

**League of Women Voters  
Community High School District 99 Observers Report**

**Board meeting attended:** Regular Board Meeting

**Date and Location of meeting:** 16 Oct 2017  
Administrative Service Center, 6301 Springside Avenue

**Meeting started:** 7:02 pm      **Meeting adjourned:** 8:29 pm

**Board Members Absent/Tardy:** Terry Pavesich (T)- 7:34 p.m.  
Donald Renner (T)- 8:05 p.m.  
Rick Pavinato (AB)

**League Observer:** Linda Derrig

**Estimated Number Attending (excluding Board and Staff):** Student/Faculty presenters only

**Meetings are taped and posted at:** <http://www.csd99.org/boe/meeting-highlightsvideos.cfm>

**Agenda can be found at:** <http://www.csd99.org/boe/Meeting-Agendas.cfm>

**1/2) CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ ROLL CALL**

**3) Approval of Minutes:**

- Business Meeting- September 18, 2017
- Closed Meeting- September 18, 2017
- Special/Workshop Meeting- October 2, 2017
- Closed Meeting- October 2, 2017

**4) Public Comments: None**

**5) Action Item: District 99 Education Foundation Grants**

Two checks totaling \$1,599 were presented to the board. Members of the Downers Grove North "Women in Stem" Club accepted the grant for Raspberry Pi. The Foundation has altered their grant program from a single occasion to a rolling set of grants, so additional grants will be coming. Board President Nancy Kupka called the grants, "A wonderful augmentation to our schools".

Foundation representative noted the Foundation is looking for new members.

**6) Recommendations and Reports of Superintendent:**

- **Transportation Startup FY 2017-18:** According to Mark Staehlin, district bus transport had the best start up in years. In the 4<sup>th</sup> year of a five-year contract with First Student.

- **Moving FSA and Health Plans to a Calendar Year Basis:** currently the district health plan and FSA (Flexible Spending Account) follow the School year. The FSA would move to a calendar year plan beginning in January 2018. The Health Plan would move to a calendar year beginning January 2019. According to Mark Staehlin, there is not much of a downside and there is an upside to the change in terms of forecasting rates. The move was unanimously recommended by the district Insurance Committee which includes representatives from all employee groups and administration members.
- **Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA):** The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed by on Dec. 10, 2015. The bipartisan measure reauthorizes the 50-year-old Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), the nation’s education law and longstanding commitment to equal opportunity for all students. The State of Illinois’ ESSA plan was approved by the US Department of Education in August. The administration has been presenting elements of ESSA plans/requirements to the board.

Tonight’s presentation focused on Distinguished Scholar and College and Career Ready designations per ESSA.

Discussion, however, moved to a topic intended for future presentations- Dual Credit—the opportunity to take “college” courses in High School and receive both HS credit and college transcript credit. According to Superintendent Thiele, many neighboring states have less restrictive programs for dual credit than Illinois. This gives students from those states an advantage in college credit. Dual credit gives students more flexibility once in college and reduces overall costs. Superintendent H. Thiele noted, research shows strongly that students with dual credit are more successful and complete college at a high rates. There was general agreement among board members, including Student Board Member Prevail Bonga of Downers Grove North, that Dual Credit offerings should be investigated/improved.

- **Mater Facility Plan Community Engagement:** (see LWV Report dated October 13, 2017) Two mailings went out to all households in the district: a letter; and a brochure with more details. Survey swill be mailed out beginning the week of October 23. It was noted that the biggest misconception is that the district has a referendum on the ballot, whereas, the district is currently seeking input from the community on whether and what type of referendum to move forward.

#### 7) Consent Agenda:

- a) Personnel Report- Appointment-Certified, Contract Adjustment-Certified; Appointment-Classified; Leave of Absence- Certified; Leave of Absence-Classified; Transfer of Position-Classified
- b) Personnel Report- Resignations-Classified
- c) Personnel Report- Termination-Classified
- d) Financial Pages (attachment)
- e) Student Tour (Social Studies students traveling to Washington D.C. in April)

#### 8) Recommendations for Action:

- a) Award of Bid- Wheel chair Accessible Van- North High: The wheelchair accessible van was replaced at South High two years ago. The van at North is 18 years old. The district received two bids. It is awarding to the low bid of \$44,599 from the same company who won the bid two years ago for the South High van.

## 10) New Business

- a) Policy Committee Report- First Reading: Superintendent Thiele said most changes are not significant and just “clean up”. The changes will be voted on at the next public hearing.

Board President Kupka asked about the dress code changes enacted last year. Student Board Member Prevail Bonga said there have been no issues at North, despite all the discussion and disgruntlement about the prohibition on “spaghetti straps” last year.

- 2.210 Organizational School Board Meeting
- 2.260 Uniform Grievance Procedure
- 6.80 Teaching About Controversial Issues
- 7.80 Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance
- 7.160 Student Appearance
- 7.275 Orders to Forgo Life-Sustaining Treatment
- 8.70 Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities

## 12) Communications and Announcements:

- a) **Report on Legislative Education Network of DuPage (LEND)- Don Renner:** Meeting in a few weeks; will discuss dual credit.
- b) **Report on School Association for Special Education in DuPage County (SASED)- Nancy Kupka**
- c) **Report on District 99 Education Foundation- Terry Pavesich:** The Foundation is seeking new members; contact if interested.
- d) **Report on Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB)- Michael Davenport**

**13) Upcoming Board Meetings:** November 6, 2017 (Special/Workshop Meeting); November 20, 2017 (Regular Business Meeting)

## 14) Parking Lot (calendar of board actions):

October:

- Process for Approval of District Goals
- Process for Approval of Adoption of District Strategic Plan

November:

- Process for Approval of Tax Levy

December:

- Process for Approval of Curriculum Proposals
- Process for Approval of School Calendar for Following Year