

**Minutes**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**Hawthorn Board of Education**  
**July 24, 2006**

**09/06.18**

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Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Hawthorn Community Consolidated School District Number 73, Lake County, Illinois, held in the Conference Room at 841 West End Court at 7:30PM on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of July 2006.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Mary Jane Rattner, President, at 7:43PM. Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:** Debbie Limer called the roll, with the following members of the Board of Education answering present: Donna Gaidamak, Anne Hoffman, Tim Shanahan, Jose Hernandez, Bill Coli, and Mary Jane Rattner.

**Public Comment period:** None

**Student and Staff Accomplishments, Recognitions:** None

**Staff Presentations:** None

**Consent Agenda:**

Tim Shanahan moved to approve the consent agenda. Bill Coli seconded the motion.

07/06.5 Board Minutes, regular session, 6/26/06

07/06.6 Expenditure Report, July 2006

07/06.7 Personnel Report

Voice vote: 6 ayes: 0 nays. Motion carried

**Action Items:**

Mary Jane Rattner told the Board that Alan Hahn will be making a small presentation on the tentative budget. Dr. Joe showed the Board the trend of expenditures. They are going up. He showed the board the fund balance without the Working Cash Fund. That is going in the right direction. He showed the Board the budget summary with no deficit. He added that the expenditures were lower than we were expecting. Dr. Joe indicated that we do not have the final numbers yet, but we have to have the budget ready for inspection. Alan Hahn explained that we are required to have the budget available for a 30-day inspection by the public. We have to approve the budget by 9/25/06. We want to have a public hearing ahead of the approval, so the public hearing has to be on 9/11/06. The inspection period will be 49 days. Alan Hahn reported that we are still early with the process, so the numbers are rough. The auditors will be in next week. Mary Jane Rattner asked if he can get the Board the information ahead of time after it is updated. Alan Hahn responded that he will get the Board the information as it comes in. Anne Hoffman stated that the motion should be passed to reflect that updates will be coming.

Donna Gaidamak asked about getting information from the State as to funding and grants that will be coming in. Alan Hahn indicated those numbers will come in sometime after September. It comes in piecemeal. Donna Gaidamak asked if the budget will be revised later to reflect the changes. Bill Coli stated that the budget is not usually updated with that information. We only get about 10% of our revenue from the State. We get about \$2.5M from the State and \$700K from the Federal Government. He asked about the Working Cash Fund. Alan Hahn indicated that we will need to make some shifts in the fund before the final budget is complete. Some of the funds will be shifted into other funds. Dr. Joe clarified that we will not be touching any of the principal in the fund. Bill Coli asked about the estimates on the funds that have gasoline as an expense. Alan Hahn stated that he increased the expenses for gasoline by 30% and the expenses for electric by 25%. He added that he highlighted his assumptions and issues in the letter that he sent out with the budget to the board members.

Tim Shanahan asked about the teacher early retirement expense. Alan Hahn stated that it is a one-time expense. He added that he did not think that all of the teachers who were eligible would take the one-time offer. Bill Coli added that the State is offering incentives to teachers who are near retirement. Alan Hahn explained that teachers can retire five years early. The Law was modified last year. Teachers are grandfathered for this year and next year. Bill Coli stated that all eligible teachers wrote intention letters. Dr. Joe told the Board that we will know by February how many of those teachers are taking early retirement. It is their choice.

Bill Coli asked about the bus routing, mapping and GPS systems. We are paying for it. He wanted to make sure that if we change bus companies, that we will keep the equipment. Alan Hahn stated that the equipment belongs to the District. The State is going to reimburse us for the expense. Mary Jane Rattner asked if we are sharing the buses and thus the equipment with other districts. Alan Hahn explained that the buses that are used for Hawthorn students are primarily just Hawthorn buses. Dr. Joe added that Lakeside Transportation has said that whatever costs are not covered by the State, Lakeside will pay those costs. Mary Jane Ratter added Lakeside will pay up to \$94,920.

Tim Shanahan questioned the new construction figure of \$29.5M. Alan Hahn stated that the figure has been over \$30M for the last several years. Bill Coli pointed out that in the summary we are spending \$817K more than we are taking in, but that does include the new cafeteria for Elementary South.

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Tim Shanahan moved to recommend that the Board of Education accept the tentative budget as presented for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007, and that the budget be placed on file for public inspection from July 25, 2006 to September 11, 2006 at the District Office located at 841 West End Court, Vernon Hills, Illinois, and that a public hearing of said budget be held at 7:30PM on September 11, 2006 in the District Office Board Room located at 841 West End Court, Vernon Hills, Illinois. Changes to the budget will be given to the Board of Education prior to the August 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. The motion was seconded by Donna Gaidamak. Motion was carried by voice vote.

Jose Hernandez moved to publish the legal notice in the Pioneer Press. The notice read "notice is hereby given by the Board of Education of School District #73 in the county of Lake, State of Illinois, that a tentative budget for said school district for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006 will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at the District Office located at 841 West End Court, Vernon Hills, Illinois, after 8:00AM on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of July 2006. Notice is further hereby given that a public hearing on said budget will be held 7:30PM on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 2006; in the District Office Board Room located at 841 West End Court, Vernon Hills, Illinois." Tim Shanahan seconded the motion. Motion was carried by voice vote.

**President's Report:**

Mary Jane Rattner told the Board that the fields at Middle School South are done. When she stopped by the sprinklers were on, and they looked good. The fields will be workable for the coming school year.

**Superintendent's Report:**

Dr. Joe stated that the consensus seems to be to go ahead on with the cafeteria at Elementary South. We have \$1.6M budgeted for it. We want to think about security. There is a camera outside the building, so office staff can see visitors before they are allowed in. The visitor rings a bell and is admitted to the school. That visitor can go to the gyms or the office. We can make the school more secure. The cost would be about \$77K. Offices would have to be moved. To remodel the gym with new lights, a new floor, new paint, and new bi-fold doors would cost about \$210K. He added that these projects can be done independently of each other. Anne Hoffman indicated that the security upgrade should be done at the same time as the gym addition. Mary Jane Rattner asked if the security at Elementary North is any different than at Elementary South. We would need to change both. We cannot do one without the other. There is a Board consensus on the cafeteria. We need to get started on it. Mary Jane Rattner suggested that we look at the security and the gyms at both buildings as separate proposals. Anne Hoffman added that we are going to have to change the entrance to Elementary South with the addition anyway. Dr. Joe stated that we do not have to change the offices. Mary Jane Rattner told the Board that we need proposals for all of the additional changes for planning purposes. These changes may not happen this year. Bill Coli commented that the cameras were added over the last few years. Security is better than it was before, but all the schools need to be set up the same way. Jose Hernandez asked what the bulk of the expense is for the gym upgrade. Dr. Joe read the estimate numbers. Mary Jane Rattner commented that the wood floor is the most expensive part of the proposal. Dr. Joe told the Board that he will ask the architect to look at the gym at Elementary North as well.

**Discussion Items:**

Mary Jane Rattner brought up the subject of the Wellness policy. Dr. Joe stated that we need to have a Wellness policy by the beginning of the year. The committee has worked very hard. He thanked the committee for their hard work. Anne Hoffman added that Joy Mullaney did an amazing job. The community is seeking this out. Mary Jane Rattner told the Board to get comments and questions to Anne Hoffman. The policy will be passed at the next meeting.

**Committee Reports:** None

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Announcements:** None

**Informational Items:**

1. Transportation meeting minutes and brochure

Mary Jane Rattner stated that the busing brochure that is going out to parents of Kindergartners is nice and informative.

2. Parking information

Mary Jane Rattner told the Board that the parking information was pulled because of questions by the Board. Grass will go in for now. There will be evaluations later.

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**Adjournment:**

There being no further business, Mary Jane Rattner requested a motion to adjourn.

Donna Gaidamak moved to adjourn the meeting. Jose Hernandez seconded the motion. Voice Vote: 6 ayes: 0 nays. Motion carried

Adjourned: The meeting was adjourned at 8:35PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie Limer

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Mary Jane Rattner, President

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Timothy Shanahan, Secretary