

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: September 28, 2017

Type of Meeting: Executive Session

Place of Meeting: Administration Building Conference Room

Members Present: President Stewart Mininsky
Vice President Perry Bodnar, Jr.
Board Member Dennis Ryan
Board Member Darlene E. Tangney
Board Member Maureen Vrona

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Interim Superintendent
Mr. Michael DeVito, COO
Dr. Michele Natali, Executive Director, HR

President Mininsky called for a motion to go into executive session at 5:34 PM to discuss pending personnel and legal issues.

Motion to Go into Executive Session

Motion by: Vice President Bodnar
Seconded by: Board Member Vrona
Approved: 5-0

President Mininsky called for a motion to adjourn the executive session at 7:09 PM.

Adjournment

Motion by: Vice President Bodnar
Seconded by: Board Member Vrona
Approved: 5-0

Minutes submitted by _____
Carole Butler, District Clerk
October 12, 2017

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: September 28, 2017

Type of Meeting: Regular Meeting

Place of Meeting: Long Beach Middle School Auditorium

Members Present: President Stewart Mininsky
Vice President Perry Bodnar, Jr.
Board Member Dennis Ryan
Board Member Darlene E. Tangney
Board Member Maureen Vrona, Esq.

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Asst. Superintendent C & I
Mr. Michael I. DeVito, Chief Operating Officer
Dr. Michele Natali, Executive Director, Human Resources
Ms. Julia Lang-Shapiro, Media, Visual & Performing Arts Dir.
Mr. Sean Murray, Elementary Curriculum Director
Ms. Theresa Scudiero, Humanities Director
Dr. Deborah Lovrich, STEM Director
Carole Butler, District Clerk
Members of the Public

I. Pledge of Allegiance/Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Pledge/Opening Remarks

President Mininsky opened the meeting at 7:30 PM and led the community in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Report of the Interim Superintendent of Schools– Dr. Gallagher

Report of the Interim Superintendent

Dr. Gallagher discussed the upcoming presentation and introduced an IB art project video.

- **Video Presentation – The Memory Project – Julia Lang-Shapiro**
Our IB art students, participate in “The Memory Project.” A video of children in an African village whose portraits were painted by IB art students and presented to them alongside their own photos was shown. For some children this is their only possession. There are 90,000 portraits around the world.

- **Presentation –2016-17 Student Data Performance** – Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Mr. Sean Murray, Ms., Theresa Scudiero, Dr. Deborah Lovrich
Highlights include: Elementary Achievement Data: BAS Growth, NYS 3-8 Tests, Year-to-Year Student Growth, NWEA scores; MS Achievement Results: Grade 8 Regents Exams, SRI scores; HS Regents Data: CC ELA, Global History and Geography, US History, World Languages, CC Algebra, CC Geometry, CC Algebra 2, Living Environment, Earth Science, Chemistry, Physics, AP and IB Results.

This presentation can be located on the district website and in the office of the District Clerk.

BOE Comments

III. **President Mininsky called for Board of Education Comments**

- Board Member Ryan asked if students were still traumatized by the common core exams (just the parents); is grade inflation the difference between classroom grades and regents scores (they never match- Regents are poor exams); are we getting instructional benefits, identifying students at risk to target them (yes); happy to hear about reducing unnecessary review classes and analysis of help.
- President Mininsky asked if the hard numbers could be provided instead of percentages (yes).
- Board Member Vrona directed specific questions at presenters. To Mr. Murray, what does growth target mean (NWEA – K-12- scores – norms are updated). To Ms. Scudiero, MS reading, vast improvement from beginning of the year to end of the year, do we continue SRI in HS (9th and 10th grade; ELA true value not SRI in 11th and 12th grades); are we doing okay (one third need remedial reading entering HS); are we happy with 50 mastery in 11th? (always want more); where would you like to see it (shoot for more – incentive for Accuplacer for NCC); do teachers help with college essays (yes); global grades are great (big push by teachers and review classes helped) FLAC scores are flat (recent changes in exams). To Dr. Lovich, in MS algebra scores are excellent, but not in HS (using new training/series program emphasizing student thinking, professional development); mastery is declining in certain areas (working on differentiated instruction – some teachers are clearly better); how do we help Regents kids with chemistry (remedial sessions during the day, working on best venue for students- we need to stop “drop” culture and “drop” process to make it more difficult and teachers cannot give up so fast); when do remedial classes start (soon).
- Board Member Tangney asked how children who want to drop a class (remedial sessions early on; additional electronic resources, focus on teachers); how quickly are we getting resources to struggling students (instantaneously, chronically absent students are a focus; in elementary school Social Workers call families, different for MS which has the lowest absentee rate, engaging place, students control their own destiny, HS we consider an emergency, liaisons of HS resources, considering late bus, multi-faceted plan; hopes students feel confident/comfortable to tell teachers that they are struggling; 51% struggling students are not taking tests (we use other tests);

how do we communicate testing to parents (emotional subject)I how do you use guidance counselors (looking into more 1:1 time, following students carefully).

- Vice President Bodnar asked about MS reading scores, do we have resources to serve basic and below before HS (not sure).
- Dr. Ryan discussed heterogeneous groupings established about six (6) years ago; absentee rate is startling; needs to be reviewed again; 17% disabilities sounds too high (quality of instruction).

Questions/Comments from
the Public -Tonight's Agenda

IV. President Mininsky called for Questions and Comments From the Public – Tonight's Agenda Only

- Michael Abneri -94 Regent Drive – supports video recordings of meetings; data is unclear – mastery/proficiency; inconsistency of teachers affects student progress/success; test taking skills need to be taught; more communication is needed between teachers and parents.

V. President Mininsky called for Board of Education Comments – New/Old Business

None

BOE Comments – New/Old
Business

VI. Announcements:

Announcements

1. Long Beach Classroom Teachers' Association – President Harvey discussed the Making Stride for Cancer Walk on Sunday, October 15; Pink-Out October 5; Amy Leider is contact person
2. Administrative, Supervisory and PPS Group – President Epstein noted that there has been a tremendous transition of administrators; we need to support teachers and administrators; absenteeism is startling – 18% on elementary level; transfers need support; group approach "team" – many facets; must address absenteeism issue; college is not for everyone, give students other opportunities.
3. LBSEA -Long Beach Schools Employees' Association – Group C – None
4. Parent/Teacher Association – None

VII. President Mininsky called for a motion to adjourn at 9:06 PM.

Motion by: President Mininsky
Seconded by: Board Member Tangney
Approved: 5-0

Adjournment

Minutes submitted by:

Carole Butler, District Clerk
October 12, 2017