriculum to the College Readiness Standards and backward designing the curriculum.

Mr. Martin asked Dr. Wegley if he had not been compelled to draft a plan like this would he still be doing the same things relative to school improvement.

Mr. Muir indicated that the school would still be using backward design as a way to review the curriculum. Standards alignment would still be in place because that is something that GBS was doing before. This has been changing with the advent of the new Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

Mr. Martin asked what the school is doing differently as a result of having to develop a School Improvement Plan.

Dr. Wegley stated that the Board would see a broader set of standards such as fitness standards and music standards used in aligning the curriculum. The Board would see a more robust plan because this plan is mandated by the state and does not have the flexibility to expand beyond the provided template.

Mr. Muir stated that the plan only focuses on math and reading. A different plan would reflect greater areas that the school is looking at, outside of the required plan.

Dr. Riggle stated that good schools always have good school improvement plans. He provided some examples. Now it is harder to be an innovator because the State and Federal government will tell you how to approach your school improvement plans. This is more of an irritant because these plans make it difficult to celebrate successes of the school.

Mr. Taub stated that if something was wrong with the schools, people would vote with their feet.

Dr. Riggle stated that the district initiative relative to student engagement has opened a window of innovation that would not have been there before. Dr. Riggle spoke of the factors that are not measured by NCLB such as recapturing the excitement about learning that students lose over time. Beyond the narrow focus

of NCLB it is important to teach students how to contribute to their community, to be good communicators and critical thinkers.

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS

Mr. Taub referenced an article in the Saturday Wall Street Journal. Bill Gates holds the premise if things can be measured then problems can be solved. The Gates Foundation cites that 90% of teachers do not receive feedback in their schools.

Mr. Taub asked about the amount of feedback the average teacher receives in our district and how it comes about.

Mr. Pryma stated that when things are not right in our schools we know it in a hurry. He explained the formal evaluation systems in the school and informal feedback mechanisms.

Dr. Riggle described changes in teacher evaluation with regard to Senate Bill 7 and described the Danielson teacher appraisal model. He suggested looking at the context of what Bill Gates is claiming considering the political nature of education reform and teacher accountability. He provided some examples.

Mr. Taub stated that there is a large investment in staff and feedback is important.

Dr. Wegley stated that the Danielson model is a professional growth model. He described professional development at GBS to improve teaching and provide feedback to teachers.

Mr. Taub asked if there is peer mentoring for teachers in the district.

Dr. Wegley stated that there is a formal mentoring program for new teachers and informal mentoring occurs within departments.

Dr. Riggle explained that teachers are teamed with other teachers who teach the same things. This is a solid effort all the way around.

Mr. Martin stated that he would like to discuss the e-mail that the Board received regarding basketball at GBN.

Mr. Martin stated that he is interested in the policy on the compensation of staff who work in the sports programs. He asked if staff are able to benefit outside of the contract through referrals to other programs such as if a coach says they have a program that they would like a student to attend.

Dr. Riggle stated that this can be discussed at the next meeting, but this is a personnel matter. The Board can discuss policy in open session and personnel in closed session.

Dr. Riggle stated that the administration can explain the summer park district programs and in general IHSA rules that we have to be aware of with our coaches and talk full spectrum as much as possible. There is a lot on the agenda for the next meeting.

Mr. Martin stated that this is not a time-sensitive topic.

REVIEW AND SUMMARY OF BOARD MEETING

Mr. Shein stated that the next board meeting is February 11.

He reminded Board members to request tickets for the Variety Shows.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Doughty, seconded by Dr. Regalbuto to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Upon call for a vote on the motion, all present voted aye.*

Motion carried 7-0.

* Boron, Doughty, Hanley, Martin, Regalbuto, Shein, Taub

CERTIFIED TO BE CORRECT:

PRESIDENT - BOARD OF EDUCATION

SECRETARY - BOARD OF EDUCATION

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS:

Upcoming meetings will be held at
Glenbrook North High School
Library
2300 Shermer Road
Northbrook, IL 60062

Monday, February 11, 2013 7:00 p.m. Regular Board Meeting