

COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 117
1625 DEEP LAKE ROAD
COUNTY OF LAKE, LAKE VILLA, ILLINOIS 60046
MINUTES OF REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2011 – 7:00 P.M.

Present

Absent

BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Wayne A. Sobczak, President
Mrs. Joyce Heneberry, Vice President
Mrs. Tracy McGrath, Secretary
Mrs. Sandy Jacobs
Mr. Randy Mathias
Mr. Ronald Vickers

Mrs. Kathleen Van Dien, Treasurer

ADMINISTRATION

Mr. James McKay, Superintendent
Mr. Michael Nekritz, Superintendent
Ms. Jennifer Nolde, Business Manager
Mr. Eric Ernd, Principal
Mr. Stephen Plank, Principal

STUDENT AMBASSADORS

Iris Schweier
Danielle Stancill

RECORDING SECRETARY

Mrs. Nancy Hendrickson

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Education of Community High School District 117 was held on Thursday, January 20, 2011 in the Library at Lakes Community High School. Mr. Wayne Sobczak, President, presided over the meeting, calling it to order at 7:00 p.m.

Beginning with this meeting, the board agenda was presented electronically. During the Board Meeting, Board Members are using school owned laptop computers. The computers remain at the school and are only used by Board of Education members during the monthly meetings.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

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PRESENTATIONS

Three-Year Technology Plan

Mr. Roe presented the three-year technology plan that will be submitted to the state the end of February. This is the first reading. The plan will be recommended for approval at the February Board meeting.

ACHS Update

Danielle Stancill reported:

- NHS is sponsoring Daffodil sales for American Cancer Society
- Library Teen Advisory Board
 - Hosted a New Book Club with 31 students attending
 - Started Abe Lincoln Book Award Program, with 20 students reading enough to meet the voting requirement
 - Donated class set of books to Fit for Life class – *Ultramarathon Man*
 - Hosted Final Exam Breakfast – student participation tripled since last year

Mr. Ernd reported:

- Assistant Principal interviews will be conducted on February 3, with a recommendation at the February Board Meeting.
- During the second semester, the Differentiation Committee will be conducting peer observations – “colleague visitations.”
- EXPLORE to Plan scores have been linked, with overall composite growth at 3.1.
- Sports Updates:
 - Wrestling Team is at 5-3.
 - Girls Basketball is on a 10 game winning streak.
 - Bowling is undefeated in dual meets.
 - Cheerleading has won every tournament this year. At NSC meet they placed 2nd in division and 4th in the conference over-all.
 - Dance team won their division at Wauconda and qualified for state in the Kick category.
- Amber Dalgaard was named Honorable Mention to the Daily Herald’s Leadership Team.
- Eighth Grade Open House will be held on January 20th.
- Battle of the Bands will be held on January 29th.
- 86 Fall Athletes were All-Academic Team (GPA 3.5 or higher).

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ACHS SIP Update

Mr. Ernd reported:

- US History and English III teachers agreed on how to collaboratively prepare juniors for writing the essay portion of the ACT.
- Global Studies and English I teachers identified common expectations for the writing of academic essays.
- PBIS members delineated a number of possible ways to promote positive student behavior and to communicate its work to the staff.
- All members of the staff read four chapters from *Advancing Formative Assessments in Every Classroom*. Departments discussed how the ideas in the book could be applied in their subject areas.
- The Differentiation Committee has developed a method for measuring the amount and kind of differentiation being practiced in ACHS classrooms. The committee hopes to visit at least half of the teachers during second semester and present the results of the research at an end-of-the-year faculty meeting.
- Approximately 170 juniors have signed up for the after-school ACT Prep Class.
- The English Department shared with the BLT the way the teachers are writing questions that reflect the ACT college Readiness in Reading as well as the new state standards in reading.

LCHS Update

Mr. Plank reported:

- Daily attendance rate for the first ten days of the semester was at 94.11%.
- A “State Walk” for Theatre students was held in January.
- Bridget Sundin was asked to serve on the Executive Committee for the 2012 Illinois High School Theatre Festival.
- On January 12th students participated in the following:
 - Sophomores – PLAN scores.
 - Juniors – ACT practice test.
 - Seniors and Freshmen - Suicide Prevention presentation was made by Eric Born and Christina Foss.
- Iris Schweier was selected as part of the Daily Herald Leadership Team.
- Iris Schweier will be absent at the February Board Meeting, as she will be in New York with a group of Lakes students at a conference.
- In Athletics:
 - Winter Guard (Flags) took first place with a score of 84.5. In addition to winning the division title, they received an automatic bid to compete at the State Competition. At their second competition, they again took first place.
 - Outstanding individual wrestlers this year are Kyle Gibson, Tyler Booth, and Jose Collado. All are winning better than 85% of their matches.
 - LCHS will host the NSC Wrestling tournament on Saturday, January 29th.
 - Boys Basketball tied for 2nd place in the NSC Prairie Division with a 4-2 record.
 - LCHS will be hosting the Basketball Regional at the end of February.
 - Girls Basketball helping to run the Special Olympics as a community service project.
 - Cheerleaders received 4th place at the NSC Prairie Division competition. They will be competing on Saturday, January 29th at Grayslake North High School.
 - Dance qualified for State in Hip-Hop category.

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Iris Schweier, Student Ambassador reported:

- PE hosted “Open Gym” before Final Exams.
- Alumni Forum was held on January 7th. Approximately 20 alumni came to speak with seniors about their college experiences.
- Open House for the Class of 2015 is scheduled for January 20th.
- Cathy Ingram started Video Announcements for students to present.
- Evergreen Club began recycling.
- Page-a-Palooza Reading Contest is being held in the library.
- February 5th – Battle of the Bands.
- February 16th – EKG testing.

LCHS SIP Update

Three LCHS Goals:

- Student Achievement
- Teacher Effectiveness
- School Climate
 - TalonTimes Today.com
 - Tech Committee
 - Mentoring ACT Program
 - Religious Forum
 - Project Hand Print
 - Hot Chocolate for Seniors
 - Peer Video-taping
 - Get your ACT together

CONSENT AGENDA

The following consent agenda items (indicated by*) were enacted by one motion.

***Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting of Thursday, December 16, 2010**

Mr. Vickers moved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 16, 2010 be approved and placed on file. Second by Mr. Mathias.

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

***Approval of Minutes – Closed Session of Thursday, December 16, 2010**

Mr. Vickers moved the minutes of the Closed Session of December 16, 2010 be approved and placed on file. Second by Mr. Mathias.

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

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PERSONNEL

***Employment - Long Term Substitute Teacher**

Antioch Community High School

Mr. Vickers moved the Board employ Catherine Cullen as a long term substitute teacher for the FMLA leave of Michelle Szybowicz from January 5 – January 28, 2011 (after release by her doctor), at a level of BA, Step 1, (pro-rated) as recommended by the Superintendent. Second by Mr. Mathias.

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

Lakes Community High School

Mr. Vickers moved the Board employ Steven Hoyt as a long term substitute teacher for the extended sick leave of Victoria Ecker, Math Teacher, from February 26, 2011 (unless otherwise advised by her doctor), and after release by her doctor, through May 10, 2011, at a level of BA, Step 1 (pro-rated) as recommended by the Superintendent. Second by Mr. Mathias

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

Gateway

Mr. Vickers moved the Board employ Stacey Ricchiuto be employed as a long term substitute teacher for the leave of Chris Kemmerer from November 30 – January 31, 2011 (after release by his doctor) at a level of BA, Step 1, (pro-rated) as recommended by the Superintendent. Second by Mr. Mathias.

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

***Employment – Non-Certified Staff**

District

Mr. Vickers moved the Board employ Kimberly LaPlant as Accounts Payable Clerk for the 2010-11 school year at a rate of \$16.50 per hour as recommended by the Superintendent. Second by Mr. Mathias.

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

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*Employment – Increment Positions

Antioch Community High School

Mr. Vickers moved the Board employ Mike Gordy as Assistant Softball Coach at a Level of 3D for the 2010-11 school year as recommended by the Superintendent. Second by Mr. Mathias.

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

Lakes Community High School

Mr. Vickers moved the Board employ Carla Thompson as Assistant Boys Volleyball Coach at a Level of 3D for the 2010-11 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent.

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

*Resignation – Certified Staff

Antioch Community High School

Mr. Vickers moved the Board accept the resignation of Kevin Collins, Science Department Chair and teacher, effective the end of the 2010-11 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent. Second by Mr. Mathias.

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

*Resignation – Increment Position

Mr. Vickers moved the Board accept the resignation of Molly May, Assistant Boys' Volleyball Coach for the 2010-11 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent. Second by Mr. Mathias.

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

*Request for Leaves of Absence

District

Mr. Vickers moved the Board approve the extended sick leave request from Janet Frichtl, Special Education Director, from approximately April 3, 2011 (unless otherwise advised by her doctor) until May 16, 2011 (after release by her doctor), as recommended by the Superintendent. Second by Mr. Mathias.

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

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Antioch Community High School

Mr. Vickers moved the Board approve the extended sick leave request from Michelle Szybowicz, Special Education teacher, from January 5, 2011 – January 28, 2011 (after release by her doctor) as recommended by the Superintendent. Second by Mr. Mathias.

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

FINANCE/BUSINESS

Approval of Bills and Payroll

Mr. Vickers moved that the following bills be approved for payment, and be so certified to the school treasurer. Second by Mr. Mathias.

Education Fund	\$3,106,097.16
Building Fund	\$ 187,579.67
Bonds & Interest	\$ 16,944.36
Transportation Fund	\$ 148,670.93
I.M.R. Fund	\$ 59,755.44
Tort Immunity	\$ 3,473.00

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

Report from the Business Office

Ms. Nolde reported:

- Bids are out for the LCHS security cameras.
- Budget process has begun.
- Facility meeting will be scheduled during the second week of February.

Student Fees

Ms. Nolde presented the first reading for student fees for 2011-12. No changes were proposed to current student fees. Approval will be recommended at the February meeting.

Debt Service Extension Information

Ms. Nolde reported that as of this date the state owes the District 1.8 million.

Ms. Nolde reviewed:

- The restructuring options to keep the debt service tax rate down
- The current operating debt structure

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- The current referendum debt structure
- How the passage of a Debt Service Extension Base would allow the District to restructure its current operating debt so the debt could be paid from the Debt Service Fund revenue rather than operating fund revenue
- Another option to establish a Debt Service Extension Base and refund/restructure the current LCHS bond
- The amount of tax collected for the current debt service structure, the amount of tax collected for just the DSEB and the amount of tax that would be collected if we had a DSEB and restructured the current LCHS debt
- Debt Service Extension Base Timeline

Time Lines and Process for Proposed Budget Cuts

Discussion was held regarding the budget reductions. PMA suggested 1.2 million in budget cuts this upcoming fiscal year, however Mr. Vickers felt the Administration should consider 1.5 million in cuts since there are so many unknown factors (how much money the state will release.) Mr. Vickers feels that the community needs to see that the Board has done everything possible before the District requests a debt restructure (as discussed above) on the ballot. Mrs. McGrath stated that the public perception is that this upcoming fiscal year more programs may get cut since only small cuts were made last year.

GOVERNANCE

F.O.I.A. Requests

Two Freedom of Information requests were received. Mr. Nekritz and Ms. Nolde responded to the requests.

Tech Campus Update - None

Second Reading Policy Recommendations

Mr. Mathias moved the Board adopt the following policies as recommended by the Superintendent. Second by Mrs. McGrath.

500.01	Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment
500.07	Abused and Neglected Child Reporting
520.01	Hiring Process and Criteria
523	Student Teachers

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

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TAG Program

Mr. McKay explained the Targeting Achievement through Governance Program offered by the Illinois Association of School Boards. The Board agreed that they were comfortable with what the Superintendents have been doing and would like to decline the offer to participate in the TAG program.

Incoming Freshman Academy

Mr. McKay explained the new program being offered to 8th grade students entering high school during June and July. The program is designed to help prepare remedial students for high school in reading and math. The students will be strongly recommended to participate in the program and the program will be funded by the general state aide grant. All board members expressed their approval.

Open Forums/Candidates Forum/Brochure

Open Forums – Mr. Nekritz asked the Board for dates to hold the Open Forums. Mr. Sobczak suggested Mr. Nekritz send out possible dates to the Board and the Board will respond with dates that work with their schedule. One of the open forums planned will be to show the movie “Race to Nowhere”, which is being released to the public in April. The cost of renting the movie is \$500, which Mr. Nekritz suggests a \$10 admission charge.

Mr. Nekritz distributed a potential agenda for the Candidate Forum to be held mid-late February. All Board members approved of the agenda.

Mr. Nekritz asked if there were any changes needed to be made to the Brochure. The Board did not have any changes, so Mr. Nekritz would like to proceed in printing and distributing them to the community.

Mr. Nekritz reported that District 117 is joining Lindenhurst Park District to host a Parent University.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS – BOARD MEMBERS

Mrs. Jacobs asked what factors were considered when recommending 8th grade students for classes. Mr. Plank responded that student recommendations are based on three items: EXPLORE test, PLAN test, and teacher recommendation. Recommendation forms are the same for both schools.

Mrs. Jacobs reported that she got positive feedback regarding articulation with the social studies department.

Mrs. Jacobs asked for more information regarding Sarah Menoni. Mr. Ernd reported that a Bone Marrow Drive is scheduled for Monday for Sarah Menoni, a Spanish teacher at ACHS.

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Mrs. McGrath reported on her experience at the Tri-Conference. She noted that one of the seminars she attended was on exercise and was happy to see that the PE department was encouraging exercising prior to final exams. The other seminar involved technology and cell phone usage, which promotes cell phones as a tool in the classrooms.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion to Enter Closed Session

At 8:50 p.m. Mr. Mathias moved the Board enter into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing the following exceptions to the Open Meetings Act: (a) Employment – Section 2(c)(1): The hiring, firing, compensation, discipline and performance of specific employees; (b) 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; (c) School Issues – Section 2(c)(10): Other matters relating to individual students; (d) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal; and(e) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. Second by Mrs. McGrath.

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

Motion to Come Out of Closed Session

At 10:05 p.m. Mr. Vickers moved the Board come out of Closed Session. Second by Mrs. Heneberry.

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

ACTION AFTER CLOSED SESSION

Student Expulsion Abeyance Agreement

Lakes Community High School

Mr. Vickers moved the Board impose the expulsion of Student 2010/11-1L as recommended by the Principal and that such expulsion be held in abeyance subject to the execution of conditions set forth in the Agreement with the student and parents. Second by Mrs. Heneberry.

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

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Mr. Vickers moved the Board impose the expulsion of Student 2010/11-2L as recommended by the Principal and that such expulsion be held in abeyance subject to the execution of conditions set forth in the Agreement with the student and parents. Second by Mr. Mathias.

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

Mr. Vickers moved the Board impose the expulsion of Student 2010/11-3L as recommended by the Principal and that such expulsion be held in abeyance subject to the execution of conditions set forth in the Agreement with the student and parents. Second by Mrs. Heneberry.

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

Closed Session Minutes to be Released

Mr. Vickers moved the Board the following Closed Session minutes from June 17, 2010 through November 16, 2010 remain closed as recommended by the Superintendent because the need for confidentiality still exists. Second by Mrs. Heneberry.

June 17, 2010	I. Student Issues, All
	II. Personnel, (a), (b), (c), (d), (e)
July 15, 2010	II. Personnel, All
	IV. Personnel, All
August 19, 2010	I. Students, All
	II. Personnel, All
	III. Student Issues, All
	IV. Technology, All
	V. Student Issues, All
September 16, 2010	I. Students, All
	II. Personnel, (b), (c)
October 21, 2010	All
November 16, 2010	II. Personnel, All

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

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ADJOURNMENT

At 10:08 p.m. Mr. Mathias moved the January 20, 2011 meeting of the Community High School District 117 Board of Education be adjourned. Second by Mrs. McGrath.

Voice Vote: Ayes: 6 Nays: None Absent: 1 Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:08 p.m.

President

Secretary