

River Forest School District 90  
Board of Education Meeting  
August 17, 2015, 7:30 p.m.  
Observers: Kathleen Perry, Jane Schlichting

Board Packets are available at [www.district90.org](http://www.district90.org) for school board meetings.  
More information about certain topics is available from the August 17 Board Packet on pages noted in the report.

Present: Patrick Meyer, Ralph Martire, David Latham, Roman Ebert, Barb Hickey, and Rich Moore

Also Present: Anthony Cozzi, Director of Finance and Facilities; Martha Ryan-Toye, Director of Student Services; Deb Kadin, reporter; a representative from bonding firm, and two citizens.

Absent: Anne Gottlieb

Public Participation - none

Freedom of Information Request for a copy of the bond placed by the general contractor for the Lincoln School project.

The Consent Agenda includes: minutes from Special Meeting, Board of Meeting, and Closed Session of July 13, 2015, also orders relating to Payrolls, Bills, and Treasurer's Report. The Board approved the Consent Agenda.

Reports from Board Committees:

Education - Rich Moore reported on activities of the Writing Committee.

Policy - Barb Hickey stated that Policy would be discussed later in the meeting.

Finance/Equity - Ralph Martire reported that the committee is reviewing equity: achievement gap, best practices, and hiring minorities. The committee plans to add two members from the community.

Facilities - Anthony Cozzi gave an update on the construction project at Lincoln School.

Communication - Patrick Meyer reported formal and informal communication with the Library, Park District and a press release about changes in the parking lot.

Superintendent Condon reviewed the dates that faculty and students will return to school. A schedule was presented for meeting dates of various groups/organization that are covered by board members.

Superintendent's Report

A presentation was made by a financial representative from the Bonding Firm pertaining to the school district securing bonds. Due to the district's AA2 rating from Moody, bonds were

secured at the rate of 2.79%. A motion was passed to authorize sale of \$9,300,000 school bonds.

Motion passed to grant a transfer request.

After a brief review of the Policy changes, a motion passed to approve the changes, except number 5-180. (Policy information in packet on pages 79-102)

Anthony Cozzli, Director of Finance and Facilities, reviewed the changes in Draft #2 of the proposed budget for 2015-2016. The proposed 2015-2016 Budget will be displayed for public viewing for 30 days. (Budget information available in packet on pages 104-119)

Superintendent Condon reported: enrollment decreased at Lincoln, currently Roosevelt Middle School has 671 students.

Also, the Superintendent gave an update on summer maintenance which included: repairs, replacements, and installation of new furniture and work on the Roosevelt parking lot. It appears that the Lincoln School project may not be completed for the starting of school.

Concerns were expressed about how the Sewer Project on the north side of the village will effect the schools and students as the school year begins.

The Superintendent discussed the results of the State's 5 Essential Survey. The 5 Essentials was developed by researchers at the University of Chicago Consortium of Chicago Schools Research. They used 20 years of evidence to define 5 Essential components of organization and climate related to improving schools: effective leaders, collaborative teachers, involved families, supportive environment, and ambitious instruction. Mr. Condon reported the results for River Forest indicated the district scored: strongly for involved families, collaborative teachers, ambitious instruction, and supportive environment, while schools scored average in effective leaders. (Full Report in packet on packet on pages 124-193)

Martha Ryan-Toye, Director of Student Services, reported that teachers collaborated in the development of standards, resources, and selected instructional materials for teaching writing in grades K - 4th. The instructional material be pilot tested during this school year. (More information available in packet on pages 195-200)

State Superintendent of schools, Dr. Tony Smith, held a webinar that presented the State Board's Initiatives for 2015-2016 school year.

The Village of River Forest Collaboration Initiative has requested each taxing body appoint two members to serve on a sub-committee.

The Board adjourned to an Executive Session at 9:30 p.m.  
River Forest School District 90  
Board of Education Meeting

September 21, 2015, 7:30  
Observer: Jane Schlichting

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More information is available from the packet on pages noted in this report.

Present: Patrick Meyer, Ralph Martire, Ann Gottlieb, Roman Ebert, Barb Hickey, and Rich Moore.

Absent: David Latham

Also Present: Superintendent Ed Condon and Anthony Cozzi, Director of Finance and Facilities.

#### BUDGET HEARING

The proposed budget for 2015-2016 was published in the paper and displayed. No questions were asked, so the hearing was adjourned.

Superintendent Condon reported that he responded to a Freedom of Information Act request from Illinois Education Association with regards to non-certified staff in River Forest School District 90.

The Board approved the Consent Agenda which included: Bills and Payroll of \$1,569,858.88 (information available in packet on pages 9 - 35) and Treasury Report (information available in packet on pages 36 - 60).

#### BOARD COMMITTEES

EDUCATION - Rich Moore reported on professional development which includes technology.

PERSONNEL - discussed later in the meeting.

POLICY - discussed later in the meeting.

FINANCE/EQUITY - Equity committee scheduled for October 7.

FACILITIES - no meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS - Patrick Meyer responded to a request for input into the proposed development at Lake and Park. Since development at Lake and Park may increase the amount of traffic, the board's focus is for the safety of the children.

Brief reports were given for the following: OPRFHS Citizens' Council, Youth Network Council, Inclusiveness Advisory Board, River Forest Service Club, Citizen Corps Council, IASB Governing Board, and ED-RED.

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Budget for 2015 -2016 was approved. The budget will be submitted to the county, state, and will be placed on the district's website ( final draft available in the packet on pages 64 -82).

The Board approved policy 5-180 which deals with temporary illness and temporary incapacity of general personnel.

First reading and discussion of language for the following:

2:160 - Board Attorney

2:160 - Checklist for Selecting Board Attorney

2:260 - Uniform Grievance Procedure

4:50 - Operational Services Payment Procedure

5:50 - General Personnel - Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace; Tobacco Prohibition

5:170 - General Personnel: General copyright restrictions involving the development of Instructional materials and computer programs by employees

5:270 - Educational Support Personnel: employment at will, compensation, and assignment

5:290 - Educational Support Personnel: employment termination and suspensions; reduction

in force and recall

6:140 - Instruction: Education of homeless children

6:210 - Instruction: Instructional materials

6:220 - Instructional Materials Selection and Adoption

7:10 - Students: Equal Educational Opportunities

7: 20 - Students: nonpublic school students, including parochial and home-schooled students; new to the district

7:310 - Students: restrictions on publications, non-school sponsored publications accessed or distributed on-campus

7:325 - Students: student fundraising activities

8:10 - Community Relations: public relations

8:80 - Community Relations: gifts to the district ( information available in the packet on pages 84 - 115).

#### SUBSTANCE ABUSE and MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE ADMINISTRATION GRANT

District 90 is part of a federal grant for up to 5 years, which will use a five step process to develop, implement, and evaluate substance abuse prevention activities (information available in the packet on pages 123 - 126).

ENROLLMENT: total enrollment for District 90 is 1,370 students.

PERSONNEL REPORT: resignation of three certified personnel and the appointment of one independently contracted person.

Ralph Martire stated that the format of the budget is resident-friendly, and he encouraged the community to review the budget on the District's website.