Committee of the Whole Meeting

President Brenda Murphy called the meeting to order. Board members viewed informational videos from electronic board packet providers Boardbook and Board Docs. After discussion among board members and feedback from Dr. Westerhold, superintendent, and Margaret Goodchild, secretary to the board, the meeting adjourned.

Hearing for the Transfer of Funds

After calling the hearing to order, Brenda Murphy deferred to Assistant Superintendent for Business Services Nelson Gray, who shared information regarding the transfer of funds from the Education Fund to the Operations & Maintenance Fund.

Hearing no public comment, the hearing was closed.

Presentations/Recognitions

Mindy Ward, director of community relations, introduced former Algonquin Middle School student Daniel Garcia. As an eighth grader, Garcia won first place in the 8th Annual Metra Safety Poster and Essay Contest.

Joseph Cangelosi and Varun Nair, Chippewa Middle School (CMS), were honored for their participation in the Young Entrepreneur Academy (YEA). Cangelosi, who will be a seventh grader in the fall, creates custom clay figures. Nair, who will be a freshman at Maine West, designs websites.

Joanna Skorupa, CMS, presented the business plan that qualified her to compete at the YEA western region competition in Frisco, TX. Skorupa took second for the Rapid Reek Ridding Rack, a drying rack for athletic uniforms.
President Murphy presented certificates to Garcia and the YEA participants. Murphy thanked board member Sharon Lynch for her leadership of the YEA program.

Paul Hertel, associate superintendent, presented a video montage of DEN Star Ambassador classroom activities. Twenty-four teachers volunteered to participate in three face-to-face collaboration sessions led by Hertel. Between sessions, teachers shared lessons, strategies, and discussed best practices. Kelly Salgado and Kathleen Kelly shared how the DEN Star Ambassador experience improved student engagement.

The DEN Star Ambassadors are McKenna Serowka, Algonquin Middle School; Polly Brenner, Kathleen Kelly, Noelle Schwartz and Leigh Radnitzer, Central Elementary School; Rochelle Carman and Cathy Sears, Chippewa Middle School; Constantina Mazzone, Cumberland Elementary School; Judy McManus, Kelly Salgado and Joanne Zienty, Forest Elementary School; Jillienne Naguib, Dr. Andrea Winkelman, Anne Beranek, and Kathryn Conway, Iroquois Community School; Cheris Beaty and Kelley Wiley, North Elementary School; Sophia Garcia-Smith, Katie Koll, and Juan Bottia, Orchard Place Elementary School; Virginia Haase and Ania Figueroa, Plainfield Elementary School, Elena Caceres, South Elementary School, and Lisa Nagy, Terrace Elementary School.

Student Learning and Support Services

Consistent Student Growth Demonstrated

Board member and Education Liaison, Dr. Terry Lindsay, introduced Dr. Janice Rashid, assistant superintendent for instructional services, who presented an analysis of student growth during the 2013/2014 school year using Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) results.

Kindergarten-eighth grade students took the MAP in reading and math. Test content, Knowledge Academy, the professional development component, and the Learning Continuum instructional resources, formerly known as Descartes, are aligned to Common Core.

Results show that there is:
- Consistent growth by kindergarten-eighth grade students in reading and math
- Continuous improvement and gap closure among subgroups
- Above national norms performance in reading by all grade levels
- At or above national norms performance in math by all grade levels
- A continued focus on middle school math
Transfer of Funds Resolutions Approved

In two separate motions, the board adopted resolutions to approve the transfer of funds from the Education Fund and interest earnings from the Working Cash Fund to the Operations and Maintenance Fund by June 30, 2014 for fiscal year 2014.

Prevailing Wage Resolution Adopted

Each year the Board of Education is required to adopt a resolution conveying that the prevailing wage rate will be paid to each worker for contractual bid related work. The board approved this resolution. It is published in The Des Plaines Journal in July.

Consent Agenda

The following is a partial list of items approved on the Consent Agenda:

- 2014/2015 Student Handbook
- Public Gifts to Schools

Middle School Social Studies Digital Curriculum Recommended

During the 2013-2014 school year the middle school social studies department piloted materials from McGraw, Discovery Education and TCI History Alive. The team interviewed publishers, piloted three social studies series, surveyed students and teachers, and discussed the benefits and challenges of each program with the curriculum coordinator and assistant superintendent for instructional services.

The department recommends TCI History Alive. TCI includes a variety of instruction for different learning styles, which allows all students to succeed. TCI’s simulations will immerse students in history, such as actively participating in a series of colonial town meetings to debate British rule. Lessons begin with an essential question and incorporate graphic note taking, group work, inquiry-based learning, and step-by-step discovery. Additionally, students receive instant feedback when they complete assignments, quizzes, and tests online. Teachers and the system grade students. Since the materials are digital they are continuously updated.

The Board of Education will consider this recommendation at the July 21, 2014 meeting.

Community Relations to Expand Social Media Use

Ronald Burton, school board member and community relations liaison, introduced Mindy Ward, director of community relations who reviewed the 2013/2014 community relations plan and previewed plans for the 2014/2015 school year.

Student academic work, growth, achievement and parent engagement were illustrated through articles, photos, presentations, and events that were posted to the District 62 website, published in an annual report, sent or posted to The Des Plaines Journal, Triblocal, The Daily Herald, patch.com, and social media.
Volunteers and community organizations were honored for supporting student learning. From Brenda Murphy’s selection as the 2013 Thomas Lay Burroughs Award winner by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to Robert Bachar and St. Stephen Justice and Peace Committee being honored as the Community Relations Ambassador of the Year and Students Succeed Partner of the Year, respectively. Twenty-seven community organizations and corporate partners were added to the Students Succeed Partnership roster.

In addition to the media mentioned previously, anti-bullying and PBIS assemblies, visiting health and dental clinics, diligent custodians and maintenance personnel, and Connect 5 were examples of keeping students safe, healthy, and secure and communicating with families about these efforts.

New administrator, teacher, and staff introductions, Discovery Education professional development, back to school training and celebrations, as well as participation in hiring fairs were instrumental in providing staff that provide 21st Century support to students.

During the 2014/2015 school year District 62’s digital and social media presence will expand. The following is planned:

- Constant Contact will be used for Inside 62, Boardbriefs, and volunteer/partner and community newsletters
- Volunteers, partnerships, and Parent Communication Council pages will be added to Facebook
- Photo sharing for smartphone and tablet users will be introduced on Instagram
- Pinterest will be used for monthly news clipping packets, family resources, celebrations, advocacy, and historical information
- Video clips of events and interviews will be embedded in D62 publications
- Crisis Go and D62 Apps will launch
- The use of Connect 5 attendance calls and surveys will increase
- D62 volunteer coordinators will work with parent groups to increase parent membership and engagement

**Communications**

**Board of Education**

ED-RED representative James Poskozim reported on an ED-RED meeting that he attended about school funding.

Stephanie Duckmann will attend a North Cook planning meeting to develop programs for the 2014/2015 school year.

Sharon Lynch reported that the D62 Foundation retreat was very organized and productive. Friday, February 13 has been set for the benefit. *(Editors Note: After this announcement, it was discovered that February 13 would not work. An alternate date is being researched.)*
Goal 1 – Every student, every day, will be provided challenging, interesting, satisfying, and engaging academic work that will lead to academic growth and achievement, and preparation for success in high school, career, college, and life.

Goal 2 – Every school will offer safe, caring, healthy, and secure learning environments for all students.

Goal 3 – All administrators, teachers, and staff will possess the skills to lead, teach, assess, and support students for success in the 21st Century and beyond.

Goal 4 – District financial resources will be efficiently and effectively used to support the mission of the district.

Ronald Burton acknowledged board members and staff who attended or coordinated promotion ceremonies.

Brenda Murphy expressed her gratitude for being included by the mayor and city manager of Des Plaines in a TIF meeting.

**Superintendent’s Report**

Dr. Westerhold deferred to Dr. Ellen Teelucksingh, assistant superintendent for student services, who reported that Extended School Year (ESY) classes began Monday, June 16. Special education students are housed at the Early Learning Center (ELC) and Cumberland. Three SPARK programs are also operating. Approximately 349 students are participating in all programs.

Assistant Superintendent Gray reported on food services.

Gray presented a Dashboard Report that compared workers’ compensation claims from 2008 to present. The District realized a three percent increase in the 2015 premium. The increase is the result of a number of factors, including:

- The School Employee Loss Fund (SELF)-Pool increased member premiums to keep pace with the increasing cost of services.
- The annual increase in the district’s total payroll over the prior year.
- A significant impact on the 2015 premium is the district’s five-year claims’ calculation period on Column D (years 2009 to 2013) for the Credit/Debit Modifier, which includes three years of higher claims.
- The Credit/Debit Modifier drives another actuarial value used by the pool to calculate premiums. The Credit/Debit Modifier improved slightly from 0.95 to 0.94, but remains high due to the amount of district claims.

The full report may be found at [http://www.d62.org/schoolboard/dashboardreports.html](http://www.d62.org/schoolboard/dashboardreports.html)

Dr. Westerhold announced that she and President Murphy would participate in a pre-conference panel before the Joint Annual Conference in November.

Recently, Dr. Westerhold met with First Student CEO Dennis Maple. First Student and Imagetech will meet Tuesday, June 17, 2014 with district administrators and staff to discuss the transition to First Student and new copying procedures.