

Oak Park Elementary School District 97

July 28, 2017

League Member Observer: Ameri Klafeta

Meeting Start 7:00 pm

Roll Call: Attendees: Dr. Carol Kelley- Superintendent, Holly Spurlock - Board President, Sheryl Mariner-Secretary, Rupa Datta, Katherine Murray-Leibl, Rob Breymaier, Keecia Broy, Robert Spatz. Absent: Jim O'Connor.

I. PUBLIC

A. Public Comment

- i. A parent asked who will coordinate services for students with special needs at Brooks.

II. SPECIAL REPORTS

- A. The Diversity Council gave a presentation regarding its initial organization and efforts. A survey will be going out to parents.
- B. The preliminary 2017-2018 budget was discussed. There is an anticipated surplus of \$13 million.
- C. The increased collection of taxes for the operations referendum was discussed. The Board was previously discussing two options – either refunds or debt abatement. The refund process would raise legal concerns because the Board cannot refund directly to taxpayers. It would also cost about \$30,000, on the low end, to administer the refund. Further, the timing would be unknown, and it would not provide relief before tax payments are due. The Board agreed with the recommendation of the administration to proceed with the plan to pay down debt, resulting in a future tax abatement.

III. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Meeting Minutes and Consent Agenda – All items were approved
- B. The Board approved a 4% increase in the Superintendent's commission for the 2017-2018 school year, which is based on her performance.
- C. Appointment of Senior Director of Equity – Dr. Carrie Kamm was approved for this new position at a salary of \$94,101.
- D. Appointment of Director of Organizational Learning – Emily Fenske was approved for this position at a salary of \$94,101.
- E. Appointment of Interim Principal for Brooks Middle School – April Capuder was approved for this position at a salary of \$117,048.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. Dr. Kelley met with the Erikson Institute.
- B. On July 28, 2017, Dr. Kelley is to meet with the Parent Teacher Advisory Committee.
- C. She is also attending a racial equity conference in Atlanta.
- D. Changes to the PKP policy were discussed. The administration has been evaluating the program and is discussing no longer enrolling siblings automatically in the program. This is based on the need to make sure the limited spots are going to students who need the services. There is also a concern that Oak Park will lose its state-funded spots if that is not the case. Murray-Leibl expressed concern that families who previously participated are notified, as they might be planning on sending siblings.

V. BOARD ASSIGNMENTS

- A. The Village recently asked for comments from D97 regarding the number of students who could potentially be enrolled and D97 revenue resulting from the Albion development. The Board sent back some further questions, but has not received a response yet.
- B. The Board then discussed whether it should have a policy about how and when it comments to the public regarding issues in the Village or Community. In general, there was discussion about the Board responding when asked or, potentially, when it is clear it relates to the Board's mission.

VI. CONCLUDING REMARKS

- A. Spurlock stated that she recently attended, for informational purposes only, a meeting of parents forming around opposition to charter schools in the area. The Board discussed the need to make sure it has a process in place for a charter school application, consistent with its legal obligations.

Meeting End 10:10 pm