



**Oak Park District 97 Board of Education
October 27, 2009**

Denise Sacks, Observer

The meeting began at 7:15 PM. Board member Michelle Harton was absent.

The agreement with the Collaboration for Early Childhood Care and Education was approved including a contribution of \$15,000. This agreement was discussed at the previous board meeting.

Whittier Principal, Carol Young, presented Whittier's School Improvement Plan including: classroom programs, staff development, building-wide initiatives, online assessment and tutoring, programs for families, and parents as partners. Each school's School Improvement Team (SIT) develops an improvement plan to guide programming for the year. SITs include administrators, teachers, and parents.

Director of Human Resources & Development, Trish Carlson presented the annual Personnel and Student Data Report which can be viewed on the district website. This report provides many statistics on the numbers of district employees, the school enrollment levels and the diversity of both students and employees. Ms. Carlson highlighted the district's plan to increase the identifiable pool of minority applicants for positions for the 2010-2011 school year. The district is committed to hiring the highest caliber staff while striving to reflect the diversity of the community within that staff. Last year, less than 7% of applicants to District 97 were African American, and only one minority teacher and one minority administrator were hired out of 38 hires. Among other efforts, the district is distributing a special flyer, advertising in *Teachers of Color* magazine, contacting colleges and universities with high percentages of minority students, and attending many job fairs across the country.

Assistant Superintendent Therese O'Neill reported that the estimated tax levy is less than 0.1% more than last year's levy. The estimated levy is \$41,009,546. The final levy will be approved in December. The public hearing on the estimate will be at the November 10th meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:37.

(www.op97.org)