

# **SPEED S.E.J.A. #802**

## **GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Regular Meeting  
SPEED Governing Board  
SPEED Building  
7:00 p.m.

January 24, 2019

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Huckabee called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL**

On roll call the following answered present: Ms. Taylor, District 144; Mrs. Havighorst, District 153; Mrs. Huckabee, District 161; Mr. Dixon, District 167; Mrs. Jones, District 168; Ms. Edwards, District 194; Ms. Roop, District 201U; Dr. Woods, District 227; and Ms. Bannon, District 233

Absent: Mr. Bean, District 162; Mr. Jefferson, District 163; Mr. Sherman, District 169; Ms. Sanders, District 170; Mr. Walstra, District 172; and Mr. Drake, District 206

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Dr. Halliman, Executive Director was present as well as the following SPEED Staff: Kevin Slattery, Director of Business and Finance; Sharon Curry, Director of Human Resources; Margie Lenoir-Davis, Interim Director of District Services; Tim Jonke, Director of Technology; Joe Kekelik, Director of Buildings and Grounds; Linda Wilson, Principal at ELC; April Brown, Principal at PAL; and Amina Payne, Principal at IND

Also present were Mr. Ray Hauser, Attorney from Hauser Izzo, Petrarca, Gleason & Stillman, LLC; and Louise King and Tim Fagan from Legacy Professionals

### **AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

Members of the SEA along with some SPEED parents spoke, asking the Governing Board for fair pay and a fair union contract. They stated that many qualified teachers and staff are leaving SPEED for higher paying jobs at other districts. They fear that if this continues, we will not be able to provide quality services for our students. SPEED educators are dedicated to their jobs and helping the students that our member districts cannot help. They have high stress jobs and feel unappreciated by the administration of SPEED even though many of them continually go above and beyond. Also many of our paraprofessionals have to work two jobs just to support their families. SPEED students require structured and consistent support, but we cannot have consistency when staff members are constantly leaving to obtain higher paying positions at

other districts. The cost of living is continually rising and it is becoming harder and harder to make ends meet with current SPEED salaries.

Additionally, they stated that morale has been declining for a few years and is at an all-time low. Staff members need to feel that they are valued. Most staff members are here because they have a passion for our students.

Some parents and members of the SPO spoke as to how highly they regard SPEED teachers and paraprofessionals. The job they do is so difficult and they should be recognized and compensated fairly for their efforts. SPEED staff members go above and beyond to aid parents after the school day ends because they are aware of the struggles of these parents. Parents are concerned because all of this conflict has a trickle-down effect to classrooms and also to households with the children.

A parent spoke to the Governing Board about how her daughter has grown up in SPEED and has had a truly positive experience. Her daughter has become a volunteer at SPEED and is doing very well. A few years ago she was very sick and this caused severe behavioral problems. SPEED teachers and paraprofessionals handled these behaviors very well. Special needs teachers are very special and are highly underpaid.

A union member invited members of the Governing Board to come and visit a classroom to see for themselves what it is that SPEED staff does for our students.

Mrs. Huckabee thanked the SEA members and parents for their comments and ensured them that they are valued members of SPEED and that SPEED is diligently working on a fair resolution to the contract.

### **PRESENTATION: AUDIT REPORT**

Mr. Fagan and Ms. King presented the audit findings from the FY18 audit. Mr. Fagan discussed the Annual Financial Statement with the Board. SPEED received an unmodified opinion, which is the highest level of assurance that the auditors can provide.

As of June 30, 2018 the total current assets were approximately \$6.1M. There were no current liabilities. The total fund balance was \$6.1M.

The Student Activity Fund showed \$38,000 shown as both an asset and a liability because that is not the Joint Agreement's money.

The general fixed assets were approximately \$27M, of which, about \$23M was made up of buildings and building equipment.

Total revenues were approximately \$30.6M. The total expenditures were \$29.8M, leaving a total net income of about \$780,000.

The Audit Communication Letter describes what the auditor's responsibilities were during the audit as well as what the Joint Agreement's responsibilities were during the audit. There were no difficulties performing the audit. The letter also outlines the journal entries that were proposed and made during the audit.

The Management Recommendation Letter states what the auditors found during the audit. The first item is a material weakness in internal control due to the Joint Agreement's inability to prepare its own financial statements. This standard is more for publicly-traded entities than non-publicly-traded entities. It is common for non-publicly traded entities to receive this finding.

The second item talked about other deficiencies in internal controls. In regards to the Joint Agreement's Worker's Compensation and Medical Flex Spending bank accounts; the reconciliations had not been performed for FY18 at the time of the audit. This has been corrected, but the reconciliations need to be prepared and reviewed on a monthly basis.

The third item is in regard to the Activity Fund Sub Ledger. The reconciled balance did not agree to the Activity Fund Sub Ledger. There was a \$200 difference.

All the necessary corrections and recommendations have been made by the Joint Agreement.

### **FINANCE REPORT**

The fund balance as of January 10<sup>th</sup> was \$3.7M. We are about 50% through the fiscal year. We have expended \$11.5M and realized \$9.2M. The October and November tuition revenue checks are beginning to come in. This will increase the fund balance.

The transportation contract has been finalized. We were able to negotiate a one-year extension with Cook-Illinois at an increase of 5.75%.

Mr. Slattery has submitted an application for a grant through the NSLP and is hoping to get \$12,000 to help pay for two new ovens and a new warmer for the kitchen.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

At 8:15 p.m. Mrs. Jones moved, seconded by Mrs. Havighorst that the Governing Board goes into Closed Session to discuss the employment, compensation, and/or performance of a specific employee of SPEED and to discuss pending, probable, and/or imminent litigation, and/or matters regarding students.

Motion carried by voice vote.

### **OPEN SESSION**

At 9:10 PM, Ms. Taylor moved, seconded by Mrs. Havighorst that the Governing Board returns to Open Session.

Motion carried by voice vote.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **Finance Committee**

The SPEED Finance Committee Members are Dr. Jackson, Dr. Leak, Dr. Mitchell, Dr. Navarre, Dr. Patterson, Dr. Smith, and Dr. Thomas. Dr. Halliman has secured a facilitator, Yasmin Dada, to work with the Finance Committee. Ms. Dada is a retired Business Manager who is currently also consulting with another Cooperative. One of the main focuses for the Finance Committee is going to be addressing the procedural change of the IDEA Grant.

### **ISBE Procedural Change**

ISBE has sent out three communications in regards to the proposed procedural changes for the IDEA Grant for FY20. They initially gave us some information in July. They updated us in October indicating that they were allowing Cooperatives and Districts to consider a six-month extension. The six-month extension was not a feasible solution, due to the difficulty Districts and Coops would have budgeting for the year. The latest information states that they are going to allow Cooperatives and Districts to consider a twelve-month extension. Right now, we do not have to make a decision. The application for the twelve-month extension is not out yet. This will be talked about more in the Finance Committee Meetings.

ISBE has also given a little more guidance as to how the Cooperatives can bill the Districts. The suggestion from ISBE is to do it through purchased services. This may require SPEED to change our Articles of Agreement. The other option is that we could enter into inter-governmental agreements. Dr. Halliman will report more information as the Finance Committee meets and discusses these issues.

### **Professional Learning Opportunities**

There are several professional learning opportunities coming up at SPEED. Dr. Halliman distributed handouts describing the learning opportunities.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mrs. Jones moved, seconded by Ms. Roop that the Governing Board ratifies the Consent Agenda items A through E as presented.

- A. Personnel Report**
- B. Approval of Minutes of October 25, 2018**
- C. Approval of Closed Session Minutes of October 25, 2018**
- D. Approval of Recurring and Non-Recurring Bills from October, November, and December, 2018**
- E. Approval of Imprest and Activity Funds from November, 2018**

On a roll call vote:

**Ayes:** Ms. Taylor, District 144; Mrs. Havighorst, District 153; Mrs. Huckabee, District 161; Mr. Dixon, District 167; Mrs. Jones, District 168; Ms. Edwards, District 194; Ms. Roop, District 201U; Dr. Woods, District 227; and Ms. Bannon, District 233

**Nays:** None

Absent: Mr. Bean, District 162; Mr. Jefferson, District 163; Mr. Sherman, District 169; Ms. Sanders, District 170; Mr. Walstra, District 172; and Mr. Drake, District 206

Motion Carried

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Havighorst moved, seconded by Mr. Dixon that the Governing Board ratifies New Business item A as presented.

#### **A. Short-Term Substitute Training Agreement**

On a roll call vote:

Ayes: Ms. Taylor, District 144; Mrs. Havighorst, District 153; Mrs. Huckabee, District 161; Mr. Dixon, District 167; Mrs. Jones, District 168; Ms. Edwards, District 194; Ms. Roop, District 201U; Dr. Woods, District 227; and Ms. Bannon, District 233

Nays: None

Absent: Mr. Bean, District 162; Mr. Jefferson, District 163; Mr. Sherman, District 169; Ms. Sanders, District 170; Mr. Walstra, District 172; and Mr. Drake, District 206

Motion Carried

### **NEW BUSINESS - Continued**

Mrs. Havighorst moved, seconded by Ms. Taylor that the Governing Board ratifies New Business item B as presented.

#### **B. FY18 Audit Report Approval**

On a roll call vote:

Ayes: Ms. Taylor, District 144; Mrs. Havighorst, District 153; Mrs. Huckabee, District 161; Mr. Dixon, District 167; Mrs. Jones, District 168; Ms. Edwards, District 194; Ms. Roop, District 201U; Dr. Woods, District 227; and Ms. Bannon, District 233

Nays: None

Absent: Mr. Bean, District 162; Mr. Jefferson, District 163; Mr. Sherman, District 169; Ms. Sanders, District 170; Mr. Walstra, District 172; and Mr. Drake, District 206

Motion Carried

**NEW BUSINESS - Continued**

Ms. Taylor moved, seconded by Ms. Edwards that the Governing Board ratifies New Business item C as presented.

**C. Extended School Year Dates**

On a roll call vote:

Ayes: Ms. Taylor, District 144; Mrs. Havighorst, District 153; Mrs. Huckabee, District 161; Mr. Dixon, District 167; Mrs. Jones, District 168; Ms. Edwards, District 194; Ms. Roop, District 201U; Dr. Woods, District 227; and Ms. Bannon, District 233

Nays: None

Absent: Mr. Bean, District 162; Mr. Jefferson, District 163; Mr. Sherman, District 169; Ms. Sanders, District 170; Mr. Walstra, District 172; and Mr. Drake, District 206

Motion Carried

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mrs. Havighorst moved, seconded by Mrs. Bannon that the Governing Board ratifies Old Business item A as presented.

**A. Transportation Contract**

On a roll call vote:

Ayes: Ms. Taylor, District 144; Mrs. Havighorst, District 153; Mrs. Huckabee, District 161; Mrs. Jones, District 168; Ms. Edwards, District 194; Ms. Roop, District 201U; Dr. Woods, District 227; and Ms. Bannon, District 233

Nays: None

Abstain: Mr. Dixon, District 167

Absent: Mr. Bean, District 162; Mr. Jefferson, District 163; Mr. Sherman, District 169; Ms. Sanders, District 170; Mr. Walstra, District 172; and Mr. Drake, District 206

Motion Carried

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Huckabee adjourned the meeting at 9:28 p.m.



Mrs. Deborah Havighorst, Secretary  
Lori Koditek, Recording Secretary

Date: 3/25/19



Mr. Ron Bean, President  
SPEED Governing Board