

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION  
GOVERNING BOARD OF NILES TOWNSHIP DISTRICT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION #807  
Cook County, Illinois  
April 13, 2023**

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A Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of Niles Township District for Special Education #807 was held on Thursday, April 13, 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 6:02 P.M.

**The following Governing Board Members were in attendance:**

District 67 Mr. Noel Lorenzana, Delegate  
District 68 Ms. Meghan Espinoza, Delegate  
District 69 Dr. Mark Chao, Delegate  
District 70 Mr. George Karagozian, Alternate  
District 72 Ms. Nora Downing, Delegate  
District 73 Mr. Frank Santoro, Delegate  
District 73.5 Dr. LaTasha Nelson, Delegate  
District 74 Mr. Kevin Daly, Alternate

**Governing Board Members Absent:**

District 71 Mr. Joe Kuffel, Delegate

**Others Present:**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Governing Board recited the Pledge.

**Changes/Additions to the Agenda**

None

**Audience to Visitor**

None

Member Chao stated that several NTDSE Board members will not serve on the Board for the following school year. He thanked the NTDSE Board members for their service.

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

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

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

The Governing Board approved the following:

Minutes of:

Open Session from March 9, 2023

Closed Session from March 9, 2023

Employment

Personnel

Myles Derbigny, Paraprofessional, effective April 3, 2023

Mehzabin Patel, Paraprofessional, effective April 10, 2023

Eileen Steffel, Paraprofessional, effective April 17, 2023

Glaiza Tabornal, Paraprofessional, effective March 13, 2023

### Resignation

Henry Hoffman, Paraprofessional, effective April 7, 2023

### Accounts Payable

Effective March 31, 2023: \$244,343.57

Member Nelson seconded the motion.

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

Yes: Lorenzana (D67), Espinoza (D68), Chao (D69), Karagozian (D70), Downing (D72), Santoro (D73), Nelson (D73.5), Daly (D74)

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Kuffel (D71)

### Executive Director's Report

Mrs. Kendrick stated that the revised Articles of Agreement and resolution will be sent to member districts. The new Agreement will take effect July 1, 2023. Mrs. Kendrick gave a tour of Molloy to State Representative Kevin Olickal. She spoke to him about private vs public school funding. Mrs. Kendrick stated that she will attend an ED-RED meeting on April 14, 2023. She included information on the NTDSE Update regarding the staffing proposal. She included links to the documents that detail staff and student enrollment. Mrs. Kendrick spoke about the possible partnership with Lurie's Children's Hospital for audiology services. Lurie's has an outpatient center in Skokie. Mrs. Kendrick stated that she engaged the services of Cristina Sanchez-Lopez to provide an EL audit. She will provide a report in June.

Mrs. Kendrick announced that NTDSE's End of the Year Party will be held on May 19, 2023. NTDSE will honor one retiree. Mrs. Kendrick stated that new Governing Board members will be seated in May.

### Principal's Report

Mrs. Perry stated that ESY registration has been distributed to families. Phase 3 construction will begin at Molloy in June. Several staff members will attend the Infinitic Awards Banquet in honor of M. Malik (D219) for his use of his AT device.

### Supervisor's Report

Mrs. Arad spoke about the partnership with D219. Thirty D219 students will experience first-hand the different disciplines that work in special education. She spoke about several parent events that include an Early Childhood group, Sign Language, and Legal and Financial Planning. NTDSE's Cultural Fair will be held at Molloy on April 27, 2023, from 5:30 - 7:30 P.M. Food and entertainment will be present. Mrs. Arad spoke about one of NTDSE's Music Therapists, Mara Collard. She is part of a music therapist group called the Peer Support Network. She and her colleagues created a workbook called "How Music Therapists Can Minimize Harm Toward Clients, Each Other, and the Community. Mrs. Arad shared a video of one of NTDSE's DHH teachers, Tracey Friedlander giving a lesson. The lesson demonstrated multimodal communication strategies happening throughout a session.

### Technology Report

Mr. Mayhall reported that he began to work with the architect on several revisions of the next construction phase. He is also working with NTDSE cyber insurance consultant to create an Incident Response Plan. He is preparing the technology for student assessments. NTDSE is looking into BoardBook software for the preparation of the Board packet.

### Finance/Facilities Report

Ms. Gavin stated that the committee reviewed Accounts Payable. The construction team and NTDSE met for a page-turn meeting on March 3, 2023. Ms. Gavin recommended Groot as NTDSE's new vendor for garbage

removal. She stated that new healthcare insurance rates will be discussed under New Business. NTDSE was awarded a grant for five air purifiers. Ms. Gavin will present the first reading of the amended budget in May.

#### **Policy Report**

The first reading of PRESS Policies, Issue 111 will be discussed under New Business.

#### **CFC Report**

None

#### **Closed Session**

At 6:22 P.M., it was moved by Member Chao that the Governing Board enter into a closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel. Member Santoro seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **Return to Open Session**

At 6:36 P.M., it was moved by Member Chao and seconded by Member Nelson for the Governing Board to return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **New Business**

Mrs. Kendrick reviewed the ESY proposals included in the Board packet. The proposal includes a salary increase for certified and paraprofessional staff. ESY will be held at Edison School and Meyer School. Molloy will be in its final phase of construction. Mrs. Kendrick discussed the staffing proposal for 2023-24.

Member Chao moved to approve the NTDSE staffing recommendations for the 2023-2024 school year, as presented and recommended by the Executive Director. Member Nelson seconded the motion.

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

Yes: Lorenzana (D67), Espinoza (D68), Chao (D69), Karagozian (D70), Downing (D72), Santoro (D73), Nelson (D73.5), Daly (D74)

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Kuffel (D71)

The first reading of PRESS Policies, Issue 111 was discussed. There were no significant changes in the proposed policies. Ms. Gavin spoke about the new insurance rates from EBC. She included a cost breakdown by plan and provided claim history.

#### **Old Business**

Member Chao moved to approve the proposed compensation for the Executive Director for the 2023-2024 school year, as recommended by the Governing Board President and Vice President. Member Santoro seconded the motion.

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

Yes: Lorenzana (D67), Espinoza (D68), Chao (D69), Karagozian (D70), Downing (D72), Santoro (D73), Nelson (D73.5), Daly (D74)

No: None

Abstain: None

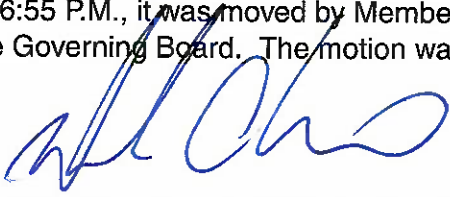
Absent: Kuffel (D71)

**Communications**

Mrs. Kendrick spoke about the increase in student population. She shared "Choose Happy" responses. She thanked the Board members for their service to NTDSE.

**Adjournment**

At 6:55 P.M., it was moved by Member Chao and seconded by Member Lorenzana to adjourn the meeting of the Governing Board. The motion was approved unanimously.



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President



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Secretary

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