

Township High School District No. 113
Board of Education Minutes
Regular Meeting
November 9, 2009

November 9, 2009

There being a quorum, a regular meeting of the Board of Education of Township High School District 113, Lake County, Illinois, was called to order by Mr. Ken Fishbain, President, at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, November 9, 2009, at the Administration Building, 1040 Park Avenue West, Highland Park.

There were present: Mr. Ken Fishbain, President; Mr. Harvey Cohen, Ms. Helene Herbstman, Ms. Annette Lidawer, Ms. Bonnie Shlensky, and Mr. Michael Smith, Board Members; Dr. George Fornero, Superintendent and Secretary of the Board; Mr. Barry Bolek, Assistant Superintendent for Finance; Dr. Joe Koenigs knecht, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Dr. Suzan Hebson, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Communications; Ms. Andrea Gratz, Director of Special Education and Data Analysis; Ms. Andrea Johnson, Director of Diversity and Grants; Ms. Audris Griffith, DHS Principal; Mr. Brad Swanson, HPHS Principal; Ms. Sandra Jasso, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent; Ms. Heather Hernandez, HPHS Teacher Representative; Ms. Jami Shlensky, DHS Student Representative, Ms. Susan Finch, HPHS Student Representative; and visitors: Mr. Steve Berlin, Ms. Marline Massarik, Mr. Ronald Massarik, Ms. Diana Dominikow, Ms. Leah Berlin, Ms. Juliana Berlin, Ms. Sara Massarik, Ms. Janet Pomorantz, Mr. Sam Avraham, Ms. Mary Schuster, Mr. Caryl Aronson, Ms. Lilo Bets-Bukszar, Mr. Kip Gasper, Mr. Pat Wylie, Mr. Jacob Cohen, Mr. Joey Feinberg, Mr. Mike Bukszar, Ms. Nancy Krent.

Ms. Marjie Sandlow, Board Member, arrived at 7:41 p.m.

Agenda ***Amended***
APPROVED

Mr. Cohen noted that there are separate facts and issues to be considered on Item 10.B., Tuition Student Request, and requested that this agenda item be ***amended*** and divided as follows:

- 10.B.1. 7th Grade Student
- 10.B.2. 5th Grade Student (***during the meeting it was confirmed that the student is a 4th Grade Student***)

It was moved by Ms. Lidawer, seconded by Mr. Smith, and the Board unanimously approved the agenda as *amended*.

Deerfield High School
Cross Country Team
RECOGNITION

On behalf of the Board of Education, Mr. Cohen recognized the Deerfield High School Cross Country Team, Captains Pat Wylie, Jacob Cohen, Joey Feinberg and Mike Bukszar; Coach Kip Gasper, Coach Jeremy Kauffman and team parent Ms. Lilo Bets-Bukszar. At the September 2, 2009 Lake County Cross-Country Invitation, DHS Cross-Country parents noticed that North Chicago High School (NCHS) students participated in worn tennis shoes rather than running spikes or training shoes. These parents were concerned about injury to the North Chicago students. After confirming that the NCHS runners did not have the financial resources to buy running shoes, the DHS parents obtained the shoe sizes of the runners and contacted Dick Pond Athletics (a local running shoe store) and obtained ten (10) pairs of trainers and ten (10) pairs of spikes for the NCHS team. To pay for the shoes, the DHS runners are selling fleece blankets. The team plans to make this an annual fund-raiser event.

Citizens' Comments

Mr. Steve Berlin, Ms. Marline Massarik, Ms. Leah Berlin, and Ms. Juliana Berlin provided comments on agenda item 10.B. Tuition Student Request. Each presented their rationale for the acceptance of the out-of-district tuition students to attend Deerfield High School.

DHS Student
Representative Report

Ms. Shlensky (DHS) reported that the girls' JV and Varsity swimming and diving teams won their respective conference meets this weekend at HPHS. The JV team won 7 out of 12 events, and the volleyball team got first place in diving. The DHS drill team competed at St. Charles North this weekend and placed first in the Hip Hop category. Their score also qualified them for the state competition in March. The Fall Band Concert is November 10th at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium. The World Languages Honor Society Induction is on November 17th at 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium, cafeteria, and J108. The Fine Arts Assembly will be on November 19th during second period in the auditorium. The Student Council is hosting the Kick it Again Dance on November 24th in the Exhibition Gym and the profits will be donated to School Chest.

HPHS Student
Representative Report

Ms. Susan Finch, filling in for Mr. Gutman (HPHS), reported that this past weekend the football team competed in the second round of the playoffs and unfortunately lost. The different activities taking place in light of Veterans' Day this

Wednesday were highlighted including the donations being collected. Student Senate is giving special ribbons to every military student in the school to show support and appreciation to the military families. The blood drive will be held on November 12 at HPHS. HP^3 is hosting a 24-hour lock-in inside the school from starting Friday, November 13th at 5:00 p.m. On November 24 HPHS will be hosting Grandparents' Day for grandparents of current senior students. Last week there was a non-specific threat in the school towards the homosexual community. It was investigated and found to be non-threatening by the end of the school day. Mr. Swanson gave an excellent address at the end of the day to explain what took place and the students were very receptive.

HPHS Teacher
Representative Report

Ms. Hernandez (HPHS) reported that former HPHS English teacher Bob Boone and Mark Larson, English Department, gave a presentation at the Illinois Association of Teachers of English Fall convention in Rockford, IL on October 16th. The session was titled: *More Real Than Real: Creating Fictional Characters to Confront Real Life Issues*. John Gorleski's Anatomy and Physiology students took a field trip to the National University of Health Sciences on November 9. The students attended a presentation on alternative medicine followed by a gross anatomy lecture. Jonathon Weiland, Kate Silber, Beth Peterson, Barb Obinger, and Heather Hernandez, Science will be attending this year's Illinois Science Teachers Association conference in Peoria on November 13th and 14th. Mr. Weiland will be presenting on evolution teaching methods including readings, web-quests, and hands on-labs. Ms. Peterson will be presenting on the use of formative assessments, primarily focused on metacognition, in the AP Science classroom as a possible way to support students coming from a non-honors science background and also as a possible way to improve overall learning in the AP Biology classroom. Ms. Silber, Ms. Obinger, and Ms. Hernandez will be presenting on ways to encourage and support students who are diagonally moving, moving up in levels, in science classes. HPHS hosted "Passion for the Arts", on October 28th which was organized by Sandie Gilbert, Counseling, and Alicia Landes, Fine Arts. Mari Brown, Maria Hothem, and Stephanie Solis, English, took their freshman Double Period English students to the Steppenwolf Theater to see *The House on Mango Street* this past Friday, November 6th. Students are currently studying this text in class. On October 30th the HPHS Bands did a repeat performance of their popular Halloween Concert

for approximately 650 elementary students from Oak Terrace, Lincoln, and Indian Trail Elementary Schools. Kate Silber, Science, hosted a teacher work group on November 5th composed of biology teachers from area schools and Researchers from Northwestern School of Education and Social Policy, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and Professors of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Cell Biology in the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences. Teachers in this group are designing new and innovative Biology curriculum for a Physics-First science sequence. Lars Nelson, Science, traveled to the Art Institute of Chicago with some Astronomy students to attend a special presentation on the Hubble Space Telescope delivered by HPHS Alum Dr. John Grunsfeld. Many AP Environmental Science Students and Environmental Science students along with Tom Kouletes and Christine Hill attended the Highland Park Library's evening presentation, "No Impact Man", on October 14th and October 21st, where the author, Collin Beavan discussed the book and a film was shown.

DHS Blue Ribbon School
RECOGNITION

On behalf of the Board of Education, Ms. Herbstman recognized Deerfield High School for being awarded the Blue Ribbon School for 2009. The efforts of Dr. Suzan Hebson and Ms. Audris Griffith in achieving this prestigious honor were also acknowledged. Ms. Herbstman formally presented the Blue Ribbon School for 2009 plaque to Ms. Audris Griffith.

Board Member Reports

Ms. Shlensky congratulated Dr. Hebson and her homeroom class for winning the can food drive for the third year in a row. The DHS Parent Network partnered with the HPHS PTO in organizing the presentation by Michael Bradley. There were over 275 parents in attendance at this successful event. The Foundation is currently sponsoring a fundraiser for the performance of Billy Elliott on March 21, 2010 and tickets are selling quickly. The Foundation is also in the process of reviewing the grant applications and this process will be finalized by winter break. CBO took the 21 senior students to the on-site admissions forum at the University of Illinois, Chicago on October 27 where students were interviewed and some received acceptances. Applications for the Class of 2015 are now available and are due January 8. Ms. Sandlow reported attending the Michael Bradley speaker event. Recently the HPHS PTO donated \$10,000.00 to 15 different clubs and activities at HPHS. Examples of where the funds will go include the newly formed Robotics Club, a speaker for the Hispanos Unidos group, the new winter dance event, and

for choreographers for some of the dance groups. Mr. Smith reported that prior to tonight's regular meeting, a Finance Committee meeting was held. The levy information and the 10-year capital projects for the schools were presented by Mr. Bolek and staff from DHS and HPHS. A fundraising proposal for turf for the athletic fields at DHS was also presented and further review and discussion will continue on this issue. Ms. Herbstman reported taking a second tour of the NSSD facilities and highlighted the different locations.

Superintendent's
Report

Dr. Fornero reported receiving FOIA requests from Larry and Ellen Waltz, Deerfield, Illinois, and from Michael and Kathleen Burns, Deerfield, Illinois. We are in the process of responding to these requests. On Veterans' Day, November 11, Dr. Fornero along with representatives from Highland Park High School, School District 112 and the City of Highland Park will be signing a Community Covenant with the Armed Forces. This event will take place at 10:30 a.m. in downtown Highland Park at the Veterans' Monument. The Covenant affirms support to our military students and their families and acknowledges the valuable contributions they make to our schools and community. Dr. Fornero acknowledged that November 15 is School Board Members' Day and recognized District 113 Board of Education members and expressed appreciation for their service and dedication.

Minutes of *October 26, 2009 Regular Meeting; October 26, 2009 Closed Session*

APPROVED

It was moved by Ms. Sandlow, seconded by Ms. Lidawer, and the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the October 26, 2009 Regular Meeting and the October 26, 2009 Closed Session. Ms. Herbstman abstained from voting.

HPHS School
Improvement Plan (SIP)
DISCUSSION

This item is listed as both discussion and action on the agenda. Dr. Hebson and Mr. Swanson provided an overview of the HPHS School Improvement Plan for the 2009-2010 school year. Dr. Hebson reported that in 2009 HPHS made AYP in many of the sub-groups except for the economically disadvantaged students. The focus for this plan is determined by PSAE scores, which means that the plan addresses math and reading achievement for economically disadvantaged students at Highland Park High School. Mr. Swanson explained the data retreats, the achievement team meetings, the action plan objectives and strategies including the district's peer review process. State law requires Board of Education approval of this plan for submission to the Regional of Education of Education and the State Board of Education for final approval.

Robotics Proposal
DISCUSSION

Dr. Fornero reported that Highland Park High School is beginning a Robotics Club, similar to the one at Deerfield High School sponsored by Herb Regan. As a new club, there will be no stipend for the sponsors (Jonathan Weiland and Lars Nelson). The group is requesting authorization to begin fundraising and participate in the state tournament which is held in December. Deerfield's team also solicits donations from parents and from businesses and engineering firms. It is being requested that that the Board authorize this group as a private-funded activity. A recommendation on this item will be brought for action at the November 23, 2009 Board meeting.

Board of Education
Policy 5-210 -
Professional Personnel,
Grievance and RIF
Procedures
APPROVED

This item was discussed at the October 26, 2009 Board of Education meeting. It was moved Mr. Smith and seconded by Ms. Lidawer that the Board adopt Board of Education Policy 5-210, Professional Personnel, Grievance and RIF Procedures as presented. Mr. Cohen requested a copy of the grievance and RIF procedures.

The roll was called: Aye: Herbstman, Lidawer, Sandlow, Shlensky, Smith, Cohen, Fishbain. Nay: None. The motion carried.

Tuition Student Request
7th Grade Student
APPROVED

This item was discussed at the October 26, 2009 Board of Education meeting. It was moved by Ms. Sandlow and seconded by Ms. Shlensky that the Board **not** approve the request for the out-of-district **7th grade student** to attend Deerfield High School on a tuition basis. Mr. Cohen stated that he understands the position of district legal counsel for not recommending approval of the requests and detailed the various legal concerns associated with setting precedent. Also there would be problems with IHSA if the student participates on the tennis team because she does not reside within our boundaries. Mr. Cohen also noted that in his 12 years on the Board, there have been no other tuition student requests and that the current policy does permit tuition students. Ms. Herbstman and Ms. Lidawer both expressed that under current policy it is at the discretion of the Board to approve tuition student requests. Ms. Sandlow indicated that although the decision is at the Board's discretion, she explained her position on this issue and noted that, as a public school district, the responsibility is to educate students within our own boundaries. Dr. Fornero reported that the additional information received this evening from the family is related to the father's employment and the 4th grade student.

The roll was called: Aye: Sandlow, Shlensky, Fishbain. Nay: Herbstman, Lidawer, Smith, Cohen. The motion did not carry. ***It was clarified that the Board approved the request for the out-of-district 7th grade student to attend Deerfield High School on a tuition basis.***

Tuition Student Request
4th Grade Student
APPROVED

This item was discussed at the October 26, 2009 Board of Education meeting. It was clarified that the student is currently in **4th grade**. It was moved by Mr. Cohen and seconded by Mr. Smith that the Board **not** approve the request for the out-of-district **4th grade student** to attend Deerfield High School on a tuition basis. Mr. Cohen noted that this student would enter DHS in September of 2014 and many different changes could take place between now and then including changes in demographics, enrollment, and the financial condition of the school district. He feels it would be imprudent to approve this request at this time and it would be more appropriate to review this request sometime in 2012-2013. Other Board members expressed their concern about the tuition policy being revised and the importance of allowing the family to stay together.

Mr. Cohen then proposed that the wording to the original motion be amended to simplify the recommendation. The Board agreed with Mr. Cohen's proposal. Mr. Cohen and Mr. Smith reaffirmed the **amended** motion: *that the Board **approve** the request for the out-of-district 4th grade student to attend Deerfield High School on a tuition basis.* The roll was called: Aye: Herbstman, Lidawer, Smith. Nay: Sandlow, Shlensky, Fishbain. Mr. Cohen abstained from voting. The vote was tied and the motion did not carry.

It was then moved by Mr. Cohen and seconded by Ms. Lidawer that the Board reconsider the motion. The roll was called: Aye: Herbstman, Lidawer, Smith, Cohen, Fishbain. Nay: Sandlow, Shlensky. The motion carried.

The motion was reconsidered and reiterated: *that the Board **approve** the request for the out-of-district 4th grade student to attend Deerfield High School on a tuition basis.* The roll was called: Aye: Herbstman, Lidawer, Smith, Cohen. Nay: Sandlow, Shlensky, Fishbain. The motion carried. ***It was clarified that the Board approved the request for the out-of-district 4th grade student to attend Deerfield on a tuition basis.***

HPHS School
Improvement Plan (SIP)
APPROVED

This item was listed as discussion and action on tonight's meeting agenda. It was moved by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Lidawer, and the Board unanimously approved the HPHS School Improvement Plan for the 2009-2010 school year as presented.

Determination of Levy
APPROVED

It was moved by Mr. Cohen and seconded by Ms. Sandlow that the Board approve (a) its intent to levy for the tax year 2009 a total aggregate of \$74,380,000.00 exclusive of Bond & Interest costs, (b) \$85,962,766.00 with Board and Interest costs, and (c) authorize the publication of notice in compliance with the Truth-in-Taxation Act for a public hearing on the 2009 tax levy to be scheduled for Monday, December 14, 2009. In order to comply with the Truth-In-Taxation Act, the 2009 tax levy must be "determined" by Board action at least 20 days prior to the Tax Levy Hearing. Mr. Smith reiterated that prior to tonight's regular meeting a Finance Committee meeting was held to discuss the determination of the tax levy and briefly summarized the levy presentation. Mr. Cohen noted that the proposed increase falls below 5% (without the Bond and Interest) and under the Truth-In-Taxation Act we are not required to publish a notice but in the interest of full disclosure and in keeping with past practice we are voluntarily publishing the notice.

The roll was called: Aye: Herbstman, Lidawer, Sandlow, Shlensky, Smith, Cohen, Fishbain. Nay: None. The motion carried.

Consent Agenda
APPROVED

It was moved by Ms. Sandlow and seconded by Ms. Lidawer that the Board approve the Consent Agenda, which included:

Personnel Items,
Certified and Support
Personnel

The Certified Personnel notices (reimbursement for professional advancement) and Support Personnel notices (change of status and retirement) were presented to the Board for approval, copies of which will be inserted in the minute book.

Salaries

The salary resolution was presented for Board approval, a copy of which will be inserted in the minute book.

Bills

Bills for payment were presented for Board approval, a copy of which will be inserted in the minute book.

Education Fund	\$	265,443.03
Operations Fund	\$	144,973.53

Bonds	\$	-0-
Transportation Fund	\$	5,705.74
IMRF	\$	35,576.72
Site & Construction	\$	226,266.00
Tort	\$	-0-

The roll was called: Aye: Herbstman, Lidawer, Sandlow, Shlensky, Smith, Cohen, Fishbain. Nay: None. The motion carried.

- Citizens' Comments Ms. Massarik expressed appreciation for the approval of the two out-of-district tuition student requests.
- Other Items Mr. Fishbain reminded Board members that the 6999 Incident Log report contains confidential information and suggested that the report be returned to Dr. Fornero's office.
- Closed Session At 8:55 p.m. it was moved by Ms. Herbstman and seconded by Mr. Cohen that the Board meet in closed session to discuss Residency Hearing Resolution. It was announced that action will be taken after returning to open session.
- The roll was called: Aye: Herbstman, Lidawer, Sandlow, Shlensky, Smith, Cohen, Fishbain. Nay: None. The motion carried.
- Open Session At 9:37 p.m. the Board returned to open session.
- Residency Hearing Resolution APPROVED It was moved by Ms. Herbstman and seconded by Ms. Lidawer that the Board accept the determination of the hearing officer regarding the residency hearing held on October 28, 2009, that the student and parent do not reside in District 113.
- The roll was called: Aye: Herbstman, Lidawer, Sandlow, Shlensky, Smith, Cohen, Fishbain. Nay: None. The motion carried.
- Adjournment At 9:39 p.m. it was moved by Ms. Herbstman, seconded by Ms. Lidawer, and unanimously approved that the meeting be adjourned.

President

Secretary

Minutes Approved: November 23, 2009