

## MINUTES

### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

August 9, 2023



President Dust called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the TF Center for Academics and Technology in Calumet City, IL.

#### Roll Call

**Present:** Ballard, Dust, Jackson, Newman, Stepp, Terrazas, Stepp    **Absent:**

#### 1. Communication

Public Comment--none

#### 2. Buildings & Grounds/Safety Committee-Member Stepp

- A. Construction Update—Mr. Stephan gave the construction update which included:
  - i. TFN auditorium—99% done, and planning on using it next week for opening day;
  - ii. TFN washroom—going well but not done; stalls supposed to be installed on Saturday and should be functioning for opening day; will be tied into current water but won't hinder the opening of school;
  - iii. Childcare room—is very lively and ready for students;
  - iv. TFS—auditorium seats installed—might be available for 18<sup>th</sup> all staff meeting;
  - v. TFS—gym—with no bleachers in balcony, space is opened for more classes/etc.; HVAC work continues;
  - vi. TFS Red Wolves Stadium—turf installed August 21<sup>st</sup> which requires a three-week process then lay asphalt which has to lay for 30 days; homecoming is October 8th and contractors know the timeline.
- B. Purchase of two John Deere Gators—upgrading the equipment at each campus.
- C. Safety Committees Update—will be updating crisis plans and safety committees were developed at each campus with student representatives.
- D. Building Usage Report—still have outstanding bills but those organizations will not be allowed to use facilities until the district is paid.

#### 3. Finance Committee-Member Jackson

- A. School Nutrition Program Back to School Conference—The three head chefs and Ms. Burford attended the conference—learned about commodities and various food service topics.
- B. Healthy Meals Initiative Grant Award—worked on grant for extra funding and TFD215 is one of 264 out of 600 districts to get the grant. It will be utilized for equipment, farm to school, funding for local farming, and an ambassador student program. It offers a great tie in with culinary arts curriculum and student voices. The district also received a grant to use to reach out to local farmers for food.
- C. Budget 101 presentation—Ms. Bishop reviewed the basic requirements of budget development including that in January the board provides approval for the budget development schedule.
- D. Tax Rate Objections—The board was provided an update from the district's attorney who works to protect the interests of district; an update will be provided quarterly.
- E. 2023-24 Budget presentation—Ms. Bishop provided an overview of the tentative budget. The district will not be going into deficit spending. There are several O/M large projects and some will straddle fiscal years. The capital fund will not have funds after the projects are finished which is not negative. She reported the district paid off two bond issues last year. Transportation costs are higher due to increased costs with a new vendor who assures better service. ESSER funds are coming to an end and the district made very good use of the money. In terms of revenue, the state is slightly higher because of EBF and property tax relief grant. The education fund is 70% of the budget. Ms. Bishop responded to a board question regarding the difference between boys and girls sports—most is salaries for stipends etc. and boys' sports have more students. Football is the most expensive

and also involves the most students and staff. When looking at similar sports, such as volleyball, the allocations are comparable.

**4. IT Committee-Member Wilson**

Schoology implementation progress was shared with almost 50% of licensed staff participating in training during the summer. This platform is the glue holding all digital curriculum together and is the hub to streamline digital workflow. Staff from the guidance and student services departments also attended. Training will continue throughout the year. Teaching and learning staff are critical partners in the implementation which is not mandatory this first year. There is a Google integration app which will be housed in Schoology.

**5. Equity-Member Terrazas**

**A. Equity Plan Overview**

Both campuses will have Student Equity Clubs and each campus will have a principal’s leadership team which will be named by the principal and include student representatives.

**B. JASI includes a critical component of mentoring, and these two groups are being proposed for action at the regular meeting:**

- i. When Girls Get Together, Inc. MOU—The organization does serve 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> graders and the organization is insured. Some instructors are affiliated with Beverly Arts Center and there are no religious affiliations. All staff will have to go through our fingerprinting etc.
- ii. Urban Male Network MOU-- Costs between the two groups are comparable and sessions will be 1-2 times per week involving in-school and after-school activities.

**C. Student IDs—there was a big push last year requiring students to wear IDs. While a safety audit suggested students wear IDs, it is cumbersome to enforce wearing them and the message needs to be consistent across the district. Staff are being encouraged to wear IDs. The handbook will be changed to state students must have their IDs on their person at all times.**

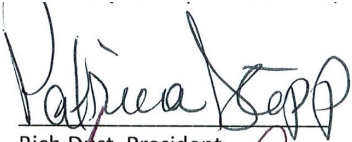
**D. The public comment form is now in Spanish.**

**6. Behavior Intervention/Parent-Teacher Advisory-Member Newman**

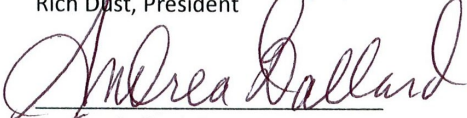
- A. Starting in September suspensions/expulsions will be reported to the board.
- B. Have to look at policies/interventions connected to infractions.
- C. Meetings have been held with deans, etc. to look at consistency across campuses. Training on de-escalation is being offered. It was suggested to have teachers on the committee. A survey of staff re: handbooks and suggestions, etc. will be completed.

**7. Adjourn**


**Member Wilson moved**, seconded by Member Stepp that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m. Upon voice vote, the motion passed.



Rich Dust, President



Andrea Ballard, Secretary



Anita Howard, Recording Secretary