

# Hawthorn Board of Education

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## **MINUTES** **REGULAR BOARD MEETING** **HAWTHORN BOARD OF EDUCATION** **OCTOBER 11, 2004**

MINUTES of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Hawthorn Community Consolidated School District Number 73, Lake County, Illinois, held in the Board Room of said School District at 7:30 p.m. on the 11th day of October, 2004.

The meeting was called to order by Rich Paul, President, at 7:30 p.m., and upon the roll being called, the following members of the Board of Education answered present: Jayson Tran, Tim Shanahan, Jose Hernandez, Mary Jane Rattner, and Rich Paul. Absent: Annie Christie and Bill Coli.

### **Public Comment Period**

There were no matters of this nature on the agenda.

### **Student and Staff Accomplishments/Recognitions**

There were no matters of this nature on the agenda.

### **Staff Presentations**

Tim Bickert provided a construction update on the Townline Elementary School. Concrete foundations are nearing completion with twenty-five percent of the first floor/garden level floor slabs in place. Garden level HVAC units have been set. Most precast plank are in place with ninety-five percent of all precast wall panels anticipated to be in place shortly. Steel setting resumed along the southeast corner; Commonwealth Edison issues delayed progress as well as issues with steel delivery. Bar joists are due to be delivered next week which will be set in the east gym and get the decking set on the east gym. We are hoping for friendly weather during the winter. The overall construction financial status is in good shape. We are behind schedule due to steel delivery and will not be fully enclosed before winter. There are no issues at this time that could impact construction and delay the opening of the building. He noted he would not worry until after the holidays and, if at that time, they have not reached a certain stage in construction, a contingency plan would be followed.

Relative to outstanding issues at Aspen Elementary School, contractors continue to remedy small matters that have been brought to their attention. Punch lists are being completed at the Middle School. The Middle School is substantially complete in all finishes with a few more doors to be changed out. The electrical system is continuing to be upgraded with the day-to-day school functions unaffected. Some work is also being done on the outside receiving area of the building. Two small portions of the original Option School are being utilized during construction and will be gone in the future.

Dr. Yomtoob stated with the extensive remodeling to be completed at Elementary North during the summer and completion of Townline Elementary, we might be wise to again consider a waiver of holidays and do the same next year with a later start of school.

### **Consent Agenda**

Rich Paul entertained questions concerning items contained in the Consent Agenda. Hearing none, he entertained a motion.

10/04.32 Meeting Minutes, regular session, 9/27/04

10/04.33 Financial Report - August 2004

10/04.34 Personnel Report:

Retirement of one (1) certificated staff member:

(A) Rosemary Cahill, RLD 6th Grade Teacher, Middle School, effective with the end of the 2004/05 school year contingent on her ability to satisfy all requirements of the IL Teacher Retirement System

Resignation of one (1) certificated staff member:

(B) Latonda Dillworth-Hudgen, 3rd Grade Teacher, Elementary North

Jose Hernandez moved and Mary Jane Rattner seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda items, as presented. Voice Vote: 5 ayes; 0 nays. Motion carried..

### **Action Items**

#### **2004-2005 Budget Calendar**

Dr. Yomtoob stated input was received from the Board relative to the proposed budget calendar for 2005/06 and was revised accordingly. Rich Paul noted acceptance of the budget calendar commits the administration and the Board to a timetable for the development of the budget and, according to Illinois School Code, persons responsible for preparing the budget must be appointed, Dr. Yomtoob.

Rich Paul added relative to changes made in the budget calendar, the Board met as a Finance Committee in January to look at the five-year financial projections and discuss pertinent issues. Prior discussions were held concerning the Board being more involved at the front end of the budget process. It is partially the Board's responsibility to direct allocation of resources. A hearing will be held November 22 for the tax levy and to discuss budget priorities.

Hearing no further discussion, Rich Paul requested a motion.

- 10/04.35 Mary Jane Rattner moved and Tim Shanahan seconded the motion that the Board of Education accept the budget calendar proposed by the administration for the preparation of the 2005/2006 budget, and that the Board of Education designate Dr. Youssef Yomtoob or his designee as the person responsible for preparing the tentative budget. Voice Vote: 5 ayes; 0 nays. Motion carried.

#### **Update Board Policy 4:170 to Include Use of Defibrillators**

Dr. Yomtoob noted following the first reading of this policy, comments from the Board were received to incorporate a change in the policy to not limit use of defibrillators to only staff. After consulting with legal counsel, the policy was amended accordingly and a proposed motion presented. Dr. Yomtoob stated Physical Education teachers, nurses and administration have been trained in the use of the defibrillators. The Fire Department provided input on proper placement of the units within our buildings, said units being the same as those used by the Department. They will also provide additional training for District employees and would like to train as many people as possible. Information will also be obtained relating to training of community members. Rich Paul requested a motion:

- 10/04.36 Jayson Tran moved and Jose Hernandez seconded the motion that the Board of Education update Board Policy 4:170 to include the use of defibrillators as follows: The School District will provide automated external defibrillators to each building within the District to provide rapid response to sudden cardiac arrest. Voice Vote: 5 ayes; 0 nays. Motion carried.

### **President's Report**

Rich Paul noted a rumor circulating within the District relating to the elimination of the District's Gifted Program. Requesting Dr. Yomtoob to respond to such rumor, he adamantly stated, "We are not." We have formed core groups for many of the buildings undergoing change through reconfiguration and also the new Townline Elementary. We are discussing many issues including services to our gifted program. There is a concern when we say, "Learning for all; whatever it takes", and, at present, there are some gaps of services for the students who are not doing very well, are in the middle or in the fourth quartile of our student population. We are in the process of forming values, opinions and needs. We will keep the Board apprised of any changes. We are trying to expand services, not decrease them.

Rich Paul reflected on Dr. Benjamin's statement of raising the floor so that students who are not succeeding now are successful; focusing attention on the students in the middle and eliminating the ceiling so that students at the higher level of performance continue to be challenged. We do not receive funding from the State of Illinois for the Gifted Program; it is supported through local tax funds.

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Jayson Tran stated he would like to see more consistency in identifying students for the Gifted Program or applying to the program. Dr. Yomtoob stated the purpose of the core group is to look at items of this nature. By so doing, we will be better able to service students. Rich Paul concluded by stating, "The gifted Program is not going away."

At our recent public hearing on the budget, a parent raised a number of questions. Dr. Yomtoob stated he and Alan Hahn met with her to provide answers, many of which included clarification of line items. Another concern was a reduction in a federally funded program, Medicaid reimbursement. We do not use these funds to provide services as we anticipated a cut in this funding. In response to how we allocate resources to different programs, especially gifted versus others, in terms of remediation we do receive federal funds which is designed for remediation, where said funds are directed. The Gifted Program has been the same since he arrived at the District. We have made a little expansion and changed some of the delivery system. We will look at the Gifted Program and others and see what is the best way to deliver services.

**Superintendent's Report**

There were no matters of this nature on the agenda.

**Discussion Items**

There were no matters of this nature on the agenda.

**Committee Reports**

There were no matters of this nature on the agenda.

**Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business to come before the Board.

**New Business**

There was no new business to come before the Board.

**Announcements**

There were no matters of this nature on the agenda.

**Informational Items**

Items were made available to the Board for informational purposes.

**Adjournment**

Having no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was entertained. Mary Jane Rattner moved and Jose Hernandez seconded the motion to adjourn. Voice Vote: 5 ayes; 0 nays. Motion carried.

The Board adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Richard Paul, President  
Secretary

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Mary Jane Rattner,

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