

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
GOVERNING BOARD OF NILES TOWNSHIP DISTRICT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION #807
Cook County, Illinois
March 9, 2023**

A Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of Niles Township District for Special Education #807 was held on Thursday, March 9, 2023, in the Administrative Offices at the Molloy Education Center.

Call to Order and Roll Call

Governing Board President Chao called the meeting to order at 6:07 P.M.

The following Governing Board Members were in attendance:

District 69 Dr. Mark Chao, Delegate
District 70 Ms. Pam Alper, Delegate
District 72 Ms. Nora Downing, Delegate
District 73 Mr. Frank Santoro, Delegate
District 73.5 Dr. LaTasha Nelson, Delegate
District 74 Mr. John Vranas, Delegate

Governing Board Members Absent:

District 67 Mr. Noel Lorenzana, Delegate
District 68 Ms. Meghan Espinoza, Delegate
District 71 Mr. Joe Kuffel, Delegate

Others Present:

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

Pledge of Allegiance

The Governing Board recited the Pledge.

Changes/Additions to the Agenda

The accounts payable total for February was added to the Consent Agenda.

Audience to Visitor

None

Celebration

Mrs. Kendrick introduced Ms. Janet Radcliffe, NTDSE Coach. Ms. Radcliffe was an award winner for the ISBE 2023 "Those Who Excel Award."

Approval of Consent Agenda

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

Minutes from:

Open Session from January 12, 2023
Closed Session from January 12, 2023

Personnel

Employment

Hadeel Alkarkoukly, Paraprofessional, effective March 6, 2023
Hiba Al Sayed, Paraprofessional, effective February 6, 2023
Justice Boyd, Paraprofessional, effective January 30, 2023

Holly Bowman, Paraprofessional, effective February 2, 2023
Josephine Malinowski, Paraprofessional, effective March 6, 2023
Ban Mohammed, Paraprofessional, effective March 13, 2023
Jessie Nimz-Johns, Paraprofessional, effective February 21, 2023
Mashid Pakdel, Paraprofessional, effective February 13, 2023
Hiba Rabia, Paraprofessional, effective January 23, 2023

Resignation

Sarah Chroman, Paraprofessional, effective February 16, 2023
Amanda Gorell, DHH Itinerant, effective June 8, 2023
Luis Guerrero, Paraprofessional, effective January 6, 2023
Lawrence Rieger, School Psychologist, effective June 8, 2023
Michelle Ruderman, Paraprofessional, effective February 10, 2023
Patrick Soper, Paraprofessional, effective June 8, 2023

Termination

Pierre Lewis, Custodian, effective March 3, 2023

Accounts Payable

Effective November 30, 2022 - \$252,281.67

Effective December 31, 2022 - \$285,780.02

Member Alper seconded the motion.

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

Yes: Chao (D69), Alper (D70), Downing (D72), Santoro (D73), Nelson (D73.5), Vranas (D74)

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Lorenzana (D67), Espinoza (D68), Kuffel (D71)

Executive Director's Report

Mrs. Kendrick shared an email from one of NTDSE's vision itinerants thanking her for the support, resources, and collaboration from administration and the Board for the vision department. Mrs. Kendrick stated that she met with all member districts regarding their purchased services needs for FY 24. She stated that the leadership team is working on staff projections for FY 24. She will share a proposal in April. Mrs. Kendrick shared the Parent/Family Night meeting information for March. She stated that a survey was sent to member districts regarding their professional learning needs for the 23-24 school year. Mrs. Kendrick, Mrs. Arad, and Mrs. Perry participated in the IASPA virtual job fair. They hope to fill the positions that are currently posted for the 23-24 school year. Mrs. Kendrick stated that NTDSE entered into an agreement with National Louis University regarding their Alternative Licensure Program. Mrs. Kendrick spoke about NTDSE's staff wellness program, which includes a pickleball clinic that is held on Wednesdays for all staff. Mrs. Kendrick stated that NTDSE contracted with NCISC to conduct an EL Audit. The audit will be completed in the spring. Mrs. Kendrick stated that she attended the IAASE Winter Conference in Springfield with Mrs. Hartranft and Mrs. Arad. Mrs. Kendrick presented "Lessons for new Administrators," Mrs. Hartranft and Mrs. Arad presented "Evaluation of Specialists." Mrs. Kendrick spoke about ED-RED legislative efforts. Multiple bills related to special education include "equalized funding."

Director's Report

Mrs. Hartranft reported on the partnership with CFC and has implemented the Foundations Reading Program in the satellite and Project ABLE classrooms. This partnership includes an onsite Foundations Coach/Trainer to support classroom implementation. ACCESS testing and Alternate ACCESS testing are complete. In the spring, NTDSE has offered to be an observation site for the Alternate ACCESS Field Test. The Raptors basketball season has concluded. A celebration will be planned in April.

Principal's Report

Mrs. Perry reported that Molloy's high school classrooms have volunteered at the food pantry. They select healthy food choices for the students to use during food therapy. She shared an email from a district representative giving praise and appreciation to the educators at Molloy for the services provided to their students.

Supervisor's Report

Mrs. Arad reported on Township Institute Day, which was held on March 3, 2023. Author Shawn Achor presented the latest research on happiness and ideas that we could build within our lives. She reported that she spent several days speaking to over 200 juniors and seniors at Niles North and Niles West regarding careers in the field of special education.

Technology Update

Mr. Mayhall reported that the Molloy gym's new audio and projection systems are complete. Administrative support staff was trained on ProvenIT. He met with the cybersecurity agency to review the current systems. NTDSE will be transitioning from Zoom to Google Meet.

Mrs. Kendrick gave an update on NTDSE's Strategic Plan.

Finance/Facilities Report

Ms. Gavin reported that the Committee reviewed Accounts Payable. She reported that the DECO Grant of 2 MIL is on a reimbursement system and the final award is pending. Ms. Gavin researched waste removal companies. She has recommended GROOT as the new vendor. She stated that PIKE Supplies was onsite for custodial training. She spoke about the Articles of Agreement. Township business managers discussed the formula for districts that host NTDSE classrooms. Ms. Gavin attended an EBC meeting to discuss preliminary rate information for medical, dental, and life insurance. The Audit Committee met to review the final audit report. The report will be discussed under Old Business.

Member Chao spoke about the revised Articles of Agreement. He highlighted the formula which determines the number of classrooms member districts will be expected to host.

Mrs. Kendrick stated that she will need two or three Board members to be on the Negotiations Committee for the new Collective Bargaining Agreement or it can be a duty of the Finance Committee.

Policy Report

The second reading of PRESS Policies, Issue 110 will be discussed under Old Business.

CFC Report

None

New Business

Member Vranas moved that the FY 22 audited financial statements prepared by Lauterbach and Amen, LLP be accepted, as presented and recommended by the Audit Committee and the Executive Director. Member Santoro seconded the motion.

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

Yes: Chao (D69), Alper (D70), Downing (D72), Santoro (D73), Nelson (D73.5), Vranas (D74)
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Lorenzana (D67), Espinoza (D68), Kuffel (D71)

Member Vranas moved to accept the Resolution Authorizing Non-Reemployment of First-Year Teacher, as recommended by the Executive Director. Member Chao seconded the motion.

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

Yes: Chao (D69), Alper (D70), Downing (D72), Santoro (D73), Nelson (D73.5), Vranas (D74)
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Lorenzana (D67), Espinoza (D68), Kuffel (D71)

Closed Session

At 6:55 P.M., it was moved by Member Chao that the Governing Board enter into a closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel. Member Nelson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Nelson exited the meeting at 7:05 P.M.

Return to Open Session

Member Chao motioned for the Governing Board to return to open session at 7:23 P.M. The motion was approved unanimously.

Old Business

Member Vranas moved that the Restated Articles of Joint Agreement governing the Niles Township District for Special Education be approved, 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: Chao (D69), Alper (D70), Downing (D72), Santoro (D73), Vranas (D74)
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Lorenzana (D67), Espinoza (D68), Kuffel (D71), Nelson (D73.5)

Member Vranas moved to approve the proposed school calendar of the Niles Township District for Special Education for the regular term of the 2023-2024 school year, as presented and recommended by the Executive Director. Member Santoro seconded the motion.

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

Yes: Chao (D69), Alper (D70), Downing (D72), Santoro (D73), Vranas (D74)
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Lorenzana (D67), Espinoza (D68), Kuffel (D71), Nelson (D73.5)

Member Vranas moved to approve the Agreement between Niles Township District for Special Education #807 and Brian Kulaga (Teacher of the Visually Impaired) regarding tuition reimbursement, 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: Chao (D69), Alper (D70), Downing (D72), Santoro (D73), Vranas (D74)

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Lorenzana (D67), Espinoza (D68), Kuffel (D71), Nelson (D73.5)

Member Chao moved to approve the following new and amended NTDSE Board policies from PRESS Issue 110, October 2022, as recommended by the Policy Committee and the Executive Director:

2:20, Powers and Duties of the School Board; Indemnification; 2:100, Board Member Conflict of Interest
2:105, Ethics and Gift Ban; 2:150, Committees; 2:210, Organizational School Board Meeting
2:250, Access to District Public Records; 2:265, Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure
3:10, Goals and Objectives; 3:50, Administrative Personnel Other than the Superintendent
3:60, Administrative Responsibility of the Building Principal; 4:10, Fiscal and Business Management
4:55, Use of Credit Card and Procurement Cards; 4:120, Food Services; 4:165, Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors; 4:190, Targeted School Violence Prevention Program
5:20, Workplace Harassment Prohibited; 5:120, Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest
5:170, Copyright; 5:190, Teacher Qualifications; 5:200, Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal
5:220, Substitute Teachers; 5:250, Leaves of Absence; 5:270, Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment
5:280, Duties and Qualifications; 5:290, Employment Termination and Suspensions; 5:320, Evaluation
5:330, Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves; 6:15, School Accountability; 6:20, School Year Calendar and Day
6:50, School Wellness; 6:60, Curriculum Content; 6:65, Student Social and Emotional Development
6:160, English Learners; 6:220, Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) Program; Responsible Use and Conduct
6:250, Community Resource Persons and Volunteers; 6:255, Assemblies and Ceremonies
6:260, Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs; 6:270, Guidance and Counseling Program
6:280, Grading and Promotion; 6:300, Graduation Requirements; 6:340, Student Resting and Assessment Program
7:10, Equal Educational Opportunities; 7:20, Harassment of Students Prohibited
7:50, School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools
7:100, Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students
7:190, Student Behavior; 7:250, Student Support Services; 7:285, Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program; 7:290, Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention; 7:340, Student Records

Member Alper seconded the motion.

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

Yes: Chao (D69), Alper (D70), Downing (D72), Santoro (D73), Vranas (D74)

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Lorenzana (D67), Espinoza (D68), Kuffel (D71), Nelson (D73.5)

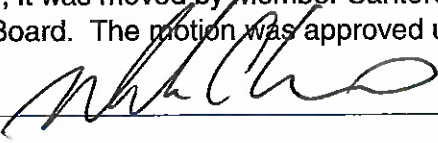
Communications

Mrs. Kendrick spoke about student enrollment. NTDSE currently has 321 students. This is an increase of 22% in the last three years. She shared FOIA information. She included "Choose Happy" responses. She read a list of the nominees for Friends of NTDSE.

Adjournment

At 7:41 P.M., it was moved by Member Santoro and seconded by Member Alper to adjourn the meeting of the Governing Board. The motion was approved unanimously.

President



Secretary



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