

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
GOVERNING BOARD OF NILES TOWNSHIP DISTRICT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION #807
Cook County, Illinois
May 14, 2020

A Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of Niles Township District for Special Education #807 was held on Thursday, May 14, 2020, by way of Zoom.

Call to Order and Roll Call

Governing Board President Chao called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

The following Governing Board Members were in attendance:

District 67 Dr. Guy Hollingsworth, Delegate
District 68 Ms. Meghan Espinoza, Delegate
District 69 Dr. Mark Chao, Delegate
District 70 Mr. George Karagozian, Delegate
District 71 Mr. Joe Kuffel, Delegate
District 72 Ms. Vicki Goldberg, Delegate
District 73 Mr. Frank Santoro, Delegate
District 73.5 Ms. Carla Arias, Delegate
District 74 Mr. John Vranas, Delegate

Governing Board Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

T. Kendrick, K. Gavin, and C. Dimas.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Governing Board recited the Pledge.

Changes/Additions to the Agenda

A revised Consent Agenda was emailed to Board members before the meeting.

Audience to Visitor

None

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Member Vranas made a motion, seconded by Member Hollingsworth to approve the following, as recommended by the Executive Director:

- Minutes of the Open Session of March 3, 2020
- Minutes of the Closed Session of March 3, 2020

Personnel

Employment

Lauren Gummo, Project CLASS Teacher, effective August 20, 2020
Elizabeth Holbrook, Satellite Teacher, effective August 20, 2020
Cristina Rodriguez, Occupational Therapist, effective August 20, 2020
Fran Sassenick, Paraprofessional, effective August 20, 2020
Kelly Scullans, DHH Itinerant, effective August 20, 2020
Rachel Szymonik, Satellite Teacher, effective August 20, 2020
Kimberly Thier, Instructional Coach, effective August 20, 2020
Ashley Ulferts, School Psychologist Intern, effective August 20, 2020
Rose Zubeck, Project CLASS Teacher, effective August 20, 2020

Resignation

Elizabeth Michalowicz, Occupational Therapist, effective June 4, 2020

Termination

Irma Rendon-Gonzalez, Admin. Assistant to Business Office, effective May 15, 2020

Leave of Absence

Morgan Streit, Occupational Therapist, effective August 20, 2020

Accounts Payable

As of March 31, 2020: \$ 53,641.81

As of April 30, 2020: \$405,568.26

On a roll call vote, the motion was voted on as follows:

Yes: Hollingsworth (D67), Espinoza (D68), Chao (D69), Karagozian (D70), Kuffel (D71),
Goldberg (D72), Santoro (D73), Arias (D73.5), Vranas (D74)

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Executive Director's Report

Mrs. Kendrick reported that NTDSE's Remote Learning Plan is done via technology and students are provided hands-on materials. Teachers and related service staff created virtual plans and prepared materials for students on a bi-weekly basis. Families had the choice of picking up materials at Molloy or receiving non-contact bus delivery. Student individual remote learning plans were formed with input from parents. Families receive updated communications weekly from Mrs. Kendrick. Mrs. Kendrick referred to the Remote Family Playbook which can be found on the NTDSE website. Families can receive information on community resources for meal pick-up, health services, internet services, etc. Mrs. Kendrick sent a survey to families and staff regarding the remote learning plan. She will use this information and gather a committee to plan for remote learning in the fall, if necessary. Mrs. Kendrick stated that she communicates weekly with Superintendents, Case Coordinators and Special Education Directors and reports any special education guidelines from ISBE. Extended School Year (ESY) will be done remotely. ESY will run from June 10th through July 2nd. Students that qualify will stay on their district platform. Paraprofessionals will not be hired for ESY. Professional development has been placed on hold, except for an Administrators Academy which will be held in June. Professional Learning in August may need to be held remotely or in multiple sections. The Skokie Library donated hundreds of books to NTDSE students. They were delivered along with their learning materials. The Timely and Meaningful Consultation (TMC) meeting was held virtually on May 6, 2020. Mrs. Kendrick stated that federal legislation has not relaxed any IDEA guidelines. Documentation has been an important part on how remote learning has been conducted. Ms. Pilati, Early Childhood Coordinator, wrote an Impact Grant for the SEED Foundation. The Foundation was awarded \$25,000. These funds will be used to support families in need. Mrs. Kendrick stated that she has paused paraprofessional hiring until the fall. She continues to hire certified staff to replace those that have retired and resigned. Mrs. Kendrick reported that Remote Learning Committees will be formed to refine our current practices. Mrs. Kendrick reported that signs were made for Molloy graduates and parades were scheduled for the students in the satellite classrooms and Molloy. A virtual slide show will be shared with the families. Mrs. Kendrick spoke about a Memorandum of Understanding that was prepared with the union regarding the probation period for paraprofessionals. Many paraprofessionals were hired in January. More time is needed to evaluate those paraprofessionals. Mrs. Kendrick spoke about the partnership with the high school regarding distribution of breakfast and lunch to the township families.

Board Committee Reports

Ms. Gavin informed the Board that NTDSE was awarded a \$50,000 School Maintenance Project grant from ISBE to be used to renovate sections of Molloy. Molloy custodians continue to deep clean the building and this includes larger cleaning projects that are usually done during the summer. Ms. Gavin stated that all 9 districts accepted the Memorandum of Understanding for the Molloy construction. A motion for the Board is included in New Business. Ms. Gavin stated that the Finance Committee discussed the transportation amendment. A motion and further discussion will take place in New Business. Ms. Gavin discussed EBC health care rates. The renewal rates and motion are under New Business. Ms. Gavin discussed the new IDEA grant application process with member Business Managers. The Fund Balance Committee will meet at the end of May to discuss the FY 19 audit and FY 20 cash flow. NTDSE is partnering with member districts to group-buy PPE supplies for the fall.

Policy Report

Member Chao reported that PRESS Policy Issue 103 has been reviewed and needs minor changes.

New Business

Member Vranas moved to approve the salary recommendations for the 12-Month Support Staff (G. Covington, C. Dimas, D. Haiges, A. Hastings, J. Hummel, K. O'Malley, L. Pusateri, A. Taylor, J. Thommen, and T. Villegas), as presented and recommended by the Executive Director. Member Hollingsworth seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote, the motion was voted on as follows:

Yes: Hollingsworth (D67), Espinoza (D68), Chao (D69), Karagozian (D70), Kuffel (D71),
Goldberg (D72), Santoro (D73), Arias (D73.5), Vranas (D74)
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Member Vranas moved to approve the compensation packages for the following Administrators: S. Arad, C. Hartranft, R. Mayhall, C. Perry, F. Pilati, B. Sabourin and K. Smith, as presented and recommended by the Executive Director. Member Hollingsworth seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote, the motion was voted on as follows:

Yes: Hollingsworth (D67), Espinoza (D68), Chao (D69), Karagozian (D70), Kuffel (D71),
Goldberg (D72), Santoro (D73), Arias (D73.5), Vranas (D74)
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Member Vranas moved to approve the compensation of unused vacation days at the 2019-2020 daily rate for Tarin Kendrick, Kathy Gavin, Chris Perry, and Ryan Mayhall, as presented and recommended by the Executive Director.

Member Hollingsworth seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote, the motion was voted on as follows:

Yes: Hollingsworth (D67), Espinoza (D68), Chao (D69), Karagozian (D70), Kuffel (D71),
Goldberg (D72), Santoro (D73), Arias (D73.5), Vranas (D74)
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Member Vranas moved to approve 2% performance bonuses to the Executive Director, Tarin Kendrick and the Chief School Business Official, Kathy Gavin for the 2019-2020 school year. Member Hollingsworth seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote, the motion was voted on as follows:

Yes: Hollingsworth (D67), Espinoza (D68), Chao (D69), Karagozian (D70), Kuffel (D71),
Goldberg (D72), Santoro (D73), Arias (D73.5), Vranas (D74)
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Based upon the recommendation of the NTDSE Finance Committee and the Executive Director, Member Vranas moved to approve an amendment to the FY20 North Shore Transit special education transportation contract. Such an amendment provides for the following:

Pay to North Shore Transit for the regularly scheduled school days of March 16, 2020, through April 30, 2020, 100% of fees for routes actually run, and 80% of the fees for the routes not run.

Pay to North Shore Transit for the regularly scheduled school days of May 1, 2020, until the end of the regularly scheduled school year and extended school year 100% of fees for routes actually run and no additional amounts (0%) for routes not run.

Member Hollingsworth seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote, the motion was voted on as follows:

Yes: Hollingsworth (D67), Espinoza (D68), Chao (D69), Karagozian (D70), Kuffel (D71),
Goldberg (D72), Santoro (D73), Arias (D73.5), Vranas (D74)

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Member Vranas moved to approve the participation of Niles Township District for Special Education in the Infinitec Assistive Technology Coalition from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, as recommended by the Executive Director. Member Hollingsworth seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote, the motion was voted on as follows:

Yes: Hollingsworth (D67), Espinoza (D68), Chao (D69), Karagozian (D70), Kuffel (D71),
Goldberg (D72), Santoro (D73), Arias (D73.5), Vranas (D74)

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Member Vranas moved to approve NTDSE representing the Local Agency Network 41 as the fiscal agent for the DCFS grant, as recommended by the Executive Director. Member Hollingsworth seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote, the motion was voted on as follows:

Yes: Hollingsworth (D67), Espinoza (D68), Chao (D69), Karagozian (D70), Kuffel (D71),
Goldberg (D72), Santoro (D73), Arias (D73.5), Vranas (D74)

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Mrs. Kendrick reviewed the Embrace contracts that were included in the Board packet for Evaluation, IEP and Fee -for-Service.

Member Vranas moved to approve the calendar dates for the Niles Township District for Special Education Governing Board meetings for the 2020-2021 school year, as presented and recommended by the Executive Director with one correction, that the Governing Board will reorganize in the month of May. Member Hollingsworth seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote, the motion was voted on as follows:

Yes: Hollingsworth (D67), Espinoza (D68), Chao (D69), Karagozian (D70), Kuffel (D71),
Goldberg (D72), Santoro (D73), Arias (D73.5), Vranas (D74)

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Member Vranas moved to approve the Resolution to Prohibit Sexual Harassment, as it coincides with Board adopted policies 2:105 and 5:20, as presented and recommended by the Executive Director. Member Hollingsworth seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote, the motion was voted on as follows:

Yes: Hollingsworth (D67), Espinoza (D68), Chao (D69), Karagozian (D70), Kuffel (D71),
Goldberg (D72), Santoro (D73), Arias (D73.5), Vranas (D74)
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Old Business

Member Vranas moved to approve renovations and new construction to the Julia S. Molloy Education Center as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding that was unanimously approved by NTDSE's member districts. The start date of the renovation process including financing up to 8 MIL dollars, drawings, and construction will be determined based on input from the Fund Balance Committee. Member Hollingsworth seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote, the motion was voted on as follows:

Yes: Hollingsworth (D67), Espinoza (D68), Chao (D69), Karagozian (D70), Kuffel (D71),
Goldberg (D72), Santoro (D73), Arias (D73.5), Vranas (D74)
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Member Vranas moved to renew the District's participation in the healthcare plan (both medical and dental) offered through membership in the Educational Benefit Cooperative (EBC) from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, as presented and recommended by the Executive Director. Member Hollingsworth seconded the motion.

On a roll call vote, the motion was voted on as follows:

Yes: Hollingsworth (D67), Espinoza (D68), Chao (D69), Karagozian (D70), Kuffel (D71),
Goldberg (D72), Santoro (D73), Arias (D73.5), Vranas (D74)
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

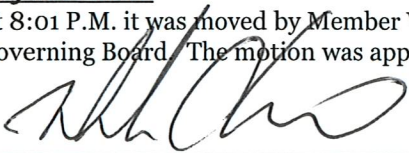
Member Chao thanked the Board members that completed the Executive Director's evaluation. The Executive Director received an "Excellent" in all categories of her evaluation.

Communications

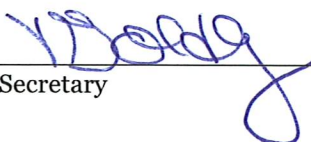
Mrs. Kendrick discussed standard enrollment data, and staff recognition for February and March. She also stated that the Board will reorganize at the June 14, 2020 meeting. The CFC Steering Committee needs a new member. Member Guy Hollingsworth volunteered to be on the committee.

Adjournment

At 8:01 P.M. it was moved by Member Vranas and seconded by Member Hollingsworth to adjourn the meeting of the Governing Board. The motion was approved unanimously.



President



Secretary

:cad