

Minutes of a Regular Board of Education Meeting of
McHenry Elementary School District 15, McHenry and Lake Counties, Illinois,
Edgebrook School, 701 N. Green St., McHenry, IL 60050

August 31, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by President Chad Mihevc with the following Board Members present: Lindsay Morley, Rachel McDonnell, Matt Stauner, Jennifer Synek, Arne Waltmire, Patrick DeGeorge

Absent: None

Others present: Superintendent Josh Reitz, CSBO Jeff Schubert, Assistant Superintendent Fred Laudadio, Director of English Learners Maureen Cassidy, Director of Student Services Kelli Catini, Director of Learning Jacquie Duginske and various staff and citizens.

President Mihevc called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and asked Mr. Stauner to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment

GOOD NEWS

Jeff Schubert introduced Food Service Director Kevin Harris. Mr. Harris has been named as President of the Illinois School Nutrition Association for the 2021-2022 school year. The Board congratulated Mr. Harris.

Dr. Cassidy introduced KIN (Kids in Need). With the help of these amazing volunteers, KIN was able to serve over 2,000 meals to our students. Additionally, the delivered diapers, groceries, and weekend meals. A huge thank you to Carmen Lopez, Dorri Hausser, Jane Thielsen, Jenny Diedrich, Jolynn Simon, Joselle Buan-Thorne, Katie Lindquist, Laurie Also, Patricia Fisk, Thomas Trausch, Kristy Newman, and Mike Winsauer. Dr. Cassidy also gave a special thank you to Jenny, Joe, and Mary Beth Mihevc. They helped construct a makeshift food pantry at the high school, helped collect food and packed food. The Board thanked KIN for their continued support of the community and District 15 students.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes of a Public Hearing for e-Learning August 17, 2021
- Minutes of a Public Hearing for the 2021-2022 Budget August 17, 2021
- Minutes of a Regular Board of Education Meeting August 17, 2021

PERSONNEL REPORT

CERTIFIED NEW HIRES

Ann Connor	Montin/D15 Social Worker	\$77,192.00	effective 8/16/21
Kathleen Choi	Teacher/VV	\$57,904.00	effective 9/1/21

CERTIFIED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Katie Satterlee

CERTIFIED TERMINATION/RESIGNATION

Alexandria Hulen	Teacher/RW/LM	effective 8/13/21
Leanne Wadman	Teacher/LM	effective 8/30/21
Kristin Thorsen	Asst. Tech Director/CO	effective 8/26/21

NON-CERTIFIED RESIGNATION/TERMINATION

Cori Ullman	ParaPro/VV		effective 8/10/21
Erica Adamson	Food Service/RW		effective 8/13/21
Lisa Christan	Food Service/PK		effective 8/16/21
Brian Lumpp	Bus Driver/TR		effective 8/17/21
Alison Huddleston	ParaPro/RW		effective 8/12/21
Maureen Keil	Program Nurse/EB		effective 8/31/21
JoAnn Behan	Bus Driver/TR		effective 8/24/21

NON-CERTIFIED NEW HIRES

Amy Kelly	Systems Analyst/CO	\$28.51/hr.	effective 8/27/21
Nina Markgraff	Playground/DK	\$11.00/hr.	effective 8/18/21
Cheyenne Smith	ParaPro/RW	\$12.00/hr.	effective 8/17/21
Robin Luckey	Bus Driver/TR	\$15.63/hr.	effective 8/5/21
Ryan Piezonka	Bus Driver/TR	\$15.08/hr.	effective 8/10/21
Mallory Franzen	Bus Driver/TR	\$15.08/hr.	effective 8/12/21
Nancy Fennell	Playground/VV	\$12.00/hr.	effective 8/23/21
Kerry Kessell	ParaPro/RW	\$12.00/hr.	effective 8/30/21

NON-CERTIFIED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Jamie Riener

Christine Riemann

NON-CERTIFIED CHANGE IN STATUS

Joan Lichter	Adj Lrg DK to HT 2/3 Dual ParaPro	effective 8/17/21
Audrey Hughes	Bus Aide to Bus Aide/Playground/TR/RW	effective 8/18/21

A motion was made by DeGeorge second by Waltmire to approve the consent agenda.

Voting aye: Waltmire, DeGeorge, McDonnell, Mihevc, Morley, Stauner, Synek

Voting nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

Superintendent's Report

To begin, since our last meeting, perhaps the biggest news to hit schools on the topic of COVID was the Executive Order issued by Governor Pritzker last Thursday that, among many things, mandated vaccinations for all school personnel. This order states that effective September 5, school personnel may not enter school premises or work at a school unless they either are fully vaccinated or submit to at least weekly COVID-19 testing.

From the date of the Executive Order to its implementation is a short period of time so we have been working pretty fast and furiously to put the necessary steps in place so we are in compliance with that order. To note, we have sent out multiple communications to our staff urging them to provide us with their vaccination documentation. At this point, we have had 527 staff provide us with that information, which is promising, but that still leaves us with over 300 or so folks who are unaccounted for.

And while providing proof of full vaccination or at least proof of the first dose being administered by September 5th, sort of settles things for most people, we are taking steps to put in place the second half of that mandate, which is to provide guidance and support for staff who

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choose not to be vaccinated and instead opt for weekly testing. We have had productive conversations with SHIELD, which I'll expand on in just a bit, and have had productive talks with Curative, the testing location here in town, on potential pop up testing sites that could be quickly put in place in our schools hopefully by next week.

This has been rapidly pushed out by the State and frankly there are a lot of questions that we still have no answers for, but we will reach clarity on this later this week and have a solid plan in place so that we are up and running on time. Earlier today we emailed our staff an updated communication again asking for their proof of vaccination and outlining when they will need to provide us their first proof of a negative test if they opt not to provide vaccination information.

Update on SHIELD testing. Over the past couple of meetings, we have discussed SHIELD testing as an opportunity we want to offer our families on an OPTIONAL basis where they can sign their children up for weekly COVID screening tests in their buildings. The viability of SHIELD and its relative merits and drawbacks have ebbed and flowed over the latter part of this summer, but we believe we are at a place where we can send proper communication to our families about this option to gauge interest level amongst our community. A message has been sent just today on this topic and our hope is that we can have this opportunity set in place for the families who wish to participate in just a few short weeks.

Next, just a head's up that in next week's Board Meeting we will be bringing forward two Public Acts: Public Act 096-0434 and Public Act 97-609. The former is our annual salary compensation report for all employees in the district working in the capacity of an administrator and the latter is our annual compensation report for each IMRF employee in the district who has a total compensation package that exceeds 75,000 per year. These two acts are presented annually to the Board and approved and posted on our website by October 1st of each year.

Amazon Prime video series update: I've given a couple updates on this, but regarding the Amazon Prime series that wants to film a scene for one of their shows at McHenry Middle School and in a few sites throughout the community of McHenry, we held a pretty productive meeting with them last week. In our meeting we wanted to determine a few things: 1. How we could minimally disrupt the school day for students, 2. How we could not disrupt our morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up procedures for parents, and 3. How we could maintain an environment that met the various COVID requirements spelled out in the recent executive orders. Our meeting was productive and we feel confident that we can meet the goal of all three. This partnership would involve the negotiation of a lease cost for the usage of our building so I'd like to engage in some further dialogue about that at our next meeting. It appears that Hollywood works fast and they are targeting September 9, 10, 11, for filming and as I mentioned they will work around our student attendance hours and traffic obstacles to ensure this is seamless for our community.

Finally, we have a very quick turnaround for our next meeting, which will take place next Tuesday night here at Edgebrook Elementary School again. We are excited for our next meeting as it is scheduled to be our first Instructional Board Meeting in over a year and a half and we will have our building administrators joining us for the first time in quite some time.

Freedom of Information Act Requests

We received a Freedom of Information Act from CBS News. They asked for overall grades by subject for the 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 for 6th grade students for each year. The request was made on August 11, 2021, response was given August 16, 2021.

Committee Reports

Curriculum Committee

Mrs. Morley reported that the committee reviewed the district's summer learning. We had 200 students take part in the tutoring program which was grant funded, Camp Invention had 100 students participate and reviewed the summer technology projects. Mrs. Morley also spoke about the district's New Teacher Orientation Week for new certified staff members.

Personnel Committee

Mrs. Synek stated that the committee is putting for a personnel recommendation and it will be discussed in closed session and reported out in open session.

Closed Session

A motion was made by Synek second by Morley to adjourn into Closed Session to discuss employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employee(s).

Voting aye: DeGeorge, McDonnell, Mihevc, Morley, Stauner, Synek, Waltmire

Voting nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Stauner second by Morley to reconvene into Open Session

Voting aye: DeGeorge, McDonnell, Mihevc, Morley, Stauner, Synek, Waltmire

Voting nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

A motion was made by DeGeorge, second by Synek to approve the title change of Assistant Director of Technology to Director of Technology.

Voting aye: DeGeorge, McDonnell, Mihevc, Morley, Stauner, Synek, Waltmire

Voting nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Morley, second by Waltmire to adjourn the meeting.

Voting aye: DeGeorge, McDonnell, Mihevc, Morley, Stauner, Synek, Waltmire

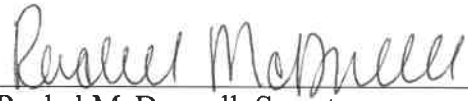
Voting nay: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.



Chad Mihevc, President



Rachel McDonnell, Secretary