

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
GOVERNING BOARD OF NILES TOWNSHIP DISTRICT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION #807
Cook County, Illinois
November 2, 2021**

A Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of Niles Township District for Special Education #807 was held on Tuesday, November 2, 2021, in the Gym at the Julia Molloy Education Center.

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, Alternate
District 71 Mr. Joe Kuffel, Delegate
District 72 Ms. Nora Downing, Delegate
District 73 Mr. Frank Santoro, Delegate
District 73.5 Ms. Carla Arias, Delegate
District 74 Mr. Kevin Daly, Alternate

Governing Board Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

C. Hartranft, C. Perry, S. Arad, R. Mayhall, F. Pilati, K. Passarella, T. Thomas, R. Mendez, L. Quiros, T. Kendrick, K. Gavin, and C. Dimas

Pledge of Allegiance

The Governing Board recited the Pledge.

Changes/Additions to the Agenda

Member Chao stated that a revised Consent Agenda was included in Board members' folders.

Audience to Visitor

None

Presentation

Mrs. Kendrick introduced Ms. Francesca Pilati, Early Childhood Coordinator; Ms. Kristina Passarella, Early Childhood Teacher and Ms. Tempe Thomas, Early Childhood Speech-Language Pathologist. Ms. Passarella and Ms. Thomas shared information related to the adaptation of curriculum to meet the needs of their diverse students with disabilities. They stated that they presented on Creative Curriculum at a national conference. They will also present at a symposium in February. Ms. Rosa Mendez, Early Childhood Resource Specialist, and Ms. Laura Quiros, MFS (Metropolitan Family Services), Home Based Supervisor, presented on the Early Childhood Alliance and Metropolitan Family Services birth to three services.

Approval of Consent Agenda

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

Minutes from:

Open Session from September 9, 2021

Closed Session from September 9, 2021

Personnel

Employment

Jeva Durakovic, Paraprofessional, effective October 21, 2021
Keith Fredrick, Paraprofessional, effective November 3, 2021
Melissa Hughes-Smith, Administrative Assistant, effective November 22, 2021
Meesha Jackson, Paraprofessional, effective October 12, 2021
Sean Jensen, Paraprofessional, effective September 20, 2021
Anjum Khan, Paraprofessional, effective October 20, 2021
Andrea Kleppe, Paraprofessional, effective October 12, 2021

Resignation

Elena Britton, Teacher, effective October 15, 2021
David Cohen, Paraprofessional, effective October 22, 2021

Retirement Benefits

JacquelineThommen - \$4,361.25

Accounts Payable

Effective September 30, 2021 - \$139,477.00

Effective October 31, 2021 - \$766,625.25

Member Santoro 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),
Downing (D72), Santoro (D73), Arias (D73.5), Daly (D74)

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Executive Director's Report

Mrs. Kendrick spoke about NTDSE's Strategic Planning process. She requested that one person from every district attend the planning meeting which will be held on January 22, 2022 at Molloy. Mrs. Kendrick spoke about Super Eval, an evaluation tool for superintendents and administrators. She also spoke of the cost and the benefits of the program. Mrs. Kendrick will attend the CASE Conference in Little Rock, AR this month. She talked about the HR software companies she reviewed with Ryan Mayhall and Christina Dimas. Mrs. Kendrick spoke about the academic calendar for 2022-2023. Due to construction, the students at Molloy may have to start after Labor Day. She will discuss options with the union. Mrs. Kendrick gave an update on COVID closures at Molloy. She stated that Molloy's nurse is looking into holding a clinic to vaccinate students.

Director's Report:

Mrs. Hartranft reported that Dr. Mark Dixon, known for his work in applied behavior analysis, will be working with NTDSE teams to implement PEAK Relational Training across our classrooms. Over a year, he will provide direct training as well as technical assistance in the classrooms. Dr. Dixon and the PEAK team have published over 40 peer-reviewed journals documenting the effectiveness of this approach.

Two members of our Instructional Coaching team began a year-long training cycle with Dr. Jim Knight through the Northwestern Educational Coaching Network. All of the Instructional Coaching Team has now participated in the in-depth training utilizing this approach.

Mrs. Hartanft stated that she would attend a 4-day session on Cognitive Coaching with Mrs. Arad and Mrs. Smith. This model is published by Thinking Collaborative, the same organization that designed Adaptive Schools, in which many of our team members participated a few years ago.

Principal's Report:

On October 15th and 16th, the Skokie Knights of Columbus chapter and NTDSE staff participated in Candy Days. The fundraiser brought in over \$1,400 in donations, which will support the NTDSE Activity Fund. Mrs. Perry spoke about NTDSE's relationship with Dr. Matek, a child and adolescent psychiatrist who works with students and families one day per week.

Supervisor's Report:

Mrs. Arad spoke about the October Professional Learning, which included two legal presentations. One session provided legal guidance on personnel issues related to COVID. The other session pertained to restraint and seclusion. NTDSE partnered with NSSEO to provide the 3-day Wilson Reading Training. The superintendent from the Muslim Community Center presented a session entitled Muslim Culture 101 via Zoom. Mrs. Arad stated that Assistive Technology Coordinator, Matt Baud will present at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in November. Ms. Mara Collard, Music Therapist, co-presented at the National Music Therapy Conference in October. Mrs. Arad thanked Fairview School for allowing NTDSE to use their auditorium to host Institute Day.

Technology Report:

Mr. Mayhall stated that he evaluated seven HR software companies. Mrs. Kendrick will make a recommendation in January. Mr. Mayhall recommended SpectrumVoIP as NTDSE's new phone system. The new system allows staff to be mobile as offices will move during construction. He is working with the architectural firm to provide recommendations on A/V, cabling vendors, and security camera systems. In the past month, NTDSE migrated to two new data servers that serve as the hub of operations for the district.

Finance/Facilities Report

Ms. Gavin stated that the Committee reviewed accounts payable. She said that weekly meetings with Nicholas and TRIA are ongoing. The Committee reviewed field observation reports from TRIA. Ms. Gavin provided a transportation update. The Governing Board requested that NTDSE contact Cook Illinois (North Shore Transit's parent company) to discuss a one-year contract extension. The Finance Committee will select a date in December for the Audit Review meeting. Ms. Gavin stated that the Committee reviewed information related to the TRS Supplemental Savings plan that will be implemented in January 2022.

Policy Report

Member Chao stated that the 2nd reading of policies will be discussed in Old Business.

CFC Report

Member Chao stated that the CFC Committee met on November 1st. He spoke about the benefits of the summer Bridge Program. 300 students participated in the program. CFC has a new dedicated space in District 219.

New Business

Member Santoro moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the NTDSE Governing Board, District 807 and The Niles Township Federation of Special Education Educators and Support Staff, effective for the 2021-2022 school year, as presented and recommended by the Executive Director. Member Kuffel seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: 9 Ayes, 0 Nays

Member Chao moved to approve the Extended School Year (ESY) program to begin June 20 through July 21, 2022, Monday through Thursday, as recommended by the Executive Director. The location of the ESY program will be determined. Member Kuffel seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: 9 Ayes, 0 Nays

Mrs. Kendrick provided information on historical transportation increases from North Shore Transit.

Old Business

Mrs. Kendrick spoke about a new policy that would provide retirement benefits for education support staff. NTDSE's legal counsel drafted a proposal for the Governing Board to review.

Member Chao moved to approve the following new and amended NTDSE Board policies from PRESS Issue 107, June 2021, as recommended by the Policy Committee and the Executive Director:

1:10 School District Legal Status, 1:20 District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements, 1:30 School District Philosophy, 2:10 School District Governance, 2:20 Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification, 2:130 Board-Superintendent Relationship, 2:240 Board Policy Development, 3:30 Chain of Command, 5:10 Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment, 5:30 Hiring Process and Criteria, 6:100 Using Animals in the Educational Program, 6:145 Migrant Students, 6:160 English Learners, 6:235 Access to Electronic Network, 6:255 Assemblies and Ceremonies, 6:260 Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs, 7:220 Bus Conduct, 7:230 Misconduct by Students with Disabilities, 7:280 Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease, and 8:90 Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs.

Member Downing seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: 9 Ayes, 0 Nays

Communications

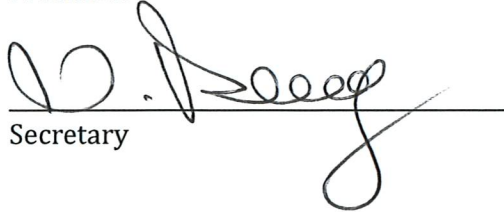
Mrs. Kendrick spoke about student enrollment data. She also shared staff responses to their *Bright Spot*. She stated that NTDSE received 2 FOIA requests. The information was provided in the Board packet. Mrs. Kendrick read the names of the nominees that were recognized as Friends of NTDSE.

Adjournment

At 8:20 P.M., it was moved by Member Chao and seconded by Member Espinoza to adjourn the meeting of the Governing Board. The motion was approved unanimously.



President



Secretary

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