



**Oak Park District 97 Board of Education
September 27, 2011**

Peggy Kell, Observer

School Board members in attendance: Peter Traczyk, Denise Sacks, Bob Spatz, Jim Gates and Peter Barber. Jim O'Connor was not in attendance.

The board reconvened after an Executive Session.

Special Reports

I came in after the citizens Facility Advisory Committee report started. The committee reported about electrical savings at schools which turned into real monetary savings this year (approx. \$170,000). The analysis about the Administration Building and work that could be done to increase energy efficiency included work on the mechanical systems, life safety, roof repair and replacement and work environment update. Different options were presented from renovation to replacement of the building to moving to another site or rent another site. Board member Traczyk explained the district does not own the Administration Building. It was sold to the Village five years ago and is now leased from the Village for \$1 a year. The District will get the building back next year and then the board will need to make some decisions about what to do with the building for the future. Whatever is done must fit with the Madison Street plan, also. All the information presented will be reviewed by the board and discussed at a November meeting.

Therese O'Neil, Finance Director, made a brief presentation of the Fiscal Year 2010-11 Audit, which is done on a yearly basis.

The Annual Student Performance Report followed. Harla Hutchinson and Felicia Starks made the report. Overall proficiency for the 2011 is set at 85% from the Federal law of No Child Left Behind. At least 95% of students of the students in subgroups must be tested. Some students are in multiple subgroups. Overall district achievement in math is over the 90th percentile and reading is over the 80th percentile. But because some subgroup at schools did not achieve this standard, six schools did not make AYP (annual yearly progress) this year. This translated into the District not making AYP. But the number that put these groups in not meeting AYP was small. Brooks, Julian and Holmes did not make AYP for the second year and this put them in Academic Warning Status. These schools will have to make a School Improvement Plan now. Analyzing ISAT scores is difficult because students move on to another grade and a third of the group would be new each year. That's why it is better to use a growth model for individual students. The expectation is that students will make a years growth in learning. Besides ISAT data, MAP (measure academic progress) testing data helped predict how students would perform on other tests and then help shape instruction for them. The School Improvement Planning process is now in play for the three schools that did not make progress for the second year. West 40 will provide support in this process with planning and learning sessions. Four principals then did a presentation on their perspective of the ISAT scores and the process for testing. They reviewed programs they are doing at their schools to increase learning. Finally, a short statement from the Oak Park Teachers Association was also included in the overall presentation.

Board member comments followed. They supported the student growth model and the goal to not raise test scores but to educate students. Overall they appreciated the presentation.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Action Items

The minutes from the September 13 meeting, the personnel action (one hire, one resignation) and bill list as presented was approved. Adoption of the 2011-12 budget was approved (over \$80,000,000). There was a proclamation read for board member Jennifer Reddy who will be leaving the board in a month because of a family move.

District/Board Activities and Priorities

A resolution was made for the appointment of legal counsel in connection with tax rate objections from previous years.

The Board also discussed the new board member process that will occur to replace Jennifer Reddy. November 8 is the deadline date to appoint a new board member. Packets of information are available for interested citizens in person and on the district's website.

For the Superintendents report, Dr. Roberts said that the Board will receive coffee mugs for being nominated for Those Who Excel award. Also, the administrative compensation salaries will be posted on the district website.

Board concerns were presented. Among them were looking at having the Jewish holidays be a day off from school, attendance at the League Kick-off with Lieutenant Governor Simon, having members on the Inter Governmental Work group with the Village and committee meeting announcements.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 pm.

The next board meeting will be October 11, 2011.

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