

League of Women Voters Observers Report

Board meeting attended: Elementary District 58

Date and Location of meeting: February 12, 2018, 801 Burlington Avenue (Downers Grove Village Hall)

Meeting started: 7 p.m.

Meeting moved to closed session: 8:25 p.m.

League Observer(s): Emily Teising

Board Members/Trustees present (P) not present (NP) tardy (T):

Doug Purcell, President (P)
Elizabeth Sigale, Vice President (P)
Gregory Harris (P)
Darren Hughes (P)
John Miller (P)
Jill Samonte (P)
Beth Taylor (P)

Estimated Number Attending (excluding Board and Staff): 30

Meetings are Streamed and Archived at: <https://dg58.org/meeting-highlights/>

Agenda can be found at: <https://www.boarddocs.com/il/dg58/Board.nsf/Public>

1. Regular meeting opened with flag salute by members of the Whittier Student Council.

2. Non-Action REPORTS

- A. Students recognized for participation in 2018 Science Fair
- B. The board received 12 communications

3. Reports to the Board

a. Superintendent's Report, Kari Cremascoli

- Data Collection and analysis is moving ahead for the strategic planning survey. Approximately 500-600 community members participated in focus groups and 2,000 surveys were completed. The consulting group Hazard, Young and Attea is analyzing data collected. The plan team will report at the March board meeting.
- There will be more PTA visits scheduled for board members. John Miller requested more planning before visits, so everyone can be prepared to discuss specific issues that need to be addressed.

- Dr. Cremascoli thanked snow removal teams that worked all weekend to make sure school could start on time again Monday.
 - February 26, a curriculum workshop will take place at Henry Puffer. An awards reception will precede the workshop.
 - PARCC standardized testing will begin April 3. According to the state superintendent, use of PARCC assessments will continue to evolve.
 - The 2018-2019 academic calendar will be presented for adoption at the March meeting. Other than the start date, the calendar is aligned with the District 99 calendar.
 - On March 15, the Education Foundation will hold its spring concert fundraiser at the Tivoli.
- b. Business Report, Asst. Superintendent for Business David Bein.**
- A consumer price index increase of 2.1 percent will be applicable in 2018.
 - Starting next school year, the district must report expenditures at the building level. The district will begin implementing changes to the system to track and record expenses so everything is in place before next school year.
 - Lester School additions and renovations: Not included in the bids are some ancillary construction costs and architect costs. The amount of the bond also includes funding for other planned projects, including at Kingsley.
 - Relevant documents available through BoardDocs at dg58.org.
- 4. Policy Committee. Review of the policy manual is ongoing.**
- a.** Approved unanimously for first reading: Policy 1150, citizen communications with the school and the board.
 - b.** Approved unanimously for first reading: Policy 8244, Internal Board Operations, Determining Agenda.
- 5. The legislative committee's Feb. 9 meeting with legislators was cancelled due to snow.**
- 6. Discussion: Feb. 26 Curriculum Workshop preview (at Henry Puffer)**
- a.** The workshop will discuss state level assessments.
 - b.** Teachers will discuss their experiences in a small group round table setting.
- 7. Reception of Visitors**

Samantha Figueroa, a Belle Aire parent. Brought up the possibility of income from the sale of the property on Prairie where Longfellow sits. She suggested possible savings from moving to a K-5 elementary school system with 6-8 grade middle schools. She suggested PR campaigns to help people understand what district 58 is doing well, since the Great School ratings have flaws, but are

influential. She suggested the district do more to help people get connected and be involved in the schools.

8. The Jan. 8, 2018 minutes were approved unanimously.
9. The Consent agenda was approved unanimously.
 - a. Personnel Report
 - b. Financial Reports
10. Recommendations for action:
 - a. Resolution authorizing the transfer of monies from the working cash fund to the transportation fund. **Approved unanimously**
 - b. Student Fees for 2018-2019 **Approved unanimously** Most of the fees increase by 2.1 percent (same as the Consumer Price Index). A technology fee is also being folded into the existing instructional fees.
 - c. Resolution to issue \$2,810,000 general obligation limited tax capital appreciation school bonds. **Approved unanimously**
Tammie Beckwith Schallmo, managing director of PMA Securities, Inc., led a Market Update and Finance Plan Discussion, highlighting some changes to the market environment because of recent tax reforms. John Miller commented that this move will allow the district to address many of the most critical needs.

General Features

	Yes	No	Comments
Did the meeting start on time?	x		
Were members attentive and prepared?	x		
Were members courteous to each other?	x		
Were members attentive to the publics' comments?	x		
Was the facility adequate?	x		
Could the audience see and hear?	x		

Were visual aids easily visible to the audience	x		
Were the meeting facilities handicapped accessible	x		

FOIA (Complete once, unless information changes.)

Illinois Open Meetings Act requirements

	Yes	No	Comments
Was the agenda posted 48 hours before the meeting? If yes, note where	x		
Did the agenda items clearly describe what was to be discussed?	x		
Were background materials made available to the public?	x		
Was there adequate discussion of the issues?	x		
Was there a closed session before, during or after the meeting?	x		
If there was a closed meeting, was any action taken after the closed session? If so, what action?	x		

Date Submitted: January 16, 2018

By: Emily Teising