January 28, 2021 – Regular Meeting (Video Conference – Zoom Meeting)

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting began at 6:36 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Member Mounce.

COMMUNICATIONS

A. Anti-Racism and Culture Responsiveness Training
   Dr. Robert G Hubbird, Assistant Superintendent informed the Board and community that Berwyn North has begun the third session of anti-racism and cultural responsiveness training with administrators and staff.

B. Google Educator Certification
   Dr. Hubbird communicated to the Board and community that District 98 has provided 43 staff members with Google Educator Level I Certification and this group will attend Level II Certification training on February 9 and 10. The Google Education Level II status indicates that an educator is able to successfully integrate a wider range of Google for Education tools and other technologies in order to transform their teaching practice.

C. Dr. Michelle Smith, Superintendent informs the Board and community that Berwyn North School District 98 is now in possession and ownership of the PTLC building. She looks forward to the development of ideas for purposing this new building.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Anne Vaccaro, 5th grade teacher at Jefferson inquired to the Board if there is any plans to make the vaccine accessible to District 98 staff as staff are returning to in person instruction.

B. Dr. Smith, informed Ms. Vaccaro that the Cook County Department of Public Health has just sent out an email that informed her to advise staff to get the vaccination wherever they are able to find an appointment. Many staff members have been going to Morton East High School in Cicero to receive the vaccine. Superintendent Smith assured Ms. Vaccaro and staff that if they are able to make an appointment and the appointments falls within the school day, Berwyn North will allow teachers to leave early or arrive late. Administrators in the district have been advised to be flexible.

BOARD COMMENT

A. Member Cuevas read a passage that relatives and friends shared with her in order to promote special education awareness. Special education students are different learners but are gifted and special in their way. Ms. Cuevas wanted to read a gentle reminder to all, to be kind and accepting of all.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approved Minutes
   1. Regular Meeting Minutes - 12/17/2020
   2. Executive Meeting Minutes - 12/17/2020
B. Approved Personnel

1. New Hires:
   a. Daisy Garcia, Program Assistant at Havlicek Elementary School for the 2020-2021 School Year.
   b. Cristina Salgado, Human Resources Manager at District Office for the 2020-2021 School Year.
   c. Erick Dang, Substitute Teacher, Districtwide for the 2020-2021 School Year.
   d. George Ranisavljevic, Substitute Teacher, Districtwide for the 2020-2021 School Year.
   e. Nathaniel Marcus, Substitute Teacher, Districtwide for the 2020-2021 School Year.

2. Leaves:
   a. Arlene Musial, Program Assistant at Lincoln Middle School has requested an FMLA Leave to begin on January 14, 2021, and returning February 19, 2021.
   b. Melissa Neff-Alamillo, Teacher at Havlicek Elementary School has requested an FMLA Leave to begin on February 1, 2021, and returning May 4, 2021.

3. Retirement:
   b. Laura Pincus, Library/Media Specialist at Lincoln Middle School has submitted a Letter of Intent to Retire effective June 30, 2021.

4. Resignations:

5. Reassignments:
   a. Olga Romero, Lunchroom Supervisor at Prairie Oak Elementary School has been reassigned to Program Assistant at Prairie Oak Elementary School for the 2020-2021 School Year.

C. Approved Authorization of next month’s payroll

1. Approved Invoices - $1,056,824.30
2. Approved Monthly Payroll - $1,796,338.22
3. Approved Authorization of next month’s payroll - February

ACTION ITEMS

A. Approved – The Purchase the Skyward Student Information System
B. Approved – Of the Semiannual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes
C. Approved – Direct the Superintendent and Business Manager to begin the development of the FY22 Budget.
D. Approved – Policies - Second Read
   1. 3:40 Superintendent
   2. 4:80 Accounting and Audits
   3. 4:150 Facility Management and Building Programs
   4. 5:270 Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment
   5. 6:340 Student Testing and Assessment Program
   6. 7:100 Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students
7.  7:140 Search and Seizure
8.  7:300 Extracurricular Athletics

INFORMATION AND REPORTS

A. Monthly Fund Report
Regina Johnson, Business Manager provided the Board and community with the monthly fund report. Ms. Johnson also announced to the Board that Berwyn North School District 98 has achieved a financial profile total score of 4 (recognition) from the Illinois State Board of Education for the year 2020. This is the highest of the four designations.

B. FOIA Request:
Mr. Sutton (jj.sutton85@gmail.com) requested a copy of the following documents: the current Content Management Systems (CMS), the Learning Management System (LMS), and for the alert and/or emergency notification provider. This request was made on January 17, 2021, at 2:41 pm. All information was provided to Mr. Sutton on January 19, 2021, at 3:42 pm.

C. Statement of Economic Interest Survey
Dr. Michelle Smith informed the Board that all members must submit a Statement of Economic Interests Survey online at the cookcountyclerk.com website after the April election but before the May 1, 2021 deadline.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 28
BOE Meeting - District Office - 6:30 p.m.

February 15
President’s Day - No School

February 22
Parent/Teacher Conferences - 3:30 pm - 6:30 pm

February 23
Parent/Teacher Conferences - 8:30 am - 3:00 pm - No school

February 24
Half-Day School Improvement

February 25
BOE Meeting - District Office - 6:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A. None stated.

BOARD COMMENTS

A. Member Cuevas would like to pass on more information on the Little Free Libraries that are being used as mini food pantries. Anyone who is willing to donate is welcome to do so. Member Pabon who is one of the organizer for this project expanded on the need to convert these Little Free Libraries into mini pantries in these times of economic strife and amidst this pandemic. Mr. Pabon provided the community with a list of mini pantry locations: 1312 S Wesley Ave, 1337 Oak Park Ave, 1401 Grove Ave, 1338 Cuyler Ave, 2324 Harvey Ave, 6401 15th St, 6633 16th St, Highland & 19th, and 6949 30th Place.

B. Member Pabon thanked all the volunteers, the Berwyn Cicero Mutual Aid for volunteering to keep the mini pantries stocked. He thanked all the stewards that usually maintain the Little Libraries with books who are now stocking them with food.
C. Pabon reminds the community to please not leave canned products in the mini pantries if the temperature for the day will below 20 degrees, dry products will be okay. If the day’s temperature is above 30 degrees you can donate both canned and dry products. The recommendation is that if the temperature will below 20 degrees return all canned foods inside for the night and return them during the day. A QR is being developed to assist the community in locating the Little Free Libraries (mini pantries) and other resource.

NEW BUSINESS

None stated.

Adjourned meeting at 10:15 p.m.