

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION
GOVERNING BOARD OF NILES TOWNSHIP DISTRICT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION #807
Cook County, Illinois
January 11, 2024**

A Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of Niles Township District for Special Education #807 was held on Thursday, January 11, 2024, 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 6:00 P.M.

The following Governing Board Members were in attendance:

District 67 Ms. Katie Leslie, Alternate
District 68 Dr. Noelle Sullivan, Delegate
District 69 Dr. Mark Chao, Delegate
District 70 Ms. Pamela Alper, Delegate
District 71 Mr. Matt Holbrook, Delegate
District 73 Mr. Frank Santoro, Delegate
District 74 Mr. John Vranas, Delegate

Governing Board Members Absent:

District 72 Ms. Jacqueline Bujdei, Delegate
District 73.5 Dr. LaTasha Nelson, Delegate

Others Present:

C. Perry, C. Hartranft, J. Singh, M. Baud, K. Lafferty, T. Kendrick, K. Gavin, and C. Dimas

Pledge of Allegiance

The Governing Board recited the Pledge.

Audience to Visitor

None

Member Bujdei entered the meeting at 6:04 P.M.

Presentation

Mrs. Kendrick introduced Matt Baud, Assistive Technology Coordinator, and Krista Lafferty, Speech Pathologist. They gave a presentation on Augmentative Alternative Communication (AAC) and Assistive Technology (AT). They also spoke about the SMoRRRES Training Program for educators to help support students who use AAC.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Member Vranas moved to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes the Open Session Minutes of November 9, 2023, the Personnel Report, and Accounts Payable reports for November 30, 2023, and December 31, 2023, as presented and recommended by the Executive Director. Member Santoro seconded the motion.

The following vote was recorded:

Yes: Leslie (D67), Sullivan (D68), Chao (D69), Alper (D70), Holbrook (D71), Bujdei (72),
Santoro (D73), Vranas (D74)
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Nelson (D73.5)

Administrative Reports

Executive Director's Report

Mrs. Kendrick reported that Purchased Services meetings began with the Township Superintendents. AAC and Audiology were added to the list of services. She expressed concern about classroom space at Molloy. She reached out to D219. She and the Township Superintendents held a breakfast with legislators on December 14th. She attended *I Love U Guys* training with Mrs. Perry. They will update their practices at NTDSE. She and Ms. Gavin will attend the ED-RED dinner in January. Mrs. Kendrick was asked to join the ED-RED committee regarding the high cost of special education and staff shortages.

Director's Report

Mrs. Hartranft reported on the audiology services offered by Lurie Children's Hospital. Students from NTDSE and district programs attended a clinic to ensure the school-based equipment was mapped to the student's personally owned devices, such as hearing aids and cochlear implants. DHH teachers were there to facilitate the assessment. Several more clinics have been scheduled for the remainder of the year. The NTDSE Raptors are scheduled to play at Forest View on January 14th.

Principal's Report

MNASR will be offering a camp at Molloy for the Molloy students attending ESY. The camp will begin immediately following ESY and will end at 4:30 P.M.

Supervisor's Report

Mrs. Arad reported on Professional Learning. Trainings scheduled are Artificial Intelligence: An Introduction to Policy and Vision for K-12 Schools, Assessment and Treatment of Apraxia, Co-teaching, and ADOS 2 training. On February 6th, NTDSE will host an Admin Academy entitled Leadership Capacity through Teacher Leaders.

Technology Report

Mr. Singh reported on the services of Arctic Wolf and Sentinel, which were recently onboarded, and demonstrated how well they are working to send an alert for any suspicious activity.

Finance/Facilities Report

Ms. Gavin reported that the Committee reviewed Accounts Payable. She discussed the recommendation for architectural services, which was included for the Board's approval. Ms. Gavin will discuss proposed healthcare rates for 2024-2025 at the March Board meeting. She is preparing for roof work over Pod 5 this summer.

Policy Report

The first reading of PRESS Policies Issue 113 was included in the Board packet.

CFC Report

None

Information / Discussion

Mrs. Kendrick spoke about the proposed academic calendar for 2024-25 and the 12-month employee holidays. She worked diligently with township superintendents to try and align calendars. Mrs. Kendrick stated that she is updating her goals in SuperEval. Board members will receive an email with a link to review her goals and complete her evaluation.

Dr. Chao reviewed the policies from PRESS Issue 113. Any changes were noted on the policy.

Closed Session

At 6:57 P.M., it was moved by Member Chao that the Governing Board enter into a closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel. Member Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Return to Open Session:

At 7:16 P.M., it was moved by Member Chao and seconded by Member Vranas for the Governing Board to return to open session. The motion was approved unanimously.

Information / Discussion / Action

Member Vranas moved that the Governing Board authorize the destruction of audio recordings of its closed meetings, as listed on the attachment, to which closed meetings' official minutes have been approved and no litigation under the Open Meetings Act is pending, as recommended by the Executive Director. Member Alper seconded the motion.

The following vote was recorded:

Yes: Leslie (D67), Sullivan (D68), Chao (D69), Alper (D70), Holbrook (D71), Bujdei (72),
Santoro (D73), Vranas (D74)
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Nelson (D73.5)

Member Sullivan moved that the closed meeting minutes, as reflected on the attachment, continue to require confidentiality and should not be released at this time, as recommended by the Executive Director. Member Santoro seconded the motion.

The following vote was recorded:

Yes: Leslie (D67), Sullivan (D68), Chao (D69), Alper (D70), Holbrook (D71), Bujdei (72),
Santoro (D73), Vranas (D74)
No: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Nelson (D73.5)

Member Chao moved to name ARCON as the NTDSE Architect of Record for services as outlined in the attached memo and B-101 Master Agreement, as presented and recommended by the Executive Director. Member Leslie seconded the motion.

The following vote was recorded:

Yes: Leslie (D67), Sullivan (D68), Chao (D69), Alper (D70), Holbrook (D71), Bujdei (72), Santoro (D73)
No: Vranas (D74)
Abstain: None
Absent: Nelson (D73.5)

Member Vranas moved to approve the amendment to Heather Lane's employment contract, assuming 100% of tuition for NIU's CSBO program through May 2026, as recommended by the Executive Director. Member Sullivan seconded the motion.

The following vote was recorded:

Yes: Leslie (D67), Sullivan (D68), Chao (D69), Alper (D70), Holbrook (D71), Bujdei (72),
Santoro (D73), Vranas (D74)

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Nelson (D73.5)

Member Vranas moved that the FY 23 audited financial statements prepared by Lauterbach and Amen, LLP be accepted, as presented and recommended by the Audit Committee and the Executive Director. Member Chao seconded the motion.

The following vote was recorded:

Yes: Leslie (D67), Sullivan (D68), Chao (D69), Alper (D70), Holbrook (D71), Bujdei (72),
Santoro (D73), Vranas (D74)

No: None

Abstain: None


Absent: Nelson (D73.5)

Communications

Mrs. Kendrick provided student enrollment data. She also shared staff recognition responses.

Adjournment

At 7:19 P.M., it was moved by Member Vranas and seconded by Member Santoro to adjourn the meeting of the Governing Board. The motion was approved unanimously.



President



Secretary

:cad