

Regular Board Meeting  
July 5, 2016  
Board Conference Room

Call to Order:

President Nick Aguinaga called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room, whereupon roll was subsequently taken. Leroy Duncan, Amy Harding, Rebecca Leggett, Jennifer Murray, and Nick Aguinaga answered the roll call to establish a quorum. Absent: Mark St. Peters. Present were administrators and/or directors John Pearson, Leigh Robinson, Kevin Gockel, and Gerry Mattix-Wand. In the audience were Scott Cousins of the Telegraph; and a member of the community, Charlie Hoffman.

Board Correspondence:

No correspondence. But, Mrs. Murray did happily report that Coach Emerick's Softball Camp did attract 25-30 elementary school and junior high girls.

Public Comments:

Charlie Hoffman inquired about a comment attributed to Dr. Pearson in a recent Telegraph article, in which he observed that the District #14 Board has supported the consolidation efforts for a long time. Mr. Hoffman noted that there was nothing in Board minutes from the "last 12-13 months" in which the Board publicly backed consolidation with some sort of resolution or motion.

Dr. Pearson observed that the Board has been supportive in previous years - all the way back to July 2000, when he joined the District. That support was stated on numerous occasions, via their Board goals and strategic plans and some Board minutes. President Aguinaga also noted that Board members as individual citizens had supported the merger since he had been on the Board.

Minutes:

Motion by Mr. Duncan; second by Mrs. Murray, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meetings of June 7, 2016 and June 14, 2016 and the Special Meeting of June 14, 2016. Motion Carried Voice Vote.

Approve Payment of District Bills and Quick Pays:

Motion by Ms. Leggett; second by Mrs. Murray, that the payment of bills as presented in the amount of \$101,371.30 be authorized; that salaries for the month of June in the amount of \$441,599.06 and bills quickly paid for the month of June in the amount of

\$16,368.21 be approved and that July salaries and bills to be paid quickly be authorized. Aye: Mr. Duncan, Ms. Harding, Ms. Leggett, Mrs. Murray, and Mr. Aguinaga. Nay: None. Motion Passed.

Principal's Report:

Mrs. Robinson reported on the following:

*Upcoming dates to remember*

Aug	8	First Day of Football Practice
	10	First Day of All Practices
	11	All School Registration

*Committees*

Math and ELA will be meeting over the summer to work on curriculum.

*Miscellaneous*

Summer school ended on July 1<sup>st</sup> and a total of 128 grades were issued. Overall it was a fantastic summer school session.

MJCH—the team met with Mrs. Robinson on June 28<sup>th</sup> to discuss plans for the upcoming school year. The team plans to meet again at the end of July.

Spirit Club—senior members of spirit club will meet over the summer to plan activities for the fall season, as well as, the first pep assembly.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Pearson gave a quarterly progress report on the 2016 Strategic Plan, which was derived from the Board goals set in January 2016.

He also reported that the General Assembly and the Governor finally reached a compromise on a K-12 appropriations bill (along with a six month budget). The 2016-17 appropriation was a substantial win for most school districts in the area, in that the Foundation Level was fully funded in the state aid formula and that the appropriation contained enough funds so that every district would receive the state aid they received in 2015-16 (a “hold harmless” provision). EAWR’s latest projection from the State Board showed a \$130,000 in crease in state aid!

The Early Retirement Option for TRS members (all certified staff) “sun-setted” without being renewed prior to June 30<sup>th</sup>. Therefore, most certified staff in Illinois would qualify for a refund of an amount equal to 0.4% of their TRS creditable earnings from 2005 to the present (assuming they have been working since 2005). Also, certified staff would see slightly more money in their taxable income, since only 9% (instead of 9.4%) would be deducted for their individual TRS contributions.

The downside for teachers is that one could not retire with the full pension benefit without 34 years of service between the ages of 55-60. Although a teacher could retire at age 55, he/she would receive a discounted annuity payment if they did not have at least 34 years of service credit. Formerly - under the ERO - a teacher could retire before turning 60, if the Board and the teacher agreed to pay an actuarial cost to TRS.

#### Executive Session:

Motion by Mrs. Murray; second by Ms. Leggett, to adjourn to executive session to: a) Discuss individual student matters, b) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District, c) Discuss collective bargaining matters, d) Discuss pending or current litigation, and e) Discuss the appointment of a member to a public body. Aye: Mr. Duncan, Ms. Harding, Ms. Leggett, Mrs. Murray, and Mr. Aguinaga. Nay: None. Motion Passed at 6:44 p.m.

#### Come Out of Executive Session:

Motion by Mr. Duncan; second by Ms. Leggett, to come out of executive session. Aye: Mr. Duncan, Ms. Harding, Ms. Leggett, Mrs. Murray, and Mr. Aguinaga. Nay: None. Motion Passed at 6:58 p.m.

#### Action Items:

Motion by Ms. Leggett; second by Mr. Duncan, to approve the destruction of the audio recordings of the Executive Session Minutes of January 2015. Motion Carried Voice Vote.

Motion by Mrs. Murray; second by Ms. Leggett, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of June 7, 2016 and June 14, 2016. Motion Carried Voice Vote.

Motion by Mr. Duncan; second by Ms. Leggett, that, after a review of the closed session minutes, to keep those minutes closed to public inspection. Motion Carried Voice Vote.

Motion by Ms. Leggett; second by Mrs. Murray, to formally accept the resignation of Scott Miner from the Board of Education. Mr. Miner had resigned - via email - since the

previous meeting, due to a quickly pending change in residency. Motion Carried Voice Vote.

Motion by Mr. Duncan; second by Ms. Leggett, to offer the vacant Board seat to Mr. Mike Redman of East Alton. Mr. Redman had formally applied for the vacancy. He is an EAWR Alumnus; a former employee of EAWR; and was a former teacher and coach in the Alton Schools, but now works in the private sector. Motion Carried Voice Vote.

Adjournment:

Motion by Ms. Leggett; second by Ms. Harding, to adjourn. Motion Carried Voice Vote at 7:02 p.m.