

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MAERCKER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 60
HELD TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2017, 7:00 PM
WESTVIEW HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL**

1.0 Call to Order and Roll Call: At 7:01 p.m., President Lisa Bishop called the meeting to order. The following members were physically present: Cindy Bondlow, Tim Casey, Priya Linson, Mary Satchwell, Amy Sullivan, and Lisa Bishop. Once a quorum was established, Paul Kleppetsch joined via phone due to out of town employment business.

District Personnel in Attendance: Sean Nugent, Superintendent; Cathy Fisher, Director of Teaching and Learning; Sue Caddy, CSBO; Amber Quirk, Principal of Westview Hills Middle School; Chris Lin, Assistant Principal of Westview Hills Middle School; and Kathy Spina, Administrative Assistant/ recording secretary.

2.0 School Spotlight: Westview Hills students and staff highlighted various activities, clubs, and projects including the following: Rachel's Challenge, STEM bridge building projects, ELA programs with paint strip connotation and expository essays, Poetry Slam, Leo Club food drive and PADS shelter assistance, pen pal letters with Haiti orphanage, and SMART Music clarinet practice demonstrations.

3.0 Facility Report: George Demarakis and Jeff Huck from ARCON Associates gave a review to date of the work of the facilities citizen's task force. They outlined potential projects for Holmes and Westview Hills Middle School reflected in a current and a long-range plan. If the board were to decide to go for referendum, they recommend a question be submitted in December to be put on the ballot for a vote in the spring. If it were to pass, construction would begin in the fall of 2018 with completion of phase one and two by fall of 2019.

4.0 Public Comment on Agenda Items Only: Yvonne Parise, former parent and resident, spoke in support of building improvements. Mary Beth Bleifuss, Sandra Nessinger, Elizabeth Ojeda, Susen LeValley, Amy Wadler, Becky Merrill, Julie Reinert, Megan Casey, Karin Miller, Kevin Wardzala, Amanda Gregory, Nanci Hoffman, Kathleen Alquist, Katie Jorgensen, Lila Wasserman-Gouveia, Laura Scurto, Shirley Pine, Keith Baar, and Lynn Gorey spoke on behalf of teachers, with an appeal to the Board for a settlement. Barb Fair, a 5th generation parent in District 60, cited safety as a primary concern, and made an appeal for building improvements. Julie Milos spoke on behalf of teachers, and for facility improvements and urged the Board to take action toward a referendum.

5.0 Consent Agenda:

5.1 Approval of Minutes: Open and Closed Minutes from October 17, 2017

5.2 Approval of Treasurer's Report: for October 2017

5.3 Approval of Bills and Payroll: for November 2017

5.4 Approval of Employment: Mrs. Choughale, Food Service Substitute at the rate of \$10.70 per hour pending successful results of background check, health examination, and required paperwork.

5.5 Accept Letter of Resignation: Ms. Ivonne (Patty) Zelka, Holmes BIL Spanish Aide.

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

6.0 Reports:

6.1 Parent-Teacher Association: The fall festivals at Holmes and Maercker, and the fall dance at Westview were a great success! Coming up this week, the PTA will be hosting the annual Science Fair Information Night, Thursday, Nov. 16th, 6:30p.m. at Westview Hills. Science fair volunteers are needed, remember it is not necessary to have a child in the science fair to volunteer. The next PTA meeting is Monday, Nov. 27th, 7:00 p.m. at Holmes. Pre-ordered gift card pickup will take place that evening in the cafeteria, at Holmes, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

6.2 Maercker Education Foundation: No report at this time. Mr. Nugent made an appeal for more foundation board members.

6.3 SASED: SASED recently settled contracts with both the certified and non-certified associations. Planning is underway to replace Michael Volpe, the SASED Executive Director, and Sam Canata, the SASED Business Manager. Both Michael and Sam are retiring at the end of the 2018-19 school year.

6.4 Principals:

Mr. Sepich (H) written report: Mr. Sepich shared that guided reading and Eureka programs have begun, and teachers will be participating in PEACE training {Proactive Educational Actions to counter Emotional (Crisis)}. Holmes is celebrating the arrival of Mrs. Blake's new co-authored book, **Now Classrooms**, about innovative learning and lessons in technology. Students are learning to Bee Caring. They raised \$2,500 for "Capes and Coins; Changing Lives for ALD", topped off with a Superhero themed day.

Mrs. Giannoulis (M) written report: On November 9th, the Mayor along with the Village of Westmont recognized Mrs. Giannoulis along with Mrs. Lotz, Mr. Baar and Mrs. DeCarlo for the 2017 US Department of Education Green Ribbon School Award and for all of the grants awarded to the school last year supporting STEM, environmental literacy and community outreach. Mrs. DeCarlo and Mrs. Nessinger have designed a new Creative Learning Zone (CLZ) as a place for thinking, discovering and networking. Mr. Meyer built a new Paw Tower to collect awarded paws toward earned school-wide celebrations. The BLT SEL Team and Assistant Principal attended a PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Support) conference in Chicago.

Mrs. Quirk (W) written report: It was a very busy October with several safety drills completed, band students performing in an outstanding manner at DGN and at Bandamonium. The fall Halloween themed dance was a great success. The boys and girls cross-country teams raced at the state meet. Teachers are working with Maggie Brewner on student assessments to develop strategies for student improvement, and special education teachers have been learning the finer points of Fountas and Pinnell reading strategies with Dr. Reilly.

6.5 Board of Education: The Board discussed the topic of resolutions for the upcoming Tri-Conference. Ms. Bishop asked the Board's recommendations on several resolutions for voting at the conference.

6.6 Director of Teaching & Learning: No report at this time.

6.7 CSBO: Ms. Caddy shared that work will soon be completed on the Maercker building summer work project.

6.8 Superintendent:

Monthly Reports: Mr. Nugent made enrollment, FOIA requests, student suspension and residency reports available to the Board.

Facilities: The Final Citizens' Task Force met on November 8. Survey results revealed support for a potential referendum question. Attendees offered feedback on components and phases of the potential plan.

Certified Staff Attendance: Mr. Nugent will report monthly on staff attendance. This is now a metric reported on the school report card and shows the percentage of teachers absent 10 or more days. To date, this year's absence has improved over last year's numbers.

7.0 Closed Session to Discuss: **Motion:** At 8:42 p.m., pursuant to section 2a of the Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/1.01, 120/2(c) a motion was made by Casey and seconded by Linson to close the meeting to the public relying upon exceptions set forth in 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); and 2(c)(21) (litigation, when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent). A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Casey, Linson, Satchwell, Sullivan, Kleppetsch, Bondlow, and Bishop. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

Move Out of Closed Session: **Motion:** At 9:15 p.m., it was moved by Satchwell and seconded by Casey to move out of closed session, and unanimously approved by voice vote. Motion carried.

8.0 Action Items:

8.1 Approval of Tax Levy Estimate for Tax Year 2017: The levy request is increased by 2.5% in order to protect the district from any underestimations in the above assumptions (new construction and EAV). The estimations provided by the township assessor are tentative and adjustments by the County and State could still be made. It is safer to balloon levy to protect the district from any underestimations. The overall increase in the levy, including the "balloon", is estimated at 5.6%. The actual amount of new operating revenue expected to be received from the levy is estimated at \$518,493, an increase of 3.22%. The total levy, including the debt service levy of \$1,958,471 (which is not subject to the cap), is estimated to be \$18,557,083. **Motion:** A motion was made by Casey and seconded by Linson to approve the 2017 estimated tax levy as presented. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Satchwell, Sullivan, Kleppetsch, Bondlow, Casey, Linson, and Bishop. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

8.2 Action on Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Written Minutes: After a review of the closed session minutes from March 21, 1989 to the present, it is the recommendation of administration that all closed session minutes, remain closed to the public at this time. **Motion:** A motion was made by Linson and seconded by Satchwell that the need for confidentiality still exists as to all written minutes of closed meetings of the Board of Education from the period of April 18, 2017 through September 19, 2017, and, further, that the need for confidentiality remains for all closed session minutes prior to this period not previously released by the Maercker School District 60 Board of Education. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Sullivan, Kleppetsch, Bondlow, Casey, Linson, Satchwell, and Bishop. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

8.3 Action on Semi-Annual Review of Verbatim Closed Session Minutes: Verbatim records must be retained for no less than 18 months after the completion of a meeting. After a review of the dates in question, it is the recommendation of administration that the Board of Education destroy the verbatim records of October 21, 2014 through August 25, 2015 at this time. The remainder of all existing closed session recordings should remain closed. **Motion:** A motion was made by Casey and seconded by Bondlow to authorize the destruction of verbatim recordings of the closed meetings of the Maercker School District 60 Board of Education from October 21, 2014 through August 25, 2015. A roll call vote was taken. Voting Aye: Kleppetsch, Bondlow, Casey, Linson, Satchwell, Sullivan, and Bishop. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

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

10.0 Agenda Items for Consideration: Referendum, Hearing of the 2017 Tax Levy, and fall student recognition.

11.0 Consensus for Communication Items on Twitter: Student presentations.

12.0 Adjournment: President Bishop declared the meeting adjourned at 9:28 p.m. **Motion:** A motion was made by Bondlow, seconded by Satchwell, and was unanimously approved by voice vote. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Spina, Recording Secretary



Secretary, Maercker 60 Board of Education



President, Maercker 60 Board of Education