

SPEED S.E.J.A. #802

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting
SPEED Governing Board
Zoom Teleconference
7:00 p.m.

October 28, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Bean called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

On roll call the following answered present: Ms. Carlene Matthews, District 144; Ms. Deborah Havighorst, District 153; Ms. Christina Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Dr. Christina Dupee, District 163; Mr. John Dixon, District 167 Ms. Tammy Jones, District 168; Mr. Samuel Lawrence, District 169; (arrived at 7:19); Ms. Karen King, District 206; Ms. Cheryl Coleman, District 227 and Ms. Cynthia Turnquest, District 233.

Absent: Ms. Katherine Kelly, District 170; Mr. Roger Sons, District 172; Ms. Susan Edwards, District 194 and Dr. Todd Hall, 201U

Dr. Halliman, Superintendent was present as well as the following SPEED Staff: Ms. Brenda Murillo, Director of Business and Finance; Ms. Vanessa Duffin, Director of Human Resources; Dr. Maureen White, Director of District Services; Mr. Gregory Furgason, Director of Technology; Mr. Joe Kekelik, Director of Buildings and Grounds; Principals: Ms. Amina Payne, Ms. Linda Wilson. Ms. April Brown.

Also present: Mr. Eric Grodsky, Attorney from Hauser, Izzo, Petrarca, Gleason & Stillman, LLC

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Ms. Renada Hardy, SEA Union President was in attendance.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Vaccination Mandate Update

Dr. Halliman stated our weekly testing of staff is well underway. Initially we used Binax testing to do weekly testing as well as for diagnostic purposes however we finally launched Shield testing earlier this week. The last time the Governing Board met we were seeking approval of that agreement. We have now started and will be using Shield to test those individuals which were initially, 66 staff member and now we are down in the 40's. We also test students as well whose parent have given us permission.

Pop-Up Vaccination Clinic

We have teamed with the IDPH as some of the other school districts as well. We have already hosted our first clinic on October 14. We offered the 1st and 2nd doses as well as booster vaccinations. We will have an additional pop-up clinic on November 4 from 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. These will be held at our off-site location where Olympic Printing was formerly housed on

Ashland in Chicago Heights. Dr. Halliman stated that everyone was welcome to participate and if the board had anyone in their districts that needed a vaccination, they should send them over.

Ms. Coleman asked if we could share the information via e-mail. Mrs. Giles will send the flyer to the board.

Institute Day

October 8 was our first full day Institute day. Some of the trainings that took place were Smart Board training, Data Presentation, SEL for adults as well as understanding childhood adversity. Our secretaries, some security staff and some of our administrators who had not participated in the DiSC training were trained in this area. DiSC focuses on interpersonal and team communication skills. There was a wealth of knowledge provided to our staff. Kudos were given to Dr. White and her team for planning the professional development for us that day.

Parent Academy

Dr. Halliman stated that we are excited to launch our Parent Academy this year. We are teaming with our Speed Parent Organization (SPO). We are offering 4 workshops. We have secured the speakers which will present offered on a number of different platforms i.e., virtually, in-person or synchronous learning. Additionally, our administrators are going to identify 20 of our students who are really struggling with SEL and our presenter will offer some mini parental coaching lessons specifically with those parents that will be identified throughout the year. Our focus for this year's parent academy is strictly on social emotional learning.

Principal Appreciation Week

In honor of Principal Appreciation week, Dr. Halliman acknowledged all of our dynamic and hard-working principals for all of their dedicated work to our SPEED students and families.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Murillo reported that as of the end of September we've received 13% of our revenues and have expended 15% of our budget. September invoices were emailed on Monday, October 18th. Invoice payments are due November 12, 2021.

Our Buildings & Ground Director, Mr. Kekelik, has identified the needed cosmetic upgrades to help improve our rental spaces. Mr. Kekelik will be subcontracting the work and the proposals for the services are pending. Some of the upgrades will be to paint walls, replace lights with LED, replace ceiling tiles, remove carpet and old flooring, and change locks.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:11 p.m. Ms. Coleman, District 227 moved, seconded by Ms. King, District 206 that the Governing Board That pursuant to the Open Meetings Act Section 2(c)(1), Section 2(c)(10) and Section 2(c)(11) the Governing Board goes into closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body; the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students; and pending, probable and/or imminent litigation matters.

Motion carried by voice vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Coleman, District 227 moved, seconded by Ms. Matthews, District 144 that the Governing Board ratifies the Consent Agenda items A, B, C, D and E as approved by the Operating Committee at its October 21, 2021 meeting.

- A. Personnel Report
- B. Approval of Minutes of August 26, 2021
- C. Approval of Closed Session Minutes of August 26, 2021
- D. Approval of Recurring and Non-Recurring Bills for September and October 2021
- E. Approval of Imprest and Activity Funds for August and September 2021

On roll call vote: Ms. Carlene Matthews, District 144; Ms. Deborah Havighorst, District 153; Ms. Christina Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Dr. Christina Dupee, District 163; Mr. John Dixon, District 167 Ms. Tammy Jones, District 168; Ms. Karen King, District 206; Ms. Cheryl Coleman, District 227 and Ms. Cynthia Turnquest, District 233.

Absent: Mr. Samuel Lawrence, District 169; Ms. Katherine Kelly, District 170; Mr. Roger Sons, District 172; Ms. Susan Edwards, District 194 and Dr. Todd Hall, 201U

Nays: None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Employment of Assistant Principal

Ms. Jones, District 168 moved, seconded by Ms. Havighorst, District 153 that the Governing Board ratifies the employment of Ashley Jarrell for the position of Assistant Principal at the Independence Program as approved by the Operating Committee at its September 16, 2021 meeting.

On roll call vote: Ms. Carlene Matthews, District 144; Ms. Deborah Havighorst, District 153; Ms. Christina Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Dr. Christina Dupee, District 163; Mr. John Dixon, District 167 Ms. Tammy Jones, District 168; Mr. Samuel Lawrence, District 169; Ms. Karen King, District 206; Ms. Cheryl Coleman, District 227 and Ms. Cynthia Turnquest, District 233.

Absent: Ms. Katherine Kelly, District 170; Mr. Roger Sons, District 172; Ms. Susan Edwards, District 194 and Dr. Todd Hall, 201U

Nays: None

B. Memorandum of Understanding

Ms. Vlietstra, District 161 moved, seconded by Ms. Coleman, District 227 that the Governing Board approve the Memorandum of Understanding created in conjunction with the SPEED Education Association in response to the Governor of the State of Illinois' Executive Order 2021-20-COVID-19 Executive Order No. 87 as presented.

On roll call vote: Ms. Carlene Matthews, District 144; Ms. Deborah Havighorst, District 153; Ms. Christina Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Dr. Christina Dupee, District 163; Mr. John Dixon, District 167 Ms. Tammy Jones, District 168; Mr. Samuel Lawrence, District 169; Ms. Karen King, District 206; Ms. Cheryl Coleman, District 227 and Ms. Cynthia Turnquest, District 233.

Absent: Mr. Samuel Lawrence, District 169; Ms. Katherine Kelly, District 170; Mr. Roger Sons, District 172; Ms. Susan Edwards, District 194 and Dr. Todd Hall, 201U

Nays: None

C. Transportation Update – No action required.

Dr. Halliman stated that at the beginning of the year we received letters from Cook-Illinois at the beginning of the year stating that they may not be able to service us when school started. We then began meeting with Cook-Illinois and they assured us that they would be able to manage our routes. So far, they have been successful however over the last few weeks they have lost employees and have a driver shortage. They have been in contact with Dr. White to brainstorm a few ideas. We've asked them to put those ideas in writing, but we have not yet received them. Dr. White did meet with management on October 25, 2021 and both parties agreed that the ideas that they initially had would not work. They are going to move forward with continuing to provide transportation services to our students however we both acknowledge, especially with the winter coming up, that there may be some late pick-ups or longer bus rides. Dr. Halliman stated that she instructed Dr. White to get a preemptive letter to our parents indicating this and we have asked Cook-Illinois to reach out to point people within the district if they need assistance contacting our parents. Our parents are typically understanding but if they have not been informed of a problem, they become upset. Dr. Halliman ended by assuring the board that if anything else came up she would notify them.

Dr. Dupee asked if Cook-Illinois the only bus service provider for SPEED?

Dr. Halliman shared that this is our only contracted transportation provider for SPEED. She explained that there are other School Districts that don't use Cook-Illinois because they have bus service with DLM. Those districts are 170, 206 and Steger.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

INFORMATION

Student Enrollment Report – Dr. Halliman briefly shared that the enrollment numbers are slowly creeping up with our current enrollment at 289. These numbers are indicative of the enrollments that we are seeing across all districts. We still have not returned to pre-pandemic numbers.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

None

Mr. Beaned thanked everyone for their participation and wished everyone a wonderful holiday season as this is the last meeting for the year.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bean adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.



Deborah Havighorst, Secretary
Cassandra Giles, Recording Secretary

Date: 1-31-22



Mr. Bean, President
SPEED Governing Board

