

SPEED S.E.J.A. #802

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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

October 26, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Bean called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

On roll call the following answered present: Mr. Jim Schmidt, District 153; Ms. Christina Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Ms. Brandi Jackson-Williams, District 168; Ms. Katherine Kelly, District 170; Ms. Sonja Jenkins-Brown, District 172; Mr. Alejandro Gallegos, District 201U and Mr. Christopher Riedel, District 233

Absent: Ms. Carlene Matthews, District 144; Dr. Christina Dupee, District 163; Mr. John Dixon, District 167; Mr. Samuel Lawrence, District 169; Ms. Karen Turner, District 194; Ms. Karen King, District 206 and Dr. Kristine Rucker-Morrow, District 227.

Dr. Halliman, Superintendent was present as well as the following SPEED Staff: Ms. Brenda Murillo, Director of Business and Finance; Ms. Sonya Douglas, Director of Human Resources; Dr. Antonia Hill, Director of Programs and Services, Mr. Joe Kekelik, Director of Building and Grounds; Mr. Greg Furgason, Technology Director; Principals, Ms. Nicole Johnson, Ms. April Spencer, Dr. Casandra Holliday and Assistant Principals, Mr. Kevin Johns, Ms. Antoinette Williams and Ms. Stacy and Program Supervisors, Ms. Sue Janacek, Ms. Amina Payne, Ms. Kijai Moreland, Ms. Marketta Green

Also present: Mr. Eric Grodsky, Attorney from Petrarca, Gleason Boyle & Izzo, LLC was in attendance via Zoom.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Renada Hardy, Union President; Liz Gebbia, Christine Gunn, Lori Zomparelli and Bridget Perkins

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Open House

Dr. Halliman reported that we hosted our Open House on August 31. We had over sixty families in attendance. Parents met with our new administrators and staff, visited classrooms and walked the halls of our facility to learn about their respective programs and expectations.

Grandparents Day

On September 8 we hosted Grandparents day. SPEED welcomed approximately fifty grandparents to a morning filled with Continental Breakfast, arts and crafts activities, cookie decorating, a parade and painting with their grandchildren. The theme for the day was, "A Morning in Paris." It was a fun time for all.

Institute Day

On October 6, we held our 3rd Institute Day. The day was split into two ½ day sessions.

Session 1 consisted of connecting learning to goals for defensible IEPs facilitated by Teaching and Learning Specialist, Ms. Shannon Horton. The training included Smart IEP goals and tracking student data to write appropriate progress notes.

Session 2 was entitled Revitalize, Cover Unlocking Tools for your Wellbeing and Resilience for an Educator. Ms. Lavelle Smith-Hall presented this topic.

We also provided ½ day training sessions for our secretaries as well as our administrators. We did a more general review training on the DiSC Model which helps us to collaborate more effectively with one another and, we took a deeper dive. The secretaries met on their own and they were to meet with their administrator to compare what strengths and areas of growth that would help them support each other. The administrators did the same.

Speech Services for ELC

Dr. Halliman stated that we had two Speech employees to resign. As we are already contracted with Linked Up Therapy, we continue to collaborate with them in securing a few therapists to begin providing services for our ELC students. The caveat was those therapists were licensed in other states and the agency had gone to the ISBE in Springfield to obtain reciprocal licenses which is taking a long time. When we learned what they were waiting for, we had a fast track at the regional office and have been able to secure two of them. The first person will start November 1st covering the ELC Satellite classrooms and two classes here on site.

As was mentioned at our Operating Committee meeting, by law, mid-September, letters are sent to parents when we are short for related services stating that right now, we do not have a licensed speech therapist, our processes in securing one and that we are keeping track of minutes to provide compensatory services upon the hire of that specialist.

Ms. Vlietstra asked how does that work with the state if we are not meeting the minute requirements that are supposed to be provided? Is there any way that SPEED can be held responsible legally?

Dr. Halliman responded that the IEP is a Federal document. That is why we let the parent know up front that they will receive compensatory services. We stay in front of

the situation. Because we have a district where we have summer school, some of this time is made up in summer school.

Amazon Robotics Facility

Dr. Halliman shared that October is National Disability Employment Awareness month and Amazon hosted a group of Special Olympics Athletes and Transition students for an Amazon job Information event.

“Amazon Gives Chicago” is working with Special Olympics of IL to begin an employment program in the fulfillment centers in the Chicagoland area. The students toured the Amazon Robotics facility where they highlighted the various areas that help get the packages to the Amazon customers. Their goal was to promote inclusivity and equity in the workplace and give the special Olympians an avenue for employment. Some of our students went to the Amazon Robotics Facility in Mokena, IL. There were five students from Districts 227 and 233. The cool part is that some of our students were featured in a short news clip on Fox32 that same evening. We have a couple of students that are pursuing employment at the Robotics facility.

Breast Cancer Awareness

Dr. Halliman noted that we were all adorned in pink to give support to Breast Cancer Awareness stating that our own Human Resources Director, Ms. Sonya Douglas is a Breast Cancer Survivor. All board members were given pink ribbons.

State of the District/Superintendent Evaluation

Dr. Halliman reminded the Board that this is our last meeting of the year, and we are in preparation for the State of the District presentation at the January 18, 2024, meeting which is on the heels of the Superintendent Evaluation.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Budget Summary

Ms. Murillo reported that at the end of September 2023, we have received 16% of our revenues and expended 15% of the budget.

Ms. Murillo shared that there are a few items on the agenda that require Board approval namely the SMPG Grant Application and the Ashland property Lease Renewal Agreements.

Ms. Murillo shared that she would present on the SMPG proposal after the information items. She further shared and IMRF/TRS meeting in September. The IMRF meeting had 20 participants and 30 employees attended the TRS meeting.

The Wellness Committee launched SPEED's Boot Camp workout with “Ray the Trainer.” The fitness sessions will begin October 30 through May 2024. There will be two classes to accommodate the work schedules of all staff.

Ms. Vlietstra asked how the new billing will happen? Dr. Halliman stated that there are three parts to the revenue structure. Part 1 is the Administrative Fee. The other is the 15%. The billing for the Administrative Fee went out in July. The payments are coming in slowly.

Mr. Bean asked if this response was adequate? Ms. Vlietstra stated that she was ok and that it is still early. Dr. Halliman stated that because this was new for the districts as well as SPEED, there were a number of districts that wanted a breakdown. So, we broke it down to every child. Dr. Halliman clarified that the Administrative Fee is made up of 50% usage and 50% Fall Housing numbers which come from the state. The usage is made up of the students housed here at SPEED and the usage of the students that we serve in your districts that our itinerant teachers go out to the districts to serve. The Administrative Fee will fluctuate because of usage and of course the Fall Housing Report.

Ms. Vlietstra clarified that because those numbers fluctuate, are we expecting districts to pay in advance or are they billed after services are rendered? Dr. Halliman stated that we agreed to take a snapshot of the May Student Enrollment numbers from the previous year.

Ms. Vlietstra asked if reimbursement would be done? Dr. Halliman clarified that what Ms. Vlietstra was referring to is called true ups. The Administrative Costs, the Membership Fee (15%) and the true up. The true-up is the tuition that is estimated for each program cost based on the numbers provided on the projected enrollment. The Articles of Agreement state that if there is an overage, the member districts will receive a refund.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:19 p.m., Ms. Vlietstra, District 161 moved, seconded by Ms. Gallegos, District 201U 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 employment, compensation, and/or performance of a specific employee of SPEED and or matters regarding students. Any items needing approval will be voted on during the open session. Collective negotiation matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning schedules for one or more classes of employees. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).

On roll call vote: Mr. Jim Schmidt, District 153; Ms. Christina Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Ms. Brandi Jackson-Williams, District 168; Ms. Katherine Kelly, District 170; Ms. Sonja Jenkins-Brown, District 172; Mr. Alejandro Gallegos, District 201U; Ms. Karen King, District 206. and Mr. Christopher Riedel, District 233

Absent: Ms. Carlene Matthews, District 144; Dr. Christina Dupee, District 163; Mr. John Dixon, District 167; Mr. Samuel Lawrence, District 169; Ms. Karen Turner, District 194 and Dr. Kristine Rucker-Morrow, District 227.

Nays: None

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Jim Schmidt, District 153 moved, seconded by Ms. Christina Vlietstra, District 161 that the Governing Board approve the Consent Agenda items A, B, C, D and E as presented.

7A. Personnel Reports

7B. Approval of Minutes of August 24, 2023

7C. Approval of Closed Session Minutes of August 24, 2023

7D. Approval of Recurring and Non-Recurring Bills for August, September and October 2023

7E. Approval of Imprest and Activity Funds – August and September 2023

On roll call vote: Mr. Jim Schmidt, District 153; Ms. Christina Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Ms. Brandi Jackson-Williams, District 168; Ms. Katherine Kelly, District 170; Ms. Sonja Jenkins-Brown, District 172; Mr. Alejandro Gallegos, District 201U and Mr. Christopher Riedel, District 233

Absent: Ms. Carlene Matthews, District 144; Dr. Christina Dupee, District 163; Mr. John Dixon, District 167; Mr. Samuel Lawrence, District 169; Ms. Karen Turner, District 194; Ms. Karen King, District 206 and Dr. Kristine Rucker-Morrow, District 227.

Nays: None

NEW BUSINESS

8A. SMPG Grant Approval

Ms. Murillo presented the information regarding the purpose of this year's grant application stating that this is the third year applying for the grant. Ms. Murillo reviewed the areas that were improved from the previous year's grant and provided a list of proposed items to be repaired this year with a completion date of December 2024 at an estimated total cost of \$51, 814.

Ms. Vlietstra asked how the difference would be covered. Dr. Halliman indicated that because we have been successful in securing this grant, we budget for in in hopes that we get it so we can do the \$50,000 match.

Mr. Gallegos asked if there was only one company to bid on the projects. Ms. Murillo stated that she would have to check with the B & G Director. Mr. Gallegos asked what we know about the company that put a bid in for the repairs? Ms. Vlietstra asked what the dollar amount was to have bids for projects? Dr. Halliman shared it was \$25,000.

In response to Mr. Gallegos questions Mr. Joe Kekelik, B & G Director stated that there were three companies to bid on the project. They all went through Garland Roofing. The roof is under warranty, so Garland Roofing put that through the architect.

Ms. Jenkins-Brown asked when bids are put out is there any thought that goes in when we select contractors for women owned contractors? Dr. Halliman stated that we have

not specified that. We recently had to do new auditors but that was not a specified thing. Dr. Halliman stated that is the lowest responsible bidder.

Ms. Brandi Jackson-Williams, District 168 moved, seconded by Mr. Alejandro Gallegos, District 201U that the Governing Board ratify the submission of the SMPG Grant application as approved by the Operating Committee at its October 19, 2023, meeting.

On roll call vote: Mr. Jim Schmidt, District 153; Ms. Christina Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Ms. Brandi Jackson-Williams, District 168; Ms. Katherine Kelly, District 170; Ms. Sonja Jenkins-Brown, District 172; Mr. Alejandro Gallegos, District 201U and Mr. Christopher Riedel, District 233

Absent: Ms. Carlene Matthews, District 144; Dr. Christina Dupee, District 163; Mr. John Dixon, District 167; Mr. Samuel Lawrence, District 169; Ms. Karen Turner, District 194; Ms. Karen King, District 206 and Dr. Kristine Rucker-Morrow, District 227.

Nays: None

OLD BUSINESS

9A. 410 South Ashland Lease Renewal, Unit 300

Ms. Christina Vlietstra, District 161 moved, seconded by Mr. Jim Schmidt, District 153 that the Governing Board ratify the 2023-2024 Lease Agreements between SPEED 802 and VK Rentals, LLC as approved by the Operating Committee at its October 19, 2023, meeting.

On roll call vote: Mr. Jim Schmidt, District 153; Ms. Christina Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Ms. Brandi Jackson-Williams, District 168; Ms. Katherine Kelly, District 170; Ms. Sonja Jenkins-Brown, District 172; Mr. Alejandro Gallegos, District 201U and Mr. Christopher Riedel, District 233

Absent: Ms. Carlene Matthews, District 144; Dr. Christina Dupee, District 163; Mr. John Dixon, District 167; Mr. Samuel Lawrence, District 169; Ms. Karen Turner, District 194; Ms. Karen King, District 206 and Dr. Kristine Rucker-Morrow, District 227.

Nays: None

9B. 410 South Ashland Rental Agreement, Unit 200

Mr. Alejandro Gallegos, District 201U moved, seconded by Mr. Sonya Jenkins-Brown, District 172 that the Governing Board ratify the approval of the Lease Agreement between SPEED 802 and Hair Design by Ro as approved by the Operating Committee at its October 19, 2023, meeting.

On roll call vote: Mr. Jim Schmidt, District 153; Ms. Christina Vlietstra, District 161; Mr. Ron Bean, District 162; Ms. Brandi Jackson-Williams, District 168; Ms. Katherine Kelly, District 170; Ms. Sonja Jenkins-Brown, District 172; Mr. Alejandro Gallegos, District 201U and Mr. Christopher Riedel, District 233

Absent: Ms. Carlene Matthews, District 144; Dr. Christina Dupee, District 163; Mr. John Dixon, District 167; Mr. Samuel Lawrence, District 169; Ms. Karen Turner, District 194; Ms. Karen King, District 206 and Dr. Kristine Rucker-Morrow, District 227.

Nays: None

INFORMATION ITEMS

- Student Enrollment Report – Dr. Halliman stated this always going to be the last page in the board packet. We are up to 309 students in house that are being service. The first column represents in-house students, and the second column represents itinerant services.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

Members of the audience thanked the board for supporting SPEED students and staff. Recognizing that this is their personal time.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Bean adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.



Ms. Christina Vlietstra, Secretary
Cassandra Giles, Recording Secretary

Date: 01/25/2024



Mr. Bean, President
SPEED Governing Board

