

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Homewood-Flossmoor High School, 999 Kedzie Avenue, Flossmoor, Illinois
May 17, 2022

Mr. Pauling called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. The following Board members were present for all or part of the meeting:

Mr. Anderson	Mrs. Turnquest
Mrs. Hoereth	Mr. Pauling
Mr. Legardy	

Ms. Berman was available via telephone audio conference. Ms. Jackson was absent.

The presence of a quorum was noted and the meeting declared duly convened. Superintendent Mansfield, Superintendent Elect Wakeley, Chief School Business Official Cook, Interim Principal Mitchem, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Professional Development Hester and Director of Human Resources Bryant were in attendance. Director of Information Systems Richardson and Director of Operations and Grounds Patterson were also in attendance. Mr. Robert Lewis, PMA Securities, LLC Senior Vice President, Managing Director, was also in attendance.

Representatives of the Homewood-Flossmoor Chronicle and League of Women Voters, HFEO and HFPA were present, as well as, members of the public.

Comments. Dr. Ogrem requested that the decision denying his son to march in graduation be reversed. Mr. Pauling explained to Dr. Ogrem that student matters are not discussed in a public open session of the board and suggested that the administration contact Dr. Ogrem tomorrow to discuss his request.

Mrs. Sarah Danta stated that she was present to advocate for her child who was put in a choke hold by another student on May 3. Mr. Pauling reiterated that the board cannot discuss student matters during a public open session of the board. He stated that Mrs. Danta will be referred to appropriate personnel who will respond to her concerns.

HFPA Representative Mr. Stalling reported the HFPA recently awarded five scholarships and they will be presented to H-F seniors at tomorrow's Honor Convocation. He invited those interested in serving on the HFPA to visit the HFPA's FaceBook page. Mr. Pauling asked Ms. Bryant to put the call out for volunteers to serve on the HFPA on the weekly HF FYI.

HFEO President Dana Noble announced that eight \$500 HFEO scholarships were awarded to H-F students and two scholarships were awarded to students interested in becoming future educators. He noted that the scholarship program has flourished over the years. Mr. Pauling extended the board's appreciation to Mr. Noble and to the HFEO membership for their continued commitment to our students.

Dr. Wakeley recognized Dr. Mitchem for his service to the district as Interim Principal and noted that this is his last board meeting. He added that Dr. Mitchem is a retired superintendent and has been an advocate for children throughout his career. Dr. Wakeley thanked Dr. Mitchem for his wisdom, guidance, professionalism and friendship, on behalf of himself and H-F. Dr. Mansfield stated that he echoed Dr. Wakeley's comments and added that he has known Dr. Mitchem for more than 20 years and that Dr. Mitchem has met the challenge of this year. Dr. Mansfield stated that Dr. Mitchem has helped move H-F forward at a challenging time and the year has gone quickly. Dr. Mansfield extended his thanks to Dr. Mitchem on behalf of the board and he stated he appreciates the 110 percent Dr. Mitchem has given.

Dr. Hester shared that the district is a member of the Career Preparation Network (CPN) with a network of schools that provide career and technical education. H-F, along with Bloom, Rich Township and Crete Monee High School, have been tentatively accepted for the fiscal year (FY) 2022 CTE Education Career Pathway Grant. The district will receive funds provided by this grant through fiscal year (FY) 2025.

Mrs. Bryant stated that the year is quickly ending and noted that everyone has worked together so kids could recover after last year making it a tremendous year. She noted there is a second Covid surge and everyone continues to work really hard to meet the needs of our students and staff.

Dr. Mitchem expressed his thanks to the board, Dr. Wakeley and Dr. Mansfield for allowing him to serve. He added that it has been a blessing.

Ms. Berman stated that she was in Seattle for business this evening and that she was sorry she could not attend tonight's meeting in person. She shared that this is her favorite time of the year with graduation approaching

Comments (con't.) and extended her appreciation to the administrators, teachers and staff for rising to the challenge this year. Ms. Berman added that staff, students and administration are owed a great debt of thanks.

Mr. Anderson also expressed his thanks to Dr. Mitchem. He noted that he had an opportunity to sit down with Dr. Mitchem and learn and listen for about an hour after a Finance Committee meeting and feels he became a better school official because of the time that they spent together. Mr. Anderson noted that if that was accomplished in an hour, the impact Dr. Mitchem had on the community is even more powerful. He shared that his third student will be graduating from H-F and offered his personal congratulations to all the seniors who have made decisions on where they are going to school. He is also looking forward to May 29th, graduation, as it is one of his favorite days like Ms. Berman.

Mr. Legardy said that he echoes the thanks given to Dr. Mitchem who made a personal sacrifice to step in to fill the unexpected void right before the school year started. He added that he appreciates the bonding Dr. Mitchem has done and for his ability to pick up the slack. He also extended his appreciation to Dr. Ogram and Mrs. Danta for attending this evening advocating on behalf of their children and noted the importance of hearing their voices.

Mr. Pauling offered his congratulations to the administrative team on making it through another year. He noted that he will have an opportunity to address our students at graduation and he is looking forward to that. Mr. Pauling also congratulated Dr. Wakeley and Dr. Mansfield who both have daughters graduating from college; one starting her teaching career and one off to dental school. Mr. Pauling thanked Dr. Mitchem and added Dr. Mitchem came in and made some strides forward with initiatives they were driving as a school team and thanked Dr. Mitchem for his contributions. He asked Dr. Mitchem to keep in touch as they would love to hear from him.

Finance Committee Meeting – 4.26.22. Mr. Anderson reported that the Finance Committee met on April 26 and Mr. Richardson presented the technology budget and it was discussed in great detail. A capital projects update was given by Dr. Cook and included some completion dates for the baseball and softball projects. During the April 26 meeting, Dr. Cook also talked about the budget process that is ongoing through September that started over the last few months. Mr. Lewis is here this evening and the Finance Committee continued discussions on the bond issuance process.

Planning Committee Meeting – 5.6.22. The Planning Committee met on May 6, 2022. Mr. Legardy shared that Dr. Hester presented a couple of annual items; summer curriculum projects and summer work hours. Mrs. Ross-Cook presented and gave the committee a status overview on an equity plan that is taking place and brought the committee up to speed on the diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) work she has been doing this year. He noted the board received the “pending adoption” PRESS draft policies and they will take the next month to review the manual and offer comments. Mr. Legardy offered his appreciation to everyone involved in the policy review process including Dr. Mansfield, Dr. Wakeley, and Mrs. Gnaster along with the administrators who put in a lot of work to review the policies to ensure that the essence of the board’s current policy book is incorporated while still retaining their appropriate content. Mr. Legardy noted that the process has gone well and he is looking forward to the conclusion of the conversion process.

Consent Agenda. Mr. Pauling stated that our adopted rules of Parliamentary Procedures, Robert’s Rules and Bylaws, provide for a consent agenda listing for approval of the Board by a single motion. Most of the items listed under the consent agenda have gone through board subcommittee review and recommendation. Documentation concerning these items has been provided to all board members and the public in advance to assure an extensive and thorough review. Items may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of any board member. Mr. Pauling asked if any board member requested any item on the consent agenda be removed from the consent agenda for further discussion. Mr. Legardy requested that 4.12.9 Extra-Responsibility Contracts – Athletics be removed. Mr. Anderson requested 4.7 2022-2023 Technology Requests be removed. Ms. Berman moved, seconded by Mr. Legardy, that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda that included:

Regular Board Meeting Minutes, April 19, 2022

Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting Minutes, May 10, 2022

Closed Meeting Minutes Remain Closed and Not Available for Public Inspection

2022 Consolidated District Plan

IHSA Membership 2022-2023

Summer Curriculum Projects

Fieldtrip Request – Speech and Debate Nationals

Approval of Expenditures, \$2,366,291.15

Approval of Imprest Fund, \$20,607.51

Ratification of April, 2022, Payroll, \$2,745,747.50
2022-2023 Retirement effective June 30, 2023, Ann Cherry, Director of Development and Alumni Relations
2022-2023 - Terrell Alexander III, 1.0 FTE, Physical Education/Special Education Teacher, MA/2, \$57,426
David Dore, 1.0 FTE, Special Education Teacher, 2nd MA+15/19, \$114,793
Daniel Gould, 1.0 FTE, English Teacher, MA/18, \$94,846
Heithon Hurdle Jr., 1.0 FTE, School Social Worker, MA+15/1, \$57,592
David James, 1.0 FTE, In School Detention Teacher, MA/4, \$62,104
Jasmine Marshall, 1.0 FTE, English Teacher, BA+15/7, \$65,137
Kristina Zandi, 1.0 FTE, School Social Worker, MA+15/2, \$60,111
Extra-Responsibility Contracts - ESY, Summer Academy, Summer Bridge, Summer School \$90,798.28

Mr. Pauling thanked the board for giving their time on a weekday to meet as a Committee-of-the-Whole on May 10. He added they met for a better part of a half day and the Committee-of-the-Whole minutes capture the essence of the meeting and the follow-up. Dr. Mansfield welcomed Mr. Dore, special education teacher, in attendance this evening who is returning back to H-F. Roll Call: Ayes – Mr. Anderson, Ms. Berman, Mrs. Hoereth, Mr. Legardy, Mrs. Turnquest, Mr. Pauling. Nays – None. Motion carried.

New Business

Resolution Providing for the Issue of Not to Exceed \$20,000,000 General Obligation Limited Tax School Bonds.

Mr. Anderson moved, seconded by Ms. Berman, that the Board of Education approve a Resolution providing for the issue of not to exceed \$20,000,000 General Obligation Limited Tax School Bonds for the purpose of increasing the Working Cash Fund of the District, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof, as recommended by the Finance Committee, Chief School Business Official, Superintendent and Superintendent Elect. Dr. Cook explained that they are at the final stage of issuing these new bonds. He added they are looking for new money for a number of projects that they are trying to do over the next two to three years that includes the science building and culinary projects. He added much discussion has taken place at the Finance Committee about how to capture this money. Mr. Lewis spoke on his recommendation to switch to a direct bank outcome instead of a public offering of the bonds. He to do the public offering which is 3.9 percent is considerably higher than the bank that is giving 3.4 percent and another with 3.28 percent. Mr. Lewis stated that it is a win-win situation for the district and a much simpler process. The banks that bid were Capital One and the lower was JP Morgan. They reached out to them because they have been the winning banks. Two weeks will be needed to turn around a bid that the district can accept. Mr. Anderson asked if there were any process changes up to this point. Mr. Lewis stated there is no change; the resolution allows them to do either process and it is great that they can maintain flexibility during these times, saving the district \$2.5 million over the public offering. Mr. Lewis stated the final payment date will be December 1, 2034, which is about a 10 year financing. Mr. Anderson asked if the debt level service remains at the level it was last year with no increase. Dr. Cook and Mr. Lewis responded yes to Mr. Anderson. Mr. Legardy stated that he wanted to openly express that the Planning Committee has not seen the plans yet. Mr. Pauling responded that moving forward tonight gives us the flexibility to lock in the low interest rate. Mr. Anderson added that moving forward today gives the district a six month window to sell the bonds. Mrs. Hoereth asked if Planning will have a discussion on this over the next six months. Mr. Pauling responded that an overview of the project will be presented to the board in June. He added that the board still has plenty of time to do this and to further consider the science or other projects. Ms. Berman expressed that it is totally prudent that the board do this today and noted that interest rates are going up every day. She added that they have learned from history what happens when they delay and do not act swiftly. As a result, the Fine Arts project cost \$2 million more than it should have cost due to delaying the project. Ms. Berman closed by saying the longer they wait, the more it will cost. Mr. Legardy requested the projected costs of the science project when it is discussed in June. Mr. Pauling added that the beneficial impact, along with what is outlined in Procedure 3010 for the project, will be available to review in detail in June. Mrs. Hoereth asked if science is the only project that will be discussed in June. Dr. Wakeley stated that the board has already talked about the culinary project and they will only focus on science at the June board meeting and all the components in procedure 3010 will be addressed. Dr. Wakeley added that they have talked about the redesign of the B Building and repurposing that space but they are not in a position to discuss that in June. Mrs. Hoereth asked if the culinary and science are on the same trajectory. Dr. Mansfield added that the science building project is projected to start in July, 2024 and the culinary project will start in July, 2023. Mr. Anderson asked that if the bonds are priced over the next couple of weeks, how long are those prices good. Mr. Lewis stated that bids would be received by June 6 and then close three weeks later. If more time is needed and the bids are delayed that would extend the interest rate. If the bids are received by June

Resolution Providing for the Issue of Not to Exceed \$20,000,000 General Obligation Limited Tax School Bonds (con't.) 6th they will then close three weeks later. Dr. Cook noted that they have a three year window to spend that money however, the bulk of the funds will be going to the science addition. Roll Call: Ayes – Ms. Berman, Mrs. Hoereth, Mr. Legardy, Mrs. Turnquest, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Pauling. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Athletico Management, LLC Contract Renewal for the 2022-2023 School Year. Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Legardy, that the Board of Education approve the contract extension for the 2022-2023 school year with Athletico Management, LLC. in the amount of \$81,450.38 for athletic training services as defined in the initial contract agreement as recommended by the Chief School Business Official, Superintendent and Superintendent Elect. Dr. Mansfield stated that athletic trainers are on hand throughout the year on campus. It is a 4% increase over last year and he feels it is an acceptable increase. Dr. Cook expressed that a 4% increase is a great rate since the contracts usually say CPI which is currently at 7.2%. Roll Call: Ayes – Mrs. Hoereth, Mr. Legardy, Mrs. Turnquest, Mr. Anderson, Ms. Berman, Mr. Pauling. Nays – None. Motion carried.

4.7 2022-2023 Technology Requests. Mr. Anderson moved, seconded by Mr. Legardy, that the Board of Education approve the Technology Requests purposed for the 2022-2023 school year, based on the presentation made regarding and outlining these requests, as recommended by the Finance Committee, Chief School Business Official, Technology Committee, Superintendent and Superintendent Elect. Mr. Pauling stated there was a presentation given at the Finance Committee and information was also included in the board packet. Mr. Richardson provided some background on the process and explained their goals which included putting classroom technology back in the classroom with dedicated technology. This year's technology budget will cover the expense making every classroom fully functional technology-wise. Mr. Richardson stated that the 2022-2023 budget for \$714,000 includes maintenance costs allowing them to expand the district's infrastructure to meet the district's technology needs inside and outside the building. He also explained that they do in-house repairs of the students' chromebooks saving the district approximately \$60,000. They continue to look at what kind of funding is available and they have applied for another grant for \$155,000 and the funds will be used for more chromebooks and laptops for students in need. They always explore opportunities for outside funding that can be obtained to help offset costs to the district. Mr. Richardson closed by stating that Covid has changed the landscape on how teachers are teaching and how they engage students and the necessary technology will be available to aid students and teachers in the learning process. Roll Call: Ayes – Mr. Legardy, Mrs. Turnquest, Mr. Anderson, Ms. Berman, Mrs. Hoereth, Mr. Pauling. Nays – None. Motion carried.

4.12.9 Extra responsibility contracts 2021-2022. Ms. Berman moved, seconded by Mrs. Hoereth, that the Board of Education authorize the President and Secretary to sign extra-responsibility staffing contracts for the 2021-2022 school year, as recommended by the Director of Human Resources and the Superintendent. Ms. Berman noted there are two individuals with contracts totaling \$11,100.00. Roll Call: Ayes – Mrs. Turnquest, Mr. Anderson, Ms. Berman, Mrs. Hoereth, Mr. Pauling. Abstain – Mr. Legardy. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Residency. Ms. Berman moved, seconded by Mrs. Turnquest, that the Board of Education, after considering the findings of the Hearing Officer's report, find student #29982 is not a resident of School District 233, and that the legal guardian of student #29982 owes School District 233 tuition for the time in which student #29982 was attending Homewood-Flossmoor High School as a non-resident, as recommended by the Superintendent and Superintendent Elect. Dr. Mansfield commented that residency is taken very seriously. The district has two residency investigators on staff who engage in a very lengthy process and if a student is found not to be living in the district, a hearing is held. The hearing officer's report is then brought before the board to act on the findings. Roll Call: Ayes – Mrs. Turnquest, Mr. Anderson, Ms. Berman, Mrs. Hoereth, Mr. Legardy, Mr. Pauling. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Residency. Ms. Berman moved, seconded by Mr. Anderson, that the Board of Education, after considering the findings of the Hearing Officer's report, find student #29100 is not a resident of School District 233, and that the legal guardian of student #29100 owes School District 233 tuition for the time in which student #29100 was attending Homewood-Flossmoor High School as a non-resident, as recommended by the Superintendent and Superintendent Elect. Roll Call: Ayes – Mr. Anderson, Ms. Berman, Mrs. Hoereth, Mr. Legardy, Mrs. Turnquest, Mr. Pauling. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Residency. Ms. Berman moved, seconded by Mrs. Turnquest, that the Board of Education, after considering the findings of the Hearing Officer's report, find student #28611 is not a resident of School District 233, and that the

Residency (con't.) legal guardian of student #28611 owes School District 233 tuition for the time in which student #28611 was attending Homewood-Flossmoor High School as a non-resident, as recommended by the Superintendent and Superintendent Elect. Roll Call: Ayes – Ms. Berman, Mrs. Hoereth, Mr. Legardy, Mrs. Turnquest, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Pauling. Nays – None. Motion carried.

2021-2022 School Calendar Adjustment. Mr. Legardy moved, seconded by Mrs. Turnquest, that the Board of Education declare May 31, June 1, 2, and 3, 2022, school emergency days, as days of non-student attendance during the 2021-2022 school year, the first day of the official school calendar was August 9, 2021, and the last day of the official school calendar will be May 26, 2022, for a total of 182 calendar days and authorize the Superintendent to file this calendar change with the Illinois State Board of Education, as recommended by the Superintendent and Superintendent Elect. Dr. Mansfield explained that this is an annual occurrence and the adjustment is made because emergency were not used and therefore were removed. Roll Call: Ayes – Mrs. Hoereth, Mr. Legardy, Mrs. Turnquest, Mr. Anderson, Ms. Berman, Mr. Pauling. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Summer Work Days. Mr. Legardy moved, seconded by Mrs. Turnquest, that the Board of Education approve the proposed 2022 Summer Work Days for designated staff, with the total number of days approved by the Superintendent, as recommended by the Planning Committee, Superintendent and Superintendent Elect. Mrs. Bryant explained the request for work days come from guidance and special education and happen every year and the days are part of the approved budget. The work days for guidance includes social workers whose work in supporting students' needs begins on June 31 and concludes August 12. Special education work days provide support for students who are here this summer through special education programs as mandated by the students' IEPs. Roll Call: Ayes – Mr. Legardy, Mrs. Turnquest, Mr. Anderson, Ms. Berman, Mrs. Hoereth, Mr. Pauling. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Report from the Parent-Teacher Discipline Committee. Ms. Berman moved, seconded by Mrs. Turnquest, that the Board of Education acknowledge the receipt of the report from the 2021-2022 Parent-Teacher Discipline Committee and convey appreciation to the members for their willingness to devote the time and thought to the continued improvement of our district; and now in accordance with Board By-Law 1.D. and Policy 1220, we dissolve this committee and acknowledge that the report was referred back to the Associate Principal and Interim Principal for review and recommendations. Dr. Mansfield stated that this is an annual ad hoc committee. The committee consists annually of several teachers and parents who overviewed the entire Parent Student Handbook for the 2021-22 school year and recommendations were made on all categories. He added that one of the hot topics reviewed was the students' current dress code. A lot of work was done by Mrs. Ross-Cook, the Black Student Union and the Student Government with input from Dean Brown, counselors and parents on the committee. Dean Brown added that the information that was presented during the time the dress code was being reviewed was based on students feeling that they were marginalized because of the way the current dress code is being addressed. She added the new dress code that they are trying to enact in the handbook does address many of the concerns of the students. Staff will be given strategies when addressing those dress code violations so students, when spoken to, do not feel marginalized. Roll Call: Ayes – Mr. Legardy, Mrs. Turnquest, Mr. Anderson, Ms. Berman, Mrs. Hoereth, Mr. Pauling. Nays – None. Motion carried.

2022-2023 Parent-Student Handbook. Ms. Berman moved, seconded by Mr. Anderson, that the Board of Education table this agenda item and refer it to the Planning Committee for further review prior to the June 21, 2022 board meeting. Roll Call: Ayes – Mrs. Turnquest, Mr. Anderson, Ms. Berman, Mrs. Hoereth, Mr. Legardy, Mr. Pauling. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Adjournment. Ms. Berman moved, seconded by Mr. Anderson, that the Board of Education be adjourned at 8:52 p.m. Motion carried.

President

Vice-President/Secretary