

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**The Board of Education Meeting  
for  
Lockport Township High School District No. 205  
Will County, Illinois,  
was duly held at the  
East Campus,  
1333 East Seventh Street,  
Lockport, IL,  
on this 3rd day of December, 2009,  
in said District**

**CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE TO FLAG, ROLL CALL**

President Ronald Svava called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and Member Lukasik led the Pledge to the Flag.

The following members were present:

Michael Lewandowski, Member  
Cindy Polke, Member  
Angela Kamely, Member  
Lou Ann Johnson, Secretary  
John Lukasik, Member  
Susan Forbes, Vice President  
Ronald Svava, President

A quorum was present.

Administrators present:

Garry W. Raymond, Ph.D., Superintendent  
Todd P. Wernet, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel  
Peter M. Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction  
Richard A. Lesniak, Director of Business Services  
K. Brett Gould, Principal, East Campus  
Dennis P. Hicks, Principal, Central Campus

**PUBLIC HEARINGS AND PETITIONS**

None

**POLICY CONSIDERATIONS – FIRST READING**

Policy 2:100 - Board Member Conflict of Interest  
 Policy 2:240 - Board Policy Development  
 Policy 2:260 - Uniform Grievance Procedure  
 Policy 5:180 - Temporary Illness or Temporary Incapacity  
 Policy 5:220 - Substitute Teachers  
 Policy 6:15 - School Accountability  
 Policy 7:70 - Attendance and Truancy  
 Policy 7:180 - Closed Campus (Number Changed to 7:120)  
 Policy 7:120 - Closed Campus (Number Change was 7:180)  
 Policy 7:180 - Preventing Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment

Superintendent Raymond explained that the policies that were presented for First Reading tonight were reviewed by the Administrative Council on two separate occasions prior to being brought before the Board for First Reading tonight.

However, discussions ensued regarding not having enough time to read through the policies when they are sent out with the Board Packets. It was requested that policies be sent out as soon as they are available to allow more time for review prior to being brought to the Board for a First Reading. The policies listed were not presented for First Reading because it was recommended that a Board Policy Committee be formed to discuss the policies prior to being brought to the Board. Member Lewandowski stated, “The Board would be micro-managing the administration if we formed a policy committee.” Mr. Lewandowski continued by saying that, “It’s the administration’s job to make policy suggestions to the Board.” Members Kamely and Polke commented on the fact that it was the Board’s responsibility to set policy and forming a policy committee would give the Board more time to read, understand, and make recommended changes deemed necessary. They also commented that Member Lewandowski’s attendance at the national conference would be a violation of our current policy. As for the footnotes being adopted with the policies, IASB specifies that footnotes provide information to the Board prior to customizing the language. The footnotes are no longer necessary, nor are they warranted after adoption of the policy.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It was recommended that a Board Policy Review Committee be formed.

**MOTION:** Member **Svara** moved, Member **Polke** seconded the motion to form a Board Policy Committee.

**VOTE:** Ayes: **4** Nays: **3** (Lukasik, Lewandowski, Forbes) Motion **CARRIED 4 – 3**. It was noted that the dates and times for policy committee meetings would be determined, and that these meetings will be open to the public.

**ACTION CONSIDERATION #0912-01 – APPROVAL – THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR FSA’S**

Rich Lesniak, Director of Business Services, explained that Members of the Lockport Area Benefit Plan (District 205, Taft School District, LASEC, Lockport Park District, and the

Lockport Fire Protection District) have been meeting with our insurance consultant with the purpose of implementing a Flexible Savings Accounts (FSA) under Section 125 of the IRS Code. FSA allows employees to pay for their out-of-pocket medical and/or dependent care expenses with pre-tax dollars. It's a good benefit for employees and will help to offset the increased employee contributions to the insurance plan that employees experienced this year.

FSAs typically are managed by a Third Party Administrator (TPA) and there is a monthly cost that, per the IRS, must be paid by the employer. FSAs are a cost neutral program. There are two ways that the monthly TPA fees are offset. When employees reduce their taxable income, the employer also reduces its contribution to social security, Medicare, and IMRF. The other feature of FSAs is that any money left in the employees FSA is returned to the employer if it is not used by year end.

A summary of the proposals that were received from several vendors were provided for the Board. The Lockport Area Benefit Plan is recommending that Guardian be named Third Party Administrator for our FSA. The cost to District 205 is \$5.00 per month per participant which is not the lowest monthly participant fee. However, because the Lockport Area Benefit Plan has its dental insurance with Guardian all other fees are waived making Guardian the lowest price with the best service. As a result of this program, District 205 will need to amend its Section 125 Administrative Plan Document. I will have that available at the Board Meeting on December 21, 2009.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board of Education approves Guardian as the Third Party Administrator for District 205's Flexible Savings Account for Health Care and Dependent Care with a maximum employee contribution of \$1,500 for health care and \$5,000 for dependent care.

**MOTION:** Member **Lukasik** moved, Member **Forbes** seconded the motion to approve Guardian as the Third Party Administrator, as recommended.

**VOTE:** Ayes: **7** Nays: **0** Motion **CARRIED 7 – 0.**

## **OTHER DISCUSSION**

### **CREST HILL SUMMIT REVIEW**

Consensus of the Board was that the Summit Meeting in Crest Hill was excellent although not a representative sample of people were in attendance. The detachment issue was brought up and there are still a lot of misconceptions that need to be clarified by somehow educating the public. One problem that the Board needs to work on is to speak with one voice—not give individual opinions. Also, they need to be cautious when speaking about the referendum issues. Don't give certain dates.

### **SUSPEND THE RULES TO MOVED THE REFERENDUM ADVISORY QUESTION TO THE NEXT ORDER OF BUSINESS (CINDY POLKE)**

**RECOMMENDATION:** To suspend the rules to moved the Referendum Advisory Question to the next order of business.

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**MOTION:** Member **Svara** moved, Member **Kamely** seconded the motion to suspend the rules to move the referendum advisory question to the next order of business, as recommended.

**VOTE:** The vote was unanimous.

**REFERENDUM ADVISORY QUESTION(S) (CINDY POLKE)**

The opportunity to put an Advisory Question on the February ballot had already expired. The deadline was November 30. It was noted that although the Board discussed putting a referendum advisory question(s) on the ballot, the Board never brought it to a vote and, consequently, no questions were formulated for approval by the Board before the November 30 deadline. It was noted that a Referendum Question could be placed on the same ballot as an Advisory Question(s).

**RECOMMENDATION:** It was recommended that the Advisory Question(s) to be put on the November Ballot should be submitted in writing to President Svara for discussion at the Board meeting on December 21, 2009.

**VOTE:** The vote was unanimous.

**IASB CONFERENCE REVIEW**

Board members discussed the General Sessions they attended as well as various other sessions, such as, Board Self-Evaluation, Monitoring District Performance by using “Dashboards” and how this new technology provides information in layman’s terms; and Distance Learning, which entered into a deeper discussion on the possibility of incorporating this type of learning into the District 205 curriculum, and what the District already provides in this area.

**NSBA CONFERENCE?**

Board members discussed the upcoming National School Boards Association Conference that is scheduled for April 10-12, 2010, in Chicago. Several members expressed an interest in attending this National conference, which led to a discussion on the Board’s current policy regarding conferences. Member Kamely interjected that according to our Board Policy, anyone who went last year was not entitled to go this year. At this point Member Lewandowski motioned to change the policy.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It was recommended that the Board of Education change its current policy on conference attendance to allow all Board members the opportunity to attend State and National conferences.

**MOTION:** Member **Lewandowski** moved, Member **Lukasik** seconded the motion to change the Board’s current policy to allow all Board members the opportunity to attend State and National conferences.

**VOTE:** Ayes: **4** Nays: **3** (Kamely, Polke, Svara). Motion **CARRIED 4 – 3**.

**MEMBER POLKE EXITED THE MEETING AT 8:17 P.M.**

**HOW DO THINGS GET ON THE BOARD'S AGENDA (RON SVARA)**

The Board discussed how things should get on the Agenda for what meetings.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Board members should submit, in writing, items they would like to place on the Board agendas to either Superintendent Raymond or President Svava, who will then prioritize the agenda items submitted.

**MOTION:** Member **Lukasik** moved, Member **Lewandowski** seconded the motion to have Board members submit, in writing, items they would like placed on the agendas, as recommended.

**VOTE:** By voice vote, all members voted aye, and the Motion **CARRIED 6 – 0**.

**BOARD PACKET INFORMATION (LOU ANN JOHNSON)**

Discussions ensued regarding Board packet information being provided to Board members sooner to allow more time for review of the information prior to the meetings. Being that a majority of the Board members were new and had never gone through an entire year of meetings, it was felt that it might be helpful if Administration could put together quarterly agendas so they would have a better idea of what items would be forthcoming. Also, it was felt that if key due dates were provided they would know the timeframe these items would need to be acted upon so deadlines would not be missed.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board of Education receives their Board packet information sooner, and that Administration would provide quarterly agendas listing key due dates.

**MOTION:** Member **Johnson** moved, Member **Svava** seconded the motion for the Board to receive their Board packet information sooner and to have Administration provide quarterly agendas listing key due dates, as recommended.

**VOTE:** By voice vote, all members voted aye, and the Motion **CARRIED 6 – 0**.

**BOARD COMMUNICATIONS (LOU ANN JOHNSON)**

Some discussion took place regarding feedback from the Summit meetings; if the Superintendent and/or Board President could inform Board members as to dates and times they may be interviewed or speaking with the media, e.g. the radio, to hear firsthand what was being said, and finally, if Board members could receive a copy of the CEC report prior to it being presented to the Board at its meeting on December 21. Superintendent Raymond said he would comply with these requests and that the minutes from the Summit meetings are on the District website.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**MOTION:** Member **Lukasik** moved, Member **Johnson** seconded the motion to enter into Closed Session to discuss matters relating to an individual student. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10); and litigation affecting the District regarding action that is imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10).

**VOTE:** Ayes: **6** Nays: **0** Absent: **Polke** Motion **CARRIED 6 – 0**. Closed Session commenced at 8:30 p.m. and concluded at 9:34 p.m.

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION, ROLL CALL**

Members present were: Lukasik, Lewandowski, Kamely, Forbes, Johnson, Svara

Absent: Polke

A quorum was present.

**ACTION CONSIDERATIONS AFTER CLOSED SESSION**

**ACTION CONSIDERATION #0912-02 – APPEAL OF MATTERS RELATING TO AN INDIVIDUAL STUDENT**

**RECOMMENDATION:** In the matter of Student A, the Board of Education decided to uphold the decision of the Coach and Administration of not selecting Student A for the bowling team for reasons discussed in Closed Session.

**MOTION:** Member **Forbes** moved, Member **Lukasik** seconded the motion to uphold the decision of the coach and administration of not selecting Student A for the bowling team.

**VOTE:** Ayes: **5** Nays: **0** Abstain: **1** (Johnson) Absent: Polke Motion **CARRIED 5 – 0.**

**ACTION CONSIDERATION #0912-03 – APPROVAL – AUTHORIZATION FOR ADMINISTRATION TO FILE LAWSUIT AGAINST A THIRD-PARTY VENDOR**

**RECOMMENDATION:** In the matter seeking approval to authorize Administration to file a lawsuit against a third-party vendor, the Board of Education decided to approve authorization for Administration to file lawsuit against a third-party vendor.

**MOTION:** Member **Lewandowski** moved, Member **Johnson** seconded the motion to authorize Administration to file a lawsuit against the third-party vendor, Gatekeeper Administration Consulting, LLC, for reasons discussed in Closed Session.

**VOTE:** Ayes: **6** Nays: **0** Absent: **Polke** Motion **CARRIED 6 – 0.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Member **Lewandowski** moved, Member **Johnson** seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

By Voice Vote, all members presented voted Aye and the meeting adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

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Ronald Svara, President

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Lou Ann Johnson, Secretary