

Oak Park River Forest High School Board
November 17, 2016
Mary Haley, Observer

Present: Jackie Moore-Vice-President, Tom Cofsky, Steve Gevinson, Sara Dixon Spivy, Jennifer Cassell and Fred Arkin
Jeff Weissglass, President, attended via telephone.

Dr. Moore called the meeting to order at 7:39.

Public Comments:

Twelve people including parents of current and past members of the OPRFHS wrestling team and OPRFHS graduates who participated in wrestling spoke on behalf of Mike Powell, an OPRFHS coach, who was placed on administrative leave. The speakers praised Mr. Powell for the influence he has on the character and confidence of the students he coaches. They questioned why he has been placed on leave and why it is taking so long to resolve the issue. Three people spoke in favor of the pool referendum, stating that if a new plan is made it should be bolder and more comprehensive. The suggestion was made to fund the facility development project out of existing funds, if necessary.

Two people spoke against bringing up the referendum in a future vote. They asked the board to consider the needs of the taxpayers and questioned if so much money should be spent meeting the needs of a small group of students.

Consent Items:

All items were passed unanimously.

Action Items:

The board voted to charge one student's family for tuition as the family does not reside within the school district's boundaries.

Discussion:

Superintendent Pruitt announced that a preliminary discussion on what to do moving forward with the facility development plan will begin at a meeting on December 13. Ms. Spivy noted that the referendum vote has not yet been certified and that difference between the yes and no votes is shrinking.

Philip Prale, ASCI, reviewed the requirements of Senate Bill 7, which concerns creating a Reduction in Force Committee. The district and the teachers' union have agreed to a six-member committee comprised of three union representatives and three union representatives. The committee's first meeting will be November 28.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45.