

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: March 25, 2014

Type of Meeting: Work Session

Place of Meeting: Long Beach Middle School Auditorium

Members Present: President Patrick E. Gallagher
Vice President Dennis Ryan
Board Member Stewart Mininsky
Board Member Roy Lester

Members Absent: Board Member Darlene Tangney

Others Present: Mr. David Weiss, Superintendent
Dr. Kenneth Graham, Assistant Superintendent –
Curriculum and Instruction
Mr. Michael DeVito, Chief Operating Officer
Ms. Carole Butler, District Clerk

I. Call to Order/Pledge-President Gallagher

Call to Order/Pledge

President Gallagher called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM and led the community in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Presentation of All County Art Awards – 2013-2014

Presentation of All
County Art Awards
2013-2014

All-County Art Exhibition Participants:

Teacher: Stephanie Meyer, East School

➤ *Lucinda Nash*

Teacher: Denise Collins, Lindell School

➤ *Matthew Corbett*

➤ *Rachel Perlmutter*

Teacher: Denise Collins, West School

➤ *Camille Katzen*

Teacher: Stephanie Meyer, Lido School

➤ *Julia Gillego*

➤ *Arianna Quijano*

Teachers: Judy Knoop, Scott Knyper, Laura Swan, Middle School

- Sarah Lee
- Elizabeth Rooney
- Kathleen Verastegui
- Frantz Doerrer
- Kelly Meyer
- Isabel Mistretta
- Colleen Mannie
- Sarah Reznick
- Patrick Morris

Teachers: Nora Bellsey, Rosemary Farrell-Garde, Joanne Harvey, Suzanne Presberg & Ann Marie Pulice- High School

- Kate Hanson
- Paige Rogoff
- Dan Chen
- Briana Schwarz
- Casey Roesch
- Stephanie Moy
- Mark DeGuzman
- Catherine Bond
- Ariana Shirzay
- Gabriella Cerrati
- Alexis Konstantakis
- Cooper Eminel
- Kirsten Horvath
- Mariza Navera
- Caroline Whelan – Scholarship

Superintendent Weiss introduced Mr. Bill Stroud, the selected candidate for HS Principal, who will be officially voted on at the April 8, 2014 Board of Education meeting.

2014-2015 Draft Budget Presentation
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III. Presentation of Work Session Topic – 2014-2015 Draft

Budget – Superintendent Weiss and COO Michael DeVito

Highlights include: Budget and Tax Levy Goals, Elementary, MS and HS Program Budgets, Program Budget Summary, Benefit and Debt Service Codes, Budget History, Total Budget Summary, Bond Debt Service, Revenue Anticipatory Note Interest, Revenue Projection, History of State Aid Percentage, Tax Levy Summary, Tax Cap, Difference between Allowable and Actual Tax Levy under the Cap Formula, Sampling of Class/Property Tax Rates, and Budget Prep Timeline.

President Gallagher discussed the upcoming budget timeline: April 2 is a work session and April 8 is the adoption of the budget.

Questions and Comments from the Public.
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IV. Questions and Comments from the Public on Agenda Items Only

- Eddie Vrona – 7 Oswego Ave – EAB – suggested making cuts little by little; district should rely less on reserve funds.
- Lisa Lehr – 91 Reynolds Drive – asked if the Administration Building relocation was included in the budget and if it will ever be included in budget; FEMA guarantee. (No guarantees).
- Gerri Maquet – 523 E. State St – questioned whether line-by-line budget would ever be presented (posted tomorrow).
- Maureen Vrona – 7 Oswego Ave – EAB – asked about the status and timeline of the West School playground, Kaboom grant, bids for playground. (Waiting for \$100K external grant; revised application in January).
- Jane Quinton – 149 Hewlett Ave – Pt. Lookout – voiced her concerns about administration being housed at Lindell; cited influx of adults, educational displacement and security.
- Michael Abneri – 94 Regent Dr – asked about tax levy, including library tax levy, and actual tax dollar implications; noted low tax levy last year but large tax increase for home owners. (unknown) Budget Advisory Committee will make its presentation on May 13th for next budget year.
- Brette Ocampo – 160 Riverside Blvd – eager for line by line budget; asked about plans for administration. (Lindell not preferred space; MS option problematic; new bldg.)
- Matt Adler – 410 E. Broadway – asked for confirmation of April meeting dates.

V. Board of Education Comments

- Vice President Ryan thanked the administrators for the presentation and long term focus; pie is shrinking for public schools – tax cap, unfunded mandates, charter schools; agreed with Eddie Vrona that district should be looking at cuts so long term effects would not be as bleak in the future; asking Superintendent for consideration of cuts (MS summer school, athletics, 2nd grade swim, TAs) of \$1 million; administrative staff should not disrupt integrity of any school building.
- Board Member Lester voiced concerns about sources of funding; lottery money does not go directly for education; state aid being cut or stagnant; 2% cap means different things; have to increase retirement funds but cannot increase taxes; must look at cuts; can't pretend we are not running out of money.

Board of Education Comments (continued)

- Board Member Mininsky agrees with Dr. Ryan and Mr. Lester; not happy with rollover budget; whatever Superintendent suggests will arouse local passion; will consider all effective persons; not leaning towards relocating administration to Lindell.
- President Gallagher noted that the Board has been dealing with cut for the past 2 years; reserve funds were created by a surplus; rainy days are here and we should spend the money; it is the taxpayers' money; no problem to spend the reserve funds; we have limited number of years – 2 years; hope things change; does NOT recommend any cuts; Board chose not to make use of facilities change to save money; other cuts are possible; should not have any radical changes now.

President Gallagher also noted that Board Member Tangney was out due to a family obligation.

Superintendent Weiss asked for a clarification of the cuts requested by the BOE. Cuts of about \$1 million were recommended.

VI. Announcements

1. Steve Freeman – CTA President – congratulated district on AA2 bond rating; noted district will receive \$2 million more than included in budget next year \$3 million; did not see replenishment of ERS funds; decreasing electives in HS; check HS master schedule.
2. Group B – No Comments
3. William Snow – CSEA President – congratulated Art students; HS; district spent big bucks on preserving integrity of Lindell building; should not do reconstruction for administration.
4. Gerri Maquet – PTA – congratulated art students, new principal Bill Stroud; budget process seems shortened; surprised at discussion of cutting \$1 million with only 1-2 weeks until budget adoption; concerned about potential cuts; PTA never supported 0% increases.

VII. President Gallagher called for a motion to adjourn at 9:34 PM.

Motion by: Board Member Lester
Seconded by: Board Member Mininsky
Approved: 4-0

Minutes submitted by: _____

Carole Butler, District Clerk
April 8, 2014