

RICH TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 227

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

MAY 20, 2008

The Board of Education of Rich Township High School District 227 met on Tuesday, May 20, 2008, in the Media Center at Rich East High School, Park Forest, Illinois.

Mr. Brunson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Brunson requested a roll call.

Present: Brookins, Brunson, Imoukhuede, Moten, Norwood, Owens, Upshaw

Absent: None

Also Present: Mr. Hunigan, Mr. Hampton, Mrs. Cotton-Ramey, Dr. Simpson Leak, Mrs. Martin, Dr. McDonald, Mrs. Treichel, Mr. Rainey, Dr. Kirkwood, Dr. Craig, Mr. Pipikios, Dr. Gladney, Mr. Keenan, Ms. Malak, Mr. Anderson, Ms. Waite, Ms. Stokes, Ms. Bassette, Ms. Gibson, Mr. Gibson, Ms. Behland, Mr. Spielbauer, Mr. Fiorenzo, Jr., Mr. Jones, Ms. Stovall-Henderson, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Daly, Ms. Rago, Ms. Smith, Ms. Varnado, Mr. Demchuk, Ms. Birts, Mr. Bailey, Mr. Kredens, Mr. Connell, Mr. Benard, Ms. Benard, Mr. Kaufmann, Mr. Spaniak, Ms. Spann, Ms. Feltenstein, Mr. Horvath, Ms. Linda Knight, Ms. Peg Knight, Ms. Doughney, Ms. Craven, Ms. Holman, Mr. Kehoe, Ms. Devenuto, Mr. Rahman, Mr. Craig, Mr. Bunn, Ms. Dunn, Ms. Stone, Ms. Ptak, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Schroeder, Mr. Rapp, Mr. Bonomo, Ms. Gregor-Whitmire, Ms. Helgeson, Ms. Szafranski, Ms. Edwards, Ms. Data, Ms. Freeman, Mr. Dykstra, Ms. Aguirre, Ms. Acosta, Ms. Gilbert, Ms. Cholodewitsch, Ms. Spoolstra, Mr. Bronnenberg, Mrs. Bronnenberg, Ms. Sabo, Mr. Maniatis, Mr. O'Toole, Mr. LaFrance, Mr. Adamczyk, Ms. Tomiak, Mr. Rado, Mr. Jacobeit, Mr. Greenberg, Mr. Panczuk, Mr. Yarborough, Ms. Bernardi-Zajac, Mr. Hagemaster, Ms. Taylor, Ms. Cosentino, Ms. Jones, Ms. Wessendorf, Ms. Cukierman, Ms. Creamean, Ms. Sowles, Ms. Gabrysiak, Mr. Jenicek, Ms. O'Hara, Ms. Pawluk, Ms. Hardwick, Ms. Martinez, Mr. Martinez, Mr. Curta, Ms. Boldrey, Ms. Griffin, Ms. Garvick, Mr. Fisher, Ms. Pierce, Mr. Maravilla, Mr. Joyce, Ms. Conrad, Ms. Dondek, Mr. Schmidt, Mr. Siever, Ms. Dinwiddie, Ms. Dactilidis, Ms. Beutler, Ms. Vanlieshout, Ms. Stokes, Ms. Norton, Ms. Sanders, Ms. Rutherford, Ms. Okichich, Ms. Curl, Mrs. Veazey, VeRita Quinn, student representatives Arielle Smith, Mickietha Hampton, and Dallas Crain, and PTSO presidents Mr. Veazey (Rich Central), Ms. Demchuk and Ms. Bona (Rich East), and Mr. Ward (Rich South).

Mr. Brunson went over the Board Goals of Student Achievement, School Climate, and Community Relations.

Recognition of Citizens Pertaining to Agenda Items

Mr. Brunson asked if there were any citizens who wished to be recognized pertaining to agenda items. There were none.

Recognition of Student Representatives, Retirees, and PTSO Organizations

Mr. Brunson asked Mr. Rainey to come forward to recognize Rich Central's student representative for 2007-2008, Arielle Smith. Principal Rainey congratulated Arielle on her leadership, vision, and the example she continues to set for those students who are beginning their path towards success. Arielle introduced Rich Central's new student representative, Jasmine Jamison.

Mr. Rainey asked Deborah Bernardi Zajac to come forward to be recognized. He noted Deborah had spent 34 years in education. Mr. Rainey presented Ms. Zajac with a brick for the foundation she had built with the students over the years. Ms. Zajac thanked everyone who had encouraged her through her 34 years of teaching. She noted she has seen students emerge as triumphant young men and women.

Mr. Rainey asked Margurite Martin to come forward to be recognized. Mr. Rainey and Mr. Hunigan praised Mrs. Martin for her tireless efforts to support and guide the students of District 227 and for always going the extra mile to ensure that each student, regardless of circumstance or challenge, was given an equal opportunity to learn, grow and thrive. Mrs. Martin was presented with a brick for the foundation she had built with the students. Dr. Kirkwood added that Mrs. Martin began her administrative career at Rich South, so she was also a Rich South "Star." Mrs. Martin responded that she was overwhelmed with the love and support she has received over the past 36 years.

Mr. Rainey asked Mr. Veazey, President of the Rich Central PTSO, to come forward. The other members of the Rich Central PTSO stood to be recognized. Mr. Rainey presented the PTSO with a chain link to symbolize the need for connectivity among teachers, parents, students and the community. Mr. Veazey thanked the District for the recognition. He added that he feels Rich Central is on the right track.

Dr. Craig, Rich East's principal, asked Mickietha Hampton, Rich East's student representative for 2007-2008, to come forward to be recognized. Dr. Craig noted Mackietha was strong socially, culturally, academically, personally and professionally, and her presence and impact at Rich East have been invaluable.

Dr. Craig asked Ms. Valerie Bona and Ms. Annette Demchuk to come forward to be recognized as co-presidents of the Rich East PTSO. He noted they have led the East

PTSO for the past four years, and were appreciated tremendously. This year, the Rich East PTSO, through its many fundraiser activities, sponsored nine scholarships for seniors.

Mr. Brunson recognized Dr. Kirkwood, Rich South's Principal, who asked Dallas Crain, Rich South's student representative for 2007-2008, to come forward to be recognized. Dr. Kirkwood noted Dallas was a real leader at Rich South, where he was involved with the Student Council. Dallas received a full athletic scholarship to Marian College in Indianapolis.

Dr. Kirkwood asked VeRita Quinn to come forward to be recognized. He praised Ms. Quinn for her dedication to the District and her impact on the students she served. Dr. Kirkwood noted that Ms. Quinn spent 12 years with Rich South, and he wanted to thank her for all her hard work and dedication.

Dr. Kirkwood asked Mr. Yogi Ward and the Rich South PTSO to come forward. He noted that Mr. Ward and the PTSO not only work for students but for teachers and administrators. They put on countless programs, and make it happen at Rich South. Dr. Kirkwood thanked them for their many hours of time spent working for the school. Mr. Ward thanked the Board and the administration for the recognition.

Mr. Brunson offered his congratulations to all individuals being recognized.

At 8:15 p.m. Mr. Brunson requested a motion to go into recess to honor the retirees, PTSO members, and student representatives.

Mrs. Moten moved and Mrs. Upshaw seconded the following:

(08-89) It is moved that the Board of Education recess for 10 minutes to recognize Retirees, PTSO Boards and Student Representatives.

After a voice vote, Mr. Brunson declared the motion carried.

Motion 08-89 carried.

At 8:25 p.m. Mr. Brunson reconvened the meeting.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Mr. Brunson asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Moten noted provision #8I of the Consent Agenda needed to be corrected. Ms. Kapsalis was requesting Family Medical Leave from October 13, 2008, to October 24, 2008.

Mrs. Moten moved and Mrs. Upshaw seconded the following:

- (08-90) It is moved that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda items as listed with the correction as noted above:
- A. Approval of the minutes of Policy Committee meeting of April 14, 2008; the Budget and Finance Committee meeting of April 15, 2008; and the regular Board meeting and Closed Session of April 15, 2008; as distributed.
 - B. Approval of payroll and bills payable

It is moved that the Board of Education approve the payroll and bills payable dated May 20, 2008, as follows:

Payroll

Gross Payroll April 25, 2008	\$1,427,612.93
Gross Payroll May 9, 2008	\$1,424,907.15

Bills Payable

Education	\$1,856,009.10
Operation and Maintenance	\$385,723.60
Capital Project Fund	\$2,035,521.46
Transportation	\$255,964.42
Tort	\$2,302.00
Site Construction	\$950.70

- C. Request for approval of payroll and bills payable for the Career Preparation Network

It is moved that the Board of Education approve the payroll and bills payable dated May 20, 2008, for the Career Preparation Network as follows:

Payroll

Gross Payroll April 25, 2008	\$4,859.64
Gross Payroll May 9, 2008	\$4,859.64

Bills Payable

Education	\$18,933.05
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- D. Approval of classified and exempt personnel report

It is moved that the Board of Education approve the classified and exempt personnel report listing new hires, leaves of absences, promotions, resignations, retirements, terminations, and transfers, as presented by the Superintendent, provided all the requirements of the State of Illinois are met.

- E. Approval of Summer School Director

It is moved that the Board of Education approve Hope Stovall-Henderson as the 2008 Summer School Director.

- F. Approval of teaching contracts

Suggested Motion: It is moved that the President, Secretary and Superintendent be authorized to sign contracts as follows:

Full Time 2008-2009

Step and Lane

Nadine Baxter
Science/Rich Central/Rich East

Step 1, BA Lane

Christine Collins Physical Education/Rich East	Step 4, BA Lane
Brandon Corley Math/Rich Central	Step 1, BA Lane
Joshua Fleischhauer Math/Rich Central	Step 1, BA Lane
Wallace Henley Applied Arts/Rich Central/Rich East	Step 17, MA Lane
Cassie McEwen Math/Rich Central	Step 1, BA Lane
Donita Monroe Math/Rich Central	Step 1, BA Lane
Tracey Murray Social Worker/Rich South	Step 10, MA+45 Lane
Valencia Norton Math/Rich South	Step 1, BA Lane
Dwight Perry, Jr. Math/Rich Central	Step 3, BA Lane
Laura Russell Math/Rich East	Step 4, BA Lane
Robyn Sanders Business Ed. /Rich South	Step 1, MA Lane
Ellen Schumer Special Education/Rich Central	Step 15, MA Lane
Kelly Stadter Math/Rich Central	Step 2, BA Lane
Michael Turner Science/Rich East	Step 1, BA Lane

Devon Westmoreland
Social Studies/Rich Central

Step 1, MA Lane

Errol Dice
Dean, Rich Central

Step 12, MA+30 Lane

Timothy Foecking
Science/Rich East

Step 2, BA Lane

Robert Genardo
Language Arts/Rich Central

Step 13, MA+45 Lane

Sloan Greco
Language Arts/Rich Central

Step 5, MA Lane

Susan Halek
Math/Rich East

Step 2, BA Lane

Carmen Johnson
Special Education/Rich South

Step 16, MA Lane

Jason Korkosz
Physical Education/Rich Central

Step 2, BA Lane

Early Bird Contract

Alan Greenberg
Driver's Education at Rich East

Step 10, BA Lane (46 days)

Provided all the requirements of the State of Illinois and the North Central Association are met.

G. Approval of administrative contract

It is moved that the Board of Education approve the administrative contract of Jennifer Ripple as the Instructional Leader for Math at Rich South High School beginning July 1, 2008.

H. Approval of building foreman

It is moved that the Board of Education approve the exempt staff contract of Brian Paczensy as the building foreman at Rich East High School beginning May 27, 2008.

I. Approval of leaves of absences

It is moved that the Board of Education approve the Family Medical Leave of Sarah Harger from May 5, 2008, through May 27, 2008, the Family Medical Leave of Jenice Kapsalis from October 13, 2008, through October 24, 2008, and the Parental Leave of Kimberly Pawlicki for the 2008-2009 school year.

J. Acceptance of resignations

It is moved that the Board of Education accept the resignations of certificated staff members Mike Curta, Laura Delgado, James Doyle, Rhonda Lemke, Kathleen Stadt, Michael Turner, Nancy Wolski, William Woodlock, and Jean Paul Zwickert, effective at the conclusion of the 2007-2008 school year.

K. Destruction of Audio Tapes

It is moved that the Board of Education authorize the destruction of audio tapes of closed session meetings which were recorded prior to 18 months ago.

Results of the roll call vote were as follows:

Aye: Brookins, Brunson, Imoukhuede, Moten, Norwood, Owens, Upshaw

Nay: None

Motion 08-90 carried.

Report of the Director of Fiscal Services

Mr. Hampton requested approval for the issuance of not to exceed \$6,000,000 General Obligation School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2008. He noted that at the February Board meeting the Board gave him the opportunity to restructure the debt to

take advantage of interest rates. Mr. Hampton noted the District would be saving \$347,589.

Mrs. Moten moved and Mr. Imoukhuede seconded the following:

- (08-91) It is moved that the Board of Education approve the Resolution providing for the issue of not to exceed \$6,000,000 General Obligation Refunding School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2008, of Township High School District Number 227, Cook County, Illinois, in accordance with Business Office Memorandum 08-41

Results of the roll call vote were as follows:

Aye: Brookins, Brunson, Imoukhuede, Moten, Norwood, Owens, Upshaw
Nay: None

Motion 08-91 carried.

Mr. Hampton requested authorization and directing the Execution of an Escrow Agreement. He noted the escrow resolution sets up an account to pay off the \$6.0 million bonds being refunded.

Mrs. Moten moved and Mrs. Norwood seconded the following:

- (08-92) It is moved that the Board of Education approve the Resolution authorizing and directing the execution of an Escrow Agreement in connection with the issue of General Obligation Refunding School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2008, of Township High School District Number 227, Cook County, Illinois, in accordance with Business Office Memorandum 08-42.

Results of the roll call vote were as follows:

Aye: Brookins, Brunson, Imoukhuede, Moten, Norwood, Owens, Upshaw
Nay: None

Motion 08-92 carried.

Mr. Hampton requested approval of final Treasurer payments. He noted that the Rich Township Treasurer's Office had been abolished. This is a final settlement of claims.

Mrs. Owens moved and Mrs. Norwood seconded the following:

- (08-93) It is moved that the Board of Education approve the settlement of Cheryl Rossen in the amount of \$63,333.00 and Joanne Frank in the amount of \$954.72, with District 227's proportionate share being \$32,760.00 and \$496.45 respectively, in accordance with Business Office Memorandum 08-43.

Results of the roll call vote were as follows:

Aye: Brookins, Brunson, Imoukhuede, Moten, Norwood, Owens, Upshaw
Nay: None

Motion 08-93 carried.

Mr. Hampton requested approval of furnishings for Rich Central and Rich South High Schools. He noted the bid opening was on April 21, 2008, with Lowery McDonnell the lowest responsible bidder. Mrs. Norwood moved and Mrs. Brookins seconded the following:

- (08-94) It is moved that the Board of Education approve the "Hiring of Lowery McDonnell for Furnishings at Rich Central High School and Rich South High School in the amount of \$478,969.79," in accordance with Business Office Memorandum 08-44.

Results of the roll call vote were as follows:

Aye: Brookins, Brunson, Imoukhuede, Moten, Norwood, Owens, Upshaw
Nay: None

Motion 08-94 carried.

Mr. Hampton requested approval of the supplier for diesel mowers for Rich Central and Rich South High Schools. He noted that the bids were opened May 5, 2008, and Burrell Equipment Co. was the lowest responsible bidder. Mrs. Brookins moved and Mrs. Norwood seconded the following:

- (08-95) It is moved that the Board of Education approve “Burriss Equipment Co. as the Supplier for Diesel Mowers for Rich Central and Rich South High Schools in the amounts of \$17,349.00 and \$11,451.00, minus the trade-in of \$1,300.00, for a total of \$27,500.00, in accordance with Business Office Memorandum 08-45.

Results of the roll call vote were as follows:

Aye: Brookins, Brunson, Imoukhuede, Moten, Norwood, Owens, Upshaw
Nay: None

Motion 08-95 carried.

Mr. Hampton requested approval of a property tax abatement refund to Gafni, LLC. He stated that the Cook County Clerk had made an error and had not honored the tax abatement agreement even though the paper work had been properly filed.

Mr. Imoukhuede moved and Mrs. Moten seconded the following:

- (08-96) It is moved that the Board of Education approve the “Payment to Gafni, LLC, the amount of \$36,666.00, in full compensation for the Cook County Clerk’s error in not abating the taxpayer’s property tax bill for 2007 at the rate of 50%,” in accordance with Business Office Memorandum 08-46.

Mrs. Upshaw added that this situation had happened numerous times. She wanted to know if the Board can be proactive in the future for these situations. Mr. Hampton responded that it has occurred numerous times, and not just with our District but with other taxing bodies. Mr. Hampton added that the dollar amount to cover these situations is in the budget. Businesses can go back 7 years.

Results of the roll call vote were as follows:

Aye: Brookins, Brunson, Imoukhuede, Moten, Norwood, Owens, Upshaw
Nay: None

Motion 08-96 carried.

Mr. Hampton requested approval to award a bid for supply products. He noted that the lowest responsible bid was received from Fox River Foods. Mrs. Moten moved and Mrs. Brookins seconded the following:

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(08-97) It is moved that the Board of Education approve the “Hiring of Fox River Foods for Supply Products in the amount of \$45,044.82” in accordance with Business Office Memorandum 08-47.

Results of the roll call vote were as follows:

Aye: Brookins, Brunson, Imoukhuede, Moten, Norwood, Owens, Upshaw
Nay: None

Motion 08-97 carried.

Mr. Hampton requested approval of a ward a food products bid. He noted that the lowest responsible bid was from Fox River Foods. Mrs. Moten moved and Mr. Imoukhuede seconded the following:

(08-98) It is moved that the Board of Education approve the “Hiring of Fox River Foods for Food Products in the amount of \$328,121.71” in accordance with Business Office memorandum 08-48.

Results of the roll call vote were as follows:

Aye: Brookins, Brunson, Imoukhuede, Moten, Norwood, Owens, Upshaw
Nay: None

Motion 08-98 carried.

Summary of Committee Reports

Mrs. Brookins reported on the Education Committee meeting of May 12, 2008. She noted advisory periods, freshman academies, school climate, and senior exit surveys had been discussed.

Mrs. Upshaw reported on the Policy Committee meeting held prior to the Board meeting. She noted that discussion had continued on the 27 policies with changes recommended by the Illinois Association of School Boards. Mrs. Upshaw added that six policies were coming before the Board for a first reading at this meeting, and eleven are ready for a first reading at the Board meeting on June 17. Mrs. Upshaw requested a first reading of Policies 4.10, 4.60, 6.350, 7.20, 7.60, and 7.180. There being no objections, a first reading was held.

Special Reports

Mr. Revere from Revere Consulting gave a PowerPoint presentation on the District's technology audit. He discussed the Overview and Purpose of the Assessment, the Information Technology Network before 2004 and after 2008, Samples of Enhanced Technology, and continued Information Technology Network Improvements and Recommendations.

Mrs. Martin as well as Mr. Bozeman, Mr. Reade, Ms. Smith, Ms. Nicholson, Ms. Mathers, and Mr. Karas presented an overview of the achievements of the School Within A School (SWS) program at all three campuses and the District's Evening School at Rich South.

Report of the Superintendent

Mr. Hunigan reported on Graduation 2008. He commended the staffs of all three schools for an outstanding day of graduations. Mr. Hunigan also thanked Dr. Leak for coordinating the three graduations. He noted that District 227 graduated 882 seniors.

Mr. Hunigan reported that registration dates for the 2008-2009 school year are July 29, 30, and 31, 2008.

Report of the President

Mr. Brunson reminded the Board that the next Board meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2008, at the District Administrative Center, at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Brunson requested approval of Board Meeting Dates for 2008-2009. Mrs. Norwood moved and Mrs. Owens seconded the following:

(08-99) It is moved that the Board of Education approve the Board Meeting Dates for 2008-2009 on the third Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the campuses indicated.

Following a voice vote, Mr. Brunson declared the motion carried.

Motion 08-99 carried.

Mr. Brunson reminded the Board of the Rich South Cafeteria Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony scheduled for May 29, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at Rich South.

Mr. Brunson reminded the Board of the meeting with the Foundation Districts scheduled for June 23, 2008, at 6:30 p.m. in the Rich South cafeteria.

New Business

Mrs. Norwood scheduled a Property Committee meeting for 6:30 p.m. on June 18, 2008, at the District Office.

Mrs. Owens stated she will be setting a Personnel Committee of the Whole to continue to work on the Superintendent's Evaluation. She will let the Board members know the date.

Mrs. Brookins scheduled an Education Committee meeting for June 18, 2008, at 7:30 p.m. at the District Office.

Recognition of Citizens

Mr. Walker was recognized. He asked how many Board members have family members employed in the high school and inquired about the process of voting on their contracts. Board members responded with information on their family members working for the school district and noted that they do not vote on the contracts involving their relatives.

Ms. Bradford, the Rich Township High School Education Association Vice President at the East Campus, was recognized and began reading a prepared statement. She noted the RTHSEA represented 380 professional educators at District 227. Ms. Bradford's statement was interrupted by Mr. Brunson, who stated that the Board meeting was not the appropriate venue to share such concerns. Ms. Bradford and the members of the RTHSEA present left the Board meeting.

Sydney Milliken, a junior at Rich Central, thanked Mr. Rainey for his leadership at Rich Central.

Ms. Mitchell, parent of Stephen Mitchell, Jr., who recently graduated from Rich Central, said that her son got a second chance at Rich Central because of the love and caring of the staff, especially Mrs. Martin and Mr. Rainey.

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Adjournment

At 10:00 p.m. Mrs. Brookins moved and Mrs. Moten seconded the following:

(08-100) It is moved that the Board of Education adjourn its meeting.

After a voice vote, Mr. Brunson declared the meeting adjourned.

Motion 08-100 adjourned.

President

Secretary