

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
GOVERNING BOARD OF NILES TOWNSHIP DISTRICT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION #807
Cook County, Illinois
May 13, 2021**

A Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of Niles Township District for Special Education #807 was held on Thursday, May 13, 2021, in the gymnasium at the Julia Molloy Education Center.

The meeting began with an Open Public Hearing regarding NTDSE's revised FY 21 Budget. Hearing no comments from the public, the NTDSE Governing Board meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M.

Call to Order and Roll Call - Welcome New Members

Mr. Noel Lorenzana, Alternate D67; Mr. Ken Durr, Alternate D69; Ms. Pamela Alper, Delegate D70; Ms. Nora Downing, Delegate D72; Ms. Diana Diakakis, Alternate D72; Mr. Atanu Das, Alternate D73; Ms. Ashley Moy Wooten, Alternate D73.5.

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 Ms. Pamela Alper, Delegate
District 71 Mr. Joe Kuffel, Delegate
District 72 Ms. Nora Downing, Delegate
District 73 Mr. Atanu Das, Alternate
District 73.5 Ms. Carla Arias, Delegate
District 74 Mr. John Vranas, Delegate

Governing Board Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

C. Hartranft, C. Perry, S. Arad, R. Mayhall, T. Kendrick, K. Gavin, and C. Dimas

Pledge of Allegiance

The Governing Board recited the Pledge.

Audience to Visitor

None

Adjournment Sine Die

Recall to Order and Roll Call

Member Vranas moved that Mrs. Kendrick be appointed to serve as President Pro Tem for the purpose of conducting the meeting prior to the reorganization of the Governing Board of Niles Township District for Special Education. Member Hollingsworth seconded the motion. Mrs. Kendrick asked Ms. Dimas to call the roll. The Governing Board members recited the oath.

Reorganization of Governing Board of Niles Township District for Special Education

Member Vranas moved that Member Chao be nominated to serve as President of the NTDSE Governing Board through the May, 2022 meeting of the Governing Board. Member Hollingsworth seconded the motion. Member Chao accepted the nomination.

Member Chao moved that Member Vranas be nominated to serve as Vice President of the NTDSE Governing Board through the May, 2022 meeting of the Governing Board. Member Arias seconded the motion. Member Vranas accepted the nomination.

Member Vranas moved that Member Downing be nominated to serve as Secretary of the NTDSE Governing Board through the May, 2022 meeting of the Governing Board. Member Chao seconded the motion. Member Downing accepted the nomination.

All nominations were approved unanimously.

Member Chao moved to appoint Christina Dimas as the NTDSE Secretary to the Governing Board through the May, 2022 meeting of the Governing Board. Member Das seconded the motion. Ms. Dimas accepted the appointment.

The following Board members agreed to the following Committees:

Finance/Facilities: Member Hollingsworth, Member Santoro (in absence), Member Vranas, and Member Chao
Policy: Member Alper and Member Chao
CFC: Member Arias and Member Chao

Changes/Additions to the Agenda

A revised Consent Agenda was included in Board members' folders.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Member Vranas moved to approve the following, as recommended by the Executive Director:

Minutes from:

Open Session of April 8, 2021
Closed Session of April 8, 2021

Personnel

Employment

Natalie DiMaria, Project CLASS Teacher, effective August 19, 2021
Shannon Egan, Intermediate Project CLASS Teacher, effective August 19, 2021
Susan Hamlink, DHH Itinerant, effective August 19, 2021
Peyton Hicks, Educational Sign Language Interpreter, effective August 19, 2021
Heather Milligan, Occupational Therapist, effective August 19, 2021
Kirsten Safley, Vision Itinerant, effective August 19, 2021
Jerika Smith, Project CLASS Teacher, effective August 19, 2021
Sydney Timpe, Speech/Language Pathologist, effective August 19, 2021

ESY Personnel

Molloy Education Center, as presented
Culver School, as presented
Meyer School, as presented

Resignation

Cory Bedtke, Social Worker, effective June 11, 2021
Morgan Streit, Occupational Therapist, effective May 12, 2021

Retirement

John Prochaska, Paraprofessional, effective July 31, 2021

Accounts Payable

Effective April 30, 2021 - \$294,749.84

Member Kuffel seconded the motion.

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

Yes: Hollingsworth (D67), Espinoza (D68), Chao (D69), Alper (D70), Kuffel (D71), Downing (D72), Das (D73), Arias (D73.5), Vranas (D74)

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Executive Director's Report

Mrs. Kendrick announced that all students will have in-person learning in the fall. A reopening committee was formed to plan the 2021-22 school year. She will also hold 2 staff and parent town hall meetings in June regarding the reopening. She communicated to families that students 12 years and older can be vaccinated. She also stated that NTDSE, Districts 67, 70, 71, and 74 will hold vaccination clinics. She reported that 90% of staff have been vaccinated. Mrs. Kendrick reported that NTDSE still needs to hire 2 occupational therapists and 2 teachers. 2 satellite classrooms are still needed for next school year. Mrs. Kendrick gave a legislative update which included SB0654, which provides students in grades kindergarten through 5th grade with 30 minutes of unstructured play time. She also spoke about SB0517 which addresses state reimbursement for students attending public therapeutic day schools versus private therapeutic day schools. Mrs. Kendrick spoke about several bills currently in the legislation. The legislators in Niles Township had an emergency meeting with Mrs. Kendrick and several township superintendents to discuss the status of these bills. Mrs. Kendrick stated that she will hold a New Board Orientation meeting on July 15, 2021. Mrs. Kendrick reported that Teacher Appreciation Day was celebrated with a dessert truck and a t-shirt for all staff. NTDSE's End of the Year party will be held on Molloy's playground on May 26th. Five retirees will be recognized and celebrated.

Mrs. Hartranft, Mrs. Perry, Mrs. Arad, and Mr. Mayhall introduced themselves to the new Board members.

Mrs. Hartranft gave an update on ESY enrollment in the satellite classrooms. Mrs. Perry reported on ESY at Molloy. She also stated that Molloy held practice fire and emergency drills. Mrs. Arad spoke about the Professional Learning calendar for the 2021-22 school year. She reached out to the districts to get feedback on their professional development needs for next year. Mr. Mayhall spoke about the federal government providing families with a subsidized rate for internet access. He reported that the Ed Tech Committee is continuing their work on SOPPA for the July 1st deadline. He is conducting random cyber security testing with staff. He also gave an update on internet upgrades, security cameras, and video needed for the newly constructed space at Molloy.

Board Committee Reports

Finance/Facilities Report

Ms. Gavin reported that the Committee reviewed Accounts Payable. She stated that she toured local school administration centers for design ideas with Mrs. Kendrick and Mrs. Perry. Ms. Gavin stated that the amended FY 21 budget includes the funds from the bond sales for Molloy's construction. A motion is included under Old Business for the Board's approval. Ms. Gavin stated that she will discuss cyber insurance with CLIC. She stated that D807 published the RFP for legal services. She met with district business managers to give an overview of IDEA funding. She stated that the Fund Balance Committee will meet in May.

Policy Report

None

CFC Report

None

New Business

Member Vranas moved to approve the calendar dates for the Niles Township District for Special Education Governing Board meetings for the 2021-2022 school year, 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), Alper (D70), Kuffel (D71), Downing (D72), Das (D73), Arias (D73.5), Vranas (D74)

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Mrs. Kendrick discussed the Embrace contracts that were reviewed by NTDSE’s legal counsel. All nine districts use Embrace IEP and DS software. All Embrace software products are SOPPA compliant. The contracts will be presented for the Board’s consideration in June. Mrs. Kendrick stated that the legal RFP was published in the newspaper on May 6, 2021. The RFP was also sent to several law firms.

Closed Session

At 7:55 P.M., it was moved by Member Vranas that the Governing Board enter into closed session for the purpose of the discussion of personnel. Member Downing seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Old Business

Member Chao moved to approve the NTDSE amended budgets of revenues and expenditures for the 2020-2021 school year, as presented and recommended by the Executive Director. Member Das seconded the motion.

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

Yes: Hollingsworth (D67), Espinoza (D68), Chao (D69), Alper (D70), Kuffel (D71), Downing (D72), Das (D73), Arias (D73.5), Vranas (D74)

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Member Vranas moved to approve the Tuition Reimbursement Agreement for NTDSE Administrative Assistant, Alicia Hastings, as presented and recommended by the Executive Director. Member Downing seconded the motion.

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

Yes: Hollingsworth (D67), Espinoza (D68), Chao (D69), Alper (D70), Kuffel (D71), Downing (D72), Das (D73), Arias (D73.5), Vranas (D74)

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Communications

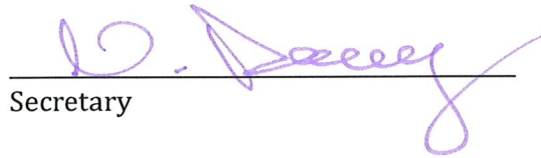
Mrs. Kendrick reviewed the student and staff enrollment data. She also spoke about the staff recognition program.

Adjournment

At 8:15 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

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