



**Forest Park District 91 Board of Education
August 11, 2011, 7:00 pm**

Johan Walsh, Observer

In attendance: President Frank Mott, Vice President Sean Blaylock, Secretary Mary Turek, and Board Members Lois Bogajsky, Mary Win Connor, John Tricoci and Joan White. Also in attendance: Superintendent Dr. Louis Cavallo, and Assistant Superintendent of Operations Edward Brophy.

Audience members included Forest Park Review Editor Nick Moroni, National Alliance for the Mentally Ill Representative Leah Shapiro, and League of Women Voters Observer Johan Walsh. The meeting began with roll call and the pledge of allegiance. The mission and vision statements were read aloud.

Regular session minutes and executive session minutes were approved for July 14 and July 27. Payrolls for August were approved, along with financial data supplied by the Township Treasurer. Destruction of January 2010 executive session minutes was authorized. A letter from the Illinois Association of School Boards was read into the record.

Status was provided for summer building maintenance projects. The Middle School industrial technology room is now furnished and computers are being installed. Garfield School was repainted with bright primary colors, and new tile and drywall has been installed.

A public hearing on the proposed 2012 budget is set for 6:30 p.m. before the regular meeting on Thursday, September 8. After the public hearing, the Board is expected to adopt the budget.

The Assistant Superintendent then provided a detailed overview of the proposed budget which calls for \$16,600,000 in revenue and \$18,125,134 in expenses for a net shortfall of \$1,525,134. It was noted that the State of Illinois still owes District 91 \$300,000 for the school year just concluded. Discussion of the budget continued at length.

A Certificate of Financial Recognition for 2010 has been received by District 91 from the Illinois State Board of Education in recognition of its strong financial management. The audit is in process and findings will be presented to the Board in September or October.

The development of a possible dashboard report was discussed to measure progress in achieving strategic planning goals. Varied suggestions and opinions were offered on report formatting, value and possible interpretation or results. The availability of a workshop by the Illinois Association of School Boards or others will be investigated. Discussions will continue.

A revision to Policy 2:125 on board member expenses had been introduced in July as a first reading. A second reading was provided tonight and the policy approved. Overnight lodging costs will not be paid by the District unless the event is at least 60 miles away.

The Board then approved personnel actions as reviewed tonight in executive session. Resignations were approved for a first grade teacher at Betsy Ross; an art teacher at Middle School; a support services assistant at Betsy Ross School; a special education instructional assistant at Middle School and also at Garfield School; and an instructional assistant at Field Stevenson. Employment was approved for a temporary special education teacher and art teacher at Middle School, a registered occupational therapist, a Support Services Assistant at Middle School and Field Stevenson School, and a first grade teacher at Betsy Ross.

The Advisory Council and the Gaining/Concerns Committee are scheduled to meet October 19. Newly elected Board Member John Tricoci has attended two orientation sessions and a third session

is planned. The fall meeting of the Illinois Association of School Boards/West Cook Division is scheduled for September, and District 91 President Frank Mott is serving as the agency's Vice President.

The slogan "Striving for Excellence" appears on the District's letterhead, but the District does not have an official logo. A student logo contest was suggested and approved. The webmaster is meeting with school administrators to get suggestions for website improvements. The Superintendent is also meeting with faculty members to discuss each of the Board's goals. A summer school report will be submitted to the Board in September.

An orientation for Middle School substitute teachers is set for August 18. This year, substitutes will receive a brief overview of the Positive Behavior Intervention System (PBIS) and must sign a waiver of unemployment compensation benefits. The orientation breakfast for new staff is scheduled for August 19. A staff day is planned for August 22 and refresher math training is part of the agenda. Several Board members reported positive registration experiences.

The District newsletter was delivered recently to all residents. The website calendar of events will show back-to-school dates for all grade levels. Dates for open houses will also be calendared. Individual Board members will attend the open houses. A student achievement policy review will be presented in September.

Leah Shapiro, a representative for the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI), addressed the Board and distributed information on its Oak Park drop-in-center and three of its public education programs. The Alliance was awarded a sizable grant from the Oak Park Mental Health Board and hopes to obtain similar funding from the Proviso Mental Health Board. There is no charge to District 91 for any Alliance programs.

Forest Park Baptist Church is conducting an after-school homework tutorial from 3-5 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, utilizing members of its congregation, and student teachers from Concordia College and Moody Bible School.

Future agenda items will include formalization of the Board's updated goals and strategic plan, and a report on a challenge program for highly qualified teachers. The Board's self-evaluation process has been completed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

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