

President Rita Oberman called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. The meeting was held at the TF Center for Academics and Technology in Calumet City, IL.

**CALL TO ORDER** 

**Roll Call:** 

Present: Ballard, Dodd, Dust, Jackson, Oberman, Waller (arrived 6:15 p.m.), Wilson

Absent: none

Public Comment: none

**PUBLIC COMMENT** 

BUILDINGS &
GROUNDS
SAFETY

## **Buildings & Grounds/Safety-Member Ballard**

- A. Generator Remote Monitoring Proposal—Mr. Stephan shared there are five different generators at four buildings with a couple being of critical value in case of power outage. This proposal will allow for 24-7 remote monitoring which can email up to 10 different people if it is triggered. Discussion included that the age of generators varies. This company will do preventative maintenance on all of the generators which is important because they are different brands. The alerts will be for a loss of power, the generator is working, and power is restored. The proposal will be brought to the October meeting for approval by the Board.
- B. Monthly Building Rental Update--Payment arrangements are being made with outstanding invoices.

## **Curriculum Committee-Member Dust**

**CURRICULUM** 

A. New Curriculum Updates—Ms. Szuba stated there has been positive teacher feedback on the new curriculum. She shared a special education teacher said it was the first time anywhere she has worked that the regular education curriculum and the special education curriculum were aligned. There is commitment to performance-based assessment and teachers were involved in that determination; there will be a balance of objective assessments as well as performance based. Teachers are completing a survey by content area regarding what assessments they have been utilizing this semester, their assessment philosophy, and what should be a final exam if at all. An educational methodologies class is being established and participating students will be going to elementary schools to tutor; also looking at in-house opportunities for students.

## **Finance-Member Dodd**

FINANCE

- A. District Office Postage Machine Purchase—Ms. Bishop informed the Board administration is looking at upgrading the current inefficient machine by utilizing the existing lease which expires in June 2023 to a 5-year lease.
- B. Vanguard long-term contract—natural gas pricing—In the past administration has been able to lock in prices in June but it wasn't fiscally prudent to do so because rates were very high. While rates are still high, administration will lock in ½ of the amount typically used and hope to get a better rate later.
- C. Update on late Cook County taxes—Per recent meetings, Cook County property tax bills will be due January 1. Ms. Bishop stated that she will be giving the Board regular updates on cash position noting that the cash balances will be low but will be back to the norm by June 30<sup>th</sup> when all tax revenue is received.
- D. Create Culinary Activity Account—The Culinary Arts program doesn't have a revenue account and part of the program is for the students to be able manage the proceeds of their events. This has been approved for the cosmetology program. The funds will be used for future events along with the support of grant funds.

## I.T. Committee-Member Wilson

- A. Cyber Security Awareness Month—Mr. Wakefield shared we will never hear the end of cyber security awareness, and October is designated as Cyber Security Awareness Month. He added that the district has implemented simulated attacks which are very helpful, and overall, the district scores below the industry average which is good. Board members will be added to the simulations at the end of the month because they are often targeted due to their positions. One way security has evolved is utilizing a passphrase, which has become an industry standard, as opposed to regularly changing passwords. It will be an easier process for staff along with other cyber security measures being considered.
- B. LMS Selection Committee—Mr. Wakefield shared he is working with Ms. Szuba on establishing the committee to focus on which system is best for our staff. The goal is to utilize a standardized platform where everything comes together for curriculum and students/teachers have access. In the current systems, professional development cannot be provided as the district is utilizing five different platforms. An additional goal is to create a selection criterion and to identify a recommendation. The volunteer committee is involving teachers, students, parents and administrators. The timeline is to make a recommendation in December/January and there is some initial funding through ESSER 3.
- C. Student Chromebook Sustainability—Mr. Wakefield said this will need to be a significant conversation for the Board. He added that covid has created huge transitions in classrooms and the technology team is getting close to having to think about how to sustain the process. 2025 is a big year for when devices are due. A plan will be brought forward to make sure the district sustains the progress which has been made.
- D. Printing Modernization Update—In order to save costs and provide efficiencies, IT has significantly changed the way printing is done in the district and has gone from over 400 printers to 75. The team has worked with teachers on challenges they have experienced. He also asked the board members if they need a printer since the board packet is now web-based. The printers the board has will be replaced given the cost of the toner. If a member doesn't want a printer, he/she is to let Mr. Wakefield know. He also asked them to lead by example in making their decision given that so many individual printers have been removed.

Dr. Jones thanked the Board that because of their action back in the spring, TFD215 does not have to scramble to deal with student exclusions on October 14<sup>th</sup> due to lack of immunizations/physicals.

**Member Wilson moved,** seconded by Member Dodd, that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Upon voice vote, the motion passed.

ADJOURN

Rita Oberman, President

Anita Howard, Recording Secretary