

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF  
FOX RIVER GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT 3  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2010 – 7:00 P.M.  
FOX RIVER GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Board President Pat Hughes called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Members present were Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, and Pat Hughes. Also present were Superintendent Tim Mahaffy and Principals Karen Machroli and Eric Runck. Absent were Board members Gerry Blohm and Devin Bright.

**WELCOME GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT**

Board President Pat Hughes welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Board member Gerry Blohm entered the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

Ms. Machroli introduced audience members Ms. Gira, Mrs. Achey, Mrs. Lombardino, Mrs. Diller, Mrs. Schiestel, Mrs. Cogburn and Mrs. Nichols.

Mr. Runck introduced audience members Mrs. Rose, Mrs. Cole, Mrs. Slater and Mr. Pickering.

Mr. Pat Riley of the FRG Rec. Council signed in to address the Board. He updated the Board regarding the Rec. Council combining with Cary Youth Baseball and the use of the District's fields. The current agreement between the Village, the Rec. Council and the District will stand in its entirety under the guides that all have signed. All transition between the Rec. Council and Cary Youth Baseball will fall under the guides of the Rec. Council for this initial year.

Mr. William Jarnebro shared with the Board his Eagle Scout Project of creating designated pitching mounds/lanes – one on ARS Field 1 and two on ARS Field 2. They will be mulched and edged with railroad ties. He anticipates completion of the project shortly depending on the weather. The Board thanked William for sharing information regarding his Eagle Scout project.

There were no other comments or questions.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Tom Mollet to approve the consent agenda, approve and open to the public the regular minutes of the regular Board meeting of February 23, 2010 and the regular minutes of the special Board Meeting of March 1, 2010, approve the closed minutes of the regular Board meeting of February 23, 2010 and approve the closed minutes of the special Board

meeting of March 1, 2010, approve the February 2010 Treasurer's Report, approve the March Bills and Payroll from February 20, 2010 to March 19, 2010, and approve the February 2010 Activity Accounts Report. Lisa Anderson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Susan McGarrigle, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, and Kris Germain. Voting nay – None. Motion approved.

## **REQUEST FOR RECORDS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**

None.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Dr. Mahaffy presented this month's update on class sizes for (10-03-03). Current figures for next years' kindergarten class (currently registered, those not registered and those who are applying for early entrance) brings the total enrollment if everyone comes to 44 students. The other grades have remained constant. If the District stays at three sections across all grade levels the average per classroom would be 18.78 students and if the District went to two sections at all grade levels the average per classroom would be 28.17 students. Dr. Mahaffy stated that the Administration is looking for direction from the Board on the reduction in class sections. Dr. Mahaffy stated that his recommendation based on current information and discussions from prior meetings would be to reduce Kindergarten to two sections for FY11 and leave all the other grade levels at three sections. Class size comparisons using 2009 State School Report Card data for McHenry County was also discussed. (10-03-04). Based on this information, School District 3 ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in the county for the lowest K-4 class size and ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest in the county for 5-8<sup>th</sup> grade. Dr. Mahaffy stated that class size and the reduction in the number of sections per grade level will need to be watched very carefully as revenues continue to decrease. Dr. Mahaffy's goal is to have a balanced budget and get through the year with a balanced budget. The reality is that with the current condition of State funding, the District may be deficit spending. The District currently does have the Fund Balances to hold the District at this time. The future depends on State funding. Dr. Mahaffy also stated that the O & M Fund (Operations and Maintenance Fund) may have some planned deficit spending in anticipation of various upcoming projects that need to be completed including roof repairs especially at the MS. There are approximately 19 different roof sections at the MS. Dr. Mahaffy will cover additional projects under New Business, Item C – Presentation of Capital Outlay Schedule. The District cannot afford to get behind in these projects. Board President Pat Hughes stressed the necessity to look at class sizes monthly. Dr. Mahaffy stated that General State Aid also plays a big portion in revenues from the State. Currently the District has lost about 53% of this in State payments and indications show that the District will not see the last payment this year and monies from Hold Harmless will be going away. Based on the District's average daily attendance, we will be moving from the Foundation Formula to the Alternative Formula which will be an additional decrease in revenues of about \$93,000 next year. Dr. Mahaffy will continue to bring the class size monthly for review by the Board.

A motion to reduce the Kindergarten class for the 2010-2011 school year down from three sections to two sections was made by Gerry Blohm and seconded by Pat Hughes. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye -- Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, Kris Germain and Susan McGarrigle. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

Board President Hughes asked if there was any other Old Business and there was none.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

A motion to approve the following volunteer coaches – Bob Budacki and Jack Kundrot for Softball and Wayne Anderson for Girls' Soccer was made by Susan McGarrigle and seconded by Kris Germain. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle and Tom Mollet. Voting nay – none. Abstain – Lisa Anderson. Motion approved.

Dr. Mahaffy reviewed the bus lease purchase agreement with the Board. This is the 8<sup>th</sup> year for the District to lease one year old buses through Midwest Transit Equipment. The quote is actually a reduction in cost from prior years. Dr. Mahaffy recommended the inclusion of Option 2 to extend the warranty for one additional year for \$200 per bus for these three buses. Dr. Mahaffy is also waiting on an additional quote from Midwest Transit providing the costs for extending the lease of these one year old buses out to three to five years depending on the cost of the warranty. If it makes more sense for the District to lease these buses for more than one year including a warranty, Dr. Mahaffy may be bringing a new proposal back to the Board for approval.

A motion to approve the Bus Lease Purchase Agreement including the extended warranty for \$200 per unit for one year through Midwest Transit was made by Tom Mollet and seconded by Lisa Anderson. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle, Tom Mollet and Lisa Anderson. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

Dr. Mahaffy reviewed the working document for the five year Capital Outlay Schedule (10-03-05). This schedule, along with the summer maintenance plan, will be brought back to the April Board meeting for formal approval. Categories included vehicles, roofing, tech. systems, flooring, windows and doors, site improvements, equipment, HVAC and furniture. These categories, if applicable, list the year acquired, the cost, and the expected life and replacement year. Expenditures by category and by fund were also included in this schedule. This information will help with long term planning and with the preparation of the levy. The intermediate boiler at ARS is a priority issue and will need to be replaced at an approximate cost of \$30,000 to \$35,000. The expected life was 2009. The many various roof lines at the Middle School will be closely monitored. Under technology/tech. systems, the student management system will be upgraded next year. A schedule to complete the carpet replacement including the mobiles and the flagpole at ARS was also discussed. Middle School projects include the replacement of old, corroded pipes on the south side, air conditioning for the north lab and some concrete work which has become a safety issue. Dr. Mahaffy will continue to update and make any needed corrections to this Capital Outlay Schedule which will be presented for approval at the April Board meeting.

A motion to approve Dr. Mahaffy to solicit a bid for a new boiler at ARS was made by Lisa Anderson and seconded by Kris Germain. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Pat Hughes, Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson and Gerry Blohm. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

A motion to approve the Resolution for Participation in the McHenry County Regional Safe School Program was made by Tom Mollet and seconded by Lisa Anderson. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Gerry Blohm and Patrick Hughes. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

Board President Hughes asked if there was any other New Business and there was none.

## **POLICY**

A motion to approve the first reading of the following revised policy – 7:50 - School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools was made by Kris Germain and seconded by Susan McGarrigle. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Susan McGarrigle, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, and Kris Germain. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

## **SCHOOL REPORTS**

***Algonquin Road School – Ms. Machroli*** – The third quarter ends on March 24<sup>th</sup> and report cards will be sent home after spring break on April 8<sup>th</sup>. The Joint Advisory Committee meeting will also be on the 8<sup>th</sup>. The father/daughter dance will be held on April 10<sup>th</sup>. The Spring MAP testing will be conducted beginning on April 19<sup>th</sup> through the 30<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations goes out to 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Kathy Gira, through her Master’s program at Judson University on literacy, had her paper on autism published. Ms. Machroli also thanked Board member Gerry Blohm for creating the beautiful plaque to be hung above the entrance doors at ARS. Mr. Miller did an excellent job on the painting of this plaque. Mr. Blohm was presented a thank you from the students at ARS which included reserved parking and seating for upcoming events at ARS (K-2 Winter Concert, 3-4 Winter Concert and Kindergarten graduation). Ms. Machroli also thanked kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Dilsaver, for taking grade level photos of the students in front of the new sign for Mr. Blohm. Ms. Machroli stated that she was very proud of her staff and students for all their hard work during ISAT testing.

***Fox River Grove Middle School – Mr. Runck*** – March activities included the volleyball tournament and the 7<sup>th</sup> grade boys placed fourth. April activities include the following: a PTO meeting on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter report cards go home on April 8<sup>th</sup> plus a field trip for the 5<sup>th</sup> graders to Hemmens’ Auditorium, a MS dance on April 9<sup>th</sup>, an early release for parent/teacher conferences on April 16<sup>th</sup>, the Festival of Voices on April 17<sup>th</sup>, the Scholastic Bowl tourney begins, the Conference Spelling Bee is on the 21<sup>st</sup>, and the Spring Chorus Concert will be held at 7:00 p.m. on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Cameron Scott placed 7<sup>th</sup> out of 12 at the county spelling bee held on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Kelsey Krigas and Preston Fox represented our school at the National Youth Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. Magalie Baker will be attending and representing our school the last week of March. Adena Ruckoldt raised over\$1,200 and shaved her head to earn money for St. Baldrick’s cure for Kids Cancer. Samantha Hammerberg won the American Dream, “What Is It Contest” and Edan Cashmore placed second. These two students will be presented certificates here at our library on Thursday. Congratulations go out to all of these students.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Mahaffy congratulated Ms. Machroli and the Algonquin Road School staff and students for receiving an Academic Excellence Award from Christopher A. Koch, State Superintendent of Education for the Illinois State Board of Education. The award is minimally based upon 90% or higher of students in reading and math for three consecutive years (93.1, 92.6 and 92 for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades). The Middle School was very close also with scores of 87.8, 87.1 and 91.3 school wide for students in 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Mahaffy also congratulated the District, teachers and staff for again receiving the 2010 Bright Red Apple™ Award for educational excellence through SchoolSearch™. This award is based on what families look for in a great school district – academic performance, pupil-teacher ratio, expenditure per pupil, educational level of teachers and average teacher salary. School District 3 is one of 83 schools out of 869 school districts in the State of Illinois to be honored by SchoolSearch™.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Board member Gerry Blohm and Superintendent Tim Mahaffy attended the SEDOM Governing Board meeting held on Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. Three issues were discussed – use of ARRA moneys for the purchase of three vans, a final date for Districts to opt out of SEDOM program and if a SEDOM employee worked 50% or more in any one District, their schedule would be similar to the schedule of the home school they are working for.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS, NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Dr. Mahaffy stated that 20 individuals including Board members Lisa Anderson and Devin Bright, principals, teachers, and parents participated on the Instructional Review Committee. This committee met to discuss if class sizes ever reached 35-37 students and there were no revenues for additional staff, what other alternatives could be used to still provide a quality education in a high class size environment. Programs discussed included the following – multi-age, the snow week schedule, split shifts, working smarter, combination classes and parallel blocks. There are no plans for an additional meeting at this time.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion to adjourn to executive session at 8:22 p.m. to consider information regarding appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the District and collective negotiations between the District and the FRGEA was made by Kris Germain and seconded by Gerry Blohm. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson, Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, Kris Germain and Susan McGarrigle. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

Dr. Mahaffy stated that there will be action.

## **ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion to return from executive session to open session at 10:20 p.m. was made by Tom Mollet and seconded by Gerry Blohm. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Lisa Anderson,

Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle, and Tom Mollet. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

A motion to approve the re-employment of the following tenured staff for the FY11 school year – Beth Achey, Stephanie Barham, Jennie Bebber, Mary Ellen Bebber, Pat Beebe, Alisa Bruns, Kathleen Cooker, John Danley, Beth Diller, Greg King, Rick Knapp, Lora LeGrand, Don Lewan, Larry Merkel, Mary Beth Miller, Paulette Nichols, Jackie O’Mara, Katrina O’Reilly-Greene, Amy Piecuch, Laura Richards, Barb Savage, Kim Scherzer, Cindy Shaw, Shirley Slater, Donna Stick, Jane Szybowicz, Marge Tietz, Debbie Wagner, Kathy Wagner and Debra Yester -- was made by Gerry Blohm and seconded by Susan McGarrigle. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Gerry Blohm, Pat Hughes, Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle, Tom Mollet and Lisa Anderson. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

A motion to approve the re-employment of the following non-tenured staff for the FY11 school year – Matt Benrus, Shaina Blau, Norene Carr, Kathy Gira, Susan Dilsaver, Heather Kalland, JoAnn Limpus, Kim Neilson, Eric Rovin, Lauren Brancato, Amy Von Bergen, Susan Pettigrew and Gina Martucci – was made by Tom Mollet and seconded by Kris Germain. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye – Pat Hughes, Kris Germain, Susan McGarrigle, Tom Mollet, Lisa Anderson and Gerry Blohm. Voting nay – none. Motion approved.

Board President Pat Hughes asked if there were any other items and there were none.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:23 p.m. was made by Tom Mollet and seconded by Gerry Blohm. A voice vote was taken. Voting aye – All ayes. Voting nay – None. Motion approved.

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Patrick B. Hughes  
President  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Lois M. Bowman  
Secretary  
BOARD OF EDUCATION