

BOARD BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
October 23, 2006

1. CALL TO ORDER

A special 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 23, 2006.

President Brenda Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Murphy then called for the roll.

Present: Adams, Duckmann, Imig, Murphy, Piszkiwicz, and Suriano. Also present: Superintendent Westerhold, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services Shepard, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services Nguyen, Director of Human Resources Hertel, Assistant to the Superintendent Goodchild, and Community Relations Director Ward.

Absent: Lynch

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Piszkiwicz moved, and Duckmann seconded, that the Board approve the October 23, 2006, District 62 School Board meeting agenda as presented. Murphy called for a vote to approve the agenda.

Ayes: Duckmann, Imig, Murphy, Piszkiwicz, Suriano, Adams

Nays: None

2. CLOSED SESSION

At 7:07 p.m. Duckmann moved, and Suriano seconded, that the Board go into closed session to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the district and collective bargaining. Murphy then called for a vote.

Ayes: Imig, Murphy, Piszkiwicz, Suriano, Adams, Duckmann

Nays: None

Board member Lynch joined the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Piszkiwicz moved, and Adams seconded, that the Board reconvene. The motion passed unanimously. The Board returned from Closed Session at 8:09 p.m. with all members present who were formerly in attendance.

President Murphy adjourned the Special Meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Brenda Murphy, Board President

Margaret Goodchild, Secretary to the Board

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1. CALL TO ORDER

Murphy called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 8:16 p.m. following adjournment of the Special Meeting.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None received.

3. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT ROUNDTABLES

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: Martin Wolf, Algonquin Middle School; Janice Rashid, Central Elementary School; Eric Bailey, Chippewa Middle School; Daniel Farinosi and James Muir, Iroquois Community School; Carol Gibbs, North Elementary School; and Mary Ellen Bleeden, South Elementary School. Each was asked to share their cause for celebration according to their student achievement results. Comments included:

- Both Algonquin and Chippewa Middle Schools have met Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) standards
- North achieved writing scores in the 90th percentile range
- South's 5th grade Spanish students achieved 100% in reading scores
- Iroquois was designated an Honor Roll School by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) in the Academic Improvement Awards category

President Murphy stated that the board recognizes the importance of staff development and asked what programs are currently in use at district schools. Several programs highlighted were:

- The System of Support program administered through the North Cook Intermediate Service Center has provided excellent support and training for both Algonquin and Chippewa Middle Schools. North Cook provided eight training sessions over the summer that proved invaluable to increasing student achievement. Bailey also stated that in addition to training sessions, System of Support provided guidance to him and Asia Gurney, Assistant Principal at Chippewa, in completing the School Improvement Plan.
- North School focused on the Positive Behavior and Intervention Support (PBIS) program that has made the school a positive environment and fits well with the Professional Learning Community (PLC) concept.
- South School staff has focused on reading comprehension strategies and has developed common language now in use throughout all grade levels. She also noted that a partnership with Loyola University has provided professional development activities as well as three interns to work with students.
- Central School staff is focusing on writing skills and is working with a consultant to build a common language and identify ways to incorporate writing into all classes.
- Iroquois continues to build on students' reading comprehension and fluency skills. Because testing is done earlier, data on students is available sooner, which allows staff to identify individuals who require additional help. Muir also feels that programs already in place at Iroquois will allow a smooth transition to the PLC environment.

President Murphy stated that several board members have attended PLC training workshops and were favorably impressed by the concept. Principals agreed and stated that staff is also enthusiastic about implementing PLC. Comments included:

- North School staff has identified a correlation between team and PLC meetings and are excited to send more staff for training.

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- Central staff is working to make sure everyone is in agreement on common goals and essential outcomes.
- Chippewa teacher's reflections have been beneficial and using PLC methods will take them to the next level of data deciphering.
- PLC training has affirmed programs already in place at Algonquin and provided a framework to communicate with a common language.
- All agreed that using PLC concepts allows for mutual trust and interdependence among staff.

Board member Adams stated that it is encouraging to hear everyone coming together toward a common goal, which is very positive for both the district and the community.

President Murphy thanked the principals for participating this evening and for advancing the district goal of continuous improvement.

4. ADJOURNMENT

President Murphy adjourned the Committee of the Whole meeting at 9:14 p.m.

Brenda Murphy, Board President

Margaret Goodchild, Secretary to the Board