

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
October 22, 2007

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Committee of the Whole meeting of the Board of Education of Community Consolidated School District 62 was held in the Forest School Board Room, 1375 Fifth Avenue, Des Plaines, Illinois, on October 22, 2007.

President Brenda Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members physically present: Adams, Duckmann, Imig, Lynch, Murphy, Poskozim, and Suriano. Also present: Superintendent Westerhold, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services Shepard, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services Nguyen, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Hertel, Director of Special Services Voehringer, Director of Community Relations Ward, and Assistant to the Superintendent Goodchild

Absent: None

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None received.

3. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT ROUNDTABLE

Murphy welcomed the principals and asked each to introduce themselves and the school they represent for the benefit of the board. The principals present included: Janice Rashid, Central Elementary School; Eric Bailey, Chippewa Middle School; Leah Kimmelman, Cumberland Elementary School; Daniel Johnson, Iroquois Community School; Carol Gibbs, North Elementary School; and Nancy Bang, Terrace Elementary School. Each was asked to share the cause for celebration in their school. Bang stated that PLC has helped bring everyone together in order to help their students. Also, with assistance from Oakton Community College, Terrace has begun teaching adult ESL classes and plans are being made to begin an intergenerational program. Rashid is pleased with her staff's outreach to the community that has created vibrant relationships with residents of the Heritage, local leadership, police, and a pen pal program. Johnson celebrates the dedication and enthusiasm of his staff as they help their students achieve. Gibbs is pleased with the PLC and PBIS systems that are in place as they enabled the staff to do an outstanding job during a difficult period. Bailey is celebrating Chippewa making AYP for two years in a row and noted that test scores of every subgroup have increased. Kimmelman stated that her staff are continuing to work together to sustain their student's achievement levels and are thankful for the support from parents. She also is excited that MTSEP will begin providing after school programs at Cumberland in January for special education students.

President Murphy asked what assistance the board could provide in order to maintain the school's AYP status. All the principals agreed that the time staff spends collaborating at data retreats has been very successful and enhances the PLC process. Professional development activities continue to provide opportunities to share best practices and supports both improvement of teaching skills and team building. Administrators and staff alike have embraced the common language of PLC and work has begun to refine the process in order to expand results.

Board member Adams stated that the growth in teacher's skills, since it directly benefits students, might be the best result of NCLB legislation. President Murphy thanked the principals for participating this evening and for advancing the district goal of continuous improvement. Dr. Westerhold commented on how proud she feels to work with such a dedicated group of individuals.

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4. ADJOURNMENT

President Murphy adjourned the Committee of the Whole meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Brenda Murphy, Board President

Margaret Goodchild, Secretary to the Board