

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

**Thursday, November 15, 2012  
North Chicago High School,  
1717 17<sup>th</sup> Street, North Chicago, Illinois  
6:30 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:33.

**ROLL CALL:**

Mr. Agazzi, Ms. Crates, Mr. Kneeland, and Ms. Riley were present as was Master Chief Evans. Representing the District were the CEO, CFO and HR Director. Representing ISBE was Mark Anderson. Absent were Ms. Teamer and Senior Chief Curylo.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Two people requested time to make comments.

Betty Harris indicated that she attended a public state budget hearing and noticed that North Chicago District 187 administrators were not present. She further commented that North Chicago needs a better program. The administration noted that along with representatives of the East St. Louis School District that North Chicago District CEO attended a private state budget hearing to specifically present the North Chicago District 187 case to the state.

Monty Beckwith distributed Market Day brochures and commented on the program which he is affiliated.

**MINUTES APPROVED:**

Ms. Crates moved to approve the Open and Executive session minutes of the October 25<sup>th</sup> Financial Oversight Panel meeting. Mr. Kneeland seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

Mr. Kneeland moved to approve the consent items and Ms. Riley seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

## **OLD BUSINESS DISCUSSION:**

### **A. Presentation - AUSL**

Mr. Pollack with AUSL made a presentation regarding their program and activities. It was noted that AUSL is involved in “school Turnarounds”. AUSL uses a lead partner model to raise student achievement and that their activities at North Chicago are SIP Grant funded. He reviewed their model outlining that it addresses three areas: Instruction, Culture, and Operations. Core beliefs driving AUSL model and activities were discussed. Multi-year budgets targets and results were also reviewed. It was noted that 10 FTE were working at the High School. The administration indicated that it could put together a handout regarding the financial details of the program if the Panel had an interest.

### **B. PMA Presentation**

The administration noted that PMA has presented to the IA the presentation the FOP received.

## **OLD BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS:**

### **C. Accounting Software Bid Request**

The age and limitations of the current accounting software was reviewed as the administration recommended that a bid process be conducted to acquire a new accounting software system. It was noted that the total cost to transition to a new system is estimated to be between 60 and 100 thousand dollars. Ms. Crates moved to approve the request and Mr. Kneeland seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

### **D. Request to Bid service contracts: Transportation, Food Service, Maintenance, and Custodial Services**

The FOP asked the administration if it could successfully bid all contracts in one year. Due to the financial necessity of the district, the administration felt it was necessary. The CFO indicated that with the hiring of a Director of Finance to assist in the process it should be possible to bid all four service contracts. Ms. Crates moved to approve the request and Ms. Riley seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

### **E. MAP Testing License Renewal**

It was noted that MAP evaluation tool renewal license would be funded with grant monies. Mr. Kneeland moved to approve and Ms. Riley seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

### **F. Solution Tree Expenditures for Coaching Academy**

It was noted that this professional development expenditure was grant funded. Mr. Kneeland moved to approve and Ms. Riley seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

### **G. Special Education Staffing for LEARN Charter School**

It was noted that at the last meeting the options available to change Special Education staffing at the charter school was discussed. Either the district could hire the staff or the Charter School could hire staff and district would pay 50% of the salary. The administration indicated that the Charter School has agreed to do the hiring which will be more cost effective for North Chicago 187. Ms. Crates moved to approve and Mr. Kneeland seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

### **NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:**

#### **A. Estimated Tax Levy and setting Public Hearing**

The CFO made a presentation regarding the estimated levy. It was noted that with the declining EAV the rates will rise and although the rates probably will not hit the state limits this year and will not impede receiving the full PTELL levy this cycle it is possible that the levy in future years will be impacted as the maximum rates are closed to being reached.

Mr. Kneeland moved to schedule the Tax Levy Public Hearing for December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 with a Joint IA FOP meeting following at 6:45. Ms. Riley seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

#### **B. Discussion – ISBE Project Status Report**

It was shared that the report generated by ISBE regarding the districts status of grants and claims is being included in the FOP informational packet.

#### **C. Discussion - Academic Accountability for LEARN Charter School**

It was noted that the administration included in the FOP packet the accountability plan it is proposing and will be presented to the Charter School for acceptance. It was noted that budget/financial accountability will be part of the plan.

#### **D. Supplemental Educational Services Contracts**

The administration indicated the contracts are related to No Child Left Behind and are grant funded. The effectiveness and reauthorization of NCLB was discussed. Ms. Crates moved to approve the contracts and Mr. Kneeland seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

#### **E. Discussion – Student Advisory Council Representative**

It was shared that a North Chicago student has been selected to be on the state advisory council. The administration shared how the student had worked to develop and implement an orientation program for new students entering the North Chicago District. It was noted that the active student is the daughter of FOP member Ms. Riley.

#### **F. Discussion - FOIA Requests**

It was noted that FOIA requests and responses will be included in FOP informational packets.

### **G. AIR Student Growth Plan**

It was noted that American Institute for Research (AIR) has been selected to facilitate the Joint Evaluation Committee in completing the new teacher evaluation system that incorporates student growth as required by recent legislation. Student Improvement Grant funds will be utilized for this process. Mr. Kneeland moved to approve and Ms. Riley seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

### **H. Infra-Red Roofing Evaluation**

The administration indicated it would like to get a second opinion regarding the assessment that all of the roofs of the schools need to be replaced. The CEO noted that he had used C.E. Crowley and Associates in the past to verify the need for total roof replacements identified in the recent survey rather than partial/repair for each project. Ms. Crates moved to approve and Ms. Riley seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION [In accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)(6)(11):**

The Chair called for a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purposes of personnel, litigation and the sale of property. At 8:02 p.m. Mr. Kneeland moved to enter into executive session and Ms. Riley seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

### **CALL TO RESUME OPEN SESSION:**

Ms. Crates moved to reconvene open session at 8:35 p.m. and Ms. Riley seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

### **NEW BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS:**

#### **I. Approve Settlement with Milton Thompson**

Ms. Crates moved to approve the settlement and Mr. Kneeland seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

#### **J. Approve Resignation of Milton Thompson**

Ms. Crates moved to approve the resignation and Mr. Kneeland seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Ms. Crates moved to adjourn at 8:36 p.m. and Mr. Kneeland seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mark Anderson