

SPEED S.E.J.A. #802

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting
SPEED Operating Committee
SPEED Building
9:00 a.m.

March 16, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Bean called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

On roll call the following answered present: Ms. Jordan, District 144; Mrs. Havighorst, District 153; Mrs. Huckabee, District 161; Mr. Dixon, District 167; Ms. Nicole Sanders, District 170; Mrs. Kimberly Sanders, District 201U; Mr. Drake, District 206; Mr. Lindstrom, District 233; and Mr. Bean, District 162

Absent: Ms. Braxton, District 163; Mrs. Jones, District 168; Mr. Sherman, District 169; Mr. Walstra, District 172; Ms. Edwards, District 194; and Dr. Woods, District 227.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Sharon Rossiter, Superintendent, was present as well as the following SPEED Staff: Kevin Slattery, Director of Business and Finance; Sharon Curry, Director of Human Resources; Kristin Elliot, Director of District Services; Linda Wilson, Principal of the Independence Program; and April Brown, Principal of the PAL Program.

Also present were Ms. Trisha Olson, from Hauser Izzo, and Ms. Sheila Harrison-Williams from BWP and associates.

PRESENTATION

Sheila Harrison-Williams introduced herself and announced that the selection process for the Executive Director of SPEED has begun. In order to adhere to the strict timeline needed, BWP agreed to move forward with the search even though they had not yet been approved by the Governing Board.

On March 13, 2017 BWP met with focus groups to get input as to what kind of candidates SPEED is looking for. They asked the focus groups: What is going well? What needs

improvement? What are you looking for if you could have the perfect director? BWP will look at all of the answers and compile a profile of the Executive Director of SPEED.

On April 3, BWP will conduct screening interviews with approximately 8 to 10 candidates. On April 6, BWP will present a pool of 4 to 6 candidates to the Personnel Committee. On April 11, the Personnel Committee will interview approximately 4 candidates. On April 24, the 2 finalists will be presented to the Operating Committee. On April 27 a hiring recommendation will be made to the Governing Board.

So far there have been 31 applications and the position will be open until the end of March. BWP is taking great initiative to recruit candidates to apply.

The goal is to be able to offer a contract to the new Executive Director by May 1st. That will allow time for transitioning.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Black History Month - February was full of weekly activities and celebrations in honor of Black History Month. All of our programs had special events and field trips.

SPEED Racers - The SPEED Racers Special Olympics Basketball team is going down state! We have been hard at work trying to raise funds to pay for the trip. We have successfully raised enough money to cover all of the student and coaches rooms as well as all of the parent's rooms.

Special Olympics - Special Olympics is not funded. SPEED has been combing through the budget trying to find ways to pay for it. The Superintendent and the Business Manager sat down to try to find some revenue sources to fund the Special Olympics program at SPEED. When we receive Medicaid fee for service reimbursements, we distribute that money accordingly to our member districts. For non-member districts, we keep that Medicaid reimbursement, which is approximately \$35,000 per year. SPEED will recommend using this revenue source to support our extra-curricular activities.

Enrollment - Currently our enrollment is at 380 students, which is about average. Enrollment is trending downward at SPEED as well as member districts schools. We are providing services for 284 students in the member school districts which brings the total number of students served to 664 for February, 2017

Purchase of Vans - Under New Business there is a recommendation to use IDEA carryover money to purchase two new vans to replace old vans. There was over \$1,000,000 in carryover that we can use. These funds were accumulated because some items were paid for from other accounts instead of using grant money. We need to make sure that we spend these funds carefully and gradually over the next few years. We would like to purchase 2 new vans through the purchasing co-op. We will trade in two 2009 vans on the new ones. A rough preliminary estimate is \$30,000 for each van. The vans would most likely be less than that, but we are budgeting \$30,000 per van including trading in the old vans.

Printer and Copier Maintenance - There is a recommendation to sign a new contract for printers and copier maintenance. We obtained quotes from three different companies and made the decision to choose Martin Whalen, saving SPEED \$12,000 over the next three years.

School Year Calendar - In the past we had 14 half days of school that were early release times. Ms. Rossiter did an attendance study. Attendance was down by not only staff, but also by students on half days. This year we went from 14 half days to 5 half days. On a typical day there is an average of 35 students out sick. The average for half days was 64-90 students out sick.

School Bus Seat Belt Bill - There is a call to action from the IASA in your information section regarding the seat belt House and Senate bills. They are trying to make it mandatory to have seat belts on all school buses. The cost to retrofit buses with seat belts would be between \$7,000 and \$18,000 per bus. The capacity of the school buses will also be reduced which will require districts to contract for more buses.

Equitable Funding for School Districts - In the information section of the board packet is a communication from IAASE on equitable funding for school districts. School districts receive a reimbursement if they send a student to a non-public day school. They do not receive reimbursement for sending students to a co-op. This leads schools to make recommendations on placement based on money instead of the needs of the students. The money should follow the student no matter where they are placed.

Facility Rental - There has been a request from Homewood Angels girls' basketball league to use the IND gym. Some of the parents that work at SPEED have children on team. This would be a good idea to utilize our facilities to generate a little more income. We will charge them \$50 per evening to use our gym for practice. SPEED will work with Mr. Hauser to draft an appropriate contract.

FINANCE REPORT

Fund Balance - Mr. Slattery stated that the fund balance is increasing. SPEED billed the districts \$7.2M for the months of August through January. To date, we have realized \$3.7M. Mr. Slattery has been working with business managers of member and non-member districts on their payments.

Insurance Rebate - SPEED received a \$102,000 rebate from Berkley Risk Insurance Company. This rebate is from work compensation funds not used in 2013.

FY18 Budget - The FY18 budget has been started. Mr. Slattery will be working closely with the Leadership Team and will have a draft budget for your review in May.

Insurance Committee - Mr. Slattery has been working with SPEED's insurance committee, which is made up of union members as well as administrators. They are working with Education Benefits Cooperative on maintaining affordable insurance rates. The EBC is recommending an increase in cost of our HMO plans of 4.1%, an increase of 11.5% for PPO plans. Mr. Slattery and the Insurance Committee will work with EBC to keep the increase as low as possible. In order to lower the costs we will need to lower the benefits too. Currently 70% of SPEED employees have an HMO plan and 30% have a PPO.

Transportation Costs - Mr. Slattery met with Cook-IL (parent company of ABC Transportation) to negotiate costs for FY18. Cook-IL had quoted an initial increase of 9%. After Mr. Slattery told them that a 9% increase is too high, they came back and offered an 8% increase. Other co-ops in Northern Illinois are receiving similar increases from their bus companies. The bus companies are stating that they are raising the rates in an effort to attract and maintain quality school bus drivers.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:50 p.m. Mrs. Huckabee moved, seconded by Mr. Lindstrom that the Governing Board go 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.

Approval of items discussed in Closed Session will occur in Open Session.

OPEN SESSION

At 8:20 p.m. Ms. Jordan moved, seconded by Mrs. Havighorst that the Governing Board returns to Open Session.

Motion carried by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF RESIGNATION AGREEMENT

Ms. Jordan moved, seconded by Mr. Drake to approve the resignation agreement of Assistant Principal, Andrea Paterala, as discussed in closed session.

On a roll call vote: Ayes: Ms. Jordan, District 144; Mrs. Havighorst, District 153; Mrs. Huckabee, District 161; Mr. Dixon, District 167; Ms. Nicole Sanders, District 170; Mrs. Kimberly Sanders, District 201U; Mr. Drake, District 206; Mr. Lindstrom, District 233; and Mr. Bean, District 162

Nays: None

Motion Carried

RESOLUTIONS

Ms. Jordan moved, seconded by Mr. Lindstrom that the Governing Board approves the Reduction in Force, Reduction in Hours, and Non-Renewal Resolutions as discussed in closed session.

On a roll call vote: Ayes: Ms. Jordan, District 144; Mrs. Havighorst, District 153; Mrs. Huckabee, District 161; Mr. Dixon, District 167; Ms. Nicole Sanders, District 170; Mrs. Kimberly Sanders, District 201U; Mr. Drake, District 206; Mr. Lindstrom, District 233; and Mr. Bean, District 162

Nays: None

Motion Carried

CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Havighorst moved, seconded by Ms. Jordan that the Governing Board ratifies the Consent Agenda as presented:

- A. Personnel Report
- B. Approval of Open Session Minutes of August 25, 2016
- C. Approval of Closed Session Minutes of August 25, 2016
- D. Approval of Corrected Closed Session Minutes of July 21, 2016
- E. Ratification of Imprest and Activity Funds for August, September, October, and November, 2016
- F. Ratification of Recurring and Non-Recurring Bills from September, 2016 through February, 2017
- G. Approval of Recurring Bills Dated 3/15/17

On a roll call vote: Ayes: Ms. Jordan, District 144; Mrs. Havighorst, District 153; Mrs. Huckabee, District 161; Mr. Dixon, District 167; Ms. Nicole Sanders, District 170; Mrs. Kimberly Sanders, District 201U; Mr. Drake, District 206; Mr. Lindstrom, District 233; and Mr. Bean, District 162

Nays: None

Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Sanders moved, seconded by Mr. Dixon that the Governing Board ratifies the following New Business items:

- A. FY16 Audit Approval
- B. Policy Revisions
- C. ISIC Renewal
- D. Health and Safety Proposal
- E. Extended School Year Dates
- F. Calendar for 2017/2018 School Year
- G. Purchase of Two New Vans
- I. Printer and Copier Maintenance Contract

- J. Donations
- K. Appointment of Bloom Township Treasurer for SPEEDE
- L. Change the Title of Superintendent of SPEED to Executive Director

On a roll call vote: Ayes: Ms. Jordan, District 144; Mrs. Havighorst, District 153; Mrs. Huckabee, District 161; Mr. Dixon, District 167; Ms. Nicole Sanders, District 170; Mrs. Kimberly Sanders, District 201U; Mr. Drake, District 206; Mr. Lindstrom, District 233; and Mr. Bean, District 162

Nays: None

Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS – CONTINUED

Mrs. Huckabee moved, seconded by Mr. Lindstrom that the Governing Board ratifies the following New Business item:

- H. Selection of BWP & Associates as Executive Search Firm

On a roll call vote: Ayes: Ms. Jordan, District 144; Mrs. Havighorst, District 153; Mrs. Huckabee, District 161; Mr. Dixon, District 167; Ms. Nicole Sanders, District 170; Mrs. Kimberly Sanders, District 201U; Mr. Drake, District 206; Mr. Lindstrom, District 233; and Mr. Bean, District 162

Nays: None

Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS – CONTINUED

Mrs. Havighorst moved, seconded by Mrs. Kimberly Sanders that the Governing Board approves the following New Business item:

- M. Approval of Overnight Field for the SPEED Racers Basketball Team to Bloomington, IL leaving on March 17, 2017 and returning March 19, 2017

On a roll call vote: Ayes: Ms. Jordan, District 144; Mrs. Havighorst, District 153; Mrs. Huckabee, District 161; Mr. Dixon, District 167; Ms. Nicole Sanders, District 170; Mrs. Kimberly Sanders, District 201U; Mr. Drake, District 206; Mr. Lindstrom, District 233; and Mr. Bean, District 162

Nays: None

Motion Carried

DISCUSSION

Recently there has been a lot of difficulty in obtaining a quorum for meetings. Mr. Bean suggested that each member district appoint a member and an alternate to serve on the Governing Board. Mr. Bean will have legal counsel draft a resolution amending the Articles of Joint Agreement to allow for alternates. This resolution will then need to be approved by each School Board of SPEED's member districts. In order for the amendment to pass, at least ten member districts must adopt the resolution.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:31 p.m. Mrs. Kimberly Sanders moved, seconded by Mrs. Huckabee to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried by voice vote.

Mrs. Kimberly Sanders, Secretary
Lori Koditek, Recording Secretary

Date: 4-24-17



Mr. Ron Bean, President
SPEED Governing Board