

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MAERCKER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 60  
HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2017**

**1.0 Call to Order and Roll Call:** President Art Andersen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., the following members were present: Tim Casey, Patty Dieball, Amy Sullivan, Lisa Bishop, Cindy Bondlow, and Art Andersen. Mike Gombosi was absent.

District personnel in attendance: Sean Nugent, Superintendent; Sue Caddy, CSBO; Cathy Fisher, Directory of Teaching and Learning; and Kathy Spina, administrative assistant/ recording secretary.

**2.0 Consent Agenda:**

**2.1** Approval of Minutes: Open and Closed Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting of December 20, 2016

**2.2** Approval of Treasurer's Report for December 2016

**2.3** Approval of Bills and Payroll for January 2017

**2.4** Accept Letter of Resignation: Kate Green, Bus Driver, effective 1/4/2017

**Motion:** Casey moved, and Dieball seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Bondlow, Casey, Dieball, Sullivan, Bishop, and Andersen. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

**3.0 Recognition of Visitors and Public Comment:** Visitors in attendance: April Eichmiller, Kara Kuo, Beth Krause, and Lila Gouveia.

**4.0 Public Comment:** There was no comment.

**5.0 Reports:**

**5.1 SASED:** Mr. Nugent shared a communique from SASED outlining upcoming events including spring institute offerings for staff, and said they have fully moved into their new facility.

**5.2 Maercker Educational Foundation (MEF):** The submission deadline for the current grant cycle is February 6, 2017. Grants will be awarded at the April 18<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

**5.3 Parent-Teacher Association:** The Science Fair will be held Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, and the Fun Fair will be held on February 25<sup>th</sup> at Westview Hills. In late April, they will once again host the Cultural Festival. The PTA is actively seeking volunteers for all events.

**5.4 Board of Education:**

**Board President Review of Agreements:** This month the Board reflected on speaking with one voice, and reviewed meeting effectiveness results from the December Board Meeting.

**Spring IASB Dinner:** The spring dinner meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at Matea Valley High School in Aurora.

**5.5 Candidate Forum:** A school board member candidate forum will be held March 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in conjunction with the PTA meeting at Westview Hills Middle School.

**5.6 Principals:**

**Holmes:** Holmes School held their annual Jump Rope for Heart today. The staff are currently working on leveled instruction, and are reviewing results from recent Aimsweb assessments. Mrs. Fisher is also assisting in an audit of all Kindergarten curriculum in order to determine the most effective instructional practices for student growth.

**Maercker:** In a culmination of their "One Book - One School" project, on January 30<sup>th</sup> students will skype with the author of Mr. Lemoncello's Library, Chris Grabenstein. Principal Giannoulis

and a teacher from each grade level at Maercker School are participating in a CEC system assessment at River Valley School. Teachers are busy re-teaching PBIS expectations. Maercker Beginning Band will host a concert this Thursday, and the P.E. department will host its annual Jump Rope for Heart Assembly next Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Several teachers have been awarded grants from outside Foundations: Ms. Ojeda was awarded the 2016 IASB Mawi Learning Powerful Educator Grant to increase student engagement and improve school culture through an educator program for 10 staff members; and STEM and Ecology teachers, Mrs. Vujanovic and Mr. Baar have won a grant for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade STEM curriculum through the NEA Foundation.

**Westview:** Teachers continue to review training with Maggie Brewner from the ROE on **Depth of Knowledge, and Reliability, Validity, and Fairness** of assessments. Mr. Lin will be taking a few Westview staff members on a two-day assessment visit through the CEC. Nine Westview students qualified for interviews with the AVID program at Downers Grove North High School, allowing them to take AP and honors courses with support. Four students participated as All Illinois Junior Band members at the University of Illinois on January 13<sup>th</sup>, performing with an elite group of 80 middle school musicians across the state.

**5.7 Director of Teaching and Learning:** Mrs. Fisher presented data results for Winter MAP testing in Reading and Math for each grade level specifically in regards to achievement and growth. The District is focusing on lesson plans and curriculum content which best supports student growth, followed up by best instructional practices. This information will be used at the next SIP day to begin to understand growth in student learning.

**5.8 CSBO:**

**Facilities Operations Efficiency Report:** Ms. Caddy compared industry standards to those of the District numbers in relation to operations and maintenance. While the District compared favorably in most areas, some identified areas for improvement are electricity usage, and unified purchasing of custodial supplies. Proposals for natural gas and electricity supplier comparisons are being gathered.

**Financial Forecasts:** Ms. Caddy gave a review of financial projections. Past practice has been to maintain a 40% fund balance level (including early taxes). The projections indicate deficit spending based on conservative assumptions. There are many unknown variables, especially looking out 5 years. Additionally, adopted budgets tend to reflect deficit spending, but actual spending at the end of the year is within budget with a positive balance. The Board agreed that the current method used by the District for budget planning has worked well, and would be the preferred option at this time.

**5.9 Superintendent:**

**Enrollment:** The total student count currently is 1,395.

**FOIA:** Report shared with Board.

**Student Suspensions:** Report shared with Board.

**Legislative Update:** Mr. Nugent spoke about recent state budget discussions surrounding a property tax freeze for 2 years; mandate relief for schools; reducing daily PE requirements; tax increases; pension reform with cost shifting; and lead testing for water in schools.

**Strategic Plan Update:** Teachers are working cooperatively on a plan with administration to present action items available to the Board in February.

**6.0 Action: Approval of the 2017-18 School Year Calendar:** Administration and leadership have worked together in the creation of the 2017 - 2018 School Year Calendar with three goals in mind:

1. Enhance teacher collaboration through a more consistent and sustained meeting schedule.
2. Create more consistency in the schedule for parents.
3. Align teacher collaboration to school improvement cycle.

The draft calendar proposes four Teacher Institute days, instead of the usual three, by eliminating two half SIP days. In place of scheduling SIP days, it is recommended that the District make Wednesdays early release days, releasing students 40 minutes early from their normal schedule. This would allow teachers an hour and forty minutes for collaboration time on a weekly basis, and make the schedule more consistent for parents. Another benefit is that early childhood and kindergarten students from both AM and PM sessions would be able to attend on all of these days. **Motion:** Bishop moved, and Bondlow seconded, that the Maercker School District 60 Board of Education approve the 2017-18 School Year calendar as presented. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Bishop, Bondlow, Casey, Dieball Sullivan, and Andersen. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

**7.0 Public Comment on Agenda or Non-Agenda Items:** There was no comment.

**8.0 Closed Session to Discuss: **Motion:**** At 7:55 p.m., pursuant to section 2a of the Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/1.01, 120/2(c) Casey moved, and Sullivan seconded, to close the meeting to the public relying upon exceptions set forth in 2(c)(1) (the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees); 2(C)(2) (Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees). A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Bishop, Bondlow, Casey, Dieball, Sullivan, and Andersen. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

**Move Out of Closed Session: **Motion:**** At 8:51 p.m., Bishop moved, and Sullivan seconded, to move out of closed session. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Sullivan, Bishop, Bondlow, Casey, Dieball, and Andersen. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

**9.0 Agenda Items for Consideration:** 2017-18 staffing plan proposal, and architect interviews on January 30<sup>th</sup>. Board member Patty Dieball asked to be excused from the policy committee, and President Andersen agreed to take her place. The next Board Policy meeting will be held Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, at the District office.

**10.0 Consensus for Communication Items on Twitter:** None at this time.

**11.0 Adjournment:** President Andersen declared the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. **Motion:** A motion was made by Casey, and seconded by Bondlow. A voice vote was taken. Voting Aye: Dieball, Sullivan, Bishop, Bondlow, Casey, and Andersen. Voting Nay: None. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Spina, Recording Secretary

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Secretary, Maercker 60 Board of Education

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President, Maercker 60 Board of Education