

MEETING OF THE REGULAR BOARD SESSION OF
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
WOODLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT 50
Board of Education Office
1105 N. Hunt Club Road
Gurnee, IL 60031
Wednesday, January 28, 2009

Call to Order

President, Bruce Bohren, called the regular session of the Board of Education of Woodland School District 50 to order at 7:30 PM. President Bohren stated Mark Vondracek would serve as Secretary Pro-Tem.

Roll Call

Members Present: Bruce Bohren
 Larry Gregorash
 Carla Little
 Mark Vondracek

Members Absent: Gail Bennet
 Michael Bond
 Terry Hall

Staff Present: Joy Swoboda Bob Leonard

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Larry Gregorash and seconded by Mark Vondracek to approve the agenda as presented.

On Voice Vote, the votes were Ayes – 4 Nays - 0 Absent - 3
The motion carried.

Citizen Statements

There were none.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mark Vondracek and seconded by Larry Gregorash to approve the consent agenda as presented:

- A. Approval of Minutes
- B. Financial Reports
- C. Treasurer Reports
- D. Approval of Budget Transfer
- E. Approval of Employment

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
Margaret Goldbach	1:1 Teacher Asst. Elementary East
Susan Gould	Playground Supervisor Elementary West
- F. Acceptance of Resignations
 Lorine Burke Bus Driver
- G. Approval of Leaves of Absence
 Nancy Constant Dollie Letto
 Linda Titus Marsha Abrams

Laura Butera
Leslie Newman

Katie Howell
Christine Lawless

- H. Approval of Substitutes
Substitute Teacher
Ann Wichman

Substitute Playground Supervisor
Deana Simonetti

- I. Approval of "Destruction of Closed Session Meeting Audio Recordings" for June 2007
J. Approval of Closed Session Minutes to be Opened to the Public
K. Acceptance of Donations

On Roll Call, the votes were

Ayes: Bruce Bohren, Larry Gregorash, Carla Little, Mark Vondracek

Nays: None

Absent: Gail Bennett, Michael Bond, Terry Hall

The motion carried.

Action Items

There were none.

Reports

Special Education District of Lake County (SEDOL) Presentation

Steve Johns, Chief Financial Officer for SEDOL, provided a short presentation on the building projects. The new school will be located behind the current Cyd Lash Academy. SEDOL is purchasing the land from Warren High school and sharing the cost of the detention pond and driveway. He explained improvements will be made to some classrooms in Lake Forest and the Gages Lake School, which will expand to 40-60 students.

District Demographic Study

Jerry McKibben of Mckibben Demographic Research shared his findings of a ten-year population forecast for the Woodland district. He shared the 15 assumptions used when conducting and preparing the report. A copy of the presentation can be found on the district's website (<http://www.dist50.net/Board/documents.html>). Dr. McKibben divided the district into four quadrants and analyzed each for age, number of students and internal and external migration. He stated that 50-60% of our district is a two-income household. In summary, the data showed that the district enrollment is predicted to decrease 450 students over the next ten years.

Elementary Playground Committee

Victoria Kieffer, Elementary Assiswtant Principal, facilitated a presentation on the need for new playground equipment at the Elementary East School. The committee worked for over 16 months to review the site, equipment and needs of the students. The committee was comprised of the following:

Parents

Julie Frank
Dana Hughes
Michelle Klemz
Lisa Strauss

Teachers

Kristi Blasius
Corie Bosworth
Kristi LeFevre
Beth Olzewski

Playground Supervisors

Mary Capozzi
Lisa Kroll

Administration

Robert Burke
John Fuhrer
Ken Hyllberg
Victoria Kieffer
Don Selzer
Joy Swoboda

The committee met to determine long-term goals, establish a philosophy, conduct a needs assessment, ascertain cost effectiveness, and generate methods to gather feedback from various stakeholders. As a result of conducting a needs assessment, the committee determined that the current playground equipment needed to be updated. First, the current playground is crowded and does not meet the needs of the number of students. There are approximately 175-200 students utilizing the playground equipment during each recess. The equipment currently in place serves a maximum of 80 students. Second, although the playground is handicap accessible, it lacks choices for physically challenged students. The current playground is not handicap friendly and limits the choices students have when playing with their peers. Finally, Elementary East is the last school in the district to update playground equipment. The original equipment was installed in 1967 with minor additions made in 1970 and 1991. The committee has conducted fundraising to supplement the expected \$107,000 cost of the playground. The purchase of the playground was included in the FY 09 budget.

Written Reports

Fees: The Board reviewed a proposal to raise registration fees for the upcoming school year. Because of the current economy, members preferred a potential smaller increase, rather than larger. The district is also discussing the possibility of rewarding parents for paying their fees on time. Further discussion and action on this item will be on the February 25th Board agenda.

Classroom and Office Supply Request for Proposal

Bob Leonard, Associate Superintendent, stated that in an effort to reduce and contain costs, a request for proposals was released on January 15, 2009 seeking information from vendors on classroom and office supplies. Unlike a standard bid which is awarded strictly on pricing a short list of items, an RFP will be used to find a vendor who can supply the best price along with the best service. We are looking for a vendor that we can designate as the district's preferred vendor for classroom and office supplies. Further discussion and action on this item will be on the February 25th Board agenda.

Report on Fiscal Responsibility Goal #2

The administration provided an update to the Board regarding the economy, the recent consumer price index and its impact on district finances. Bob Leonard shared a revision to the long-range financial projections based upon the new CPI amount (0.1%). Last year's CPI was 4%. The change equates to at least \$2 million less in dollars received. The district will be reviewing all expenditures and reinstating the financial review committee. The district is also awaiting further information on the federal stimulus package, enrollment and news on the economy.

Board Improvement and Operations

The Board members attended the annual Board conference in November. Members reviewed written synopses of workshops attended from members.

January/Winter Board Forum – The members reviewed the outline for the forum to be held on Thursday, January 29th. After review and discussion, the Board asked the administration to include and prepare information on the tax rate to share with the community.

Status Requests

The Board reviewed the correspondence from community members. After edits, consensus was reached on the responses to the individuals.

The district is in receipt of two requests from Catherine Ann Velasco of The Herald News:

- a copy of the contract for Dr. Swoboda in addition to any financial documents that would show her yearly salary for each of the past five years
- if applicable, a copy of Dr. Swoboda's letter of intent to retire

Committee Reports/Announcements

There were none.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Larry Gregorash and seconded by Carla Little to adjourn the meeting at 10:13 PM.

On Roll Call, the votes were

Ayes: Bruce Bohren, Larry Gregorash, Carla Little, Mark Vondracek

Nays: None

Absent: Gail Bennett, Michael Bond, Terry Hall

The motion carried.

Approved by the Board of Education on February 25, 2009.

President, Bruce G. Bohren

Secretary, Gail Bennett