

**Financial Oversight Panel
For North Chicago District 187
MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Thursday, June 28, 2012
North Chicago High School,
1717 17th Street, North Chicago, Illinois
1:00 pm**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

ROLL CALL:

Present:

David Agazzi, Chairman; Evelyn Alexander, Member; Hornsby Kneeland, Member; Cheryl Crates, Member; Shaunese Teamer, Member

Also Present:

Representing the Navy: Master Chief Walter Evans, Senior Chief Ryan Curylo; Representing the District Administration: Superintendent Milt Thompson; Representing ISBE: Deb Vespa, Ben Martindale, Mark Anderson

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:

Comments were received from the public.

Anthony Coleman spoke indicating that he was an active community member interested in advancing the education of the students of North Chicago and welcomes efforts to strengthen the district.

Monti Beckwood indicated he was confused wanting clarification on if there will be one or two state appointed entities and what exactly was their charge. It was explained that the specific authority of the Financial Oversight Panel was to oversee the district's finances and that the second "Independent Authority" has not yet been appointed by the State Superintendent.

MINUTES APPROVED:

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2012 meeting was made by Ms. Teamer and seconded by Mr. Kneeland. The motion passed 5-0.

ISBE LIAISON REPORT:

Ben Martindale reported on the status of the Charter School. Registration is currently underway and the district should know in the next few days how many students will be attending in the fall. For the first year, the Charter School will enroll K-2 and 6-7th students. Preparation of the facility is proceeding and the lease agreement is between the Navy and the Charter Operator. The quarterly structure of tuition payments was outlined. Approval of the first quarter payment will need to be done early in July. This may require an earlier meeting date of the FOP in July. The ISBE Liaison also reported that it is important to address textbook need in the district as quickly as possible. This requires FOP approval.

DISTRICT REPORT:

Superintendent Milt Thompson reported employment actions are required that need FOP approval. Building administrator contracts require approval and major contractual services for professional development require finalization as soon as possible. Resignation may still occur that will require new vacancies to be filled. The Superintendent recommended that an early FOP meeting in July should be scheduled.

REVIEW ISBE FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Deb Vespa reviewed the data in the district's FY 2011 Annual Financial Report and the FY 2012 Budget Report. Specific data discussed was the Financial Profile status, Balance Sheet Summary Report, and the Income Statement Summary Report. Ms. Vespa then reviewed the ISBE generated "FACTS" report that summarizes multiple years of financial data. In presenting the financial condition of the district, Ms. Vespa noted the history of deficit spending, fund balance declines, and the past borrowing activities.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 1:28 p.m. a motion to go into close session in accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) for the purpose of personnel and employment, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) collective negotiations, and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) Litigation was made by Ms. Teamer and second by Mr. Kneeland. The motion passed 5-0.

RESUME OPEN SESSION:

At 2:11 p.m. a motion to return to open session was made by Mr. Kneeland and second by Ms. Crates. The motion passed 5-0.

CONSENT ITEMS:

The Chairman commented that Personnel Report incorrectly reflected that the hiring of Cara Garland was approved by the School Board. Since the School Board did not act on the personnel action, her name needed to be removed from the Personnel Report. Ms. Crates made a motion to correct the Personnel Report by deleting Cara Garland from the report, Ms Alexander second the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

A motion to approve the consent items as corrected was made by Ms. Teamer and second by Ms. Alexander. The motion carried 5-0.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Reviewing the final school calendar, the number of pupil attendance days was clarified. It was asked if anyone had questions or concerns about the recent changes in School Board Policies that were included in the packet. No concerns were expressed. The resolution to waive legal holidays was noted and clarified. Since it was not a financial matter, no action by the FOP was necessary.

OLD BUSINESS:

The schedule of regular meetings of the FOP may need to change in the future. The current schedule was predicated on the School Board meeting schedule and now that an “Independent Authority” is being convened, the FOP meetings will need to be adjusted to align with the meetings of the “Independent Authority”.

NEW BUSINESS:

No new business was discussed.

ACTION ITEMS:

Agenda Item A – A motion to approve the Prevailing Wage Resolution was made by Ms. Crates and seconded by Ms. Alexander. After discussion of the need for the resolution the vote was called. The motion carried 5-0.

Agenda Item B – A motion to approve the renewal of membership in the Illinois High School Association was made by Mr. Kneeland second by Ms. Alexander. There was no discussion. The motion carried 5-0.

Agenda Item C – A motion to approve the posting of the School Improvement Grant Positions was made by Ms. Teamer and seconded by Ms. Crates. There was no discussion. The motion carried 5-0.

Agenda Item D – Special Education supervisor Candidate: The Chair explained that it has been determined that the FOP is empowered to approve or disapprove School Board action. However, a number of items on the agenda are items upon which the School Board did not act. Therefore, the FOP cannot take action on the agenda items not approved by the School Board. The Chair indicated Agenda item D is such an item the board did not act upon and consequently will not be acted upon by the FOP.

Agenda Item E – Special Education Staff Realignment: The Chair noted that since the School Board did not act on this item, the FOP will hear a presentation by the administration on the realignment, but will not be taking a vote. The plan for Special Education staff realignment was presented to the FOP. The plan will reduce required student travel to received Special Education services. More Special Education services will be located within the students' neighborhood schools. The intent of the new design is to achieve improved services and reduced costs.

Agenda Item F - Bilingual Program Realignment: The Chair noted that the FOP will hear a presentation by the administration regarding the agenda item, but the FOP would not take any action. The administration explained that like the special education realignment, the Bilingual plan is designed to reduce student travel and improve the services provided. Once the bilingual needs of the Charter School have been assessed the plan will be finalized.

Agenda Item G – A 2.25% Salary Increase for Non-represented Employees: The Chair noted no action will be taken on the item due to no action being taken by the School Board.

Agenda Item H – Administrators' Contracts: The Chair noted that no action would be taken.

Agenda Item I – Instructional Technology Manager Candidate: The Chair noted no action would be taken.

Agenda Item J – Posting North Elementary School and Yeager School Principal Positions: The Chair indicated that the School Board had not acted on the agenda item and the FOP will not be acting upon the item.

Agenda Item K – District discipline Policy Including Athletic Policy with the Addition of 2.0 Grade Point Requirement for Participation: The Chair noted no action would be taken at this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Chair called for a motion to adjourn at approximately 2:39 pm. Ms. Teamer made a motion to adjourn and it was second by Ms. Crates. The motion carried 5-0.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mark Anderson